Senate Bill

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President

Sponsors: Matt Kopp – Greek Housing Senator; Taylor Nelson - University Apartments Senator; Ryan Brown - College of Business & Public Administration Senator

CC: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President, Brett Johnson - Student Body Vice President, Blake Andert - Student Organization Funding Committee Chair, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Freligh - Student Organization Funding Agency Advisor; Dr. Lori Reesor – Vice President for Student Affairs, Cara Halgren - Associate Vice President for Student Services & Dean of Students

Date: March 1st, 2015

Re: Suspension of the University Programming Council

Whereas, programming is an essential part of student life at institutions of higher education, and

Whereas, programming furthers our strategic vision of an Exceptional UND by promoting the five pillars of: Enriching the Student Experience, Encouraging Gathering, Facilitating Collaboration, Expanding UND’s Presence, and Enhancing Quality of Life, and

Whereas, programming through the University Program Council (UPC), funded by Student Government has a relatively small budget and lacks funding for support staff as compared to other institutions, and

Whereas, concerns have been raised as to whether or not the current programming model (i.e. the University Program Council) is the most effective or appropriate model to use at UND, and

Whereas, after researching programming models and boards at other institutions, it has been determined that a new programming structure may be more appropriate, and

Whereas, a common practice includes having staff member(s) to lead and implement programming, as well as a group of students to inform event selection and to assist with event promotion and operations, and

Whereas, in order to create, promote, properly execute high quality events, and hold board members accountable, a staff member would be beneficial, if not necessary, and
Whereas, programming selection would continue to be driven by student ideas, but most of the coordination work (e.g. marketing, promotion, assessment, etc.) would be accomplished by a staff member(s) rather than students, and

Whereas, UPC is established in the Student Government Bylaws, and as such, in order to try a new programming model, the Bylaws relating to UPC need to be suspended, in essence placing UPC in a 'one-year suspension', and

Therefore, be it moved that the Student Senate of the University of North Dakota suspend the Bylaws to place the University Programming Council on suspension with a sunset of one year, and

Therefore, be it further moved that staff support funding will be identified outside of Student Government related dollars, and

Therefore, be it further moved that based on information gathered from other institutions, the following recommendations are made in the creation of a new group:

- Staff should be identified as soon as possible to begin gathering a committed, diverse group of students who represent groups from across campus who will begin planning for the fall semester, and
  - The new group should consist of 20+ students.
  - Events should primarily take place in the Memorial Union with the Chester Fritz Auditorium (or other appropriate venues) as an option for larger crowds.
  - Events should take place on a regular basis in order to create familiarity.
  - Events should be created, at many times non-contractual, and have a relatively low cost per student.
  - The staff member should be responsible for allocating the budget to ensure that various program offerings are included and appropriate resources are identified for marketing and advertising.
  - The group’s focus should be primarily on entertainment and social development rather than education; it may worthwhile to create a separate group for diversity events or work with the Associate Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, Sandra Mitchell.
• The new group should be renamed and rebranded with something other than University Programming Council.

• Staff will work closely with Student Government in proposing changes, updates, event promotions, etc.

Therefore, be it furthest moved that any resources allocated for programming in the 2015 - 2016 Student Government budget be moved to a new programming model with input from students and be administered by staff.

[Signature]

Student Body President, Tanner Franklin