

**COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Education and Student Affairs Committee, Board of Regents, State of Iowa

**FROM:** Diana Gonzalez

**DATE:** June 1, 2005 *ASN*

**SUBJ:** Collaborative Activities

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**Recommended Action:**

Receive the report on collaborative activities between the Regent Enterprise and other sectors.

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**Executive Summary:**

The Education and Student Affairs Committee has underscored the need for the Regent Enterprise to enter into collaborative relationships with other educational, community, and private sectors aimed at strengthening educational opportunities for the citizens of Iowa. This report highlights several recent activities in which the Regent Enterprise has played a role.

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NGA Center for  
Best Practices  
Honor States Grant  
Program

The Board Office is working closely with the State Department of Education in preparing a proposal to obtain funding from the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices aimed at developing and beginning to implement comprehensive state plans to improve high school graduation and college readiness rates. The Board Office has responded to the sections pertaining to the Regent Enterprise and the Executive Director is a member of the policy team working on the grant.

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Statewide Work-  
Based Learning  
Intermediary  
Network

During the 2005 session, the Iowa Legislature created a work-based learning intermediary network program that will be administered by the State Department of Education. The purpose of the program is to build a seamless system of career, future workforce, and economic development in Iowa. The institutions "under the control of the Board of Regents" will be represented on the steering committee.

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Iowa Learning  
Technology  
Initiative

During the 2005 session, the Iowa Legislature expanded the Iowa Learning Technology Initiative which requires the Board of Regents to establish a research triangle and clearinghouse to provide information on the results of elementary and secondary education technology initiatives throughout the State. The Iowa Learning Technology Initiative must include public and private partners.

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Iowa Learns  
Council

Although the Iowa Learns Council completed its assignment in August 2004, the Council's recommendations have provided support for continuing efforts in Iowa government and education, including the Governor's education policy. The Council included a number of representatives from the Regent Enterprise. In the coming months, the Council's recommendations will continue to inform ongoing dialogue on a variety of issues, including Regent university admission standards.

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Iowa Great  
Places

Iowa Great Places is an initiative coordinated through the Departments of Cultural Affairs and Economic Development and the Iowa Finance Authority. Its objective is to package the resources and services of state government to develop and promote the places – communities, regions, neighborhoods, or districts – which will be designated Iowa Great Places. The Great Places coordinating team includes a staff liaison from the Board Office. A citizens advisory council appointed by Governor Vilsack will select three pilot Great Places by October 1, 2005.

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Iowa Math and  
Science Coalition

The Iowa Mathematics and Science Coalition will sponsor a two-day summit on Economic Development and Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education in November 2005. Its purpose is to promote quality education in these key areas, particularly as they relate to state economic development. The summit will likely attract 150 participants from the policy-making, business, and education sectors. The planning committee includes a staff liaison from the Board Office.

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