

**Minutes of the University Council Meeting**  
October 13, 2004

The fall, 2004 University Council meeting was convened at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 13, 2004 in the Memorial Union Ballroom. President Charles Kupchella presided.

President Kupchella called the meeting to order and welcomed special guests: Mayor Mike Brown; State Board of Higher Education members, Bev Clayburgh and Kayla Effertz; Senator Ray Holmberg; Grand Forks City Council member, Curt Kreun; State Legislator, Lonny Winrich; and Congressman Earl Pomeroy.

President Kupchella started his State of the University Address titled, "Taking it up yet another notch," by stating that the University of North Dakota "stands as the largest, most heavily endowed, most complete University in a very large region of the Upper Midwest." He announced that an updated strategic plan will be presented at the end of the year that will give a more comprehensive report of our progress. He went on to highlight progress that has been made in enrollment, research funding, program development, and the construction and renovation of the University's physical assets.

President Kupchella reported on the University's commercialization complex, the Bronson property developments, facility improvements, and the new Summer Haven program.

President Kupchella recognized many faculty and staff in attendance whose accomplishments of the past year have been especially noteworthy.

President Kupchella reviewed challenges and opportunities for the coming year. Challenges include: tuition increases, the post-911 environment, expanding underserved minority populations, and the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. Opportunities include: health and wellness, Centers of Excellence, enrollment, development, intercollegiate athletics, and legislative strategy. He went on to ask that all individual faculty and staff focus on contributing to the strategic plan for the University.

President Kupchella introduced Walter Tschacher, past chair of the 2003-04 University Senate, and turned the meeting over to him. Mr. Tschacher began the University Senate activities report by thanking the numerous Senate committee members, the members of the Senate and the Office of the Registrar staff for their hard work and support of University Senate. The members present at the meeting were recognized.

Mr. Tschacher highlighted several issues approved by University Senate during 2003-04. Academic issues included: revisions to the undergraduate academic probation/suspension/dismissal policy; endorsement of a one-semester pilot project to evaluate web-based course description and faculty biography project; and revision to the policy regarding graduate school membership for faculty pursuing graduate degrees. Faculty issues included: revision to the copyright policy, a change in the Senate Scholarly Activities Committee membership; support of a revision to the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education policy on the selection of textbooks and other curricular materials; and a resolution regarding the 15-day pay lag. Revisions were also made to the Senate bylaws and standing rules.

Mr. Tschacher then turned the meeting over to Jim Grijalva, current chair of the 2004-05 University Senate. Mr. Grijalva began his status report by reminding the Council that the University constitution authorizes the University Senate to exercise “all of the (legislative) powers of the (University) Council.” He stated that this year, that work will entail monitoring and participating as necessary in activities of the State Legislature, the State Board of Higher Education, the President’s Planning and Budget Committee, and the Council of Deans.

Mr. Grijalva reported that two of the more substantive areas the Senate expects to be involved in this year include: 1) the implementation of the University’s student assessment plan; and 2) President Kupchella’s directive to the Council of Deans to “undertake a complete review of our current array of program offerings.”

Mr. Grijalva called for questions from the floor or items to be addressed. There were none. The fall, 2004 meeting of the University Council was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Krogh, Council Secretary