

Acquisition Sanford College of Nursing

Higher Education Funding Committee
June 3, 2014



Background

In May 2013, Sanford Health contacted NDSU to discuss potential collaboration in education and research. Meeting held June 20. Part of discussion was nursing education in Bismarck.

In October, Sanford received HLC guidance about maintaining accreditation for program due to bylaws change about separate incorporation. HLC recommended exploring partnerships. Sanford did study, chose NDSU.

Why NDSU/Sanford partnership?

- Strong relationship research, pharmacy, nursing, allied sciences
- Graduate programs, only accredited Doctor of Nursing Practice program in state
- 75-85% NDSU grads stay in ND
- NDSU program ranked #22 in top schools
- Sanford excellent program, 100+ years
- Both NDSU, Sanford score high in nursing licensure exams

Meetings/Agreements

- Early October – Board Chair, Chancellor briefed on possible merger, acquisition
- Oct. 15 – First meeting on possible transfer, agreed to start discussions
- Oct. 23 – NDSU, Sanford, NDUS meeting
- Nov. 5 – Confidentiality agreement
- Nov. 7 – Non-binding MOU signed to work out details, news release, media event
- Nov. 21 – Board update, overview
- Negotiation of asset transfer, lease agreement begins

Agreements

- Sanford provides three years cash:
 - Year 1: \$533,339
 - Year 2: \$393,047
 - Year 3: \$400,630
- Five-year lease: \$1/yr first three years; \$20/sq.ft. final two years (\$4/sq.ft. commons area)
- Option for two, five-year renewal terms
- Program named NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health for not less than 15 years

Approvals/Implementation

- March 6 -- Sanford Board approval
- March 27 – State Board of Higher Education approval
- May 16 – ND Board of Nursing
- June 12-13 -- HLC final approval
- June 30 – Transfer occurs, timing critical
 - Sanford College of Nursing, Board ceases to exist, resigns separate accredited status
 - Back office work must be completed before classes start in August, i.e. records transfer, student loan transition, computer networks, employment offers, incoming student info, employment and payroll records, employee orientation