UNIVERSITY OF IOWA PROPOSED PROPERTY SALE

**Action Requested:** Consider recommending approval of the sale, for the benefit of the University of Iowa, of six acres of land in Riverside, Iowa at a price of $21,000 to Mary C. Yeggy and a waiver of Board Policy 9.02 C.2 (conveyance of real estate for monetary consideration based on appraisal), subject to approval of the final documents by the Board Office and Attorney General’s Office.

**Executive Summary:** The University of Iowa requests approval for the sale of six acres of land in Riverside, Iowa six miles south of the University of Iowa campus to Mary C. Yeggy. This land is in a rural, agricultural area of southern Johnson County (see Attachments A and B). In 1963, the property was acquired using General Education Funds to serve as the site for the University of Iowa Observatory for the Department of Physics and Astronomy. In 2006, the observatory building was decommissioned and razed. Since 2006, the property has been vacant and unused by the University. The University does not foresee any future use of this property.

Under the provisions of Iowa Code § 262.9.8, if land acquired with appropriated funds is sold, the sale proceeds are to be deposited into the General Fund. Subsequently, those funds are credited from the General Fund to the Board of Regents and may be used to purchase other real estate and buildings or for the construction and alteration of buildings and other capital improvements. The University proposes to use the sale proceeds to partially fund the installation of a fire sprinkler system in the English-Philosophy Building.

Because of the unique location and size of this parcel, the University offered both adjacent landowners the opportunity to submit written bids to purchase the property. Both submitted bids. The Yeggy bid was the higher of the two at $21,000 ($3,500 per acre). The other bid was $15,000 ($2,500 per acre). Given the low dollar value of the property and the unique nature in which the property is being sold, the University requests that the Board waive its policy requiring two appraisals for property being purchased or sold.
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
PROPERTY SALE, MAP 1 OF 2

"Old Observatory" Parcel
Approx. 1320' x 190'
Section 33-79-6
Johnson County, Iowa

Iowa City and the University of Iowa
Main Campus

The University of Iowa
Location Map:
"Old Observatory" Parcel
Johnson County, Iowa

1" = 8,000