

# General Assembly

Meeting Minutes  
(Saturday)

Chaired by Jason Fincel, President



**NDSA**



# General Assembly

Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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- I. Call to Order
  - A. NDSA President Jason Fincel called to order at 9:14 am
  
- II. Roll Call
  - A. BSC: 3 present, 3 voting
  - B. DCB: 1 present, 1 voting
  - C. DSU: 0 present, 0 voting
  - D. LRSC: 1 present, 1 voting
  - E. MaSU: 1 present, 1 voting
  - F. MiSU: 2 present, 2 voting
  - G. NDSCS: 7 present, 6 voting
  - H. NDSU: 11 present, 11 voting
  - I. UND: 15 present, 15 voting
  - J. VCSU: 14 present, 5 voting
  - K. WSC: 0 present, 0 voting
    - i. 9 out of 11 institutions present, 55 present, 45 voting
  
- III. Explanation of Meeting Procedure
  
- IV. **ACTION: Additions to and Approval of the Agenda**
  - A. Motion to approve NDSCS
  - B. Seconded by UND
  - C. Passes in the opinion of the Chair
  
- V. **ACTION: Consider Approval of the Consent Agenda**

*A consent agenda allows the General Assembly to approve routine and noncontentious agenda items and reports simultaneously in a single agenda item, saving time during the meeting. Items will be placed underneath this line item prior the start of Saturday's meeting. Members may request to remove items from the consent agenda.*

  - A. Motion to approved by UND
  - B. Seconded by VCSU
  - C. Passes in the opinion of the Chair
  
- VI. Committee Reports:
  - A. Internal Affairs Committee



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- a. Vice President of Finance – Talked about the Bylaw Changes and will come today for a first reading. We talked about putting together some marketing packages for Head Delegates. Talked about the next Fiscal Year budget. There are some standard increases in scholarship and standard increase so we would be around 6,000 over budget to spend the reserve. Both got a due pass with a stipulation that the increase in Directorship scholarships is contingent on adding a section about it in the Bylaws.

## B. Student Affairs Committee

- a. Vice President of Communication – Talked about what they want to include in the marketing packages that will be handed out to Head Delegates. Gave a due pass to a resolution about making an NDUS humanities curriculum. Talked about attendance-based grading and tabled that discussion to the next meeting. Gave a due pass to a resolution about digital literacy and AI in classrooms.

## C. State Legislative Affairs Committee

- a. Vice President of Governmental Affairs – Had an OER update and Lisa Johnson attended who is heading that. Talked about the implementation of a North Dakota Higher Education day that the exec team will look over. Had 5 resolutions that were given a due pass. PAAR wanted to change to a special committee to extend its dates of activeness.

- VII. Presidential Report – Conducted a campus visit at DCB and talked with them about how they were represented in the legislative session and how they are doing on their campus. I met with a few people at BSC and had productive conversations about their objectives in the next legislative session. There is an interim higher ed meeting that got rescheduled for March. Still in communication with the NDUS about a possible LGBTQ+ collective. NDSU hosted a higher ed and a few campuses and people got to attend and forge connections with legislators.

## VIII. SBHE Student Member Report

- A. SBHE Student Member Sadie Hanson – The State Board met in February and voted on some standard policies. Met this Wednesday to discuss a request from BSC to offer a Bachelor of Science that is still going through some discussion. I was able to attend the NDSU Higher Ed day. A few staff, the Chancellor, and I have met to discuss some upcoming legislation.

## IX. New Business



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## A. Constitution and Bylaw Revisions

- i. Most of the changes are grammatical. There were a few neutrality clauses that were added. Added to VPFO that they are in charge interpreting the constitution and then talked about bringing that up later in IAC. Also, they will be adding a state of the reserves and the state of the Strategic Plan. Added marketing of NDSA in SAC Committee. In the Chief of Staff, it was mostly re-wording and reordering. Waiting on legal for the GPA requirement if we can check.
- ii. We aren't voting on it today so there is a chance to further go through it later.
- iii. Questions: None
- iv. Discussion: None

## B. FY24-25 Potential NDSA Budget

- i. Nothing other than standard changes and an increase in the Chief of Staff scholarship increase and the Directorships scholarships. There was some increase in lobbying since it was a legislative year. The accountant's raise is supposed to be more every year but an unknown amount. There are 5 Directorships offered, but this would be contingent on adding a point about them in the Bylaws. Added some extra expenses and variable expenses so they can be changed. With expecting 100% fixed and 75% variable, we would spend 6,000 of the reserve. Right now, it is expected to be around 87,000 left of reserves.
- ii. This is the first reading and will vote on it next meeting.
- iii. Questions: None
- iv. Discussion: None

## C. Policy Change to Online Attendance

- i. SAC talked about how lax the policy has been to not come in person. So, there have been some changes to the policy. Institutions have to apply within 2 weeks, excluding weather and extenuating circumstances. If not, they lose voting privileges for that meeting if they join online.
- ii. This is the first reading and will vote on it next meeting.
- iii. Questions: None
- iv. Discussion: None

## D. Policy, Advocacy, and Research Subcommittee

- i. Initially, the task force is set to end at the end of this year. Want to change it to a special committee that can be disbanded at any



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time or created so it can be disbanded when deemed necessary.

ii. Questions: None

iii. Discussion:

1. Adylen Emter UND: Amend it to change the qualifications to the scope of work remove the 2023-2025 biennium and change it to the current biennium.
2. Seconded by NDSCS
3. No questions or discussion. Motion passes 27-0-18
4. Adylen Emter UND motions to pass the special committee
5. Carter Gill VCSU.
6. No questions or discussion. Motion passes: 36-0-1

E. NDSA-08-2324: A Resolution in Support of Support of the Creation of a NDUS Humanities Curriculum

i. We are working with Envision 2035 and creating a broader humanities program. This can allow NDUS students to take a humanities course at any institution. This is stating our support for this initiative.

ii. Questions: None

iii. Discussion:

1. Carter Gill VCSU: Friendly amendments to the resolution.
2. Kade Langemo BSC: Can you go over the resolution again?
  - a. It states you can take an online humanity from any NDUS institution no matter where your home institution is.
3. Max Eriksrud UND: Motion to approve the resolution.
4. Elise Klindt WNDSCS Seconds.
5. No discussion or questions. Motion passes 30-8-2.

F. NDSA-09-2324: A Resolution in Support of Digital Literacy and the Use AI in Classrooms

i. Just state support of digital literacy and support of AI in Classrooms. Did pass a digital literacy resolution in the past, but this adds the AI aspect of it since it is becoming more prevalent.

ii. Question: None

iii. Discussion: None



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- iv. Elise Klindt NDSCS motions to pass the resolution.
  - v. Christopher Scott UND seconds the motion.
  - vi. No question and discussion: Motion passes 37-2-1.
- G. NDSA-10-2324: A Resolution in Support of Mirroring State Law Pertaininr to Medical Marijuana on Campus
- i. It says that we want to mirror state law in regard to medical marijuana and recreational. This was given a due pass by SLAC.
  - ii. Questions: None
  - iii. Discussion: None
  - iv. Travis Smith MiSU motions to pass the resolution.
  - v. Sarah Kempel UND seconds.
  - vi. No questions or discussion. Motion passes 34-7-2.
- H. NDSA-11-2324: A Resolution in Support of Alternative Pathways to Teacher Licensure
- i. Coming from an Envision 2035 sub-committee about how there are some needs for emergency licensure for teachers since there are shortages in the state. There was also SB2032 that was regarding this as well.
  - ii. Questions:
    - 1. Elise Klindt: Confused about how this resolution would be regarding being a teacher. Does it give a certificate, or do you get to become a teacher?
    - 2. Grace Reep VPGA: This can be for an alternative route tha isn't the 4-year route that is expected. This is a sub-group from the Governor exploring the other options.
  - iii. Discussion:
    - 1. Christopher Scott UND: Regarding SB2032, we talked abo support for this last legislative session. There is an executive order about some emergency pathways that wa made by the governor.
  - iv. Travis Smith MiSU motions to pass the resolution.
  - v. Elise Klindt NDSCS seconds.
  - vi. No questions or discussion: Motion 38-1-0
- I. NDSA-12-2324: A Resolution in Opposition to Open and Concealed Gur Carry on NDUS College Campuses
- i. This is a resolution in opposition to open and concealed gun car



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on NDUS college campuses. This is the current statement the NDSA has had for the last several years. There have been several different legislations that have been proposed regarding this. There is to have a stance against any legislation that may be passed.

ii. Questions: None

iii. Discussion:

1. Gabby Erickson VCSU: Friendly amendment
2. Travis Smith MiSU: Asking everyone to vote no because it is important to have self-defense. The resolution states that the Century Code is fine, but it goes against our right to bear arms. Crime prevention research centers that most of the mass shootings happened in gun-free zones. The rate of gun use is 6 times higher than criminal gun use. We would be more well-founded to prevent people from committing suicide than preventing us from bearing. Those with mental health afflictions shouldn't be preventing those of others from bearing arms.
3. Connor Ferguson UND: I have questions for Travis about the statistics that were brought up.
4. Elise Klindt NDSCS: I feel that if people were carrying guns on campuses, I would feel uneasy.
5. Precious Dada UND: Some statistics gun death in ND has increased by 31%. In the past 2 weeks who killed a fellow student in ND. If I knew someone at UND, I would choose to do online classes.
6. Sophia Weshnevski NDSCS: I would feel uneasy about it and misfires happen a lot. Not all people want to take precautions to handle a gun.
7. Hayden Larson NDSCS: I agree with the previous points about feeling uneasy. I think gun safety and gun education should be encouraged instead of just ignoring them.
8. Connor Ferguson UND: Mentioned that 97% of shootings happen in gun-free zones. Don't know how this paints the pictures. These are the targets of shootings. Failing to account for any increase we can see. Mentioned that to focus on preventing suicide attempts but don't know how this is mutually exclusive. Have to make sure they aren't given the ease of committing it in their own dorm rooms
9. Christopher Scott UND: Talk about school made them worried about gun safety in the resolution. Safety is an aspect of the choice of university. There were a few attempts of



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suicide of non-lethal suicide. However, if they know about someone with a gun, it could become a lethal need. Faculty are also concerned about it and may lose some of them.

10. Carter Gill VCSU: Talked about gun rights and this seems that the concern is the same as before. Motion to pass this resolution.
11. Adelyn Emter UND seconds.
12. No Questions.
13. Discussion
  - a. Travis Smith MiSU: there are more arms than just the firearms you think about. Cars and technology are technically a form of arms.
  - b. Carter Gill VCSU: Point of order.
  - c. Evan Hutchenson UND: I think the motion was a bit hasty.
  - d. Carter Gill VCSU: I think that when it comes to things that have been brought up before our concerns haven't changed. That is why I wanted to speed things along.
  - e. Travis Smith MiSU: Also agree that the motion to pass was hasty.
  - f. Motion passes 31-9-2.
- J. NDSA-13-2324: A Resolution in Support of NDUS Institutions Developing Action Plans for the Utilization and Implementation of OERs
  - i. This is another resolution coming from the Envision 2035. There has been some initiative for using OERs but has fallen short in coming years. This says we want an action plan from universities on how to implement them and for them to continue trying to use them in classrooms.
  - ii. Questions: None
  - iii. Discussion: None
  - iv. Precious Dada UND motions to pass the resolution.
  - v. Carter Gill VCSU seconds.
  - vi. No questions or discussion. Motion passes 41-0-1.
- K. NDSA-14-2324: A Resolution in Opposition to the Expansion of Sports Betting in the State of North Dakota
  - i. This resolution is something we talked about in the UND Senate.





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Online sport betting is something college students can get sucked in very easily. 1/10 college students are addicted to gambling. This can result in a lot of financial harm to students. This is supporting the SBHE efforts to curb sports gambling.

- ii. Questions: None
  - iii. Discussion: None
  - iv. NDSCS motions to pass the resolution.
  - v. UND Seconds.
  - vi. No questions or discussion. Motion passes 29-11-2.
- L. Christopher Scott UND Motions for a 15-minute recess. No second, it dies.
- M. NDSA Awards
- i. Outstanding Officer
    - 1. Christopher Scott UND nominates Sammi Weber
      - a. Seconds by NDSCS.
      - b. Sammi accepts
    - 2. UND nominated Katie Kempel
      - a. Seconded by MiSU.
    - 3. NDSCS nominated Grace Reep
      - a. Seconded by UND
    - 4. NDSU nominates Jason Fincel
      - a. Seconded by VCSU
      - b. Jason declines the nomination.
    - 5. NDSCS Nominated Cody Olski
      - a. Seconded by UND
    - 6. Katie Kempel is our Outstanding Officer
  - ii. Outstanding Head Delegate
    - 1. Evan Hutchenson UND nominated Kiara Radke
      - a. Seconded by Chloe Anderson VCSU
    - 2. Travis Smith MiSu nominated Tam Vu
      - a. Seconded by NDSCS
    - 3. Kiara Radke is our Outstanding Head Delegate



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iii. Most Dedicated Delegates

1. Connor Ferguson nominated Hayden Larson
  - a. Seconded by NDSCS
2. Evan Hutchenson nominates Tam VU
  - a. Seconded by MiSU
3. NDCSC nominated Connor Ferguson
  - a. UND seconds
  - b. Connor is not eligible for the award.
4. NDCSC nominates Carter Gill
  - a. UND seconds
5. Hayden Larsen and Carter Gill are our Outstanding Delegates.

iv. Student Advocate

1. Christopher Scott nominated Greg Stemens
  - a. Seconded by VCSU
2. UND nominated Doug Darling
  - a. Seconded by VCSU
3. VCSU nominated Faye Seidler
  - a. Seconded by UND
4. Greg Stemens is our Student Advocate.

v. NDSA Legacy

1. UND nominates Sadie Hanson
  - a. Seconded by NDSCS
2. NDSU nominates Kaylee Wiegel
  - a. Seconded by UND
3. Sadie Hanson is our NDSA Legacy winner.

N. NDSA 24-25 Officer Elections Nominations

- i. This is the first round of nominations. There is another round next meeting.
- ii. Connor Ferguson UND motions to suspend the bylaws that require you to nominate your institution in a voting or non-voting capacity 3 times before becoming nominated.



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1. Seconded by NDSCS
2. Question: Expand on it more about what was being suspended.
3. No Discussion. Motion passes 31-3-1.
- iii. SBHE: You have a lot of responsibility for being one of the 8 voting members on the board. It is a very important role on the board. You have 2 meetings a month you need to attend. You can attend some other committee meetings. You don't have to testify since there is a chair, but you can attend and hear. Tried to travel to visit all the institutions.
  1. UND nominates Christopher Scott
    - a. Not seconded.
  2. NDSCS nominates Maxwell Eriksued.
    - a. Seconded by UND
    - b. Maxwell Accepts
  3. UND Nominates Precious Dada
    - a. Seconded by VCSU
    - b. Precious Accepts
  4. VCSU nominates Connor Ferguson
    - a. Seconded by UND
    - b. Connor Accepts
  5. NDSU nominates Jason Fincel
    - a. Seconded by UND
    - b. Jason Declines
  6. NDSCS nominates Christopher Scott
    - a. Seconded by UND
    - b. Chrisopher Accepts
- iv. President:
  1. UND nominates Sammi Weber
    - a. Seconded by MiSU
    - b. Accepted by Sammi
- v. VPFO:
  1. VCSU nominates Evan Hutchenson



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- a. Seconded by NDSCS
    - b. Accepted by Evan
  - vi. VPGA:
    - 1. UND nominates Carter Gill
      - a. Seconded by NDSCS
      - b. Accepted by Carter
  - vii. VPC:
    - 1. UND nominates Jayden Erickson
      - a. Seconded by NDSCS
      - b. Accepted by Jayden
  - viii. Chief of Staff:
    - 1. UND nominates Sarah Kempel
      - a. Seconded by VCSU
      - b. Accepted by Sarah
    - 2. UND nominates Hayden Larson
      - a. Seconded by MiSU
      - b. Declined by Hayden
- X. Complete General Assembly Feedback Survey
- XI. Institutional Reports
  - A. BSC: No report.
  - B. DCB: No report.
  - C. DSU: Absent
  - D. LRSC: No report.
  - E. MaSU: GBB won the tournament and won the first game at nationals. 23 of the 25 people who went to the conference qualified for nationals. Student Senate is growing, and we had 12 students attend.
  - F. MiSU: Harnet Hall is getting furnished and is getting moved in. Hosting our SGA elections next week.
  - G. NDSCS: Our board is full on our Senate. The Little Mermaid has been moved as well as the elementary performance. The Fargo Senate meeting is coming up. Construction management students travel to Las Vegas and compete in international builders show and place 3<sup>rd</sup>.



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GBB and BBB won the Region 13 BB tournament.

- H. NDSU: Our exec team is on our exec trip and will talk about how the year went. Getting ready for re-elections. Have a shared governance summit next week.
- I. UND: The UND writer conference is coming up. The author will speak about their experience and host workshops. Hosting its first disability awareness. UND's international organization will host its 62 Feast of Nations which will showcase diversity and culture. Precious Dada will be hosting that. Our Robotic team qualified for the quarter-finals. Our UND dining services hosted a chopped event. Student Body Pres and VP spoke about passion of leadership for our 1883 speaker series. University Senate approved a digital literacy program. The office of Diversity held a event to honor the first student s of color who graduated from UND. UND aerobatic team won it 11<sup>th</sup> nation flying competition this year. Alumni foundation will host Gov. Burgum's wife next week. UND won its first hockey playoff last night. Tonight is part 2.
- J. VCSU: Senate wise, we finished our constitution changes, chose our laptops for next semester, and reviewed the AI policy. Campus wise, we hosted a career fair and we had 5 DECA students qualify for ICDC in Texas.
- K. WSC: Active campus and activity board is trying to keep everyone active. Campus life is going great!

## XII. Public Comment and Announcements

- A. Delegate of the month is Adelyn Emter!
- B. Second round of nominations next month so ask.
- C. Please sign the sheet.
- D. All the nominees will be in contact with you about election

## XIII. Adjourn

- A. Motioned by UND
- B. Seconded by VCSU
  - i. Adjourned at 12:58 pm



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# General Assembly

Roll Call Sheet  
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INSTITUTION	STUDENT TOTAL	APPORTIONED VOTING DELEGATES	DELEGATES PRESENT	DELEGATES VOTING
Bismarck State College	4,065	7	3	3
Dakota College at Bottineau	1,180	4	1	1
Dickinson State University	1,453	4	0	0
Lake Region State College	1,810	5	1	1
Mayville State University	1,048	4	1	1
Minot State University	2,741	6	2	2
North Dakota State College of Science	3,140	6	7	6
North Dakota State University	11,952	15	11	11
University of North Dakota	14,172	17	15	15
Valley City State University	1,754	5	14	5
Williston State College	912	4	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>55</b>	