



The North Dakota State Staff Senate met on March 8, 2021 via ND IVN.

- I. Call to order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 2:30pm CT on March 8, 2021 by ND State Staff Senate President Michael Linnell (MiSU).
- II. Roll call
 - a. **Bismarck State College (BSC):** Caitlin Magilke, Kara Welk
 - b. **Core Technology Services Office (CTSO):** Benjamin Ford, Crystal Tangsrud
 - c. **Dakota College Bottineau (DCB):** (Absent)
 - d. **Dickinson State University (DSU):** Laura Fetting, Wynter Miller, Josh Nichols
 - e. **Lake Region State College (LRSC):** Mylee Kenner, Andy Wakeford
 - f. **Mayville State University (MaSU):** Alyson Beckman, Heather Bolstad, Misti Wuori
 - g. **Minot State University (MiSU):** Lindsey Benson, Mike Linnell
 - h. **North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS):** Mindi Bessler, Lisa Braun, Leslie Shirek
 - i. **North Dakota State University (NDSU):** Al Bernardo, April Helgaas
 - j. **University of North Dakota (UND):** Tyler Clauson, Brian Schill, Megan Wasylow
 - k. **Valley City State University (VCSU):** Kelsie Carter
 - l. **Williston State College (WSC):** Megan Kasner, Kristina Kitchens
 - m. **NDUS Representative:** (Absent)
 - n. **HRC Representative (DSU):** Laura Fetting
 - o. **HRC Liaison:** (Absent)
 - p. **SBHE Representative (BSC):** Retha Mattern
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Megan Kasner (WSC) and seconded by Lisa Braun (NDSCS). Following a vote, motion carried, agenda approved as is.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Brian Schill (UND) and seconded by Al Bernardo (NDSU). Following a vote, motion carried, minutes approved as is.
- V. Reports
 - a. Campus Updates – Submit updates via the NDSSS website by March 23rd.
 - b. SBHE Staff Advisor Report – Retha Mattern (BSC) reported that the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) met on February 25th via Teams. Discussion was held regarding COVID-19 and campus' return to in-person for sporting events and graduation, testing strategies, summary of campus changes and events to support students and employees during COVID. Waivers for placement testing were extended through summer 2023. Strategic Planning was moved up to allow for more transition for the Student Representative to be fully involved in the discussion. Math Pathways was discussed. The next SBHE meeting is scheduled for March 25th. The agenda will be available at <https://ndus.edu/sbhe-overview/agendas-minutes-videos/>.
 - c. HRC – Laura Fetting (DSU) reported that the HRC met on March 2nd. Discussion was held on P-Card training and Internal Audit Deprovisioning. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6th via TEAMS.
- VI. Business Agenda –
 - a. Taskforce Chair Updates –

- i. Legislative – Andy Wakeford (LRSC) – Met with Lisa Johnson, Tammy Dolan, Jane Grinde, Al Bernardo to discuss bills. HB 1441 – Paid Family Medical Leave – has been turned into a study. Several separate retirement bills have been introduced. A couple have been withdrawn or failed, but for separate bills exist. NDUS needs based budget was endorsed by the Senate including fully funded health care for employees and does include language of minimum salary increases of about \$80 with maximum of \$300. Salary increases are hopeful, but the system is watching closely to ensure that increases in salary are not off set by other increased costs to employees. Crossover has taken place.
 - ii. Tuition Waiver – Brian Schill (UND) – Retha, Ben, Heather, and Brian met to discuss the scope of the taskforce ... focusing on dependents at this time. Send campus policies regarding tuition waivers on your campus to Brian.
 - b. Senate Bill 2030 – Brian Schill (UND) – Discussed a proposed bill regarding the challenge grants – an amendment was made to the bill regarding partnerships and working with those who do work with those that do not support normal childbirth. – Is this something that the NDSSS would like to or is able to take a stance on? The NDUS is testifying in opposition of this bill. NDSSS has not taken a stance on bills in the past, but are able to if feel inclined to do so. Retha will reach out to the CCF representative for their perspective and stance.
 - c. Campus Updates –
 - i. Andy Wakeford (LRSC) – Pretzels with the President – Dr. Darling gave update on Legislature, could pick up pretzels and cheese as a snack, then join via Teams.
 - ii. Heather Bolstad (MaSU) noted that they have a campus wellness series going on each month; will have a speaker on campus to bring positivity to campus; working on a gratitude campaign.
 - iii. Mike Linnell (MiSU) – high 5 award and shout outs. Lindsey Benson (MiSU) – team shout outs – provide certificate to department supervisor to share with team members; professional development sessions offered in-person and remotely.
 - iv. Ben Ferguson (CTS) noted they fund a yearly scholarship – fundraisers to raise money – online auction.
 - v. Megan Wasylow (UND) – campus event Feast of Nations – could order food for pickup with a live stream with entertainment; Speaker via Zoom; Staff spring fling – food for pickup; U Shines to celebrate staff each month.
 - d. Request for representation: NDUS Retirement Plan Oversight Committee – have two names submitted, if wanting to add a name, send to Mike Linnell.
 - e. Employee Recognition (September 2021) – Andy Wakeford (LRSC) – nominating state employees for recognition – encouraged to take a look at campus employees who could be nominated. Mike Linnell will look into this and bring more information to the next meeting.
 - f. Staff Senate Summer Meeting – A survey will be sent out regarding attendance (in person and online) and possible dates. BSC will look at dates that will work for hosting. More discussion will be held at the next meeting.
 - g. Staff Senate and COVID-19 Vaccinations – Phase 1C has opened for ND – NDUS employees can now sign up for their vaccinations.

VII. Open Discussion –

- a. Heather Bolstad (MaSU)– asked if any campuses are planning to hold in-person recognition celebrations this spring? Several campuses shared their plans.

VIII. Future Meetings

- a. The next meeting will be held on April 12, 2021 from 2:30-4:00pm CST. Send agenda items to President Michael Linnell (MiSU)

IX. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 3:51pm CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Fetting (DSU)
ND SSS Secretary 2020-21