

Summary of Proposed Action ND State Board of Higher Education Meeting – May 23, 2018

- 1. Issue:** North Dakota State University (NDSU) has submitted the following Stage II requests:
 - Minor in [Honors](#), CIP Code 30.9999, via on-campus and distance delivery
 - Minor and B.S. in [Precision Agriculture](#), CIP Code 01.0308, via on-campus, using a new prefix of PAG-Precision Agriculture
 - Minor in [Interior Design](#), CIP Code 50.0408, via on-campus and distance delivery
- 2. Proposed actions:** Approve/deny the above Stage II requests of NDSU.
- 3. Background information:** A minor in Honors will allow NDSU to attract and retain high achieving students from the region. This is in line with the strategic goals for NDSU and NDUS. The rapid growth of the honors program at NDSU demonstrates the potential for an Honors minor. In just two years, the Honors program has increased enrollment from 40-120 students. A formal, standardized curriculum and transcription of the Honors Minor makes it clear to students that the credits they take for Honors count toward a definite outcome that will be clearly reflected in their academic record.

Both the Minor and the B.S. in Precision Agriculture are intended to help increase production efficiency, cut input usage and contribute to effective resource management and utilization. There is a strong demand for a skilled workforce in precision agriculture from agricultural producers, agricultural industries, and current and prospective students in North Dakota and the region. A new major in Precision Agriculture will allow NDSU to fulfill a regional demand for a precision agriculture workforce. The proposed minor will benefit many students in the broader area of agriculture, engineering, sciences, and business who are targeting employment in agricultural industries, or industries dealing with spatial sciences.

The interior design minor will offer students the benefit of related perspectives on design or examine broad-based studies to combine information and process from two disparate disciplines. Both directions provide students with diversity in their educational background.

- 4. Financial implications:** None cited.
- 5. Legal/policy issues:** State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) Policy 403.1 *Program Approval* states: "Board approval is required for all new programs of study that designate a focused collection of instructional/ learning activities the completion of which signifies a level of competence which the awarding institution so designates by a notation on the front of the student transcript."
- 6. Academic issues:** No academic issues were raised at the May 2, 2018 Academic Affairs Council (AAC) meeting.

7. **Coordination:** On May 2, 2018, the AAC voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Stage II requests for review by the Chancellor's Cabinet and advance to the SBHE for approval/denial.
8. **Attachments:** The Stage II requests are attached.
9. **Contact information:** Richard M. Rothaus, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, NDUS. Ph: 701-328-4136/email: richard.rothaus@ndus.edu.
10. **Chancellor's recommendation:** Approve