

Minutes of the University Council Meeting
May 11, 2011

Kathy Smart, Chair of University Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the North Ballroom of the Memorial Union.

Ms. Smart welcomed the attendees and extended President Kelley's apology for not being able to attend due to the need to represent UND with the State Board of Higher Education and the Chancellor. She stated that Alice Brekke would represent President Kelley and give a budget update.

Ms. Smart, on behalf of the Senate Executive Committee, expressed appreciation and gratitude to President Kelley and his cabinet for their courageous and principled positions during the legislative session.

Ms. Smart reported on the work of the University Senate for the 2010-2011 year. She indicated that there was a lot of work done by the Senate and her report would include a few of the highlights. The Senate passed the Intellectual Property Policy which will now go to the President. There were several academic policies that were adjusted, including the Student Load Policy and Grade Change Policy. There was a change to the Senate Bylaws regarding the election of the Vice Chair. There were additions to the Faculty Handbook regarding Promotion of Special Faculty Appointments and the Evaluation of Online Instruction Policy. The Ethical Conduct in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Policy was passed and approved. There were changes made to the Conflict of Interest Policy. There were changes to the Faculty Research Seed Money Program. There was a resolution passed opposing the nickname and logo that was sent to the House and the Senate. A resolution was passed and a letter was sent supporting the SBHE authority and thanking them for their work. Much was accomplished but there is more to do next year.

Alice Brekke was introduced for the budget update. Ms. Brekke greeted the University Council and indicated that she would first provide a quick walk through of the legislation passed by the 62nd Legislative Assembly. She would then provide an overview of the budget framework for the next fiscal year and finally read a statement from President Kelley.

Ms. Brekke thanked the legislators for their service and work on behalf of the University of North Dakota and for the funding in place for the next biennium. She indicated that she would not address everything in her legislative walk through because the list of items was too long.

HB 1003. The Higher Education appropriation bill provides an overall increase to higher education. Within the bill there are statements of legislative intent. The 2013-2015 budget may not include affordability or equity measures. The budget may be based on a tiered system by institutional type or some other model but there will need to be conversations regarding this possibility. Additionally, enrollment reporting to the

legislature will need to include fall full-time students only that are physically present on the campus. Finally, there will be a Legislative management study of the NDUS system regarding programs offered for the workforce needs of the State.

HB 1033, 1034, 1034. NDUS block grant appropriation regarding flexibility with accountability. There will be a study to look at higher education funding, cost, etc.

HB 1213. Composition of the State Board of Higher Education. Currently, there is an advisor position for a faculty member. There was a change to add a staff advisor. Neither position is a voting position.

HB 1263. Prohibits discontinuing the use of the UND nickname and logo. SBHE has provided additional guidance to the campus.

SB 2015. Requires OMB approval for institution capital project change orders.

SB 2057. A bill regarding the Centers of Excellence

SB 2108. A 2% increase for employee retirement in each of the next two years. The increases will be as of 1/1/2012 and 1/1/2013. Half of the increase will be from the employer and half from the employee.

SB 2213. An increase of family medical leave from 40 to 80 hours per year (does not increase the rate at which an employee accrues leave).

SB 2289. A bill that expands grants for innovative programs to higher education institutions.

SB 2323. Requires monthly project variance reports for NDUS capital improvement projects to OMB.

SB 2351. Requires posting of student fees on a website during 2011-2013. There is also a limit to any increase on mandatory fees.

SCR 4003. Northern Tier network

SCR 4026. There will be a study of higher education contracts with companies offering student financial aid refund services.

Ms. Brekke then reported on the UND budget. She first reminded the attendees that she was only describing the general funds provided to UND. The state appropriation is about 25% of the total budget. There are several other sources of funding such as tuition and fees, grants, etc.

HB 1003 provided funding for an average 3% salary increase in each of the next two years of the biennium. These increases consider performance, equity and market. There

are dollars to help fund utility inflation. There is a pool for the SBHE to allocate for affordability and equity. The rate of tuition increase was set at no increase for two-year schools and 2.5% for four-year schools. There is a base funding increase for extraordinary repairs and maintenance. There is \$1.6 million for the Statewide Nursing Consortium. The Medical School was awarded funding for a new Masters of Public Health delivered jointly by UND and NDSU (\$1.2 million funding is split between UND and NDSU). There is \$1.8 million to increase the number of medical and allied health students and new residency slots for the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Additionally, there is funding for a space study for the School of Medicine and Health Science which will occur along with a study of further class size expansion.

There were capital projects funded. The joint NDUS/UND IT building was funded at \$12.5 million plus an additional \$5 million authority to use a portion of UND, NDUS and NDUS IT funding from one-time savings or efficiencies. Additionally, \$8 million authority for federal grant funds for the IT building was provided (grant funding is not yet approved). The Wilkerson Hall renovation/addition was authorized as well as the Townhouses.

Ms. Brekke read the following statement from President Kelley:

Dear Campus Community:

A few weeks ago, I held a campus wide meeting to unveil “Exceptional UND,” a blueprint of how we will continue to transform the University, to take it from the great institution that it is and make it the exceptional institution it is poised to be.

As I have talked with leadership, it is increasingly clear that we have a great story to tell. We have continued to evolve as a University in the past decade. Our enrollment and the quality of our student body have never been higher. Our research enterprise has never been larger, or better funded. We continue to develop programs that meet the needs of our students and which connect to their future and the future of the state, the nation and the world.

It is also clear that we need to find a more strategic approach to telling our story and to managing our key communication processes at all levels.

As a consequence, I am considering establishing the Office of External Affairs -- or some similar name -- under the direction of a new vice president. The Vice President would serve as senior advisor to the academic and administrative leadership of the University of North Dakota on issues of marketing, community, regional and governmental affairs and internal and external communications. The Office brings together the Office of University Relations and the functions of external communications and governmental affairs to enhance coordination between the activities of several offices and to leverage synergies that are created to enhance UND’s presence and reputation across all key constituencies. Examples of areas that this Vice President would oversee include:

- Marketing
- Public and media relations
- Visitor/Alumni liaison
- Ceremonies and Special Events
- Media Services
- Government and Community relations

The vice president reports to the president of the university and sits on both the executive council and the president's cabinet.

This position is essentially a recasting of a position that was created in 2005 under President Charles Kupchella, initially filled by Don Kojich and which has remained vacant since his resignation in 2008.

Before a final decision is made and the many underlying details finalized, I want to provide an opportunity for comment and input by the campus community. A copy of this summary will be posted on the President's Office website (<http://und.edu/president/>) to enable comments to be submitted on-line. The comment period will remain open for three weeks (through May 31, 2011). Once the comment period has closed, meetings will be held with specific areas that may be impacted by this change.

Thank you for your commitment to building an even stronger University of North Dakota.

-- Robert O. Kelley, President

Ms. Brekke then asked for and answered questions. Ms. Smart asked the audience if there were any other matters arising. There were no matters arising. Mr. Munski moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Suzanne Anderson, Secretary
University Council