One of FORWARD’s initiatives is faculty advancement and leadership. Leadership and succession planning are major issues facing higher education. In the interest of developing current and future leaders, NDSU FORWARD/Provost Office hosted a full-day leadership workshop on March 18, 2016 for 31 administrators and emerging faculty leaders nominated and sponsored by their respective deans. The fifth annual leadership development opportunity was again facilitated by Claudia and Ruben Fernandez of Fast Track Leadership, who provide education and experience with different executive skill sets on each visit.

This year’s workshop focused on how to foster innovation and creativity and how to create a culture of organizational accountability for successful implementation of new initiatives and ideas. Interactive exercises and adult learning theory were employed to expand the practical leadership soft skills of participants, especially geared towards uncovering larger sets of creative options, and planning for accountable environments where goals are identified and achieved.