



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Turman Named System Vice President for Academic Affairs

PIERRE, S.D. – Paul Turman, who has led academic assessment, research, and economic development efforts for the South Dakota Board of Regents, is the new system vice president for academic affairs, the board announced today.

“Dr. Turman is a respected academic leader and has been a strong voice for quality and accountability in our public university system,” said Jack Warner, the regents’ executive director and CEO. “Since returning to South Dakota to join the regents’ staff in 2006, Paul has been a valuable resource for faculty and staff across the state. We are pleased to have him assume the leadership for academic programs and planning going forward.”

Turman first joined the Board of Regents as its director of academic assessment, where he also took on system initiatives in institutional research, student success, and scholarship administration. He was named associate vice president for academic affairs in 2009, and later appointed as system vice president of research and economic development in 2012. Turman succeeds Sam Gingerich, who will retire later this year after a distinguished career in academic leadership and the classroom.

“I look forward to continuing my earlier work in academic affairs and our student success initiatives,” Turman said. “More importantly, I believe that my work with research and economic development over the past two years will generate important synergies as we continue to build South Dakota’s workforce for the knowledge-based economy of the future.”

A native of Fort Pierre, S.D., Turman was associate professor of communication studies at the University of Northern Iowa prior to returning to his home state to work for the Board of Regents. While at Northern Iowa, he received awards for outstanding research, teaching, and the advising of student organizations. He holds a Ph.D. in communications studies from The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, as well as bachelor and master’s degrees from South Dakota State University.