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North Dakota State Board of Higher Education Research Committee

September 11, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research Committee met on Wednesday, September 11th at 3:00 p.m. CT., North Dakota State University, Prairie Room, NDSU Memorial Union, 1401 Administration Avenue, Fargo, ND

Dr. Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. CT.

SBHE Research Committee members participating:

Dr. Casey Ryan, Chair

Ms. Kathleen Neset

Mr. Don Morton

NDUS staff participating:

Chancellor Mark Hagerott

Ms. Lisa Johnson, VC of Academic and Student Affairs

Mr. Phil Wisecup, VC Strategic Engagement

Ms. Terry Meyer, Chief of Staff

Mr. Ryan Jockers, Strategic Analytics Coordinator

Ms. Karol Riedman, Compliance Officer

Others Participating:

Interim President Wynne, UND

President Bresciani, NDSU

Mr. John Mihelich, UND

Mr. Jeffrey VanLooy, UND

Dr. Jane Schuh, NDSU

Dr. Molly Secor-Turner, NDSU

Dr. David DeMuth, VCSU

Mr. Eric Olson, Asst. A.G. and General Counsel

1. Agenda

2. Minutes from 7-31-19

Neset moved, Morton seconded, to approve the agenda and minutes.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

3. Research Updates and Orientation

Dr. Schuh and Mr Mihelich provided an overview on research to the committee, from both the perspective of UND and NDSU. The presentation covered various topics, including the strengths and opportunities at both institutions in a statewide context. Topics that were covered include big data, health, and autonomous systems.

Dr. Schuh and Mr Mihelich initiated a discussion with the committee relating to the successes and challenges of the research enterprise. An emphasis was made on the need for research investment from the state, since UND and NDSU are relatively small compared to other peer institutions.

Member Morton raised the question about metrics and how if it can be known that our institutions are on the right path with respect to research. Dr. Schuh mentioned that there has to be a decision on what metrics to look at, as they are complex and cover different types of successes.

Various questions from the committee are discussed around the support of the research enterprise from legislature.

Mr. Mihelich introduced Cortnee Jensen to the committee, a joint hire from the Dept. of Commerce to work on IP commercialization with UND and NDSU. Ms. Jensen provided an overview of her position and what to expect from her in the coming months. Chair Ryan requested that Mr. Mihelich and Ms. Jensen give an update on their progress at the October meeting.

Mr. Jockers provide a brief orientation to the committee regarding Goal 5 in the NDUS Strategic Plan and the research metrics associated with that goal. The committee discussed how the process to collect research data from the campuses is a continuous process, and expects there to be improvement as time goes on.

Mr. Delore Zimmerman provided an overview on research support in North Dakota, demonstrating how both eastern and western North Dakota equally support the funding of research. Potential partnerships were also discussed by the committee, including the Greater North Dakota Chamber (GNDC).

4. Research Committee Duties/Policy 302.7: Ranked in each category by committee survey Chair Ryan requested that all members respond to the prioritization survey before the committee takes action on the potential duties and responsibilities. The goal is for the committee to address these items at the October meeting.

Dr. Bresciani suggested that the INBRE grant be placed on next meeting agenda as it is also a statewide grant.

5. Meeting Schedule

The committee discussed meetings for both October and November of 2019, setting the October date to October 16, 3:15 at UND and the November date to be determined by committee members within the next month. Further, it was discussed to have all 2020 meetings be set to the second Wednesday of the month, alternating between UND and NDSU.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm