REQUEST TO NAME A CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
PONSETI ASSOCIATION

Actions Requested: Consider recommending the following to the Board:

1. Waive §6.29 B-6 of the Board’s Policy Manual that Regent Enterprise units cannot be named for a current Regent employee and that naming for an employee can occur no earlier than two years following the end of employment/appointment or upon death.

2. Approve the request by the University of Iowa to name the recently-formed International Association for the Advancement of Clubfoot Treatment as the Ponseti International Association for the Advancement of Clubfoot Treatment (Ponseti Association).

Executive Summary:

- More than 50 years ago, Dr. Ignacio Ponseti, a faculty member in the Carver College of Medicine, developed a non-surgical method for treating clubfoot.

- Overcoming initial resistance to this approach, the Ponseti method has become the mainstream method of treatment for clubfoot in North America. It also holds promise for 80% of children with clubfoot from underdeveloped regions of the world.

- The International Association for the Advancement of Clubfoot Treatment was recently formed by physicians, patients and their families, and members of the public to ensure that children born with clubfoot will walk and reach their full potential.

- The mission of the Association is to restore normal function to children suffering from the crippling deformity of clubfoot through education of physicians and other healthcare providers; education of parents; improved access to care; basic research; and clinical research.

- Clubfoot deformity affects a documented 150,000 newborn children each year and an estimated equal number that are not documented. The incidence of clubfoot appears to vary among different populations – approximately 1 in 1,000 northern European, 1 in 500 African, and 1 in 150 Pacific Islander children. In many countries, children are left untreated; their deformed feet disable them throughout their lives and leave them dependent on charity for their survival.

- The Association will be overseen by the Chair of the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation at the University of Iowa and the Ponseti Association Steering Committee in consultation with the Dean of the Carver College of Medicine.
Financial support for the Ponseti Association will be primarily from charitable gifts. The time allocated by faculty and staff of the Carver College of Medicine to this endeavor is viewed as part of their service mission.

The University has proposed that this Association be named in honor of Dr. Ignacio Ponseti in recognition of his work to cure children who suffer from clubfoot and his long tenure at the University (65 years).