

**Governing Iowa's public
universities and special schools**

University of Iowa
Iowa State University
University of Northern Iowa
Iowa School for the Deaf
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
Lakeside Lab Regents Resource Center
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center
Tri-State Graduate Center



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Robert Donley, *Executive Director*

July 1, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board of Regents Responds to Governor's Disaster Emergency Proclamation

(URBANDALE, Iowa) – David Miles, President of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, expresses thanks to Governor Culver on behalf of the Board of Regents, the University of Iowa, its students and their parents, for the issuance of a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for the Board of Regents and the University of Iowa.

The June 2008 flooding of the Iowa River impacted 20 major University facilities. In particular, it caused significant damage to Mayflower Residence Hall, the Arts Campus facilities, and the Memorial Union, as well as the University's utility infrastructure system. This caused the University to delay the start of its summer session by one week, and has left in question the use of several major University facilities for the fall semester.

The Disaster Proclamation will expedite the efforts of the Board and the University in hiring contractors and service providers for the necessary clean-up, repair and reconstruction of the University facilities and infrastructure in response to the significant flood damage. This will result in a much more efficient and streamlined restoration process to ensure the recovery of the University's facilities and operations in the most timely manner possible.

The University will carefully evaluate its needs and retain highly qualified, experienced, and reputable contractors and vendors as required for the flood restoration effort. These outside providers, which have worked with the University for many years, have the necessary experience and expertise for the repair and reconstruction of the University's unique facilities.

The Board of Regents wishes to take immediate and prudent action to allow the expedited hiring of contractors and service providers for the flood recovery effort at the University of Iowa. Accordingly, the Board will discuss the Governor's Disaster Emergency Proclamation and related flood recovery issues at a telephonic meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 2, at 1:00 p.m.

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State of Iowa
Executive Department

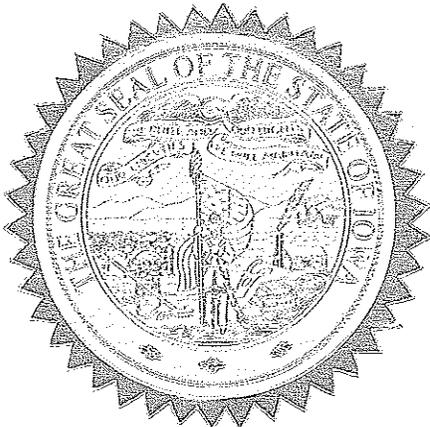
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

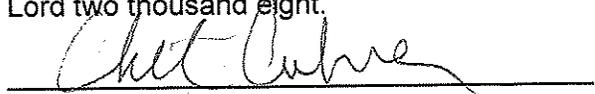
- WHEREAS**, on Sunday, May 25, 2008 and continuing, severe storm systems moved across portions of Iowa, resulting in widespread flooding and destruction in Iowa; and
- WHEREAS**, as of the date of this proclamation, 86 counties have been declared state disaster areas as a result of said storms; and
- WHEREAS**, the University of Iowa, in particular, has been hard hit with massive and catastrophic flooding that surpassed the 500 year flood plain; and
- WHEREAS**, as a result of the flood waters, 20 major campus buildings have been damaged and closed and many will require comprehensive structural analysis and major renovation; and
- WHEREAS**, many of the campus utilities, including the campus tunnel system which delivers steam, chilled water, power and information technology services, were flooded and many will require comprehensive structural analysis and major renovation; and
- WHEREAS**, time is of the essence for the University of Iowa as it currently faces: a record enrollment for the current summer session and projected record enrollment for the upcoming Fall semester, one residence hall still underwater, major research projects terminated or delayed, and a compromised power plant and utility system which would currently be preparing for winter heating needs; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board of Regents and the University of Iowa must move quickly to engage contractors and service providers with the expertise, skills, and experience necessary to undertake the broad spectrum of repairs including, classrooms, unique and specialized research laboratories and facilities, student housing, utility infrastructure, music and theater venues, parking and transportation; and
- WHEREAS**, strict compliance with the provisions of Iowa Code Chapter 262 related to competitive bidding for capital improvements would dramatically slow Board of Regents' and the University of Iowa's efforts to repair and rehabilitate the affected campus infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board of Regents and the University of Iowa have worked with a number of highly qualified contractors and vendors over the years, and could identify and engage them in a matter of days and weeks, rather than months, to expedite this work; and
- WHEREAS**, there are individuals in and around Johnson County who are ready and able to supply vitally needed goods and services for flood relief, but are prohibited from doing so until a formal bidding process has been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chester J. Culver, Governor of the state of Iowa, by the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution, Article IV, sections 1 and 8 and Iowa Code section 29C.6(1), do hereby declare the following:

1. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 262.34(1) which requires the Board of Regents, when the estimated cost of construction, repairs, or improvement of buildings or grounds exceeds \$100,000 to advertise for bids for the contemplated improvement or construction and requires the Board to award the work to the lowest responsible bidder.
2. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 262.34A(1) which requires the Board of Regents to request bids and proposals for materials, products, supplies, provisions and other needed articles to be purchased at public expense, from Iowa State Industries as defined in section 904.802, subsection 2, when the articles are available in the requested quantity and at comparable prices and quantities.
3. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 68B.3 which prohibits an official or state employee from selling, in any one occurrence, any goods or services having a value in excess of two thousand dollars to any state agency unless the sale is made pursuant to an award or contract let after public notice and competitive bidding.
4. This suspension shall only apply to construction, repairs, or improvements of buildings or grounds on the campus of the University of Iowa affected by the flooding.
5. This emergency declaration is effective immediately and will remain in effect through the period of time the disaster declaration for Johnson County remains in effect.

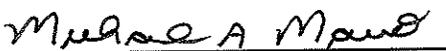


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines, Iowa this 30th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.



Chester J. Culver
Governor of Iowa

Attest:



Michael A. Mauro
Secretary of State