

## University Cabinet Minutes

April 16, 2025

**Present:** Sara Abrahamson, Katy Allers, Nathan Anderson, Maggie Backen, Courtenay Brekhus, Paul Brekke, Amanda Francis, Lori Garnes, Laurie Geller, Deb Haman, Lisa Haman, Rick Hedberg, Andy Heitkamp, Tiffany Heth, Krista Lambrecht, Maleeha Latif, Heather Martin, Janna McKechnie, Annette Mennem, Jacek Mrozik, Jolene Nechiporenko, Darren Olson, Gary Orluck, Leon Perzinski, Rebecca Ringham, Michelle Sayler, Steve Shirley, Mark Singer, David Soares, Karina Stander, Hayden Tinker, Jonelle Watson, Laurie Weber, and Deb Wentz

**Absent:** Karla Bredahl, Lisa Dooley, Jeremy Feller, Kevin Harmon, Cole Krueger, Michael Linnell, Cari Olson, Carmen Simone, Jessica Smestad, and James Sturm

**Guest:** Celeste Simmons

**Approval of minutes:** February 20, 2025 meeting minutes approved as presented.

### **New Business**

#### **1. Senate Reports**

##### **SGA**

- SGA has new senators as of yesterday:
  - Ella Gilkerson – President
  - Drew Manley – VP Finance
  - Nicole Reeves – VP Internal Affairs
  - Krista Permentier – VP State Affairs
- We have retained a good number of current senators going into next year
- Hosting a graduation drive for donations of caps and gowns that people no longer need to give to those who don't have one

##### **Faculty Senate**

- The 2025-2026 catalog does have the updated Gen Ed program
- Last faculty senate meeting was extra-long as changes to the constitution and by-laws were reviewed due to the academic restructuring
- Have provided testimony on HB1220 relating to creation of accelerated degrees for high demand occupations; this failed in the Senate
- Have also testified on HB1437 that would create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the ND Century Code, relating to academic tenure policies at NDUS institutions; is with Governor

##### **Staff Senate**

- Silent Auction is underway in the Conference Center; will have a live auction at 11:00 today for donated baskets
- Will offer chair yoga on April 28
- Elections will be held next week

#### **2. President's Report**

- The higher education bill going through the legislature is SB2003; the Senate did not allow for any funding for the joint MSU/DCB request to purchase the Trinity building but the House did so it will need to go back to subcommittee
- House has been very good with also budgeting \$8M from the last session to renovate academic areas in Model and Moore Hall
- Tried to get funding for a new residence hall at DCB, which would have replaced those they currently have; that was not granted but they did budget for some renovations to the existing halls
- Challenge Grant is looking good as well as salaries still holding at 3:3 for the next biennium
- House did budget \$650,000 for Dakota Hall; Rep. Louser has been helpful with all of these items
- House added a max of a 4% increase for tuition
- AStep received some nice support to grow that program across the state; we had people testifying for the funding
- SPBC has presented their recommendations to President's Staff ; decisions will be made over the next several weeks and will hold a budget forum before graduation to go over results

### **3. Acknowledgements/Announcements:**

International – with the administration's focus on Homeland Security, international students have to be extra careful that their SEVIS information is up to date; there is a lot of uncertainty causing anxiousness among students; the International office is creating protocols on what to do should a student receive a termination; they need to keep their I20 and I24 with them at all times because these prove that they are students and are here through the proper process; the International office has been very busy fielding questions and keeping up with changes taking place

Advancement – had a successful Giving Day – still verifying totals but we did get up to \$450,000; put in a lot of work to make this happen; Board of Regents are meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> and Governor Armstrong has tentatively agreed to be the keynote speaker; we will keep the campus informed so those that want to listen to him can do so

Library – egg hunt is underway today; two librarians returned from a conference in Minneapolis; received an award for being a Federal Deposit Library for 100 years

Plant – working on the Dome parking lot; have a backlog in workorders so please be patient; need to be more attentive when setting events and getting the set-up information to plant in a timely manner – don't wait until right before your event takes place

VPAF – busy with legislative business and budget

Athletics – we have a new camps web site; the nutrition center is moving along; will host an open house for the new golf room; BESPY awards will take place on May 5

Alumni – the following will be honored the fall Golden Awards Banquet: Randy Hedberg, Lisa Johnson, Don Selk, Greg Blikre, and Joe Davis; Gala is May 9; will host a Senior Sendoff on May 13; summer events are on the calendar; will send a save the date for Homecoming week in September

Wellness – hosting a blood drive today from 12:30 – 4:00; will have another on May 2; May Marathon will run through the month of May; working on getting food trucks for the summer

Student Center – finals breakfast on May 12 – please sign up to help

ASC – helped with new student registration last week

Power – received 15 applications from the resource fair held last week during registration; waiting to hear on refunding of the program – hopefully know in June; had a great turnout for Dr. Shaun Tyrance's presentation on wellness and keys to high performance; participated in Giving Day and received \$3,400 which will be used for equipment to help engage online students better and give them a sense of belonging; received advice from ND Trio on how to contact legislators regarding possible cuts to the program under the current administration

MRC – attended several workshops; welcome home Vietnam Vets; Grad Expo & Resource Fair; will attend Prairie Warrior Auction on April 24; looking into local energy groups for internships; looking at Navy scholarships; MSU recognized by Minot Area Chamber EDC for outstanding military support of Minot Air Force Base

Bookstore – regalia is available; have new products coming in; Joseph will be done in August as he will be completing his in-classroom preparation for the School Psych – Ed Specialist Degree he is completing

Financial Aid – still FAFSA season; hosted the State Financial Aid Directors conference in Minot last week

Business Office – the new purchasing person has started; J. Lehman will now be doing accounts payable

IT – must move to Windows 11 in October 2025; received money through the legislature for upgrades

NDCPD – Money Follows the Person grant helped relocate 60 people in Fargo to accessible housing; May 15<sup>th</sup> we will honor five Astep students who will be graduating this year; will celebrate our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall with various events

Assessment – using AI to help facilitate program assessment while keeping the human in the loop; SPBC Dashboard related to relativity and effacing of programs; working on compiling all information in one area

NA – recruitment event at TMCHS and a virtual meeting with Ft. Peck in MT; will host a cultural presentation on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> prior to the Powwow – still looking for volunteers to help with powwow on April 25 and 26; STEAM day on Saturday April 26

Housing – opened enrollment for residence halls; attended a conference for conduct tracking

Enroll/Market/Outreach – C. Krueger is out for two weeks – contact J. Mrozik for assistance; College for Kids is preparing for summer courses

Enrollment – had 138 students register on April 9; next session is on April 24; hired a new admission specialist; E. Norman is leaving the department

DCB – looking for a dental director for the program in Minot

VPAA – poster session on April 24 in the library; tenure and promotion candidates have been approved

Registrar – the Grad Expo was a success with around 100 students participating; will be contacting non-returning students to get them to register; Alum Commencement speaker will be V. Pinnick

HR – get evaluations in; NDUS has had some changes in personnel due to addition of DSU and LRSC to their payroll processing

Adjourned at 10:45

Respectfully submitted, Deb Wentz