



1 **ND Chapter of ASPIRE State Meeting Minutes**

2 September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 11:00-11:50 am Zoom

3 **In attendance: Phil Coghlan (UND), Marc Counterman (NDSU), Mary Jo Dailey, Cara Davis (UND), Cali DeMarce**  
4 **(CCCC), Dawn Eckhardt (UND), Emily Fraiser (NDSU), Patrice Giese (UND), Renae Kmecik (UND), Kelly Kennedy**  
5 **(UND), Leslie Lindquist (CCCC), Lori Mattison (UND), Mary Montoya (UMary), Kaelen Napoleon (NDSU), Scott**  
6 **Norenberg (NDSU), Brenda Nottestand (UMary), Amber Paulson (UND), Michelle Pierson (NDSU), Cathleen**  
7 **Ruch (LRSC), Danny Schindele (UND), Ben Shapiro (NDSU), Derek Sporbart (UND), Dennis Stangl (UND),**  
8 **Cassandra Sundeen (UND), Lindsey Van Thuyne (LRSC), Dana Walford (LRSC), Jenna Zavoral (UND)**

9 1. Approve Minutes from April 7th, 2020 Meeting

10 1. Corrections to meeting minutes

- 11 • Corrections noted by Phil Coghlan

12 2. Motion to approve minutes

- 13 • First: Cat Ruch, Second: Dawn Eckhardt, and the ayes have it

14 2. Program Updates

15 **Cali DeMarce CCCC TS:** First, welcome to our new advisor Leslie Lindquist. We did hold our summer STEM  
16 program. it went pretty well, and participation was about as expected. We have a large carryover because  
17 we always have our vacancies and staff, so I had to submit like a new updated budget to be approved.  
18 We're going to start writing for the upcoming TS competition, and I am working to break it down because  
19 I've never written a TS grant before. Lastly, because our target schools' visitation policies are all different  
20 and, in an effort, to be safe, we've decided to be completely virtual this year.

21 **Cathleen Ruch LRSC SSS:** Welcome to our new Advisor Dana Walford. We're going to be looking for a new  
22 assistant for our trio SSS. Our Program was refunded, so we're back at it for another five years, and are  
23 very excited about that. Classes are going well, and we're working with students to the best of our ability  
24 as they are in some are disappearing and going into quarantine so we can still offer them services  
25 counseling mental health advising whatever they need. We are starting the APR process which is going to  
26 be due in November

27 **Ben Shapiro NDSU Upward Bound:** We had our virtual summer program this past summer, and we  
28 learned some things about virtual education that we're trying to make better as we start the fall offering  
29 virtual services to our students. A lot of our schools in Fargo and Moorhead soon will be going on virtually  
30 to start the school year and don't really want outside agencies coming in. We have started UB Saturday  
31 word for you be Saturdays and are doing a high flex system where we have students joining us virtually as  
32 well as in person. Our carryover budget was approved since we're not a residential program we don't

33 have as much carryover some other programs out there, and we're just waiting for official approval for  
34 our regular budget which may come with at the end of this next month from the Department of  
35 Education

36 **Scott Norenberg NDSU SSS:** Our program was successfully refunded. We are also doing a high flex model  
37 with our tutoring, peer mentoring, and advising services, offering both in person and virtual services. We  
38 are preparing for the upcoming APR as well.

39 **Brenda Nottestand UMary SSS:** UMary SSS is currently still face to face at this point, and staff will be  
40 continuing to work through any COVID challenges as they arise. We would like to welcome to Mary  
41 Montoya, a former UMary TRIO SSS student and Peer Mentor, as our new program Advisor. We were  
42 successfully refunded as well.

43 **Dawn Eckhardt UND TS:** Busy summer with our virtual summer program. It went well, but we are hoping  
44 to return to the in-person program in the future. Schools have resumes for all advisors, and all of them  
45 currently have different COVID policies. This summer Program Advisors worked hard to develop  
46 curriculum and delivery techniques in anticipation of COVID restrictions. APR data collection has started,  
47 and we are working on grant research.

48 **Joan Jorde UND SSS:** Happy to report we were also refunded. We will continue to offer services to  
49 students both in person and remotely. Staff reached out to the incoming students during and after the  
50 changed UND Orientation this summer (due to COVID), and we will begin preparing our APR shortly.

51 **Patrice Giese UND McNair:** This summer four students did outside research internships. We've had  
52 monthly seminars throughout the spring, summer, and into the fall, which have been going well. We  
53 recently hosted a virtual lunch gathering for our scholars. GRE classes have started. The UND McNair  
54 Orientation to Grand School class went well this summer (online). Staff are working on recruiting efforts  
55 as always,

56 **Cara Davis UND EOC:** We had a busy summer and welcome two new advisors Cassandra Sundeen at LRSC  
57 and Jenna Zavoral at NCTC in East Grand Forks. We have returned to work in hybrid form and are getting  
58 creative in how we offer and advertise our services due to COVID. APR Preparation is underway, and we  
59 are also preparing for the upcoming grant competition.

60 **Phil Coghlan UND UB:** We had a virtual summer program for both the regular UB (younger students) and  
61 the UB Bridge program. Staff have returned to the office in hybrid fashion, and staff are working with all  
62 target schools and students in a virtual manner to start the year (due to COVID).

63 **3. Treasurer's Report Cathleen Ruch:**

64 Not a whole lot of change from last spring. With the income from the professional development training,  
65 we hosted last spring. The ending balance was \$11, 759.61. I would expect even more growth in our  
66 balance moving forward. (Ben) We will be receiving a rebate from canceled travel as well. Thank you to  
67 Cat for your service as Treasurer.

68 **4. Membership Report Ben Shapiro and Dawn Eckhart:**

69 Thank you to Dawn Eckhart, ASPIRE Membership Chairperson, for the up-to-date membership report. As  
70 of today, ND ASPIRE has 35 current members, down from 46 last year. We have seven new members.  
71 Unfortunately, we lost 11 members due to losing four SSS programs, and one member due to losing a  
72 graduate assistantship

73 **5. Other Old Business**

74 None

75 **New Business:**

76 **1. ND ASPIRE President's report Ben Shapiro:**

77 This year has been a mix of in person and virtual ASPIRE and ND ASPIRE meetings. Policy Seminar went  
78 well (virtual this year). Senator Cramer signed onto the TRIO funding letter, and the congressional offices  
79 have been actively communicating with us leading up to the SSS funding slate coming out.

80 Unfortunately, ND lost four SSS programs this year at Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Dakota  
81 College Bottineau, Dickinson State University, and Sitting Bull College. Cat has been working with the  
82 ASPIRE Native American Committee as they develop initiatives to get more programs at tribal  
83 institutions in our region. The ND APSIRE Board updated the state's Operating Guidelines this past  
84 summer in July and added the position of Past President to assist with the transition. ND ASPIRE hit our  
85 COE Fair Share goal for this year, and we still don't know what our new FS goal will be for the upcoming  
86 year. ND ASPIRE members are on almost every regional committee with so many in leadership roles.

87 **2. Federal Legislative Updates Ben Shapiro:**

88 To follow up with the update from COE President Maureen Hoyler yesterday, COE is working to get TRIO  
89 included in the upcoming COVID Relief Bill. We will be sharing more information as it becomes available.

90 **3. Committee reports for North Dakota ASPIRE:**

91 1. State Initiative (Past-President, Ben Shapiro)

92 Ben Shapiro: We are currently looking for someone that is passionate to step forward into the  
93 ND State Initiative

94 2. Alumni Committee report (Cathleen Ruch, Joan Jorde)

95 Joan Jorde: Reminder that there is a link on the ND ASPIRE homepage for ND TRIO Alums to fill  
96 out their contact information. Please encourage your graduating seniors and alumni to sign up.

97 3. Professional Development report (Conference Committee-Cathleen Ruch and Ben  
98 Shapiro)

99 Ben Shapiro: Due to COVID and the canceling of this last year's ND/SD Co-State Conference,  
100 South Dakota will be hosting the 2021 spring conference again. It is expected that it will have to  
101 be virtual due to expected travel restrictions in the spring 2021. The 2021 Regional ASPIRE  
102 Conference is still up in the air to be in-person or virtual.

103 **4. Fair Share**

104 Ben Shapiro: Ben and Cat will work as Fair Shar Coordinators for our state

105 1. 10 for 10 goal: We met out state goal of 7 for last year, and the current goal for ND is unknown,  
106 but might be lower this year due to losing 4 programs.

107 **5. Past-President Role**

108 The role was created to help with the transition of leadership and help our ND Board in their duties to  
109 the members. Duties will include: Parliamentarian for state meetings, Committee Chair for State  
110 Initiative, serve on the ND Finance and Gov Relations Committees, and serve on at least one ASPIRE  
111 Committee as well.

112 **6. President Cathleen Ruch's goals and vision for 2020-2021**

113 Thank you to Ben for your service and mentorship as I move into this role. I plan to continue several  
114 focuses. First, I want to continue to work to get Senator Cramer, who serves on the Budget Committee,  
115 on the TRIO Caucus. I want to work to help recruit new programs with institutions across the state and  
116 assist and support programs with upcoming grant writing efforts. Lastly, I plan to be in contact with the  
117 TRIO Directors across ND to make sure they and their concerns are being heard by the ASPIRE Board.

118 **7. Other New Business**

119 None

120 **8. Good of the Order**

121 Special thanks to ASPIRE Conference Chair Kelly Kennedy for her amazing work on the first ever Virtual  
122 ASPIRE Conference. Thank you to everyone that has helped make this a successful conference so far.  
123 Watch out for ASPIRE elections emails; we encourage everyone to please vote. Special thank you to  
124 Patrice Giese for her significant donation to this year's ASPIRE conference.

125 **9. Adjourn**

126 Motion: 1<sup>st</sup>. Mary Jo Dailey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Brenda Nottestand, and the ayes have it.