

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Board of Regents Central Office (Teleconference)
Pierre, South Dakota
March 1, 2019**

The South Dakota Board of Regents convened by teleconference at 4 p.m. Central Time on March 1, 2019, with the following members in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

Lucas Lund – ABSENT
David Mickelson – PRESENT
Jim Morgan, Secretary – PRESENT
Pam Roberts – ABSENT
Randy Schaefer – PRESENT
Jim Thares – ABSENT
Joan Wink – PRESENT
John Bastian, Vice President – PRESENT
Kevin Schieffer, President – PRESENT

Also present were Dr. Paul B. Beran, Executive Director and CEO; members of the system office; and other members of the regental system.

Regent Schieffer called the public meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 4 p.m. and declared a quorum present.

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Dr. Janelle Toman, System Director of Communications, said it is the end of Week 8 of the legislative session. The bill load has become considerably lighter after a busy ‘crossover day’ on Monday, which was the deadline for bills to be handled in the house of origin. The legislative process now speeds up considerably as lawmakers move into the last seven days of the main run of the session. Next Thursday is the deadline for bills to pass out of the final house.

Dr. Toman offered congratulations to the 14 undergraduate student researchers who joined us Thursday for the Student Research Poster Session in the Capitol Rotunda. The students represented all six of our public universities, along with Oglala Lakota College and the University of Sioux Falls. They were competitively chosen to demonstrate their research projects in Pierre. Their work and research are impressive.

Dr. Toman, Dr. Beran, and Nathan Lukkes shared updates on the following bills of most importance to the system:

HB 1087 (promote intellectual diversity at certain institutions of higher education) – This bill was killed Wednesday in Senate State Affairs Committee, after a vote of 6-3 to defer it to the 41st day. Testimony in opposition to the measure was led off by Dr. Beran and General Counsel Lukkes, along with supporting opposition testimony from SDSU Student Association

officers Allyson Monson and Spencer Harwood, President Gestring, President Dunn, President Griffiths, and President Downs. The senators who voted with us against this measure were senators Ewing, Bolin, Novstrup, Youngberg, Heinert, and Kennedy.

SB 116 (create the Dakota promise fund, provide Dakota promise grants, and to make an appropriation) – This bill was further amended on the Senate floor Monday. It now provides one-time funding of \$1 million to establish a pilot Dakota Promise Fund for needs-based student support. The amendment maintains the concept of requiring matching institutional support for these grants and includes students from BOR, as well as students from private and accredited four-year degree-granting institutions, as those who are eligible. We expect the bill to be heard next week in the House Education Committee.

Another bill we are supporting in the legislative process is SB 140. This bill authorizes and encourages BOR to develop programs to increase enrollment, improve retention, and offer student support for students from the nine federally recognized Indian tribes in South Dakota. It also encourages “exploration and development of tuition assistance or waiver programs.” Dr. Beran and President Dunn testified in support of the bill Wednesday. SB140 was passed by the House Education Committee 11-3 and is pending action on the House floor.

Final action on the remaining Board of Regents’ pre-filed bills occurred this week. SB 40, a bill to transfer the Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (ADRDL) property at SDSU to the Animal Industry Board during construction and renovation projects, received final approval 66-3 on the House floor Tuesday and is headed to the Governor’s desk. Additionally, SB 43 to authorize the SDSU veterinary science 2+2 program received final approval 66-3 on the House floor Tuesday and is also headed to the Governor’s desk.

The direction on the budget is the same, 2.5% salary policy, the cost increase for employer paid health insurance is \$1,600 per benefit eligible, Board staff is working on what those increases would result in for requests for tuition and fees.

Senator Partridge has been requesting information on expanding the REED network from east to west. RIS staff assessed a \$2.5 million need for the expansion. This is positive and Dr. Beran will keep in

ADJOURN

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Schaefer, seconded by Regent Wink, to adjourn the meeting of the full Board at 4:___ p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Lund – AYE
Mickelson – AYE
Morgan – AYE
Roberts – AYE
Schaefer – AYE
Thares – AYE
Wink – AYE

Bastian – AYE
Schieffer – AYE

Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT