February 4, 2010

President Miles’ Statement on Plans to Rescind $100 Student Surcharge

The Board of Regents voted unanimously today to rescind the $100 surcharge to students in the spring 2010 semester, subject to the legislature’s restoration of $30.4 million in general education appropriations to Iowa’s public universities, as included in the Governor’s FY 2011 budget. The temporary surcharge was implemented to generate $5.9 million of the $60 million lost to Iowa’s public universities with the 10% across-the-board reduction in October 2009.

“Nothing is more important to us than providing our students an outstanding education, and we thank students from all our campuses, along with their families, for doing their part over the last 18 months as we have adjusted to the significant budget reductions to Iowa’s public universities. The impact on students has included not only the $100 surcharge, but also reduced class offerings, larger class sizes, fewer majors, the reduced availability of faculty, and other factors that are detrimental to a quality educational experience. We have heard from our students that, at least for some, the $100 surcharge has posed a real challenge, and the Board of Regents would be pleased to restore these funds for our students and their families.

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