

# General Assembly

Meeting Minutes  
(Saturday)

Chaired by **Sammi Weber**, President



**NDSA**

I. Call to Order

A. NDSA President Sammi Weber called to order at 9:17 am

II. Roll Call

A. BSC: 2 present, 2 voting

B. DCB: 0 present, 0 voting

C. DSU: 1 present, 1 voting

D. LRSC: 2 present, 2 voting

E. MaSU: 4 present, 4 voting

F. MiSU: 1 present, 1 voting

G. NDSCS: 11 present, 6 voting

H. NDSU: 17 present, 15 voting

I. UND: 16 present, 16 voting

J. VCSU: 5 present, 5 voting

K. WSC: 3 present, 3 voting

i. Out of 11 institutions 10 present, 62 delegates present, 55 delegates voting

III. Explanation of Meeting Procedure

IV. **ACTION: Additions to and Approval of the Agenda**

A. Grace Reep motions to add a line item under new business: A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1273

i. Seconded by Christopher Scott (UND)

ii. Motion passes

B. Motion to approve agenda by Christopher Scott (UND)

i. Seconded by Phillip True (NDSU)

ii. Motion passes

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 approve consent agenda by NDSU

i. Seconded by NDSCS

ii. Motion passes

VI. Committee Reports:

A. Internal Affairs Committee

- a. Vice President of Finance – Discussed host school reimbursement, scholarships for head delegates, term limits, approved the purchasing of 500 pens, proposed bylaw changes. Also discussed voting methods, parliamentary procedure, and spending down the budget.

B. Student Affairs Committee

- a. Vice President of Communication – Had two resolutions come through with a ‘do pass’ recommendation from the committee.

C. State Legislative Affairs Committee

- a. Vice President of Governmental Affairs – In SLAC nine total resolutions came out. Legislative session presentation.

VII. Presidential Report: In contact with institutions about housing needs. Looking into that as HB 1128 deals with housing needs.

VIII. SBHE Student Member Report

- A. SBHE Student Member – A lot of work with 10-year policy reform. Started a new thing where every week on Fridays we will be adopting things happening the last session that would pertain to our education. LRSC and BSC had their presidents retire/leave and BSC currently has an interim president. Discussed employee policies as it relates to Equal Employment benefits for our faculty administrators and then looking to clarify the mission statements of each institution so we kind of put out a survey and it was good to see what each institution's goals are.

IX. Representative Schreiber-Beck Report

- A. Appreciates NDSA following the session very closely. Serve on education and agriculture committees.
  - i. Christopher Scott (UND): Interested of the atmosphere around HB 1128.
    1. Representative Schreiber-Beck: Tremendous amount of effort to do stuff for K-12 and their buildings so this bill will also help that. It’s going to be a balance for that loan fund.

X. New Business

A. Bylaw Changes

- i. Sammi Weber (President): Changing the wording of the membership policy to head delegate instead of SGA.
- ii. No Questions
- iii. No Discussion
- iv. Sammi Weber (President): Also change the SBHE qualifications. Changes taken straight from the application.
  1. NDSU: Why were the rational for these changes.

2. NDSU: Has that always been in the application?
  - I. Sammi Weber: Yes, we just haven't had it updated.
3. NDSU: Moves to strike the change from the bylaws
  - I. Seconded
4. Sean Rotich (NDSU): How did our current representative get voted in?
5. Carter Gill (VPGA): The state would have picked a different candidate.
6. Sammi Weber (President): Was sent this application by the NDUS office and noticed the difference.
7. Katie Kempel (UND): Could we reference these requirements?
8. Jason Fincel (UND): Understanding that if you're a member of an institution you're allowed to run.
9. Katie Kempel (UND): Just have to have a residence in North Dakota to qualify.
10. NDSU: This doesn't seem like a requirement, but rather a yes or no question.
11. Motion to strike this bylaw change passes

B. A Resolution in Support of Mental Health Task Forces and Committees Across All NDUS Campuses

- i. Eniola Soetan (DSU): This resolution is one that got sent back for edits at the November meeting. Christopher Scott and I made edits to the resolution. Changed the source to newer data.
- ii. No Questions
- iii. No Discussion
- iv. UND motions to approve the resolution
- v. Seconded by VCSU

1. Motion passes with 46 yes, 2 no, 5 abstentions

C. A Resolution in Support of Mandating Mental Health Training Programs for NDUS Faculty and Staff

- i. Sammi Weber (President): An 8-hour training is offered and
- ii. Questions

1. Katie Kempel (UND): A lot of people were against the language of 'mandating'. Discussed the difficulty of mandating across the NDUS.

iii. Discussion

1. Elise Klindt (NDSU): Has heard that it is a very long commitment.

2. Phillip True (NDSU): Likes Katie's points about the mandating especially mandating things for the universities. Would this cause additional costs to the institutions at all?
3. Sammi Weber (President): The program itself is free, but it depends if institutions are paid for their time.
4. Katie Kempel (UND): Would be in favor of changing the wording of this resolution to be in support and encouraging these programs and take it one step back from mandating.
5. Katie Kempel (UND): Motions to change 'mandating' to 'the continued offering'.
6. Seconded by Phillip True (NDSU)
7. Motion to amend the resolution passes with 48 yes, 2 no, and 4 abstentions

- iv. Christopher Scott (UND) Motions to pass the resolution
  - v. Seconded by NDSU
    1. Motion passes

#### D. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1145

- i. Carter Gill (VPGA): The resolution covers the unconstitutionality of a bill that would require the posting of the ten commandments in each classroom. The resolution discusses how there are no appropriations for institutions of higher ed to pay for the displaying of the ten commandments in each classroom as well.
- ii. No Questions
- iii. No Discussion
- iv. Phillip True (NDSU) Motions to pass this resolution with a voice vote
- v. Seconded by Cherokee Warnecke (VCSU)
  1. Motion passes

#### E. A Resolution in Support of Occupational Compacts

- i. Christopher Scott (UND): On interstate licensure compacts there's a few bills in the legislature that allow licensure compacts between states so that's essentially what these bills do is allow licensures process become more smooth between states.
- ii. No Questions
- iii. No Discussion
- iv. Phillip True (NDSU) motions to pass the resolution with a voice vote

- v. Seconded by LRSC
    - 1. Resolution passes
- F. A Resolution in Support of the Continuation of Scholarship Funding
- i. Christopher Scott (UND): Increase number of scholarships and grant bills.
  - ii. Grace Reep (VCSU): Friendly amendment to change HB 2147 to SB 2147
  - iii. No Questions
  - iv. Discussion
    - 1. Katie Kempel (UND): Motion to add 'HB 1171, SB 2109, SB 2221' to the first 'therefore, be it resolved clause'
    - 2. NDSU seconds the motion
    - 3. Amendment passes
  - v. NDSU motions to pass the resolution with a voice vote
  - vi. Seconded by UND
    - 1. Motion passes
- G. A Resolution in Support of HB 1128
- i. Carter Gill (VPGA): This bill increases funds for residence halls and will apply to student dining.
  - ii. No Questions
  - iii. No Discussion
  - iv. Kaden Wass (LRSC) motions to pass the resolution with a voice vote
  - v. Seconded by UND
    - 1. Motion passes
- H. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1437
- i. Carter Gill (VPGA): The prohibition of tenure. This doesn't remove tenure from current tenured faculty at 2 year colleges. This would prohibit awarding tenure to new faculty at 2 year schools. This resolution is in opposition to this bill.
  - ii. No Questions
  - iii. Discussion
    - 1. Katie Kempel (UND): Would move to change the title to the 'prohibition of tenure' and change the fifth whereas clause to also say 'the prohibition of tenure'.
    - 2. Seconded by NDSU
    - 3. Amendment passes
    - 4. Katie Kempel (UND): See the impact of tenure on UND campus and would like to hear how it impacts two-year

schools as it relates to this resolution.

5. Joseph Hollingsworth (NDSU): Tenure provides academic freedom teaching their courses and how they teach. It's job security for these professors.
6. Sammi Weber (President): During campus visits, many faculty said they were in favor of tenure because it attracts people to the state.
7. Connor Ferguson (UND): Coming from UND the prohibition of removal of tenure at a 4 year institution would be a concern. The removal of tenure at these 2 year schools could devastate these schools' abilities to bring in professors.

iv. Phillip True (NDSU) motions to approve the resolution

v. Seconded by UND

1. Motion passes

I. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1220

i. Carter Gill (VPGA): A resolution that came out of SLAC last night. Recommended that PAR write it. When you create a three-year degree, you would end up having to dilute the goals of a bachelor's degree.

ii. No Questions

iii. No Discussion

iv. Christopher Scott (UND) motions to pass the resolution

v. Seconded by Cherokee Warnecke (VCSU)

1. Motion passes

J. Christopher Scott (UND) Motions to add A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1181

i. NDSU seconds

ii. Motion passes with 38 yes, 13 no, 1 abstention

K. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1588

i. Christopher Scott (UND): Have taken similar stances on open and concealed carry on campus and this resolution reflects that. Faculty have been concerned with firearms on campus.

ii. No Questions

iii. Discussion

1. Carter Gill (VPGA): Friendly amendment to fix some of the spacing on the document.

2. Katie Kempel (UND): Friendly amendment in the fourth whereas clause.

iv. NDSU motions to pass this resolution with a voice vote

v. Seconded by NDSCS

1. Motion passes

L. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1273

i. Grace Reep (VCSU): Talked about in SLAC so was submitted personally. Important to bring forward to the GA. Prohibiting any policy orders or ordinances that limit free speech. There's a lot of hate crime and hate speech concerns.

ii. Questions

1. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Curious as to the intent of the bill and how it addresses a free speech issue.
2. Grace Reep (VCSU): The bill does specifically discuss hate crime ordinances. The goal with this resolution was based around discussion at SLAC last night. This discussion was leaning more toward speech.
3. Phillip True (NDSU): Could you clarify the second to last whereas clause?
4. Grace Reep (VCSU): This was looking at NDUS policy regarding speech that could be offensive or hateful. It felt as if institutions were saying it is inappropriate to stand up for fellow students so the addition of that clause was opposing the idea that standing up for fellow students is good and not saying anything is not something I'd like to see us take.

iii. Discussion

1. Christopher Scott (UND): Friendly amendments
2. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Opposes the bill, as doesn't think the resolution accurately responds to what the bill would do. Would support NDSA taking opposition to the bill but not on the issue of free speech, but rather on the issue of hate crime ordinances.
3. Philip True (NDSU): Friendly amendments; also agrees with Jason that the way the resolution is framed.
4. Sean Rotich (NDSU): The way that the title is worded makes it sound like we are not for free speech.
5. Katie Kempel (UND): Point of information; the title is just reflecting the title of the actual bill.
6. Connor Ferguson (UND): We could make amendments and make the resolution more focused on hate crime ordinances.
7. Connor Ferguson (UND): Motions to strike the fourth whereas clause, in the third whereas clause change 'hate speech' to 'hate crime ordinances', in the sixth whereas clause change 'hate speech' to 'hate crime ordinances', strike the second to last whereas clause, and change the fourth to last whereas clause of 'hate



speech' to 'hate crime ordinances'.

8. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Thinks we can address this more professionally.
9. Katie Kempel (UND): Add 'the NDSA opposes putting our most vulnerable populations in harm's way' and strike the rest of the whereas clause.
10. Amendments seconded by VCSU
11. Motion to amend the resolution passes
12. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Friendly amendment
13. NDSU: Thinks the bill does a good job of protecting rights, and lots of NDSU students are for the bill so feels they have to vote against the resolution.
14. Connor Ferguson (UND): Hate crime ordinances are not a function of free speech but as a function they are in addition to heinous crimes. And so, it's an additional penalty on top of the crime already occurred. The point of these laws is to protect our most vulnerable populations in the state. Vehemently opposed to this bill as it does not protect students in the university system.
15. NDSU: Wondering if our resolution in opposition could be framed to not include hate crime ordinances then.
16. Philip True (NDSU): The way this bill is particularly related to speech and not hate crime. Stands against the resolution.
17. Kaden Wass (LRSC): Did we not just make amendments to reword this resolution more on the topic of hate crimes rather than free speech.
18. Philip True (NDSU): The bill itself is talking about speech and is focusing on that. So if we're talking about the bill, just talking about the hate crime ordinances is enough to be in opposition to the bill.
19. Jason Fincel (NDSU): We're going in a circle because the bill frames the issue as a free speech issue but then addresses something that is not a free speech issue.

iv. UND motions to pass the resolution

1. NDSCS Seconds
2. Motion passes with 34 yes, 18 no, and 3 abstentions

M. A Resolution in Opposition to HB 1181

- i. Carter Gill (VPGA): This is addressing a bill that has similar language to when it came around last legislation. And it's the typical precedent for NDSA to address bills like this directly.
- ii. No Questions

### iii. Discussion

1. Parker Martinson (NDSCS): On lines 13-14 “If sex, gender, gender identity, or gender expression is contested, determination is established by the individual’s DNA” and believes this is the only lines worth contesting and controversial. The cost of the DNA test would fall on the individual. Otherwise believes there should be a distinction between male and female for bathrooms and dormitories.
2. Grace Reep (VCSU): This entire bill is something I testified against earlier this week. There were the concerns of costs of the DNA tests. There is an erasure of intersex individuals, as that is a 2% of the world’s population and concerns of students’ mental health. There is overall vagueness in the bill.
3. NDSU: Point of information; The 2% of world’s population intersex data is somewhat inaccurate. About 100 times lower than the 2% referenced.
4. Connor Ferguson (UND): UND student body has a series of issues with this legislation. It’s not the state’s purview to tell people how they should express themselves it also creates an interesting legal loophole. Outside of that, lines 13-14 doesn’t have any clarity of what they mean by “contested”. It’s a poorly written bill. There’s no clarity where it needs to be had.
5. NDSU: Agree with what Connor has said, but the resolution is not reflecting what Connor has said.
6. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Could we refer this resolution back to committee?
7. Connor Ferguson (UND): Agree with how the resolution is written, but not educated enough to speak on gender expression.
8. Christopher Scott (UND): This bill has already had it’s hearing, so sending it back to committee may not be entirely detrimental.
9. Jason Fincel (NDSU): Are folks interested in sending it back to committee?

### iv. Jason Fincel (NDSU) motions to send the resolution back to SLAC

1. NDSCS seconds
2. Motion passes and the resolution will be sent back to committee

XI. Complete General Assembly Feedback Survey

XII. Institutional Reports

- A. BSC: On campus, gotten commencement gowns soon out for distribution. Had a pub crawl which is a fair for clubs to advertise and get more people to join and had tabling events brought up.
- B. DCB: No report
- C. DSU: A fundraiser coming up. Started conference basketball games.
- D. LRSC: President is retiring. Also have a vacancy for an English professor and last Thursday there was a large welcome back event which was a casino night. This week on Wednesday and Thursday there was a career fair. Athletics are going well.
- E. MaSU: The Old Main renovation project has started. Girls and boys basketball team are doing very well. Hosted the first annual fair event with bingo, mini golf, and pool movie. Senate is working on recruiting for the February NDSA.
- F. MiSU: We have been working on our SGA constitution to clean it up, and we are making a lot of changes to the requirement of general education requirements as we see a lot of inconsistencies with our current curriculum.
- G. NDSCS: Fargo campus is hoping to expand the welding lab. Student senate is discussing a student fee increase. Hot rod club recently purchased a racecar to begin competing in ice racing. Drone technology has been going very well and an accreditation visit is coming up in April. Spring play auditions were held. Culinary students opened a 'restaurant'.
- H. NDSU: Busy at NDSU winning the National Football Championship, starting the budgeting process for clubs.
- I. UND: Hall opened after renovations. Major renovations hadn't been done since the 1930s. Currently working on testimony. Working on marketing to see more pink on campus since it is a school color. This will include getting a Prairie Rose Garden and handing out pink pennants. Held a great MLK event.
- J. VCSU: On Tuesday three VCSU students went to the NDUS legislative showcase. The water tower in Valley City will be redone this summer and show the Vikings logo. Senate will be holding elections soon to fill open spots. On MLK day senate volunteered to help local businesses.
- K. WSC: Working with counselor on starting the Green Bandana Project and then our senate and tab are getting the training. We hosted casino night a couple of days ago and had a great turnout compared to previous events and are hoping for more events with the same turnout. Lastly construction is going well they now almost have the walls completed.

### XIII. Public Comments and Announcements

- A. Congratulations to Connor Ferguson (UND) for winning delegate of the month!
- B. Jayden Erickson (VPC): Recently had a director step down, so Elise

Klindt (NDSU) will be appointed as new Director for Public Relations.

- C. Briar Maudal (NDSCS): After this meeting we need to move tables out of the way.
- D. Sammi Weber (President): If you are interested in getting more involved with the legislative let a member of exec know.

XIV. Adjourn

- A. NDSU motions to adjourn
- B. Seconded by NDSCS
- C. Motion to adjourn passes, adjourned at 11:29 a.m.