

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
May 12-13, 2015**

The South Dakota Board of Regents convened on May 12, 2015, in the Skyline Room, Holiday Inn Sioux Falls-City Centre, and via teleconference connection to staff members and presidents, with the following members present in Sioux Falls:

Randy Schaefer, President
Bob Sutton, Vice President
Terry Baloun, Secretary
John Bastian, Regent
Harvey Jewett, Regent
Kathryn Johnson, Regent
Jim Morgan, Regent
Joe Schartz, Regent
Kevin Schieffer, Regent

Also present during all or part of the meeting were Jack Warner, Executive Director and CEO; Janelle Toman, Director of Communications; Barbara Basel, Director of Human Resources; Paul Turman, System Vice President for Academic Affairs; James Shekleton, General Counsel; Claudean Hluchy, Budget Manager; Marysz Rames, Interim President of Dakota State University; Marje Kaiser, superintendent of the South Dakota School for the Blind & Visually Impaired and South Dakota School for the Deaf; Nathan Lukkes, Assistant Vice President for Research and Economic Development; Heather Wilson, President of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology; and Jim Moran, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of South Dakota.

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

The Regents convened in open session at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, in the Skyline Room, Holiday Inn Sioux Falls-City Centre. President Randy Schaefer called the meeting of the Board of Regents to order and declared a quorum present.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Baloun, seconded by Regent Sutton, that the Board of Regents dissolve into executive session at 3:35 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, to discuss personnel matters; pending and prospective litigation; contractual matters; and to consult with legal counsel. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

The Board of Regents reconvened in open session at 4:00 p.m. to resume the regular order of business and to report its deliberations while in executive session.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Morgan, seconded by Regent Jewett, to approve the agenda. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT AND ACTIONS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Sutton reported that while in executive session, the Board considered personnel matters, pending and prospective litigation, and collective bargaining matters, consulted with legal counsel, and gave directions to its executive director and general counsel concerning these matters.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Baloun, seconded by Regent Schartz, that the Board approve directions given to the executive director and the general counsel with respect to matters discussed in executive session, that it:

1. Accept the appointment of Claudean Hluchy as chief business officer at SDSBVI and SDSD with an effective date of May 22, 2015, at an annualized salary of \$83,000; accept the administrative changes at USD that, effective April 22, 2015, give E. Lee Felder Jr., vice president for human resources, an annualized salary of \$110,000, based on prevailing market salaries for the role; and accept the retirement of Arlene Redler, executive assistant to the NSU president, effective June 21, 2015.
2. Approve the FY16 annualized salaries to be effective for FY16. A copy of the FY16 salaries can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.
3. Approve the personnel actions as submitted by the Board office, campuses, and special schools. A copy of the personnel actions can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.
4. Approve the promotion and tenure requests of the universities. The BHSU promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Cynthia Anderson was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Adam Bailey was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; David Crawford was granted tenure and promoted to Professor; Abigail Domagall was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Byron Hollowell was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Kara Keeter was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Wei Song was granted tenure; and Daniel Swenson was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

The DSU promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Stacey Berry was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Patrick Engebretson was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Jeff Howard was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Gabe Mydland was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Zixing Shen was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Josh Pauli was promoted to Professor; Wayne Pauli was promoted to Professor; and Jack Walters was promoted to Professor.

The NSU promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Juan Gonzalez was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Elizabeth Haller was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Jeffery Howard was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; and Steve Usitalo was promoted to Professor.

The SDSM&T promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Xinhua Bai was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Linda DeVeaux was granted tenure; John Dreyer was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Randy Hoover was granted tenure and promoted to Associate professor; Travis Kowalski was promoted to Professor; Tim Masterlark was granted tenure and promoted to Professor; Todd Menkhaus was promoted to Professor; Marc Robinson was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; David Salem was granted tenure; Charles Tolle was granted tenure; and Frank Van Nuys was promoted to Professor.

The SDSU promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Ruanbao Zhou was granted tenure; Mary Emery was granted tenure; Moul Dey was granted tenure; Heike Bucking was promoted to Professor; Yung Huh was promoted to Professor; Erin Cortus was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; ZhengRong Gu was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Christopher Hay was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Rebecca Bott was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Keith Underwood was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Madhav Nepal was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Zhiguang Wang was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Matthew James was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Senthil Subramanian was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Jixiang Wu was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Karla Hunter was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Sharon Smith was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Micheal Walsh was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Thomas Brandenburger was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Stephen Gent was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; and Gregory Michna was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

The USD promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Joseph Raiche was promoted to Lecturer; Jonathan Alvis was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Gary Cheeseman was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Sean Kammer was promoted to Associate Professor; Allen Madison was promoted to Associate Professor; Kathleen McElhinney was promoted to Associate Librarian; Jessica Messersmith was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Chad Newswander was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Constantin Picioroaga was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Haoran Sun was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Rand Wergin was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Mike Avoseh was promoted to Full Professor; John Dudley was promoted to Full Professor; Thomas Horton was granted tenure and promoted to Full Professor; and Amy Schweinle was promoted to Full Professor.

The Sanford School of Medicine promotion and tenure requests were approved for the following faculty members: Gina Forster was promoted to Full Professor; Hongmin Wang was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; and Stacy Smallfield was promoted to Full Professor.

The BHSU promotion and tenure requests were denied for the following faculty members: BHSU 7 was denied promotion to Professor.

The NSU promotion and tenure requests were denied for the following faculty members: NSU 3 was denied promotion to Professor; and NSU 5 was denied promotion to Professor.

The SDSM&T promotion and tenure requests were denied for the following faculty members: SDSM&T 2 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSM&T 4 was denied promotion to Professor; and SDSM&T 11 was denied promotion to Professor.

The SDSU promotion and tenure requests were denied for the following faculty members: SDSU 4 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSU 6 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSU 7 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSU 9 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSU 10 was denied promotion to Professor; SDSU 17 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; SDSU 18 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; SDSU 19 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; SDSU 26 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; SDSU 28 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; SDSU 30 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; and SDSU 33 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

The USD promotion and tenure requests were denied for the following faculty members: USD 4 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; and USD 5 was denied tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

A copy of the tenure and promotion requests can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

5. Approve awarding the title of Professor Emeritus of Digital Arts and Design to Scott Mackenzie (DSU); Professor Emeritus of Education to W. Thomas Hawley (NSU); Professor Emeritus of Physics and Atmospheric Sciences to Andrew G. Detwiler (SDSM&T); Professor Emeritus to Roger M. Baron (USD); Professor Emeritus to Larry K. Bright (USD); Professor Emerita to Hee-sook Choi (USD); Professor Emeritus to LuAnn M. Eidsness (USD); Professor Emeritus to Jo M. Pasqualucci (USD); and Professor Emeritus to Theron Bruce Proctor (USD). A copy of the resolutions of recognition can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.
6. Approve the request to grant tenure on appointment to Dr. Demitris Kouris, professor of mechanical engineering (SDSM&T).

All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Jewett, seconded by Regent Sutton, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 31-April 2, 2015, and the special meeting of April 27, 2015. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT AND ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Warner referenced the Interim Actions taken by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Regents. A copy of the Interim Actions of the Executive Director can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

Dr. Warner said everyone was pleased with the presidential search process at Dakota State University, resulting in the appointment of Dr. José-Marie Griffiths. He also extended congratulations to Dr. Marysz Rames, interim DSU president, who was recently appointed as the new president at Wayne State College in Nebraska. He further announced that Claudean Hluchy, budget manager for BOR, will be leaving the BOR staff to become chief business officer for the South Dakota School for the Blind & Visually Impaired and the South Dakota School for the Deaf. Finally, he offered congratulations to the board's executive assistant, Molly Weisgram, and her spouse, Chris Maxwell, on the birth of their son, Isaac.

FY17 INFORMAL BUDGET HEARINGS

Budget Manager Claudean Hluchy said internal budget hearings are being held between BOR and campus staff. These meetings help staff recognize similarities in requests that can be formulated into system requests and get a deeper understanding of individual campus needs.

BOR budget hearings historically have been held in conjunction with the June Board meeting. Last year's format was an individual presentation from each president and superintendent and the executive director, discussing highest priorities and key budget issues. The campuses would be instructed to provide documentation of their priorities and to present their top five priorities during their presentation. The current plan is to have these budget hearings June 11. Final budget adoption will occur at the August Board meeting.

Regent Jewett said the Board has not spent much time on fee requests in the past. He suggested a list be prepared by staff of all fee requests made by the campuses as part of the budget hearing process. Ms. Hluchy said she would have preliminary fee requests by July 20. Regent Baloun suggested campuses rank their top three priorities for one-time funding requests. Ms. Hluchy said she planned to request from the campuses their top priorities for base funding, one-time funding, and capital expenditures.

A copy of the FY 17 Informal Budget Hearings can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

GRADUATION LISTS

Dr. Paul Turman, vice president for academic affairs, explained the Board of Regents [Policy 2:17 - Awarding of Degrees, Graduation Dates, and Catalog of Graduation](#) specifies that the Board "approves the awarding of academic degrees after receiving the university president's recommendation on behalf of the university," following each academic term. Once submitted on behalf of the institution, the President certifies that all candidates have successfully completed degree or program requirements as approved by the Board, and that no degree requirements were waived for any individual student. Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State

University, the University of South Dakota, and South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired request approval of their graduation lists for Spring 2015.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Sutton, seconded by Regent Morgan, to approve the graduation lists, contingent upon the students' completion of all degree requirements. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Graduation Lists can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

Dr. Turman stated that Black Hills State University requests approval to recognize Dr. Nicholas Wallerstein as the Black Hills State University Distinguished Faculty Honoree from March 2015 through March 2016 for his excellence in education.

Dakota State University requests approval to recognize Jeri Daniels, secretary for the Health Information Management Programs for 33 years, and Rich Hennies, instructor of mathematics for 12 years, for their outstanding contributions and dedication to public higher education and to the state of South Dakota.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Baloun, seconded by Regent Schieffer, to recognize Dr. Wallerstein, Ms. Daniels, and Mr. Hennies. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Resolutions of Recognition can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT – DSU & NSA

Dr. Turman explained the Articulation Agreement between Dakota State University and the National Security Agency is to allow enrollment in DSU's Cyber Operations program by individuals who successfully complete the National Security Agency's Joint Cyber Analysis Course training program and Remote Interactive Operator Training program.

Dr. Turman said this is a unique program involving two sets of NSA training modules. It will involve about 50 students a year. The NSA sought approval now so that it could begin to promote the DSU program with its employees and get students enrolled as early as this summer.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Sutton, seconded by Regent Schartz, to approve the articulation agreement between DSU and NSA. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Articulation Agreement – DSU & NSA can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

AGREEMENT AND MOUS ON ACADEMIC COOPERTION

Dr. Turman explained Black Hills State University, Northern State University, and the University of South Dakota seek approval to enter into a series of cooperative agreements with

international universities and/or organizations that assist in facilitating student exchange opportunities. For those agreements that result in the direct sharing of students between institutions the agreements are consistent with the requirements set forth in section 4 of Board of Regents [Policy 5:5:4 Tuition and Fees](#). Under such an agreement the outbound exchange students from the Regental institution studying at the partner institutions will pay tuition as well as the University Support Fee and the General Activity Fee for each credit enrolled. Students attending the partner institution on exchange agreements will pay the student semester fee/general activities/social fees required by the partner university. Inbound exchange students from either partner institution will pay tuition and fees to their home institution and will pay to the Regental campus all applicable special discipline fees, salary enhancement fees, incidental fees, the International Student Fee, and appropriate room and board fees. Students who enroll in a self-support course will pay all self-support tuition and delivery fees associated with the course. All living expenses shall be borne by the students of both institutions. In general, all other incidental costs are the responsibility of the participating students.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Jewett, seconded by Regent Sutton, to approve the agreements and memorandums of understanding on academic cooperation between:

- Black Hills State University and Baoding University (BU); Botho University, Botswana; China Three Gorges University, Yichang, Hebei, PR of China; Dongguk University, Seoul, Korea; Kyung Hee University, Republic of Korea; Sichuan Normal University, Chengdu, China; Yeungnam University, Gyeongsan, Gyeongbuk, R.O. Korea;
- Northern State University and ESC Amiens, Amiens, France; Hochschule Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany; Pukyong National University, Korea; Soonchunhyang University, Korea; and
- The University of South Dakota and the University Studies Abroad Consortium.

All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Agreement and MOUs on Academic Cooperation can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

NAMING REQUEST – DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Pursuant to section 2(H) of Board of Regents [Policy 1:6 Appointment, Authority, and Responsibilities of Presidents and Superintendents](#), Dakota State University is requesting authorization to split the College of Business and Information Systems into two separate colleges (see Attachment I). Under the new organizational framework for the institution, the new College of Computing would be created and will house Computer Science and Game Design along with Cyber Operations/Network Security. The College of Business and Information Systems will be retained and include Business, Information Systems, and Health and Information Management under its organizational authority.

Prior to advancing this request, DSU engaged an institutional taskforce charged with conducting a review of peer and equivalent sized institutions around the country/region. Through a process of in-depth interviews with external campus administration, and a thorough review of the

financial implications for the institution, the task force members supported the transition to the proposed model. Institutional representatives have developed a comprehensive implementation plan for making the necessary transition across the two new organizational units prior to the term of the new DSU President, allowing incoming leadership to facilitate the search for the two new deans who will be charged with managing the two new divisions.

Regent Baloun questioned why this change was being implemented now, prior to the arrival of the new DSU president. He suggested that the new president should be involved. Regent Schaefer said it was his opinion that the organizational changes needed to proceed. He said this has been a committee-led effort over the past two years. Dr. Warner said faculty and deans were all involved in this decision, which puts DSU in a good position to move forward.

Regent Schieffer asked if there were any budget impacts. Interim President Rames (by phone) said the budget implications were all covered by fees and realignment of some open positions.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Baloun, seconded by Regent Bastian, to approve reorganizing the DSU College of Business and Information Systems into the College of Computing and the College of Business and Information Systems, subject to incoming President Griffiths' concurrence. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Naming Request – Dakota State University can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

SELF-SUPPORT TUITION FOR SD NATIONAL GUARD AND ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL AT THE UNIVERSITY CENTERS

Dr. Warner discussed the FY16 Undergraduate Self-Support Tuition rate of \$250 for South Dakota National Guard members and Active Duty Military Personnel (Reserves, Active Reserves and Active Military) at all University Center locations, effective Summer 2015. This rate has already been adjusted by the tuition benefit provided by the Department of the Military for National Guard members.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Johnson, seconded by Regent Sutton, to approve the FY16 undergraduate self-support rate of \$250 for Guard and active-duty military personnel at university center locations. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Self-Support Tuition for SD National Guard and Active Duty Military Personnel at the University Centers can be found on pages ___ to ___ of the official minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Baloun, seconded by Regent Sutton, that the Board of Regents dissolve into executive session at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, to discuss personnel matters, adjourning for the day at its convenience, and that it reconvene in executive session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, to discuss personnel matters. All members voted AYE. The MOTION CARRIED.

The board ADJOURNED at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, without taking action and without reporting on its deliberations. The report of the Board's deliberations on personnel matters will be given at the next regular or special meeting of the Board, all as shown on the published agenda for the meeting.

DRAFT

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
University Center-Sioux Falls
Avera Hall
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
May 18, 2015**

The Board of Regents convened at University Center in Sioux Falls and via teleconference at 10:00 a.m. on May 18, 2015.

ROLL CALL:

Terry Baloun – PRESENT via teleconference
John Bastian – PRESENT via teleconference
Harvey Jewett – PRESENT via teleconference
Kathryn Johnson – ABSENT and not voting
Jim Morgan – PRESENT
Joe Schartz – ABSENT and not voting
Bob Sutton – PRESENT
Randy Schaefer – PRESENT
Kevin Schieffer – PRESENT

Also present during all or part of the meeting were Jack Warner, Executive Director and CEO, BOR; Janelle Toman, Director of Communications, BOR; and members of the higher education and Sioux Falls-area community.

Regent Schaefer called the public meeting of the Board of Regents to order and declared a quorum present. He thanked everyone for attending to share in the announcement of a new executive director and CEO for the South Dakota Board of Regents.

Regent Schaefer thanked members of the constituent panel who participated in the search process, which included the following members:

Courtney Huse-Wika, BHSU Faculty
Bill Figg, DSU Faculty
Erin Fouberg, NSU Faculty
Chase Vogel, BHSU Student
Caleb Finck, SDSU Student
Jess Peterson, USD Student
Jim Moran, USD Administrator
Alan Lafave, NSU Administrator
Kim Wadsworth, SDSD Administrator
David Chicoine, SDSU President
Heather Wilson, SDSM&T President

Marje Kaiser, SDSD and SDSBVI Superintendent
Miles Beacon, DSU Foundation
Kim Tyler, SDSU Foundation
Janelle Toman, Board Staff
Nathan Lukkes, Board Staff
Daniel Palmer, Board Staff
Tony Venhuizen, Governor's Chief of Staff
Rep. Spencer Hawley, House Minority Leader
Sen. Corey Brown, Senate President Pro Tempore
Sen. Billie Sutton, Senate Minority Leader

Regent Schaefer said the Regents have been working toward this moment for the past several months. He thanked fellow Regents for their work and dedication to this task. He also expressed thanks to John Thornburgh, the search consultant who did an outstanding job in assisting this process.

Regent Schaefer said it was time to bring this search process to a conclusion. He introduced Dr. Michael Rush, who Board members will be asked later today to appoint as the next Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the South Dakota Board of Regents. Dr. Rush and his spouse, Linda Rush, were asked to stand and be recognized.

Regent Schaefer continued with Dr. Rush's introduction:

Dr. Michael Rush is currently the executive director of the Idaho State Board of Education/Board of Regents. He has committed his life's work to education, from his early career as a high school vocational agriculture teacher, then in state-level administrative work, to his current position supporting a state board with significant oversight over a majority of Idaho's budget.

His broad experience and strong advocacy for both higher education and K-12 education made him a perfect fit for South Dakota and the Board of Regents' strategic priorities here.

Dr. Rush has been executive director in Idaho since 2007. He serves as the state's higher education executive officer. The state board governs Idaho's higher education institutions and also has general supervision over all public education, including community colleges.

Prior to his time with Idaho's state board, Dr. Rush served as an administrator, director of research, and state supervisor for the Division of Vocational Education, also in Idaho. He has experience as an assistant professor of agricultural and Extension education at The Pennsylvania State University, as an instructor of vocational and technical education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and as a secondary vocational agriculture instructor.

He is active professionally at the state and national levels, currently serving on the executive committee for the State Higher Education Executive Officers and as chair of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

He holds a doctorate of education from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, as well as master's and bachelor's degrees in agricultural education, both from the University of Idaho.

Concluding with Dr. Rush's introduction, Regent Schaefer asked that Regent Sutton give a report on the actions of the Board in executive session.

Regent Sutton said that, while in executive session, the Board reviewed applications for Executive Director. IT WAS MOVED by Regent Sutton, seconded by Regent Morgan, that Dr. Michael G. Rush be appointed as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the South Dakota Board of Regents, effective on or around July 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Terry Baloun – AYE via teleconference
John Bastian – AYE via teleconference
Harvey Jewett – AYE via teleconference
Kathryn Johnson – ABSENT and not voting
Jim Morgan – AYE
Joe Scharz – ABSENT and not voting
Bob Sutton – AYE
Randy Schaefer – AYE
Kevin Schieffer – AYE

Motion passed. Regent Schaefer invited Dr. Rush to make some brief remarks.

Dr. Rush said that we get so caught up in our traditions, procedures, and habits that we sometimes forget why our institutions were created in the first place. It is clear that the system of higher education in South Dakota has not forgotten why it was created. The institutions, led by the Board of Regents, have clearly articulated goals for student success, academic quality, economic development, and accountability.

There has not been a more important time in our nation's history to make sure higher education is serving our students well. The disparity in economic prosperity continues to increase at a rather alarming rate. We know that, while necessary as a safety net, direct government subsidies can never fix that disparity. But public higher education can.

In a recent study conducted by the Milken Foundation, it was discovered that 70 percent of the change in economic improvement of a region was due to increased education. In fact, for every year of additional education beyond high school, the Gross Domestic Product of a region goes up by 17 percent. We also know that individuals with a college degree of some type make more money, are less likely to be unemployed, are healthier, and are more likely to be positively engaged in their communities.

That is why our institutions and special schools must continue to be on top of their game: to create and innovate to ensure that the people of South Dakota are served in the best possible way.

There is certainly value in the stability of our traditions, but we must not be afraid to change our approach when we find that our fundamental goals are not being accomplished.

Dr. Rush said he was enormously privileged to join an incredible team in South Dakota: Marje Kaiser, Superintendent of the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the School for the Deaf; James Smith, President of Northern State University; José Marie Griffiths, incoming President of Dakota State University; Tom Jackson, President of Black Hills State University; David Chicoine, President of South Dakota State University; Heather Wilson, President of the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, and James Abbott, President of the University of South Dakota. Dr. Rush said he looked forward to working with and learning from each of them.

Dr. Rush acknowledged the gifted leadership exercised by his predecessors, Dr. Tad Perry and Dr. Jack Warner. He said those two men had created a robust public higher education system in South Dakota that will be a privilege to lead. And finally, to President Schaefer and the rest of the Board of Regents, Dr. Rush said he was deeply humbled by the trust they had placed in him. He told each person attending today's announcement that we hold in our hands an incredible gift: the gift of opportunity through education. It is our privilege and responsibility to use that gift well.

Following Dr. Rush's remarks, Regent Schaefer announced that Dr. Rush would be available to the media for interviews. He also invited the audience and guests to greet Dr. Rush and Linda Rush.

ADJOURN

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Schieffer, seconded by Regent Morgan, to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Regents at 10:30 a.m.

Terry Baloun – AYE via teleconference
John Bastian – AYE via teleconference
Harvey Jewett – AYE via teleconference
Kathryn Johnson – ABSENT and not voting
Jim Morgan – AYE
Joe Schartz – ABSENT and not voting
Bob Sutton – AYE
Randy Schaefer – AYE
Kevin Schieffer – AYE

Motion passed.