

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – I
DATE: July 31 – August 1, 2024

SUBJECT

Discipline Council Reports: 2023-2024 Academic Year

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 1.3.4](#) – Discipline Councils

[AAC Guideline 2.7.2.A](#) – Discipline Council Guidelines

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

In 1997 the Board of Regents formed a set of discipline councils to allow for stronger coordination among faculty across common discipline areas within the Regental system. Operating as sub-committees of the Academic Affairs Council (AAC), the discipline councils engage to ensure common and consistent approaches in the delivery of curriculum, assessment of student learning, and services. Currently, ten active discipline councils continue to meet routinely to discuss common system institutional issues, including:

- Communication
- Education
- English
- Fine Arts
- General Education
- HPER
- Humanities
- Library
- Math
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

Attachments I through VII include the annual reports from all discipline councils that submitted reports prior to the July 2024 AAC meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment I – Education Discipline Council Report
- Attachment II – English Discipline Council Report
- Attachment III – HPER Discipline Council Report
- Attachment IV – Library (SLiC) Discipline Council Report
- Attachment V – Mathematics Discipline Council Report
- Attachment VI – Natural Sciences Discipline Council Report
- Attachment VII – Social Sciences Discipline Council Report

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual ReportAcademic Year: 2023-24Discipline Council: EducationLeadership: Chair: Amy SchweinleVice Chair: Anna Schwann

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: _____

Vice Chair: _____

Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:1) Faye LaDuke-Pelster7) Anne Karabon2) Jami Kesling8) Lynda VenHuizen3) David DeJong9) Jackie Wilber4) Nicole Steele10) Dan Mourlam5) April Hinze

11) _____

6) Patrick Hales

12) _____

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

November 27, 2023 Zoom; Conference Call
 March 1, 2024 face to face in Pierre

Overview of Council Activities this year:

1. EDC reviewed software to track student field experience that was developed by DSU. It was adopted by some campuses.
2. We discussed, voted and approved a certificate for HSDC providing a jump start toward teacher education.
3. We discussed how the BOR system and schools of education could assist with an NSF grant in concert with DOE to get students interested in math as early as 4th or 5th grade and how to better prepare high school students so they are ready for college math.
4. Discussed process for approval from and process of notification to campuses to offer existing courses.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

We discussed how the BOR system and schools of education could assist with an NSF grant in concert with DOE to get students interested in math as early as 4th or 5th grade and how to better prepare high school students so they are ready for college math.

Other Council Activities:

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

EDC submitted a certificate for HSDC providing a jump start to teacher education. We recommend consideration and approval of the certificate for each of the campuses.

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

Work together to develop and implement Science of Reading competence-based modules with DOE.
Vote on chair, vice chair.

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report

Academic Year: 2023-2024

Discipline Council: English

Leadership: Chair: Paul Formisano

Vice Chair: _____

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: Haley Larson, Christy Tidwell, Nathan Serfling

Vice Chair: _____

Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1) <u>Darlene Farabee (USD)</u> | 7) <u>Lysbeth Benkert-Rasmussen (NSU)</u> |
| 2) <u>Amy Fuqua (BHSU)</u> | 8) <u>Elizabeth Haller (NSU)</u> |
| 3) <u>Vincent King (BHSU)</u> | 9) _____ |
| 4) <u>Michael Nagy (SDSU)</u> | 10) _____ |
| 5) <u>Erica Haugveldt (SDSMT)</u> | 11) _____ |
| 6) <u>Stacey Berry (DSU)</u> | 12) _____ |

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

October 23, 2023: Zoom call

March 21, 2024: Zoom call

April 29, 2024: Zoom call

Overview of Council Activities this year:

The council met to Address A and AS-level exams, DSST exams, GPA as placement mechanism, Generative AI and BOR AI checkers, AP seminar scores.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

AS and A-level exams: EDC supported the Board's interim solution for English Language A-level and AS-level exam, which is a C/c grade and 100T credit.

DSST Exams: EDC recommended "no credit" for the DSST Technical Writing and Advanced Composition exams

GPA Placement: EDC requested more data from the Board regarding high school English GPA and English 101 success rates and to clarify the numbers provided about overall high school GPA and success rates, including the "not taken" category. Spring meeting resulted in ongoing conversations about GPA efficacy; more data requested.

AP equivalency: EDC recommended not giving 101 equivalency for AP seminar and research exams.

Generative AI checkers: EDC expressed mixed feelings about AI checkers. There is interest in piloting options at USD. No specific recommendation was made and AAC will continue to monitor situation.

Other Council Activities:

EDC also reviewed DSU's English 202 course proposal seeking to include this course in SGR 1 offerings. General Education Council did not approve and asked DSU representatives to present course to EDC. EDC did not support proposal. DSU will revise and resubmit for consideration to General Education Council.

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

There seems to be a general sentiment among EDC members that ongoing efforts to identify placement and equivalencies are undermining instruction and overall student performance. There seems to be a trend to reduce the number of writing classes incoming students take on campus. Students need more opportunities (in the college classroom) to develop their writing skills.

AI checkers can be a useful tool as a point of reference, particularly if there are graduate teaching assistants teaching composition-based courses. Like with Turnitin, decisions regarding academic misconduct are not based solely upon a number generated by the software; instructors meet with students to discuss concerns. Supporting instructors on this matter needs to be priority.

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

EDC needs to further address Generative AI concerns, finalize decision about English placement through GPA, and review AP seminar equivalencies.

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report

Academic Year: AY23/24

Discipline Council: HPER

Leadership: Chair: Chelsee Shortt

Vice Chair: N/A

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: Breon Derby

Vice Chair: N/A

Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) <u>Breon Derby (BHSU)</u> | 7) <u>Kendra Kattelmann (SDSU)</u> |
| 2) <u>Dan Jensen (BHSU)</u> | 8) <u>Steven Anderson (USD)</u> |
| 3) <u>Scott Klungseth (DSU)</u> | 9) <u>Jamie Hovden (USD)</u> |
| 4) <u>Stacy Anderson (DSU)</u> | 10) _____ |
| 5) <u>Chelsee Shortt (NSU)</u> | 11) _____ |
| 6) <u>Tracy Nelson (SDSU)</u> | 12) _____ |

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

May 10, 2024 via Zoom

Overview of Council Activities this year:

Student Retention and Success:

- General discussion on the creation and revision of strategic enrollment plans across various schools. This includes initiatives aimed at increasing student retention through connections to career opportunities and internships.
- Detailed accounts of strategies from various schools regarding student retention, completion rates, and overall student success.
- Discussions highlighted specific figures on student retention rates and the importance of aligning with realistic enrollment expectations based on resources and faculty availability.

Coaching Endorsement:

- The conversation touched on current shortages in coaching and officiating roles, with a particular focus on how these shortages affect educational institutions and their programs.
- DOE considering removing the coaching endorsement. Members in attendance were against the measure. More action needed

Challenges and Opportunities:

- The participants noted various challenges like faculty retention and the recruitment of qualified personnel to South Dakota.
- Opportunities for growth were discussed, including capitalizing on the success of certain programs and aligning them with community needs and student career prospects.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

General Education and Course Changes for Academic Years 2023-24 and 2024-25:

- Various institutions discussed upcoming changes to their general education curriculum and specific course offerings.
- The conversation included strategies like splitting certain classes to better cater to student needs and adjusting course content to match industry and educational trends.

Credit for Prior Learning and Transfer Policies:

- There was a discussion of the policies regarding credit for prior learning, including military experience and work experience.
- Concerns were raised about maintaining program integrity and the challenges posed by accreditation requirements.

Other Council Activities:

Exploration of the disciplines that should be included in HPER as the field has evolved greatly in the past 20 years.

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

Next Steps for HPER Discipline Council

- Further discussions needed for the inclusion efforts of the HPER Discipline council
- Institutions will continue to adapt and revise this council to reflect the growth of the industry and program offering in SDBOR institutions

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report

Academic Year: 2023-2024

Discipline Council: System Librarians Council (SLiC)

Leadership: Chair: Robert Russell

Vice Chair: _____

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: _____

Vice Chair: _____

Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) <u>Lisa Carlson</u> | 7) <u>Kristi Tornquist</u> |
| 2) <u>Dan Daily</u> | 8) <u>Mary Francis</u> |
| 3) <u>Carly Handcock</u> | 9) <u>MikeTolan</u> |
| 4) <u>Cindy Davies</u> | 10) <u>Shannon Wasilik</u> |
| 5) <u>Glenn Kerins</u> | 11) <u>Shari Theroux</u> |
| 6) <u>Janice Minder</u> | 12) _____ |

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

July 19, 2023, Zoom;	August 16, 2023, Zoom
September 20, 2023, Zoom;	September 28, 2023, F-2-F Rapid City w/RDC Libraries
October 18, 2024, Zoom;	November 15, 2023, Zoom;
January 17, 2024, Zoom;	February 21, 2024, Zoom;
March 20, 2024, Zoom;	April 17, 2024, Zoom;
May 8, 2024, F-2-F Pierre; &	June 22, Zoom

Overview of Council Activities this year:

The council continued work on renewing and renegotiating contracts; system-wide contract negotiations began for SciFinder and ProQuest Dissertation & Theses. Currently, the council is wrapping up the IOP Science Transformative Agreement. The ExLibris agreement was renewed for another 5 years. Minitex provided information to the council regarding CINAHL and the ProQuest database in regard to the nursing and health sciences resources to determine whether these services are of interest to the Regental libraries, if so identify the funding source.

A statewide networking meeting was held in Rapid City for all RDC library partners to discuss the benefits of the consortium's services. Changes were discussed for the DLSD website; the re-design was put on hold due to funding constraints in the budget.

All library contracts were added to the adopted contract management platform and partner MOUs, invoices, and supporting documentation is initiated and routed through Contracts+. This work includes the creation of MOUs for shared services that were formerly verbal agreements of the services performed for SLiC.

Discussed the potential to propose a budget increase and develop a fiscal year budget proposal request process. In order to lessen the budget constraints the council is faced with, the council received feedback from the RDC partners (private universities and technical colleges) on their interest in the STEM database resources in order to cost-share the resources.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

Other Council Activities:

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

Identify and discuss in depth what libraries of the future look like and what impact open access has as well as physical assets of a library. Additionally, engage in discussions on collaborations and sharing of resources with ND, potentially on the North Dakota Digital Review.

Analyze various breakdown methods for the modeler in order to obtain a minimum fee or base cost for usage and an appropriate cost allocation to the SDBOR libraries and partners. Also discuss the potential cost increases to the services provided to the partners -- discussion engagement from BOR, DOE, and State Library.

Identify and adopt a new modeler allocation structure going forward, if modifications are desired across the council.

Continue negotiations and execute system-wide multi-year contracts for SciFinder and ProQuest Dissertation & Theses to achieve potential cost savings and optimal year-over-year percentage increases.

Continue to prepare and plan in coordination with the State Library, an annual networking event for all libraries to attend; demonstrate the benefit of consortium.

Re initiate conversations to identify if other entities such as historical societies, museums, etc. which may wish to participate in the DLSD. If so, identify the storage costs of these additions and the fee amount. This would bring benefit to the students and faculty for the access and availability of the content.

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report**Academic Year:** 2023-2024**Discipline Council:** Mathematics**Leadership:** Chair: Rich Avery, DSUVice Chair: Kurt Cogswell, SDSU

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: Eun Heui Kim, SDSUVice Chair: Stacy Trentham, NSU**Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) <u>Dan VanPeurseem, USD</u> | 7) <u>Travis Kowalski, SDSMT</u> |
| 2) <u>Daniel Swenson, BHSU</u> | 8) <u>Daluss Siewart, BHSU</u> |
| 3) <u>William Trentham, NSU</u> | 9) <u>Peter Grieve, SDSMT</u> |
| 4) <u>Donna Flint, SDSU</u> | 10) <u>Catalin Georgescu, USD</u> |
| 5) <u>Richard Wicklein, DSU</u> | 11) <u>Trudy Zalud, SD BOR</u> |
| 6) <u>Stacy Trentham, NSU</u> | 12) _____ |

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

Having not been engaged by the BOR an email was sent on February 21st asking members if we should meet and discuss any issues. There were no items raised for discussion so a spring meeting was not scheduled.

On March 6 Pam Carriveau from the SD BOR office asked the MDC to discuss a request from Southeast Technical College which was handled through email between March 6th and March 8th.

Overview of Council Activities this year:

MDC recommended that Southeast Technical College be allowed to administer the SD Calculus Readiness Test through Accuplacer. It was confirmed by Lindsay Hayes (USD) that no outside calculators are allowed on any of the Accuplacer exams.

MDC Leadership Rotation (Year chair/vice chair)
 2024-2025 SDSU/NSU
 2025-2026 NSU/BHSU
 2026-2027 BHSU/SDSMT
 2027-2028 SDSMT/USD
 2028-2029 USD/DSU
 2029-2030 DSU/SDSU

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

Other Council Activities:

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report**Academic Year:** 2023-24**Discipline Council:** Natural Sciences**Leadership:** Chair: Dr. Timothy Masterlark, SDSMTVice Chair: Dr. Jodie Ramsay, NSU

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: Dr. Jodie Ramsay (elected 4-15-2024)Vice Chair: Dr. Timothy Masterlark (SDSMT)**Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:**1) Abby Domagall, BHSU7) Robert McTaggart, SDSU2) Jessica Graham, BHSU8) Xiuqing Wang, SDSU3) Kristel Bakker, DSU9) Karen Koster, USD4) Andrew Sathoff, DSU10) Brennan Jordan, USD5) Jon Mitchell, NSU

11) _____

6) Peter Adcock, SDSMT

12) _____

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):November 7, 2023 via Zoom.
April 15, 2024 via Zoom.**Overview of Council Activities this year:**

1. Jessica Messersmith: Overview of the BOR systemwide collaborative academic programs since several involve the natural sciences (This one directly addresses 2023-24 SDBOR Discipline Council Letter).
2. Dr. Peter Doucette, Director USGS EROS: Opportunities to integrate SDBOR Natural Sciences with EROS.
3. Discussions of curricular issues.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

Prior Learning/Transfer policies: The Discipline Council engaged Dakota Promise Scholarship: "Real World Science". However, BOR representative decided that this issue will be shifted to Department of Education.

General Education: GEOL201/201L (General Education Goal 6 and common course). SDSMT course description not aligned with SDBOR. Resolved. Although not Gen Ed, another course description problem with the SDSMT CHEM 452/552 was also resolved.

Collaborative Programming: The Council received two briefings (1) SDBOR System-wide Collaborative Programs and (2) Opportunities to Integrate Natural Sciences with EROS.

Other Council Activities:

Elected Dr. Jodie Ramsay as Council Chair for 2024-25 on April 15, 2024.

Address efficiency by resolving course description inconsistencies.

Miscellaneous curriculum refinements.

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

Workload tracking in Banner: Inform faculty across SDBOR institutions of strategy/intent to split courses with combined lecture and lab partitions into separate lecture and lab courses.

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

Workload tracking in Banner (see Recommendations for AAC Consideration). (1) Briefing from BOR of strategy and (2) Can we get buy-in from the Natural Sciences Discipline Council?

SDBOR Discipline Council Annual Report

Academic Year: 2023-24

Discipline Council: Social Science Discipline Council

Leadership: Chair: Doug Peterson

Vice Chair: _____

If you have recommendations to make for Council leadership next year, please list the names below.

Chair: _____

Vice Chair: _____

Names of the remaining Campus Representatives on this Council:

- 1) John Van Benthuyzen
- 2) Thomas Weyant
- 3) David Kenley
- 4) Viki Johnson
- 5) David Grettler
- 6) Kristi Brownfield

- 7) Jonathan Gibson
- 8) Kyle Knight
- 9) Nicole Klein
- 10) George White
- 11) David Earnest
- 12) Doug Peterson

Meeting Dates and Type (e.g. October 10, face to face in Chamberlain; conference call):

May 6, 2024 via Zoom

Overview of Council Activities this year:

The Social Science Discipline Council met on May 6, 2024 with invited guest Provost Jon Kilpinen to learn more about plans for the new civics center appropriated at Black Hills State University.

Response to Initiatives for Council Consideration Suggested by the Executive Director:

Provost Kilpinen provided information about the plans for the new civics center. The council was very supportive of the direction envisioned for the center at this point -- to inventory and report civics-related activities that already occur at each of the universities; to fund high-impact civics-related activities including activities co-sponsored by the center and a university, activities that result from university collaborations, and activities intended for all universities; and to assist the system in demonstrating extensive civics-related programming to stakeholders including the legislature. Members were particularly interested and pleased to learn there is no plan to develop curriculum that would be required by all universities. The questions, recommendations and comments from members who attended the May 6th meeting were entirely supportive and appreciative that this approach amplifies existing work, funds potential future opportunities, and protects changes to the existing general education curriculum.

Other Council Activities:

None to report. The council believed most work, including discussions on prior learning and course equivalencies, had already taken place the previous year and did not have other items that were pressing.

Recommendations for AAC Consideration:

The Social Science Discipline Council is interested in learning who is appointed from each university to serve as the point person/contact for the civics center. Perhaps provosts might be asked to report their designated contact at an upcoming AAC meeting, and those contacts become part of the meeting minutes.

Suggestions for Council Work Plan for Upcoming Year:

One council member recommended a discussion on the impact of AI on teaching and learning in social sciences and others expressed interest in that discussion for 2024-25.