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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board of Regents Approves Iowa Teacher Intern License Program

(AMES, Iowa) – At its meeting today, the Board of Regents approved establishment of the Iowa Teacher Intern License (ITIL) program, a collaborative effort of Iowa's public universities that provides a nontraditional teacher preparation program for professionals wishing to enter the teaching field from other careers. This collaborative program will allow Iowa's public universities to combine their strengths and resources to create a single, integrated, teacher preparation program that meets the unique needs and draws upon the special talents and experiences of nontraditional students. The ITIL program was developed in consultation and cooperation with the Director of the Iowa Department of Education, Judy Jeffrey.

Individuals licensed through the ITIL program would bring to the classroom their personal work and community experience to teach, encourage, and motivate students to success, and in a manner that is interesting and relevant to the students. The ITIL teachers would be licensed to teach grades 7 through 12, which would address the growing need for highly qualified teachers in every 7 through 12 classroom in Iowa. The ITIL candidates will be required to meet the same standards required under Iowa's traditional teacher preparation programs.

Courses will be offered through a combination of online and face-to-face classes and at times more convenient for nontraditional students. The universities anticipate offering the ITIL program beginning with the fall 2010 semester. For additional information on the program contact Professor Merrie Schroeder, University of Northern Iowa College of Education, at merrie.schroeder@uni.edu, or (319) 273-7891.

Additional details on the Iowa Teacher Intern License program can be found at the following link to the Board of Regents web site:

http://www2.state.ia.us/regents/Meetings/DocketMemos/09Memos/June/0609_ITEM07.pdf

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