

POTENTIAL DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

1. Create a two or three tiered higher education system for budgeting and strategic investment purposes.
2. Make the Chancellor position an Executive Director and change the Vice-Chancellor positions to Directors.
3. Increase the emphasis on students who graduate from four-year institutions in four years. Set goals and measure performance against the goals.
4. Create central coordination for on-line courses and remove duplicative courses throughout the system. Collaboration should also be rewarded.
5. The Roundtable needs to be revised and updated for the next 10 years. North Dakota should strive to become the benchmark state for public higher education in terms of quality, affordability, and value.
6. Implement zero-based budgeting. Current budgeting methods assume you will be doing everything you did in the past plus new programs.
7. Provide that the number one priority of campus presidents is fundraising. All presidents should be held accountable for agreed upon objectives every 12 months and all pay raises should be merit based.
8. Increase coordination between elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. High School students lack a real understanding of where meaningful career opportunities are. Need better career counseling in K-12 schools.
9. Make entrepreneurial training a priority. This is a prime area of education for linking the University System to the private sector. Programs such as Marketplace for Kids have already instilled entrepreneurial thinking in grade school students.
10. Special effort and recognition should be given to technology transfer to the private sector and the creation of new business opportunities in the state. A technology skill roster of expertise within the University System needs to be developed and made accessible to those seeking help.