Thanks much.

While I appreciate Dennis’s effort to draft this summary, as I noted to the members of the press in attendance near the conclusion of the meeting, the purpose of the meeting last week was to educate Board members and institution heads on current issues facing Iowa and higher education, as well as to brainstorm. At no time did the Board adopt any particular conclusions or goals.

I thus consider this very much a draft that will be useful as we continue this multi-month process.

Dave

Bob Donley asked me to send you this summary of last Thursday’s strategic planning session. The summary was prepared by our facilitator, Dennis Jones, and the Board Office. A set of minutes is being prepared by the Board Office.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Diana Gonzalez

<<SP outcomes (11-5).pdf>>
Board of Regents, State of Iowa
Strategic Planning Session
October 30, 2008

Fundamental conditions and implications

1. There will be no more than the current three public universities.
   • In order to serve the residents of the state and increase education attainment levels of the working age population, the universities will have to deliver more of their programs to place-bound adults.

2. State resources will continue to be severely constrained.
   • Productivity of the system will have to be increased (greater institutional collaboration is one avenue to such improvement).
   • Pressure to increase tuition will make strategies to ensure affordability of a university education more important.

3. Iowa will be a slow growth state (negative growth in the working age population) in the absence of a concerted effort to change this demographic trajectory.

Goal

A working age population (ages 25-64) that is:
   • At least as large as that population currently.
   • Educated to levels that make them competitive with the best in the world.

Priorities

• Contribute, as appropriate, to improvement of the K-12 system of the state.
• Link the intellectual assets of the system of universities to the economic development needs and strategies of the state.
   ➢ Focus primarily on developing the bio-economy and environmental health sectors (build on the natural, economic, and educational assets of the state).
   ➢ Objective is to create many more high-wage jobs.
• Enhance the cultural and recreational amenities of the state as a contributing factor in making Iowa a destination state for people of all ages and backgrounds.

1. Reduce achievement gap between minorities and non-minorities.
2. Determine how higher education contributes to economic development. How are intellectual assets transferred to a diversified economy?
3. Raise educational level of the general population. What strategies are needed to keep college graduates in Iowa?
4. Keep a college education affordable. What strategies are needed to pay for education?