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North Dakota State Board of Higher Education Research Committee

January 24, 2020, Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research Committee met on Wednesday, January 24th at 2:30 p.m. CT., via conference call.

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 2:30 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. Ryan Jockers, Strategic Analytics Coordinator

Ms. Karol Riedman, Chief Compliance Officer

Ms. Tammy Dolan, VC for Administrative Affairs

Ms. Terry Meyer, Chief of Staff

Others Participating:

Interim President Wynne, UND

President Bresciani, NDSU

Dr. John Mihelich, UND

Dr. Jeffrey VanLooy, UND

Dr. Jane Schuh, NDSU

Dr. Molly Secor-Turner, NDSU

Dr. David DeMuth, VCSU

President Van Horn, MaSU

Dr. Joseph Mehus, MaSU

Mr. Levi Andrist, Gilbertson Andrist Group

Mr. Chris Pieske, Asst. A.G. and General Counsel

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

1. Agenda

Morton moved, Neset seconded, to approve the agenda.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

2. Minutes 12-18-19

Neset moved, Morton seconded, to approve the minutes.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

3. Legacy Fund Research Proposal

Chair Ryan opened the discussion of the updated Legacy Fund Research Proposal document, providing committee members an overview of the changes since the last meeting, particularly Part E, which added a legislator to the Internal Advisory Committee (IAC).

Dr. Bresciani asked the committee for clarification on whether this proposal is going to be led by the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) or the Valley Prosperity Partnership (VPP). Discussion by the committee pointed toward a consensus of having VPP leading the proposal, with the SBHE supporting.

Multiple committee members discussed the wording in Part C of the document, and agreed to add the words "and coordinated" on line two, after the word "collaborative". Undergraduate research was also a focus for the committee, and it was proposed to add "encourage system wide undergraduate research" after the first sentence of Part C.

Morton moved, Neset seconded, to add "encourage system wide undergraduate research" after the first sentence of Part C.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

Citing previous discussion, Chair Ryan engaged the committee for any feedback to removing the word "legislator" in the first paragraph under Part E.

Neset moved, Morton seconded, to remove "legislator" from the first paragraph under Part E.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

Chair Ryan engaged the committee for any feedback regarding Part H, as presented in the document.

Neset moved, Morton seconded, to approve the addition of Part H as presented.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

Chair Ryan engaged the committee for any additional feedback on the document as a whole and requested a motion to approve the document.

Morton moved, Neset seconded, to approve the document as a whole.

Morton, Neset, and Ryan voted yes.

Chair Ryan confirmed with the committee, and with Mr. Andrist, that the amended document will be sent to VPP. It is the intention of the committee to support the VPP in their efforts.

Dr. Wynne noted that it will be important for the committee to think about what action steps need to be taken after the document is sent to VPP.

4. NSF HERD Survey Data Discussion

Chancellor Hagerott opened the discussion, and stated that these data are very familiar to the campuses, and that all the information is self-reported by the campuses with the exception of the dotted green line on the top left of page two. This line attempts to estimate what UND's research levels would have been if the numbers would have been reported consistently over time.

Dr. Wynne agreed with the Chancellor that the green dotted line is more accurate due to the correction of how research expenditures were reported in FY2017, and suggested that the green dotted line replace the solid line completely, with the addition of an asterisk explaining the correction. Dr. Wynne also noted that due to federal government processes, there could be bumps in the data depending on when the dollars were reported.

Dr. Schuh and Dr. Mihelich both agreed with Dr. Wynne. Dr. Schuh noted that the data are only reflecting expenditures, meaning the dollars will only be reported in the year they were expended even if the grant itself is larger.

Chancellor Hagerott noted that the NSF HERD data is lagging, and hopes that the campuses can develop some forward looking metrics that can be used to gauge progress rather than waiting for research expenditure reports to be released. Dr. Schuh and Dr. Mihelich both agreed to work on such metrics, to be discussed with the committee in April or May of 2020.

5. MaSU Research Activity Highlight

Dr. Joseph Mehus presented on behalf of Mayville State University, highlighting the research activity currently being conducted, noting the partnerships with both UND and NDSU.

Dr. Van Horn closed the presentation highlighting the importance of MaSU's involvement in grants administered by UND and NDSU, as the involvement of non-research institutions are crucial for some grants to be awarded.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm