



1 ND Chapter of ASPIRE
2 State Meeting
3 April 1, 2019
4 Fargo, ND
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7 **Call to Order:** 3:30 p.m. by Ben Shapiro
8

9 **Roll Call of Programs:** *DSU* – Christiana Pond, Jen Withers; *LRSC* – Cathleen Ruch; *NDSU* – Ben Shapiro,
10 Kenard Booker, Scott Norenberg, Simeon Edosomwan, Kaelen Napoleon; *UMary* – Brenda Nottestad,
11 Ra’Shi Common, Kristi Wanner; *UND* – Mary Jo Dailey, Mary Fredricks, Dawn Eckhardt, Dennis Stangl,
12 Alex Nordland, Patrice Giese, Matthew Berosik, Phil Coghlan, Joan Jorde, Lori Mattison, Jami Fagerholt,
13 Cheryl Kingsbury, Kelsey Walters, Renae Kmecik, Cara Davis, Derek Sporbert.
14 UNKNOWN: Cali Johnson, Sarah Olson
15

16 **Old Business:**

- 17 1. Minutes from October 2018 meeting
 - 18 a. Corrections to meeting minutes
 - 19 i. Line 22 – Name should be Cheryl Longie not Cheryl Kingsbury
 - 20 ii. Line 102 – word correction: for not fir
 - 21 iii. Line 121 - word correction: legislators not legislature
 - 22 b. Motion to approve minutes with corrections by Kenard Booker (*NDSU*), 2nd by Jen Withers
23 (*DSU*), All in favor
24
- 25 2. Program Updates
 - 26 a. Derek Sporbert (*UND TRiO*) – Hosted 1st Gen orientation, Joan & I worked on it and *UND* will
27 continue it next year. Preparing for SSS grant.
 - 28 b. Joan Jorde (*UND SSS*) – Submitted APR. Working with students on advisement, registration,
29 financial aid. Mary and Cheryl have been attending conferences on advising and mental
30 health. Cheryl is continuing to work with math review and praxis prep.
 - 31 c. Dawn Eckhardt (*UND TS*) – Submitted APR, met objectives. Winter has been tough for
32 outreach with weather and schools being closed. Summer programming for middle school, 1
33 wk for students in our intensive program, we have more applications than space. We will be
34 going to Omaha, ND & Sioux Falls, S.D. Alex will be taking on new roles so her position is
35 opening, open to internal apps this week and external apps next week.
 - 36 d. Patrice Giese (*UND McNair*) – We have 7 students graduating and 3 are already accepted to
37 grad school. Have a 1 credit writing and reading class which started 2 weeks ago, GRE
38 academic prep class taught by Cheryl Kingsbury. April 15th is 25th annual McNair program.
 - 39 e. Phil Coghlan (*UND UB*) – Fully staffed. Hired Sarah Olson. Submitted APR. Also preparing for
40 our summer program. Completed APR, Prepping for 2018 summer program, hiring summer
41 staff, fully staffed, seniors are finishing loose ends.
 - 42 f. Cara Davis (*UND EOC*) – Submitted APR. Fully Staffed. We have outreach offices at Lake
43 Region State College, Fargo Moorhead area, Grand Forks, and North Lake Community &
44 Technical College. I was able to attend Policy and take an alum.
 - 45 g. Brenda Nottestad (*UMary SSS*) – Completed APR. Getting into Re-write mode and have a
46 good person working on it with me. Want to introduce Ra’Shai Common, she has prior EOC
47 experience.

- 48 h. Ben Shapiro (NDSU UB) – Fully staffed now. Submitted successful APR. Planning big event
49 with UND for an overnight trip. Our UB will go up to UND this fall. Getting ready for summer
50 program.
- 51 i. Cali Jackson (CCCC TS) – APR is done. We are fully staffed, just filled last advisor position.
52 Preparing for our camping trip at the end of May/beginning of June.
- 53 j. Kenard Booker (NDSU SSS) – Completed APR, Pushed our graduation rate to 48%. Continued
54 1st gen orientation in summer. Became CRLA certified in mentoring and tutoring; owe a lot of
55 that to Scott Nordberg. We have an open position for a STEM advisor. Working on the grant.
56 We wrote into the budget an undergrad research focus. In the process of converting our
57 career/grad school prep class to grade bearing. We run 10 workshops every year.
- 58 k. Cathleen Ruch (LRSC SSS) – Got through APR, getting through semester looking at activities
59 for end of the term and grant writing.
- 60 l. Jen Withers (DSU SSS) –Successful APR, Hosted Awards Celebration. Got a new HVAC system
61 last Summer.

62

63 3. Treasurer’s Report – Cathleen Ruch

- 64 a. We got a new ASPIRE bookkeeper. They do quarterly. The last report was from January
65 b. We have \$11,518 in our account as of last night but the money for this conference is not in
66 yet

67

68 4. Membership Report – Cara Davis

- 69 a. Membership runs 9/1 – 8/31. Encourage your staff to become members. It is not an
70 allowable cost through project funds. The state gets a kickback from your membership
71 b. Currently at 40 members. 3 Associate, 37 professional. 4 are 1st time members

72

73 5. Other Old Business

- 74 a. None

75

76 **New Business:**

77 1. Election of new officer: secretary

- 78 a. Secretary: Cat Ruch nominates Phil Coghlan, Phil accepts nomination, no other nominations,
79 all in favor
80 b. Phil Coghlan will take over as secretary at the next meeting (ASPIRE regional in Colorado
81 Springs, CO)

82

83 2. President report – Ben Shaprio

- 84 a. Headed to Cornell for leadership summit. Had a case study on working with state initiatives
85 and more scholarships for state students
86 i. Will be presenting right before COE leadership seminar
87 b. Project membership will be raising from \$100 to \$200. With project membership you
88 preconference for free

89

90 3. Federal Legislative Updates – Ben Shaprio

- 91 a. I attended policy in with Derek Sporbert, Kenard Booker, Cara Davis, 2 students from NDSU
92 and 1 alum from UND
93 b. Derek S. spoke about COE and asked for legislators support with a 60 million dollar funding
94 increase and signing a letter supporting the significant increase

- 95 c. Murray-Clark legislation would make it our job to work with foster and homeless youth
96 expanding the scope of youth. We would be required to hire a counselor and social worker,
97 which is not something TRIO can really do.
98 d. Cramer is new to senate which means very uninformed staff. We have received support in
99 the past
100 e. Hoven focuses on appropriations
101 f. Armstrong's office had one of the better-informed education aids I have ever met and am
102 anticipating a great partnership there
103 i. He agreed to consider the asks and is a big supporter of STEM
104 g. Try to invite Cramer, Hoven, and Armstrong to your events
105

106 4. Committee Reports

- 107 a. State Initiative & Legislative updates – Mary Fredricks
108 i. State initiative is an effort on the state level for advocates and keep abreast of
109 legislative issues.
110 1. Met in January
111 2. I sent an action alert on January 18th asking you to call your legislators about
112 supporting need based aid.
113 3. March 1st state initiative sent update on various bills. No updates since.
114 ii. Legislative updates
115 1. HB1029 passed both houses. It will form a study committee to look at funding
116 for incentivizing students to go to school
117 2. HB 1031 is need based aid
118 3. SB 2016 increase for National Guard members 25% to 35%
119 4. SB 2039 for implementation of student loan repayment
120 5. SB 2034 was defeated
121 6. HB 1122 will allow ND academic or technical scholarship could be used early if
122 taking dual credit.
123 7. Skilled workforce scholarship program... maintain 2.5 gpa and work in state 3
124 years after graduation
125 iii. A full report will be attached to the minutes
126 b. Alumni Committee – Joan Jorde
127 i. There is now a link on the ASPIRE website to register alumni. Encourage your graduates
128 to sign up.
129 c. Professional Development – Ben Shapiro
130 i. ND had 37 people register and 36 showed
131 ii. SD had 15 people register and show up
132

133 5. 10 for 10 Fair Share (Ben Shapiro)

- 134 a. We met our 10 for 10 but did not use it this year due to paying for policy with a credit card,
135 but we will get 2 next year.
136 i. Hope to offer the extra to someone who has not been to policy.
137 b. COE is an advocacy group in DC. They go to the hill and advocate for us as well as provide
138 trainings. Each state is required to donate money to support COE. Fairshare is given by
139 individuals. It is people donating \$100 a year/ \$10 a month for 10 month/ group of people
140 splitting the \$100, etc.
141 c. We only need 7 people in ND to meet our goal.
142

- 143 6. TRIO Fact Book
144 a. Was redesigned this year. Dennis was the main designer. Give us as many facts as possible
145 on your data and stories.
146
147 7. 2020 ASPIRE Regional Conference
148 a. The board chose Fargo at the Holiday Inn September 20-25, 2020
149 b. Jen Withers & Christiana Pond volunteered to chair.
150
151 8. Other Business
152 a. None
153
154 9. Good of the Order
155
156 10. Adjourn
157 Next meeting in Colorado Springs, CO in October 2019.
158 Cat Ruch moved to adjourn the meeting, Jen Withers seconded.
159
160 Meeting adjourned 4:39 p.m.

State Initiative Report for April 1st, 2019

The State Initiative Committee met in January to discuss ways to support increases in need-based financial aid being considered by the 2019 Legislative Session. We also discussed ramifications of the workforce scholarship and loan forgiveness bills that have been proposed by legislators. Derek provided information that he received from the Assistant Dean of Students at UND regarding bills that were being tracked by the North Dakota University System Office.

On January 18th a State Initiative Action Alert was sent to ND ASPIRE members asking them to consider contacting their legislators in support of House Bill 1031. This bill would have increased individual grants amounts for the ND State Grant from \$1950/year to \$3000/year. Unfortunately, the increase was reduced in the House so that the new individual grant amount will likely be \$2250. Two other ND scholarship programs, the ND Academic and Technical Education Scholarship program, the ND Scholars program received no increase in the NDUS budget.

On March 1st, the State Initiative sent out an update on additional bills that we have been following throughout the session. See below the most recent Legislative Update for March 29th along with links to the House and Senate Appropriations committees if you would like to contact your legislators about SB 2016, SB 2039 or HB 1122. The 2019 Legislature will adjourn on Friday, April 26th or before.

Bill	Status 3/29/19	Title	Comment
HB 1029	PASSED by House and the Senate, signed by the Governor	A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management higher education funding formula review committee; and to provide for a report.	During their hearings in the 2017-18 Legislative Interim the Interim Higher Education did discuss building performance funding into the formula to achieve targeted retention and/or completion of low income students and returning adults.
HB 1031	House: Defeated 02/15 H Amendment adopted, placed on calendar 02/15 H Second reading, failed to pass, yeas 1 nays 88	Relating to the student financial assistance program; and to provide an appropriation.	The amended version of HB 1031 provides for an increase of the maximum grant award under the ND State Grant program from \$1950 to \$2250 per year rather than \$3000 per year in the bill as introduced. This appropriation was then merged with the Higher Education Funding bill, HB 1003.
<input type="checkbox"/> SB 2016	Senate: PASSED House: INTRODUCED 02/27 H Introduced, first reading, (emergency), referred House Appropriations Committee 03/01 H Committee Hearing - 09:00 AM	Relating to the national guard tuition waiver and national guard tuition grants.	Increases tuition waiver for ND Guard members by 10% (25% - 35%)
SB 2039	Senate: PASSED House: INTRODUCED 03/22 H Amendment adopted 03/22 H Rereferred to House Appropriations	Relating to the development and implementation of a skilled workforce student loan repayment program.	Requires BND funds matched by private. Recipients must work in the state and in approved fields. Started as a scholarship but changed to loan.

SB 2334	Senate: DEFEATED 02/07 S Reported back, do not pass, placed on calendar 6 1 0 02/08 S Second reading, failed to pass, yeas 7 nays 39	Relating to the creation of a senior year tuition waiver program for students attending North Dakota university system institutions	
<input type="checkbox"/> HB 1122	House: PASSED Senate: INTRODUCED 03/27 S Amendment adopted 03/27 S Rereferred to Senate Appropriations	Relating to eligibility for the ND Career and Technical Education Scholarship and the ND Academic Scholarship for high school students enrolled in dual-credit or early entry courses.	If passed in Senate this bill would allow students receiving these ND Scholarships to use them for dual credit classes while in high school.
<input type="checkbox"/> HB 1171	House: PASSED Senate: PASSED	Relating to the development and implementation of a skilled workforce scholarship program; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide for a transfer.	Similar to South Dakota’s “Build Dakota” Scholarship SB 2039 funding and policy making for this bill the responsibility of the SBHE. If passed this scholarship available to NDUS, private and Tribal college students who take certain programs that take 8 or fewer semesters to complete with a 2.5 GPA and who work in the state for 3 years. Reverts to loan if requirements not met. BND funds & match
HCR 3037	House: PASSED Senate: INTRODUCED 03/06 S Introduced, first reading, referred Government and Veterans Affairs Committee 03/28 S Committee Hearing - 02:45 PM	Concurrent resolution clarifying the 1975 ratification by 44th ND Legislature of the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution valid only through March 22, 1979.	

Links to ND House Appropriations – Education and Environment Division & ND Senate Appropriations

<https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/committees/house/appropriations-education-and-environment-division>

<https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/committees/senate/appropriations>