



News Release

Contacts: Robert T. Tad Perry, Executive Director
tadp@ris.sdbor.edu

Janelle Toman, Director of Information & Institutional Research
janellet@ris.sdbor.edu

T: 605.773.3455

F: 605.773.5320

www.sdbor.edu

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Schloss to Head Northern State University

ABERDEEN – Patrick J. Schloss, acting president of Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, Penn., will become the 15th president of Northern State University, the South Dakota Board of Regents announced Monday.

Schloss replaces John Hilpert, who resigned last year to assume the presidency of Delta State University in Mississippi. Schloss begins his duties on the Aberdeen campus June 1. Since September, Academic Affairs Vice President Don Cozzetto has served as interim president at NSU.

“Dr. Schloss is highly prepared to undertake this presidency,” said Regent Pat Lebrun, chair of the search committee. “His academic background in rehabilitation psychology and teacher education is an excellent fit for Northern State University, and he has gained senior leadership experience at institutions comparable to Northern.”

Schloss has been acting president at Bloomsburg for the past semester. Since 2000, under his leadership as provost and vice president for academic affairs, Bloomsburg’s enrollment grew by more than 12 percent and the university began its first undergraduate engineering program and first doctoral program. Schloss was assistant vice president and dean of graduate studies from 1994 to 1999, also at Bloomsburg. His higher education career includes administrative and academic appointments at the University of Missouri and The Pennsylvania State University.

While on campus, Schloss highlighted the extraordinary relationship between the Aberdeen community and the university. “It is hard to imagine a college town in which mutual respect and support are as obvious,” he said. “This is a public trust in which a guiding principle is that educational, social, and cultural opportunities on campus are as rich and supportive as would be expected for our own loved ones. I am fully committed to enhancing this trust.”

Schloss has a Ph.D. in rehabilitation psychology from the University of Wisconsin. He received his B.S. degree in special education and M.S. in counseling, both from Illinois State University.

Schloss has been a frequent contributor to the professional literature in special education and rehabilitation. His textbooks and journal articles on special education methods relating to

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vocational education and community integration have been used at colleges and universities across the country.

He has served as president of the Pennsylvania Association of Graduate Schools, and also held board, committee, and task force appointments on behalf of the Council for Exceptional Children and the Association for Retarded Citizens.

Schloss' wife of 30 years, Dr. Cynthia Schloss, passed away last year following a gallant battle with cancer. Their oldest daughter, Becca, is a senior accountant with Price Waterhouse Coopers in Manhattan. Their second oldest, Tarah, is a senior computer science major at Saint Francis University in Pennsylvania. Their son, Patrick, is a microbiologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.