Meeting called to order at 5:50 pm by Chair Hogie with a welcome and introduction of members and guests.

Harwood shared the 2016-17 Room, Board and Fee Guidelines highlighting the factors to be considered when determining room and board rates for 2016-17 (see handout): salary increases, costs of operating, major repairs, and the need to remain regionally competitive. One of the goals is to ensure rates are affordable and add value to the student’s experience. He emphasized the important role of students in the process.

Peterson presented the Dining Rate Proposal with a proposed increase of 6% for 2016-17. The Fiscal Year 2016 Budget was shared, indicating an increase of 3.5% in food costs and a 3% increase in salaries and benefits. The Proposed Increase of 6% equates to an increase of $109 for the 5-day meal plan. Peterson stated 7000-8000 meals are served per day in the three dining centers; the Union Dining Center has only 300 seats, yet serves 1200 meals/day. The Capital Facility and Equipment Improvements were identified. (Four handouts attached.)

Nostrum shared the Residence Hall Rate Proposal with a proposed 5% increase, which RHA will vote on tonight. A pie chart with the 2014-15 budget, as well as the 2015-2016 Projected Budget (Current Year), were discussed. Comparative Room Rates with other institutions was presented, indicating NDSU’s proposed rate is competitive. Nostrum elaborated on the Churchill Hall renovation, 10-year capital improvement plan, and new and unknown (i.e., cable TV) expenses. Other proposed projects include updating all bathrooms, passenger elevators, and flooring upgrades. (Four handouts attached.)

Board members questions (and responses):
- Dining facility projects are about accessibility/functionality, as opposed to being ‘fancy’
- Pros and cons discussed of paying in cash vs. taking out a loan for RL projects
- Planning starting now for a new high rise on campus so more students housed on campus (i.e., sophomores); research indicates students benefit from living on campus; process for the project explained
- 3100 students on meal plans; UDC project was $800,000 and included a meeting room
- RL not involved with 1600 block plan; it's a NDSU Foundation project
- Barry Hall coffee shop will be renovated this summer for downtown dining

Board members met in small groups to discuss the ‘Interview Survey of Non-Returning NDSU Undergraduates Executive Summary’ dated 12/1/2015 (attached). Closing comments: no matter what we do, some students will leave; assisting the students in the middle is the opportunity we have.

The next meeting will be February 22, 2016 at 5:15 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lonbaken, Assistant Vice President for Student Wellness