Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Tanner Franklin—Student Body President

Sponsors: Baylee Ladner—JDOSAS Senator

CC: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President, Brett Johnson - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor; Dr. Robert Kelley -- President; Dr. Thomas DiLorenzo—Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Lori Reesor – Vice President for Student Affairs; Alice Brekke—Vice President of Finance and Operations; Cara Halgren – Associate Vice President for Student Services & Dean of Students

Date: April 16, 2015

Re: Tuition Model Proposals

Whereas, new tuition model discussions began in 2012 as a part of the Pathways Plan developed by the North Dakota University System (NDUS) office, and approved by the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), and

Whereas, the University of North Dakota (UND) is currently discussing options for a new tuition model, and

Whereas, tuition models presented thus far have driven student concerns over both fiscal impact, and rationale behind charging for more credits, and

Whereas, students are not against a new tuition model as long as it incorporates the reasonable and logical components, and

Whereas, one of Student Senate’s responsibilities include protecting and enhancing the student voice to ensure education at UND is affordable and worthwhile, and

Whereas, below is a list of what students would support in a new tuition model, and

Therefore be it resolved, that this body supports the following recommendations:

• substantial tuition hikes should not be a part of a new model, and

• the model should be phased in to have the least amount of financial burden on current students, and

• that UND develops a model to that could incorporate components to increase retention and four-year graduation rates, and

• that financial incentives be coupled with non-financial incentives of the tuition model to have an effect on four year graduation rates, and

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• that UND implement an 8 semester fixed rate of tuition in an effort to offer the financial incentive to complete within the four year time period, and

• that UND implements a “four year guarantee” graduation commitment per Student Government resolution SR1415-02, and

• the tuition lock could be applied to transfer students coming from any other NDUS institution, and

• that UND decrease the number of credits required to graduate from 125 to 120 in an effort to get in line with national averages, best practices, and enable a student to graduate by taking eight semesters of fifteen credits, and

• that an adjustment be made to academic advising to mandate that declared students fill out a “four year plan” for their major. By doing so, UND could determine which courses have the highest demand and at what time they are being demanded, alleviating course-scheduling issues, and

• that advisors be educated, and held accountable to implement “four year plans” with students, discuss career and internship opportunities with students, and be a resource for students, and

• that the course catalog will be updated on a more regular basis and be consistent with campus connection to eliminate errors in course planning, and

• scholarships including and similar to the “Community of Learner's Scholarship,” require that 30 credits be taken per academic year, and

Therefore, be it furthest resolved that Student Senate of the University of North Dakota would support a tuition model that contains components listed above.

Tanner Franklin, Student Body President