April 22, 2010

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 April 28-29 at the University of Iowa. 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.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee chaired by Regent Downer will review operating and financial performance to date and discuss the FY 2011 operating budget for the UIHC. The committee will receive an informational presentation on the UIHC Women’s Health Center. The committee, and later the full Board, will receive information relating to the Iowa River Landing project.

The Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by President Pro Tem Evans will review numerous external audits including the UIHC and Iowa Public Radio. In addition the committee will review a number of internal audits.

My term as President and the term of President Pro Tem Jack Evans will end on April 30. At the April meeting, the Board will elect officers for two-year terms beginning May 1, 2010.
Other agenda items include:

**FY 2010 Amended Budgets and Discussion of FY 2011 Budget Issues (Agenda Items #9a and 9b).** The Board will consider the amended FY 2010 and discuss with the institutional heads the FY 2011 budgets. The amended FY 2010 budgets incorporate the reductions in state operating funding resulting from the 10% across-the-board cut, the AFSCME mandatory unpaid days and the one-time supplemental funding. FY 2010 marks the first year tuition revenue has exceeded state operating funding levels.

Prior to the discussion of the FY 2011 budget issues, the Board will receive presentations from the faculty and staff groups not represented for the purposes of collective bargaining.

**Cost Savings and Efficiencies Review Projects.** For the last few months interinstitutional groups have been working with the Board Office to explore additional cost savings and efficiencies in the areas of Information Technology, Human Resources, Purchasing and Facilities. The Board will consider several proposals brought from these groups. Agenda Item #10 provides specifics on these proposals along with proposed timelines for implementation and projected savings.

**Board of Regents Strategic Plan.** The Board will consider approval of the 2010-2016 strategic plan. The plan sets out three priority issues – (1) access, affordability and student success; (2) educational excellence and impact; and (3) economic development and vitality. Goals, accountability measures and targets have been identified to contribute to the accomplishment of the three priority areas. The full plan may be found in Agenda Item #11.

**Update of flood recovery projects at the University of Iowa: Agenda Item #12 contains a table outlining key milestones for flood recovery and mitigation projects. Also contained in the memo are status reports for each of the flood projects.**

**University of Iowa Capital Register:** The Board will consider several capital projects for the University of Iowa. These include approving the budget for the razing of Oakdale Hall after the new University Hygienic Laboratory is ready for occupancy later in the spring. The university is seeking permission to proceed with planning for the renovation of the Iowa House Hotel into dormitory space and for renovation of phase two of the Dental Science Building.

**Iowa State University Capital Register:** The Board is asked to consider approval of project planning the selection of an architect for HVAC improvements to the laboratory animal resources area in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The university received ARRA money ($4.4 million) from NIH for this project. The architect selected is InVision Architecture of Waterloo.

**University of Northern Iowa Capital Register.** The Board is asked to consider approval of the design, budget and financing plan for phase one of Apartment Housing at UNI. The project would provide housing for 204 junior and senior students. The facility would include a mix of two- and four-person apartments with single occupancy bedrooms. The project cost ($19.5 million) would be financed by $13.7 million in Dormitory Revenue Bonds with the remainder from residence system improvement funds.

**Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School Legislative Study.** The Board will consider membership of the group that will conduct the legislative study of IBSSS. This study was mandated by the 2010 General Assembly in SF 2385. As per the legislation, a report of the study is to be submitted to the legislature by August 31, 2010.
Sale of Recreational System Facilities Revenue Bonds: The Board will sell about $24,000,000 in recreational system facilities bonds. The proceeds from the bonds will fund the recreational facilities expansion and renovation project at ISU. This is the second of two series of bonds for this project. The first issue was sold in April 2009.

Residence System Proposed Rates. The Board will consider approval of residence system rates for the upcoming academic year. The rates proposed rates were reviewed by the Board in March and communicated to the student leaders on each campus as required by the Iowa Code. The increases for a double occupancy room with full board are 2.3% at UNI; 2.7% at ISU and 3.9% at SUI. More information may be found on the residence system rates in Agenda Item #17.

Annual Regent Student Financial Aid Study. The Board will receive the annual financial aid study. First requested by the Board in 1984, the study analyzes student financial aid by expected family contribution and by adjusted family income of a segment of the population of financial aid recipients at the Regent universities and looks at characteristics of students receiving financial aid. More specifics relating to the study may be found in Agenda Item #23.

Board Policy on Span of Control. The Board will consider approval of a policy relative to span of control. As mandated by SF 2088 (the state reorganization bill), the target span of control at Regent institutions shall be one to fifteen.

Early Retirement Programs: The Board is asked to consider approval of a third early retirement program as well as modified phased retirement program for Iowa State University.

The Board will receive two presentations:

Dr. Larry Weber will highlight first year accomplishments of the Iowa Flood Center including development of enhanced flood forecasting technologies, flood inundation mapping programs and basin-scale hydrologic modeling activities.

David Hensley, Director of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at the University of Iowa will present an update on the activities of the center. John Cohen, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, will present an update on the recently created Iowa Innovation Council.

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