REQUEST TO REINSTATE EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND APPOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Actions Requested: (1) Consider reinstating the Education and Student Affairs Committee as a standing committee of the Board of Regents. (2) Consider approval of the proposed chair and membership of the Education and Student Affairs Committee.

Executive Summary: One of the primary functions of the three public universities in Iowa is to provide educational opportunities for Iowa citizens and other interested individuals, at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels. As such, the Board is responsible for developing policies which define admission requirements, classification of residents, program development and termination, articulation activities with other Iowa public institutions of higher education, and other elements which affect the educational mission of the Regent institutions. The purpose of reinstating the Education and Student Affairs Committee is to encourage an in-depth review and discussion of issues which affect the work of the Board of Regents.

Background: The Board of Regents Policy Manual defines the creation of standing committees, as identified in Chapter 1.05. (http://www.regents.iowa.gov/Policies/Chapter%201/Chapter%201.pdf)

The purpose of these standing committees is to support the mission and goals of the Board. While these committees are considered to be working groups of the Board, any actions or votes taken by them do not constitute action or approval by the full Board of Regents. Standing committee appointments and the designation of committee chairs are made by the Board president, subject to ratification by the Board of Regents.

The Education and Student Affairs Committee (Policy Manual Chapter 1.05D), which last met in March 2007, is primarily responsible for the following:

- Providing oversight and policy recommendations related to:
  - Academic affairs, student life, and academic achievement.
  - Diversity in educational endeavors.
  - Intercollegiate athletics.

- Monitoring and developing appropriate responses to state, regional, and national policy initiatives regarding higher and special education.

- Establishing positive, collaborative relationships with other education sectors.

- Directing the work of special Board committees, such as the Council of Provosts, the 2+2 Council, and the ad hoc Radio State Planning group, each of which will initially report their findings and recommendations to the Education and Student Affairs Committee.

- Directing ad hoc studies related to academic and student affairs.
The general responsibilities of this committee are also outlined in the Policy Manual:

- Preparing an annual committee plan that defines the scope of the committee work, establishes benchmarks, and identifies performance indicators of committee progress.

- Gathering information on issues and policies pertinent to the committee’s work, which may include directing the work and considering the reports of special and institutional committees of the Board of Regents.

- Developing short-term and long-term recommendations to the Board of Regents after thorough consideration of relevant issues and policies.

- Regularly reporting to the Board of Regents regarding the status of the committee’s assignments and accomplishments.

The proposed composition of the Education and Student Affairs Committee is described as follows:

Regent Katie Mulholland – Chair

Regent Greta Johnson – Vice-Chair

Diana Gonzalez – Board of Regents Chief Academic Officer

Barry Butler – University of Iowa Provost

Betsy Hoffman – Iowa State University Provost

Gloria Gibson – University of Northern Iowa Provost