

North Dakota Legislative Management  
Budget Section  
September 20, 2012

Report on Joint UND/NDUS Information Technology Facilities  
At the University of North Dakota

Mr. Chairman and members of the Budget Section of North Dakota Legislative Management, my name is Randall Thursby, CIO for the North Dakota University System. I have been asked to report on the joint University of North Dakota and University System of North Dakota information technology office building pursuant to Section 7 of 2011 House Bill No. 1003.

Section 7 of House Bill No. 1003 states the Act includes the sum of \$20,500,000 for the North Dakota University System and University of North Dakota joint information technology project. The state board of higher education may spend additional funds on the project of up to \$5,000,000 that are made available from the University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, and North Dakota University System 2011-13 biennium information technology services funding resulting from one-time savings or efficiencies.

The original approval included \$8,000,000 that was part of a grant request. The grant funding for the program was cut from the Federal budget leaving the amount available for the facility at \$12.5 million in state funds plus the \$5.0 million from internal sources.

On March 13, 2012 this body approved the change of scope to the project that allowed the NDUS to split the project into a data center and a building to the personnel currently located in six different locations on the UND campus. Following your approval plans were made final and projects were placed out for bids.

As are seen with most construction projects in North Dakota, the bids came in over estimates but within the total authorization granted by Legislature. The cost increases were almost entirely due to a rise in the projected construction costs for labor and materials. The major electrical and mechanical equipment bids actually came in lower than estimated.

The cost of the project is now \$16,848,523 including contingencies. No compromises have been made to quality of the data center or the functionality of the personnel facility. The data center remains a Tier III facility capable of meeting the needs of academic, administrative and research of UND and the NDUS.

The work on the facilities is underway with an estimated completion date of July 31, 2013. All expenditures to date are from the state provided funding.