



General Assembly

Summarized Descriptions of NDSA Positions

PRESIDENT

The President of the NDSA serves as the Chief Executive Officer and strategic visionary. This position acts as the guiding hand of the organization and leads both the General Assembly and the Executive Team. This includes helping to develop agendas, goals, and task forces while being the head representative of the NDSA to the outer world. This means meeting with the North Dakota University System (NDUS) staff, attending State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) meetings, speaking with legislators and lobbyists, going to individual universities and meeting with their administrators and student governments when needed, and representing the NDSA to any other applicable bodies and persons. Therefore, the office of President occasionally requires travel. The President has the power to make executive decisions on NDSA's behalf, but these decisions must be made with the utmost regard for our bylaws and while respecting the faith bestowed upon them by the General Assembly. Regarding the Executive Team, the President should meet with them often to hear reports, collaborate on ideas, and delegate tasks to further the NDSA and our ability to represent students.

VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

This position serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the NDSA. The Vice President of Finance and Operations also serves as the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee (IAC), which means developing an agenda and directing the monthly committee through discussion and voting by correctly employing parliamentary procedure. This elected official also sits on the NDUS Academic Affairs Council, which meets by phone approximately once every two months. Any questions of finances or policy within the NDSA are directed to the Vice President of Finance and Operations and/or IAC. Reimbursements and the accounting of the NDSA run through this officer, IAC, and the Business Service Center. The person holding this office must have a strong understanding of our bylaws and strategic plan. Lastly, they will serve as acting President if the current President vacates office. This position has the ability to appoint directors who help them to strengthen the productivity of this position and the ability of the NDSA to serve students as a whole.

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

This position serves as the Chief Communications Officer of the NDSA. Along with the President, they ensure that the views of the NDSA are well represented to students, the University System, and the public at large. The Vice President of Communication should attain these goals by publishing regular posts on Facebook and Instagram while also composing and emailing out - with the help of the NDUS - a monthly newsletter to all NDUS students. In conjunction with the President, this officer should also help to keep the NDSA website regularly updated and easy to use. As the Student Affairs Committee Chair, they must collect feedback regarding student affairs issues and develop a relevant agenda for each month's meeting while leading the committee with fair and clear implementation of parliamentary procedure. This officer also sits on the NDUS's Student Affairs Council, which meets once every two months by phone. This position has the ability to appoint directors who help them to strengthen the productivity of this position and the ability of the NDSA to serve students as a whole.



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VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

This position serves as the Chief Legislative Communications Officer of the NDSA. This position works with the President and other officers to ensure that the views of NDSA are well represented to the appropriate entities through efforts such as lobbying. They also work with the delegations of NDSA through in person visits and shared information regarding the efforts of the NDSA. The Vice President of Governmental Affairs is also responsible for working with the President to establish the governmental affairs strategy and to maintain an active presence at the state level during legislative years. As the Chair of the State Legislative Affairs Committee (SLAC), this officer should gather feedback from members of the NDSA on pertinent governmental affairs topics and use this information along with other research to develop monthly agendas for SLAC. While chairing this committee, the officer must also ensure that all students are represented and given the opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions by employing parliamentary procedure fairly and concisely during official meetings. This position has the ability to appoint directors who help them to strengthen the productivity of this position and the ability of the NDSA to serve students as a whole.

COUNCIL CHIEF

This officer appoints NDSA members to NDUS councils that are not already managed by other officers while monitoring, compiling, and distributing the information received in these councils in order to better represent the NDSA and bolster our knowledge of higher educational affairs in North Dakota. This position also works closely with the Head Delegates of each institution by coordinating and presiding over Head Delegate meetings at least once a month and by assisting each institution in preparation for hosting and attending our monthly meetings.

STUDENT MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION (SBHE)

This is an ex-officio officer of the NDSA. The SBHE is the governing body for all eleven of North Dakota's public colleges and universities, which means this ex-officio officer helps to make the decisions that are best for students at the highest level of higher education governance in the state. The General Assembly nominates three students for this position and the Governor makes the final decision for appointment. This position entails attending all SBHE meetings and assigned committee meetings in order to discuss and make decisions on higher education policies and governance for North Dakota's public higher education institutions. This ex-officio officer shall attend all NDSA meetings and communicate all pertinent information they have received concerning the actions of the SBHE to the General Assembly and executive team. They must act in the best interest of North Dakota students and make their decisions fairly and in good faith.

The vision of the SBHE is "Leading the nation in educational attainment through access, innovation and excellence." Its mission is "To enhance the quality of life for all those we serve and the economic and social vitality of North Dakota through the discovery, sharing and application of knowledge."