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NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

CAPITAL CONNECTION

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026

NDSU begins search for next President

NDSU has launched the search for its next president following the announcement that President David Cook will depart in March to become president of Iowa State University. Nominations and applications are open through Monday, Feb. 16, with interviews scheduled throughout March and finalist campus visits set for March 23–27.

The State Board of Higher Education is expected to select the next permanent president during a special meeting the week of March 30, 2026.

The next president will work closely with North Dakota legislators to advance priorities that strengthen the state's workforce, economy and communities. The Presidential Search Committee is co-chaired by State Board of Higher Education Chair Kevin Black and NDSU Chief of Staff Jace Beehler, and includes representatives from across the campus and community.

NDSU and Gateway to Science launch partnership

NDSU and North Dakota's Gateway to Science have launched a partnership to expand hands-on STEM learning for K-12 students across the state, with an emphasis on rural access. By combining NDSU expertise with mobile outreach, the effort builds early interest in science and technology and strengthens North Dakota's future workforce. Thank you to the North Dakota Legislature and Governor Armstrong your support of NDSU's New Horizon initiative, which is helping launch workforce-aligned degrees such as robotics and automation. Your investment is connecting academic resources to real workforce needs and expanding opportunities for North Dakota students across the state.

Learn more

Researchers and clinicians partner to address health challenges

NDSU is part of a collaborative health research initiative with the University of North Dakota and others that brings together researchers and clinicians across the state to address pressing health challenges and improve care for North Dakotans. By strengthening clinical research capacity and connecting

scientists with frontline providers, this effort supports workforce development, enhances health outcomes and helps advance innovative solutions for the state's citizens.

Learn more

Briggs named prestigious Clouston Family Fellow

NDSU associate professor Steven Briggs has been named a Clouston Family Political Science and Public Policy Faculty Fellow in recognition of his distinguished research, teaching and service, bringing further visibility to the expertise of NDSU faculty. His work on crime and public policy has been published in leading journals and presented at international conferences, underscoring the university's impact in scholarship that informs public understanding and policy discussions.

Learn more

Engineering seniors deliver real world automation solution

NDSU students partnered with industry to design and build an automated system that improves ceiling panel construction, giving students hands-on experience solving real engineering challenges with professional standards. This project

exemplifies how NDSU faculty prepare students for leadership in their fields through practical, industry-connected education while demonstrating the university's commitment to innovation and workforce readiness.

Learn more

100th annual Little International set

Join us for NDSU Saddle and Sirloin club's 100th annual Little International Livestock Show on Saturday, Feb. 14, at Shepperd Arena. The event highlights NDSU's commitment to agricultural education and community engagement and showcases the skills and dedication of the next generation of leaders in North Dakota's agriculture sector.

Learn more

*Tell us what you would like to learn more about at **ndsu.marcomm@ndsu.edu**.*

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