

Legislative Review

A Look at Higher Education in Week 8: Feb. 23-27, 2009



**Wednesday,
March 4**

NDUS Showcase

8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**State Capitol,
Memorial Hall**

NDUS Budget Begins House Appropriations Hearings

The 2009-11 State Board of Higher Education budget plan presented by Gov. Hoeven and the Senate demonstrates the importance of the North Dakota University System to the future of the state, according to a University System overview provided to the House Appropriations Committee by Richie Smith, SBHE president, Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009.

Themes such as access, affordability and increased collaboration were threaded through testimony provided in support of Engrossed **SB 2003**, the NDUS budget bill, by stakeholders of North Dakota's higher education system.

In addition to Smith and Bill Goetz, NDUS chancellor, the system overview was provided by David Farnsworth, power generation and engineering leader for Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station and a member of the Roundtable on Higher Education; Brad Henke, a student at Bismarck State College; Ken Story, a student at Minot State University; Tara R. Mertz, a student at the University of North Dakota; and Patti Heisler, assistant professor at Mayville State University and the Council of College Faculties representative on the Committee on Employee Compensation.

NDUS Office and campus hearings will be presented to the House Appropriations, Education and Environment Division, Monday, March 2 through Friday, March 6, according to the following schedule:

March 2, 2009

NDUS Office	8:30 a.m.
Williston State College	1:30 p.m.
Lake Region State College	3:00 p.m.

March 3, 2009

University of North Dakota	8:30 a.m.
UND School of Medicine	1:30 p.m.
Mayville State University	3:00 p.m.

March 4, 2009

North Dakota State University	8:30 a.m.
Dickinson State University	1:30 p.m.
Valley City State University	3:00 p.m.

March 5, 2009

Minot State University	9:00 a.m.
MiSU Bottineau	10:30 a.m.
North Dakota State College of Science	1:30 p.m.

March 6, 2009

Bismarck State College	9:00 a.m.
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House Appropriations Hears Commerce Budget Bill

Engrossed **SB 2018**, the Department of Commerce budget bill, was heard in the House Appropriations Committee Wednesday, Feb. 25.

As approved by the Senate, the bill includes a number of higher education-related initiatives, including \$20 million for the 2009-11 continuation of Economic Development Centers of Excellence. For a more comprehensive list of SB 2018 impacts on the NDUS, see the Week 7 Legislative Review.

Vice Chancellor Marsha Krotseng provided written testimony in support of funding included in the bill for innovative economic development initiatives, such as the centers and the Workforce Enhancement Fund. Krotseng emphasized that both programs demonstrate the power of partnerships and collaboration, bringing together college and university personnel, the private sector and state government to meet North Dakota's critical needs through cutting-edge research and programs.

CTE Budget Bill Heard

Engrossed **SB 2019**, the Career and Technical Education appropriation bill, was heard in the House Appropriations Committee, Education and Environment Division, Thursday, Feb. 26. The bill includes \$3 million for workforce training.

Vice Chancellor Marsha Krotseng testified in support of trainND, the state's workforce training system.

"For our businesses to be competitive in the 21st century, they must continually adapt to advances in technology and processes," she said. "To keep up with all this new information and maintain high skill levels, it is imperative that we continue learning throughout our lives, becoming lifelong learners. That's where workforce training – trainND – plays a crucial role with North Dakota's business and industry to ensure that employees' skills remain high and their companies competitive."

TrainND networks four community colleges, each designated as the lead institution in its region of the state: Bismarck State College (southwest region); Lake Region State College (northeast region); North Dakota State College of Science (southeast region); and Williston State College (northwest region).

Failed Bills

SB 2360 Provided a leave of absence for state employee elected as president of statewide employee organization

On the Week Nine Schedule

SB 2076 Mon., March 2, 9 a.m., H-EDU: As amended, increases to \$550,000 the cost of non-state funded projects that SBHE can approve without legislative approval

SB 2077 Mon., March 2, 9 a.m., H-EDU: Updates UND SOMHS loan revolving fund provisions

SB 2079 Mon., March 2, 10:30 a.m., H-EDU: Updates the UND SOMHS mission

HB 1487 Mon., March 2, 1:30 p.m., S-APPR: Prohibits expenditure of federal stimulus or recovery funds unless appropriated by the Legislative Assembly

HB 1377 Mon., March 2, 2:30 p.m., S-APPR: Mandates the Office of Management and Budget to create a searchable database of state expenditures

HB 1023 Mon., March 2, 3:15 p.m., S-APPR: Provides a deficiency appropriation; includes NDSU (\$527,842) and UND (\$2,858,771) flood costs, main research center (\$100,499), central grasslands center (\$13,560) and NC research center (\$22,094) bond payments

SB 2018 Tues., March 3, 8:30 a.m., H-APPGOV: Provides a Dept. of Commerce appropriation, including Centers of Excellence

HB 1434 Tues., March 3, 8:30 a.m., S-EDU: As amended, provides a \$500,000 general fund appropriation to create endowments for NDUS institution endowed chairs

SB 2080 Tues., March 3, 9 a.m., H-EDU: Relates to accreditation mills and false academic degrees

SB 2081 Tues., March 3, 9 a.m., H-EDU: Updates the UND SOMHS Advisory Council role

SB 2082 Tues., March 3, 10:30 a.m., H-EDU: Expands the definition of resident for tuition purposes to include all veterans

HB 1230 Tues., March 3, 10:45 a.m., S-EDU: As amended, provides \$3 million federal stimulus, \$3 million other funds appropriation (with 1:1 match) to WSC for virtual center for career, technical education

HB 1394 Wed., March 4, 8:30 a.m., S-EDU: Updates a Tribal College Grant Program, including \$700,000 from the Permanent Oil Trust Fund

SB 2087 Wed., March 4, 10 a.m., H-EDU: Exempts chancellor and presidential applicant records from the open records law