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## HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 10-11, 2023  
Performance Hall, Center for the Arts, Valley City State University  
Valley City, North Dakota

Representative Mark Sanford, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Members present:** Representatives Mark Sanford, Claire Cory, Jay Fisher, Karla Rose Hanson, Matt Heilman, Bob Martinson, Mike Nathe, David Richter, Cynthia Schreiber-Beck; Senators Sean Cleary, Robert Erbele, Karen K. Krebsbach, Curt Kreun, Jonathan Sickler, Ronald Sorvaag

**Members absent:** Representatives Landon Bahl, Larry Bellew, Dennis Johnson, Mike Schatz, Steve Swiontek

**Others present:** Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Williston, and Kyle Davison, Fargo, members of the Legislative Management

Brady A. Larson, Legislative Council, Bismarck  
See [Appendix A](#) for additional persons present.

**It was moved by Representative Nathe, seconded by Senator Sorvaag, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the August 2-3, 2023, meeting be approved as distributed.**

Ms. Brenda Zastoupil, Director of Financial Aid, North Dakota University System, provided information ([Appendix B](#)) regarding state financial aid programs, including potential adjustments and enhancements to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the programs. She suggested the committee consider recommending:

- The expansion of eligibility for the needs-based student financial assistance grants program to include all residents of the state, rather than only graduates from a high school in the state.
- The elimination of matching funds requirements under the career builders program for certain in-demand jobs.

The committee conducted a tour of Valley City State University (VCSU).

The committee recessed at 6:00 p.m., and reconvened at 8:34 a.m. on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Dr. Alan LaFave, President, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix C](#)) regarding an overview of VCSU.

Dr. Allen Burgad, Dean, School of Education, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix D](#)) regarding teacher education at VCSU.

Dr. Nick Galt, Chair, Science Department, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix E](#)) regarding the fisheries and wildlife educational programs at VCSU.

Mr. Larry Brooks, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix F](#)) regarding academic partnerships and collaboration with other North Dakota University System institutions.

Mr. Cory Anderson, Executive Director for University Advancement, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix G](#)) regarding the VCSU Foundation.

Mr. Larry Robinson, Director for the Forward Together Capital Campaign, Valley City State University, provided information ([Appendix H](#)) regarding capital construction fundraising at VCSU.

Dr. Brian Van Horn, President, Mayville State University, provided information ([Appendix I](#)) regarding an overview of Mayville State University (MaSU).

Dr. Brian Huschle, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mayville State University, provided information ([Appendix J](#)) regarding MaSU efforts to address workforce needs.

Dr. Corday Goddard, Dean of Student Affairs, Mayville State University, provided information ([Appendix K](#)) regarding enrollment trends and challenges at MaSU.

Ms. Amber Hill, Vice President for Business Affairs, Mayville State University, provided information ([Appendix L](#)) regarding MaSU financial data and the institution's economic impact on the state and local community.

Mr. David Krebsbach, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, North Dakota University System, provided information ([Appendix M](#)) regarding the higher education funding formula. He noted the funding formula is performance-based to reward institutions for students' progress toward degree completion.

Dr. Mark Hagerott, Chancellor, North Dakota University System, provided information ([Appendix N](#)) regarding a proposal from the University System to establish a higher education budget stabilization fund. He proposed the committee consider recommending the establishment of a higher education budget stabilization fund using oil and gas tax revenues to offset any budget allotments ordered by the Governor.

Mr. Krebsbach provided information ([Appendix O](#)) regarding the University System capital building fund program.

Mr. Joe Kolosky, Director, Office of School Approval and Opportunity, Department of Public Instruction, provided information ([Appendix P](#)) regarding teacher shortages in the state.

Ms. Lisa Johnson, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, North Dakota University System, provided information ([Appendix Q](#)) regarding enrollment and graduation trends in teacher education programs.

No further business appearing, Chairman Sanford adjourned the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

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Alex J. Cronquist  
Senior Fiscal Analyst

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