April 12, 2016

The Honorable Terry E. Branstad, Governor
State of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Branstad:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on April 20 and 21 at the Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs.

The meeting materials are available on the Regents website at the following address:

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/agendaitems.html

Audio streaming of the meeting may be accessed through the Board of Regents website. I am available at any time to answer questions about the meeting materials or any other matter.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by President Pro Tem Mulholland, will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20. The committee will hear a presentation on how assessments and data will be used by the Iowa School for the Deaf and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School to support early literacy implementation (ASAC item 2).

The committee will receive the Annual Governance Report on Faculty Tenure (ASAC item 3). The report includes approval of promotion and tenure actions for the academic year beginning this fall. The University of Iowa is requesting approval of 133 promotion and tenure actions; Iowa State University is requesting 58; and the University of Northern Iowa 28. In 2015-16, the number of tenured faculty at the universities was 2,645, a 1.3 percent decrease from the previous year. The number of tenure-track faculty was 864, a 5.2 percent increase from the previous year.

The committee will receive the report from the meeting of the Campus Safety and Security Subcommittee, which was held on April 6. (ASAC item 4). The committee will also receive recommendations from the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and University of Northern Iowa regarding proposed changes to academic programs at the three universities (ASAC items 5, 6 and 7).

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The Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet at 3:00 p.m. The committee will consider the register of University of Iowa capital improvement transactions (P&F item 2). The first project to consider is renovation and expansion of centralization sterilization
services. The project would renovate 20,000 gross square feet of space on the lower level of John Colloton Pavilion. The estimated project cost of $20 million would be funded by hospital building usage funds.

The second project to consider is the UIHC adult inpatient single bed conversion. This 90,000 square foot project would convert, after completion of the Children’s Hospital, two pediatric inpatient units into single-bed adult inpatient units. The estimated project cost of $46 million would be funded by hospital building usage funds.

The third project for consideration is approval of the design, description and budget ($33.5 million) for the construction of a new Psychological and Brain Sciences building. The Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences is currently housed in three buildings and is the largest department in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. The quality, type and organization of space are inadequate to serve either the teaching or research missions of the department. The project would be funded by treasurer’s temporary investment income, building renewal, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences gifts and earnings, and indirect cost recoveries from sponsored research.

The committee will also consider several institutional agreements, leases and easements (P&F item 3). Among these are Iowa State University requesting authority to negotiate and delegate to the Board’s Executive Director approval of easements with Dakota Access, LLC, to allow for installation of a crude oil pipeline across portions of ISU property.

The full Board will convene at approximately 4:15 p.m. The Audit/Compliance Committee, chaired by Regent McKibben, will then meet. The committee will review several state audit reports with Auditor of State Mary Mosiman. Chief Audit Executive Todd Stewart will review internal audit reports. External audit reports of Iowa Public Radio and the Quad Cities Graduate Study Center will also be reviewed.

On Thursday, April 21, the Board will have breakfast with student leaders from the Regent universities at 8:00 a.m. The full Board will convene at approximately 9:00 a.m. The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee, chaired by Regent Andringa, will meet. The committee will receive the operational and financial performance report and the FY 2017 operating budget. The committee will also review a proposal from UIHC for a FY 2017 rate increase of 6 percent.

The Board will consider approval of the proposed rates for room and board at the universities (agenda item 9). The residence systems are self-supporting operations and do not receive state appropriated funds for operations or capital improvements. The universities provide many different room and board options to students. Rate increases for each university’s most popular double residence hall room and meal plan are 3.5 percent at Iowa State, 3.5 percent at Northern Iowa, and 2.9 percent at Iowa.

Other agenda items for consideration by the full Board include:

- The Board will receive a presentation on FY 2017 salary policies from faculty/staff at Regents institutions who are not organized for the purpose of collective bargaining.

- The Board will receive a faculty presentation from the Iowa School for the Deaf on Iowa’s deafblind services project.

- Each of the institutional heads will provide an update on campus activities.
• The Board will receive updates on the 2016-2021 Board of Regents Strategic Plan.

• The Board will receive bids for the sale and award of two sets of bonds totaling an estimated $48.09 million. Additional information is available in agenda items 12a and 12b.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Bruce L. Rastetter

cc: Lt. Governor Kimberly Reynolds
     Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa