The Honorable Chester J. Culver, Governor  
State of Iowa  
State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, IA  50319

Dear Governor Culver:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on August 4 and 5 at Iowa State University. The meeting materials are available on the Regent website at the following address:

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

I am available at any time to answer questions about the meeting materials or any other matter.

On the first day of the meeting, the Board will perform annual evaluations of the institutional heads and the Executive Director. All individuals have requested, in accordance with the Iowa Code, that their evaluations take place in closed session. The Board will review the self-assessments prepared by the executives for their FY 2010 performance goals established by the executives and discuss the goals established for the current year.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee chaired by Regent Downer will review the year-end operating and financial performance.

The Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by President Pro Tem Evans will receive FY 2010 Internal Audit progress report and review the FY 2011 Internal Audit Plans. State Auditor Vaudt will review the FY 2010 State Audit Plans.

Other agenda items include:

Accreditation Reports. The Board will receive reports of accreditation for the Nursing Programs at the University of Iowa and of the School of Music also at the University of Iowa. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing for RNs, the Master of Science in Nursing – Clinical Nurse Leader and Master of Science in Nursing received accreditation for the maximum ten-year period. The Doctor of Nursing Practice Program received initial accreditation for the maximum five-year period. The School of Music received accreditation for the maximum ten-year period.
Legislative Study Committee Report on Residential Services on the Campus of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. As directed by 2010 General Assembly in HF 2531, the Board established a study committee to examine possible changes to and make recommendations regarding the current structure for providing residential services on the IBSSS campus. The study committee determined maintaining the status quo at IBSSS no longer meets the needs of the majority of Iowa students who are blind or visually impaired. The study committee has formulated seven recommendations which the Board will consider. These recommendations are outlined in Agenda Item #7. As required by the legislation, the final report will be submitted to the Legislative Council by August 31.

Register of Capital Improvement Business Transactions – University of Iowa. The Board will consider approval of the schematic design, project description and budget ($73.0 million) for the Iowa River Landing Ambulatory Care Clinic. The project will be funded by University Hospital Building Usage Funds, hospital net earnings from paying patients and Hospital Revenue Bonds proceeds. The Board will also consider adopting a resolution to fix the dates for the sale of up to $60 million Hospital Revenue Bonds.

The University of Iowa also is requesting permission to proceed with planning for four projects. These include projects to increase west campus steam capacity and provide supplemental flood mitigation for the new Campus Recreation and Wellness Center. The third project would raze the Hancher, Voxman, Clapp complex on the UI Arts Campus because of the damage caused by the 2008 flood. The fourth project would demolish the east wing, the three south buildings and a below grade classroom of the Art Building Complex due to damage caused by 2008 flood. More details on these projects may be found in Agenda Item #8.

Iowa River Landing Satellite Medical Facility – Project Labor Agreement. At the June meeting, the Board directed the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and Construction Manager for the Iowa River Landing Satellite Medical Facility to seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Building and Construction Trades Council for the construction of the new facility. A series of meetings were held between the parties in June and July for the purpose of negotiating a PLA. A presentation will be made at the August meeting on the status of the negotiations.

Register of Capital improvement Business Transactions – Iowa State University. ISU is seeking permission to proceed with project planning for a new free standing building that will contain a state-of-the-art 400-seat auditorium and associated support facilities. The auditorium will be designed to accommodate high-demand courses, while optimizing quality of instruction and student learning. The estimated project cost of $10 million would be funded $5 million in private gifts with remainder funded by Treasurer's Temporary Investments.

Property Purchase – University of Iowa. The Board will consider approval of the purchase, for the benefit of the University of Iowa, of property located at 509 South Dubuque Street in Iowa City. The property is owned by the Iowa City Community School District. The proposed purchase price is $4.5 million.

Grow Iowa Values Fund. The Board will consider FY 2011 Grow Iowa Values Fund proposals. The proposals from the three universities total $3,648,000. The $152,000 remaining from the appropriation is reserved for the Board to allocate to research and commercialization projects submitted by private colleges and universities. The proposals from the three universities are summarized in Agenda Item #15.

Naming of Bargaining Teams. The Board will be asked to approve recommendations for the members of the bargaining teams for the Board’s three collective bargaining agreements and for the statewide AFSCME agreement.
Sale of $28,225,000 Academic Building Revenue Bonds. Bonds will be sold to complete the financing on the ISU Chemistry Facilities (Hach Hall). In addition, $15 million of the proceeds of the sale will be used to fund a portion of the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine Small Animal Hospital renovation and addition project.

Strategic Plan Updates – Special Schools. In compliance with Board policy, the superintendents of the special schools will provide updates to their strategic plans. Agenda Item #18 provides a summary of the plans as well as providing a status report on the progress toward meeting the eight common academic indicators established by each university.

The Board will receive a presentation by Dr. Gary Wells, Professor of Psychology at Iowa State University. Dr. Wells will discuss general aspects of his National Science Foundation funded research on eyewitness identification and its impact on law enforcement policies and practices across the nation.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

David W. Miles

cc: Lt. Governor Patty Judge
Molly Kottmeyer, Policy Liaison, Governor’s Office
Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa