Prepared by the North Dakota Legislative Council staff for the Higher Education Committee
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HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBER SURVEY OF HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM ISSUES

Dr. Julie Bell, Education Program Director, National Conference of State Legislatures, Denver, Colorado, presented information regarding higher education funding strategies at the November 3-4, 2011, Higher Education Committee meeting. She said higher education reform strategies may recognize the following issues:

- Changing state economic conditions.
- Changing student needs and behaviors.
- Importance of connecting higher education to state economic development.
- Need for a clear statement about statewide goals and priorities for higher education.
- Ability to use data to track progress.
- Having accountability for results.
- Ability to have fundamental reform in state funding and policy.
- Importance of reviewing how each part of the overall postsecondary system contributes to overall state goals.
- Changes in institutional behavior.

At the request of the chairman of the Higher Education Committee, committee members were surveyed regarding the importance of each higher education reform issue. Committee members ranked each issue from 1 to 9 with 1 being the most important issue and 9 being the least important issue. Twelve committee members completed the survey with the following results:

Committee Rank	Higher Education Reform Issue Area	Individual Committee Member Survey Rankings												Total
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	A clear statement about statewide goals and priorities for higher education	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	4	1	5	7	1	28
2	The importance of connecting higher education to state economic development	3	2	7	2	3	5	3	5	2	3	3	4	42
3	Ability to have fundamental reform in state funding and policy	4	1	4	3	7	7	2	1	7	6	1	3	46
4	Accountability for results	2	6	2	7	6	9	8	3	4	4	5	6	62
5	Changing student needs and behavior	8	5	8	5	8	1	4	7	9	1	4	5	65
6	Importance of reviewing how each part of the overall postsecondary system contributes to overall state goals	5	8	6	6	2	6	6	2	8	7	8	2	66
7	Changes in institutional behavior	9	4	5	4	4	3	7	9	6	8	9	7	75
8	Ability to use data to track progress	6	7	3	8	5	8	9	6	5	9	2	9	77
9	Changes in state economic conditions	7	9	9	9	9	4	5	8	3	2	6	8	79