

NDSCS Foundation Full Board Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, as a regular meeting of the Foundation Full Board of NDSCS, Wahpeton, North Dakota, was duly called and held in the Red River Valley Room of the Hektner Student Center on Friday, January 31, 2020, at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: Thomas Dryburgh, Art Grochow, Kelly Hubrig, Chris Johnson, Joel Kaczynski, James Kapitan, Megan Kummer, Jeff Leinen, Harvey Link, Annette Loken, Andrew Mauch, Michelle Nelson, Roger Richels, Trudy Tischer, Hugh Veit, Margaret Wall, Melissa Wynn and Dr. Jane Vangness Frisch, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Absent: Josh Dozak, Bob Gette, Jeff Hilgemann, Linda Hopkins, Perry Miller, Kim Nelson, Justin Nepl, Mike Nepl, Dr. John Richman and Mike Worner.

Margaret Wall, Board President, opened the meeting. President Wall asked the board members to please complete the Homecoming Award voting form by the end of the meeting. The Board reviewed the minutes from the Nov. 15, 2019 meeting.

Approval of Minutes – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Roger Richels and was seconded by Trudy Tischer. Motion carried.

Annette Loken shared the Bell Wealth Management Year-End Performance Summary Report. It showed a positive percentage gain for the year. The Alumni Foundation's balance as of 12/31/2019 was \$19,076,746. The Madge Vertin Fund, which includes the deposits from the original gift, loans that have been paid back and interest was \$3,351,168. The Executive Committee approved to increase the percentage from 3% to 3.5% for scholarship awards this next academic year. The decision complies with the NDSCS Alumni Foundation Investment policy.

Michelle Nelson provided a report showing the financial awards by year for the M. Vertin and the Foundation accounts from 2010 to 2021 with the award percentage. She shared we also receive money from other matching funds and Annual Scholarships.

Michelle also gave the Annual Operating Budget report. A fair amount of the Foundation's income comes in from March – June with land rent, DREAMS, the endowment management fee and other year-end transfers and is consistent with previous years.

Chris Johnson shared an update on the NDSCS Kosel Family Ag Land Lab. Crop insurance was utilized this year as production was down. The academic year 2020/2021 is the last of the 3-year lease agreement with Kosel/Patterson Family. The Foundation staff will visit with Linda Patterson on how she would like to proceed going forward. The Ag Land Lab planter purchase would become property of the Foundation.

Melissa Wynn gave a status report on the Alumni Annual Giving Campaign. The campaign letters were sent between November 7-13. A good share of the donations occurs at year-end. The FY20 Campaign YTD total is \$86,238, which is 71% of the \$122,000 goal.

Margaret Wall updated the Board on the Alumni office staffing. Perry Miller has been working as the interim Donor Development Manager and assisting with fundraising and DREAMS Auction responsibilities. She also reported on the progress for the Search Committee to fill the position permanently. The position has been posted. The proposed timeline includes screening the applicants the end of February, interviewing in March and filling the position by April of 2020. Kim Nelson is still out on extended medical leave.

The NDSCS Athletics update was given by Thomas Dryburgh. The Athletic Department hired a new business manager, Easton Erbes. The NDSCS fall coaching staff are recruiting and Women's Softball program is anticipating a strong year. The Men's and Women's Basketball teams both look to be strong contenders in the conference. The football league in which we participate will see some changes as a few schools have dropped their football program. Tom encouraged the group to continue to sell or purchase the Athletic Car Raffle tickets. He thanked the group for working hard to increase scholarships for students.

Dr. Jane Vangsness Frisch shared a College update and information on affordability. NDSCS currently has 2,977 credit seeking students, 72.3% are from North Dakota, and round 46.5% of those students live on campus in Wahpeton. In 2019, we had a 98% job placement rate with an average starting salary of \$40,000. The Enrollment Services approach for new students is to be as transparent as possible with a full cost estimate, including expenses like tools and equipment. Parents appreciate a true cost estimate specific to each program for financial planning. Another perk is students, no matter where they come, from who reside in the dorms are given an in-state rate. We are happy to report 71% of our students do not pay any tuition, as student sponsorships and matching funds help defray those costs.

Dr. Vangsness Frisch also talked to the group about the NDSCS Giving Hearts Day Program for this year – the Wildcats Care Emergency Grant Fund. She encouraged the Foundation Board members to support this campaign on February 13, 2020.

In President Richman's absence, Dr. Vangness Frisch reported on the Career Academy status. The County Commission met and by a 5-0 vote were in support of being involved. The West Fargo school district pledged \$100,000/year for the next ten years. This is encouraging, and the hope is other districts will follow with financial support. A future timeline is yet to be determined along with ownership.

A motion to adjourn was made by James Kapitan and seconded by Jeff Leinen. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Wynn

Approve May 8, 2020