

January 19, 2018

SBARE

NDSU Dept. 7520

PO Box 6050

Fargo, ND 58108-6050

Dear SBARE,

The NDSU North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC) recently held our winter board of visitor (BOV) meeting on January 18, 2018. During this meeting, the board of visitors made a motion to draft this letter to SBARE. We want you to know how strongly we support the need for an Area Extension Specialist / Cropping Systems at the NCREC.

The Area Extension Specialist position plays a vital role within the NDSU Extension Service (EXT). This position is a source of technical information to the 13 local county Extension agents served by the NCREC. In addition, this position provides and educates agricultural producers using science based, unbiased data. When this position was vacated in 2016, EXT was faced with budget allotments of 6.5%, with additional budget cuts on the horizon. At that time, EXT was froze Area Extension Specialist / Cropping Systems position at the NCREC.

We ask that you please rank the need for an Area Extension Specialist / Cropping Systems at the NCREC. We are asking that NDSU EXT budget be increased in order to fill this vital position. Please contact me for additional details and/or testimony.

Sincerely,



Troy Coons,

Chair, NCREC Board of Visitors

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