

Presentation of
Academic Programs
and Transferability of
American Community
and Technical Colleges

Showcasing North Dakota
State College of Science



Sharon Y. Hart
PhD in Education (Vocational & Technical)



Almost 18 years serving as President of:

Middlesex Community College
North Dakota State College of Science
Northern Marianas College
Rochester Institute of Technology
(RIT)/American University of Kosovo

Key Components of U.S. Community and Technical Colleges:

- Workforce Development
- Transfer (primarily in community colleges)
- Remediation/Basic Skills
- Lifelong Learning
- Community Service



- Established in 1901
- NDSCS established in 1903
- Expansion in 1960's and 1970's
- Today ~1,100 colleges reaching 10.5 million students
- Enrolling over 40% of all undergraduate students
- Rio Salado Community College – offers 600+ online classes in 135+ degree/certificate programs, 40,000-55,000 students in all U.S. states



ACADEMIC TRANSFER PATHWAY

Your Path.
Your Future.



MASTER'S
DEGREE

BACHELOR'S
DEGREE

ASSOCIATE
DEGREE (AA/AS)

DIPLOMA

CERTIFICATE

WORKFORCE & APPLIED PATHWAY

Build Skills.
Advance Your Career.



MASTER'S
DEGREE

BACHELOR OF
APPLIED SCIENCE
(BAS)

ASSOCIATE OF
APPLIED SCIENCE
(AAS)

DIPLOMA

CERTIFICATE

**Transferability:
America's Hidden
Success Story
The 2+2 Model**

Two Years at a Community
College

+

Two Years at a University

=

Bachelor's Degree

State University

The Board of Trustees, by virtue of the authority vested in it by law
and on recommendation of the University Faculty, does hereby confer on

Jordan Thompson

the degree of

**Bachelor of Science
Business Administration**

with all the Rights, Privileges and Honors thereunto appertaining.
Given at State University this fifteenth day of May,
two thousand twenty-four.

John De Sain
Chair of the Board of Trustees

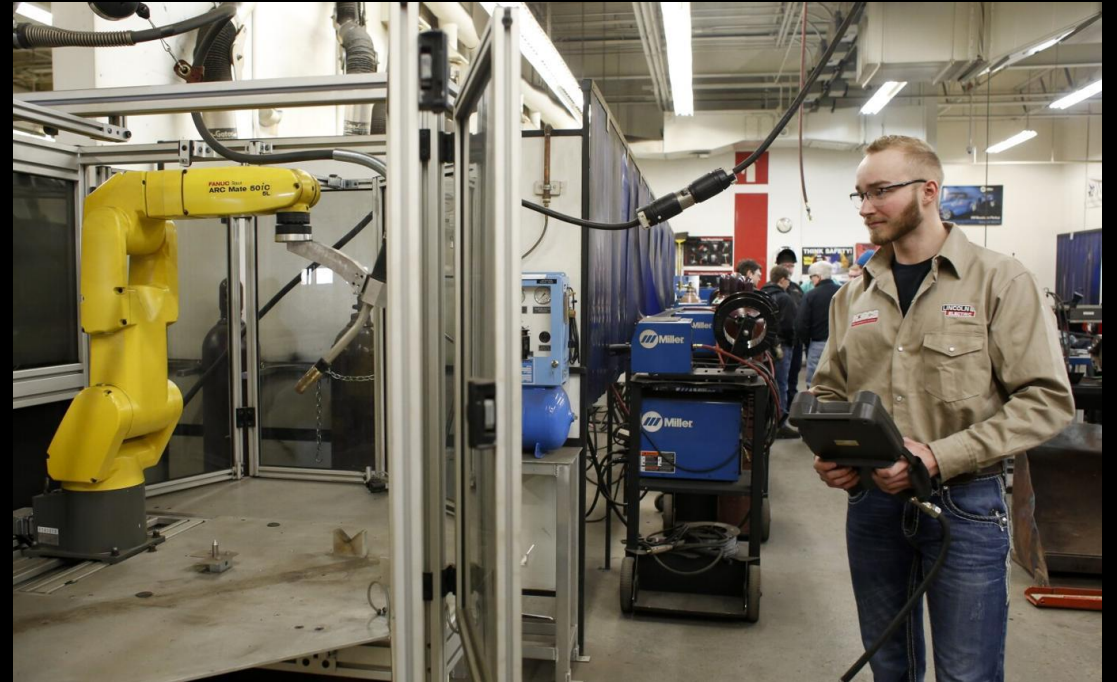


Amin H. Hattian
President of the University

Paan Yafarlan
Provost

America's Open Door Colleges

- Dual Enrollment and Early College
- Reverse Transfer
- Adult Learners
- Veterans
- Affordability
- Student Success





NDSCS – A Model Community and Technical College (my second presidency)

- Founded 1903 • 52 hectares • 35 buildings • Residential campus serving 3000 full-time equivalent students, 97% placement rate for graduates, annual operating budget of 50 million €

Residential Life and Student Engagement

- Housing • Clubs • Students Activities





North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) Offers

- ✓ Certificates ✓ One-Year Diplomas ✓ Associate Degrees
 - ✓ Transfer Pathways ✓ Applied Workforce Education
 - ✓ Online Programs ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ Industry Partnerships ✓ Pathways to Bachelor's Degrees



Healthcare Careers

- Registered Nurse
- Occupational Therapy
- Emergency Medical Services
- EMT/Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting
- Veterinary Tech

Agriculture, Precision Agriculture & Natural Resources


- AgricultureBusiness
- Agriculture Communication & Marketing
- Agriculture Education
- Animal Science
- Farm & Ranch Management
- Precision Agriculture
- Technician Precision Agronomy
- Agriculture Applicator & Operations Agriculture
- Meat Processing





Transportation



- Automotive Technology
 - Automotive & Diesel Master Technician
 - Diesel Technology (General Diesel)
 - Diesel Technology (CASE IH)
 - Diesel Technology (Komatsu)
 - Caterpillar Dealer Service Technician
 - Powersports Technology
 - Outdoor Power Equipment & Snowmobile Technology
 - Aviation Maintenance Technology
 - Auto Body Repair & Refinishing
- 

Construction, Building Systems & Skilled Trades

- Construction Management Technology
- Building Construction Technology
- Carpentry
- Electrical Construction
- Electrical Master Technician
- Industrial Electrical
- Plumbing
- HVAC/Refrigeration
- Welding Technology





Robotics, Automation & Manufacturing

- Robotics, Automation & Mechatronics Technology
- RAMT-General Technician
- RAMT-Mechatronics
- Engineering Technology
- Precision Machining Technology
- Welding Technology
- Industrial Automation

Business, IT & Cybersecurity

Business

- Business Management
- Administration & Finance
- Marketing
- Sales & Hospitality Services
- Restaurant Management
- Finance

Information Technology

- Information Systems Administrator
- IT Support
- Software Engineering
- Software Coding
- Web Design
- Web Development
- Cybersecurity Defense
- Cybersecurity Specialist
- Cybersecurity Penetration Testing
- IT Forensics & Security



Public Safety & Emergency Services

- Fire Science
- Firefighter I
- Firefighter II
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Paramedic Technology

Culinary, Hospitality & Entrepreneurship

- Culinary Arts
- Culinary Management
- Baking & Pastry Arts
- Catering & Banqueting
- Culinary & Food Truck Entrepreneur
- Restaurant Management



Drones, Surveying & Emerging Technologies

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

- Architectural Modeling Emphasis
- Business & Marketing Emphasis
- Civil Engineering Technology Emphasis
- Construction Inspection Emphasis
- Land Surveying Emphasis
- Transfer Emphasis





NDSCS Industry Partnerships: Education Designed with Industry



NDSCS–CASE IH Partnership and the Ford ASSET Partnership



**U.S. Community
Colleges and
Slovenian VSŠ:**

Similarities

- Workforce-focused education
- Strong employer partnerships
- Applied learning and laboratories
- Short-cycle higher education

Differences

U.S. Community & Technical Colleges

- Certificates
- One-year diplomas
- Associate Degrees (AA, AS, AAS)
- Extensive university transfer pathways
- Dual-credit with secondary schools
- Developmental/remedial education

Slovenian VSŠ

- Limited Equivalent
- Diploma programs
- Higher Vocational Diploma
- More limited transfer pathways
- Less common
- Generally not part of the system

Differences

U.S. Community & Technical Colleges

- Open-admission philosophy
- Residential campuses (15%)
- Intercollegiate athletics (60%) and student life
- Applied Bachelor's Degrees

Slovenian VSŠ

- More structured admissions
- Primarily commuter institutions
- More limited
- Generally not offered

Discussion Questions

How can we create more seamless pathways for students to continue their education without losing credits or repeating coursework?

What additional partnerships could Slovenian VSŠ institutions develop with employers to strengthen workforce preparation and student success?

Should selected Slovenian VSŠ institutions eventually be authorized to offer applied bachelor's degrees in high-demand workforce fields?

Fulbright Specialist Program

U.S. Specialists may assist you with:

- ✓ Curriculum development
- ✓ Workforce development
- ✓ Accreditation and quality assurance
- ✓ Strategic planning
- ✓ Internationalization
- ✓ Student success initiatives
- ✓ Faculty development
- ✓ Industry partnerships



FULBRIGHT

Key Characteristics

- Short-term projects
- Typically 2–6 weeks
- U.S. expert travels to host institution
- Sponsored through the U.S. Department of State
- Host is responsible for local housing, meals, local transportation, project support
- Applications due by end of July for the upcoming year (Oct 2026-Sept 2027)
- Dr. Hart has served as a Fulbright Specialist and can provide assistance/recommendations for U.S. experts

- [Fulbright Specialist Program - U.S. Embassy in Slovenia](#)

Also, you may contact:

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Thank You!!!

To learn more about
NDSCS go to:
<https://ndscs.edu/>

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