June 2, 2011

The Honorable Terry 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 June 8, 2011, 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.

Audio streaming for the meeting may be accessed through the Board of Regents website.

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee chaired by Regent Downer will review year-to-date financial performance, receive a presentation on Genomic Medicine by Dr. Jeffrey Murray, Professor of Pediatrics and hear an update on the UIHC strategic plan.

The Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by President Pro Tem Evans will receive the investment and cash management report for the quarter ended March 31, 2011.

In accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 279, a hearing will be conducted in closed session pursuant to the request of a terminated teacher at the Iowa School for the Deaf. At the April meeting, the Board approved recommendations by Superintendent Prickett to terminate four teachers due to lack of funds. A fifth teacher requested this closed session hearing before the Board.
Agenda items to be considered by the Board include:

**University of Northern Iowa - Merging of Two Colleges and Two Departments** —
The Board is asked to approve the merging of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the College of Natural Sciences and the Department of Modern Languages and the Department of English Language and Literature. The purpose of combining the two colleges and the two departments is to create important strategic advantages for faculty and students and to generate administrative savings. More details on these two mergers may be found in Agenda Items 3d and 3e.

**FY 2012 Salary Policies** — Even with the uncertainty of funding from the state, the Board is asked to consider salary policies for nonorganized faculty and staff at the five institutions and the Board Office. This is necessary due to the complexity of payroll processes at the universities and the need to have the salary increases in place for the July 1 payroll. Modest increases are proposed for all the institutions. More specifics on the proposed salary increases may be found in Agenda Item #4.

**FY 2012 Capital Plans** — In accordance with the Board of Regents policy, the Board is asked to review anticipated new capital projects proposed for FY 2012. These projects total $981.4 million with approximately $453.5 million funded by flood recovery resources. These projects are listed in Agenda Item #6.

**Register of Capital Improvement Business Transactions – University of Iowa** —
The Board will take action on several capital projects: (1) restroom renovations at Slater Hall [approximately $4 million funded through Dormitory Improvement Funds]; (2) construction of an indoor golf training facility [$1.9 million funded through Athletic Department gifts and earnings]; (3) construction of the west campus transportation center and razing of the indoor practice facility [$23.6 million funded by parking revenues, UIHC gifts and earnings, institutional roads funds, and utility system renewal and improvement funds] required to allow for construction of the new Children's Hospital; and (4) renovations of the Bowen Science Building [$6.2 million from College of Medicine earnings and other funds] for the update of building systems and laboratory for the Department of Pharmacology. More specifics on these projects may be found in Agenda Item #6.

**Register of Capital Improvement Business Transactions – Iowa State University** —
The Board will take action on two ISU capital projects. The first is the football training facility. The $20.6 million project would be funded through the issuance of athletic facilities revenue bonds with the debt service for the bonds paid with private giving and revenue from the athletic department. The second project is phase 1 of the renovation of Curtiss Hall. This project combines several large projects along with a number of smaller projects. The proposed budget is $12 million and includes a student mall component, building-wide sprinkler system, the Harl Commons area, restroom improvements and modernization of offices and classrooms. Details of these projects may be found in Agenda Item #7.
Sale of Bonds — The Board will consider the sale of ISU dormitory refunding bonds. It is projected the refunding would result in a present value savings of approximately $675,000. The second refunding – UNI Fieldhouse – would result in a present value savings of approximately $185,000.

Cost Savings and Efficiencies Review Projects Update — Agenda #14 provides an update to the Board of a number of cost savings and efficiencies projects. These projects were identified in four major areas – Information Technology, Purchasing, Human Resources, and Facilities. Several projects are complete in the IT and purchasing areas with savings identified.

Campus Sustainability Annual Report — The campus sustainability coordinators will present an overview of the efforts of the Regent institutions over the past year. The institutional annual sustainability reports are attached to Agenda Item #15 and address sustainability efforts in the following areas: Planning and Development, Purchasing, Energy and Climate, Materials and Recycling, Transportation, Water and Landscaping, Sustainability in Curriculum, Economic Development, Research, and Outreach.

Economic Development Project — David Hensley, Executive Director and Clinical Professor for the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center and medical student Tyler Rasmussen will present information on the Iowa Medical Innovation Group Interdisciplinary Instructional program.

Regent Admission Index (RAI) Evaluation Study Report — In 2006 the Board instituted the Regent Admission Index replacing admission requirements which had been in place in 1958. The RAI, as explained in Agenda Item #17, is an equation taking into account the student’s ACT score, high school class rank, high school grade point average and the number of high courses completed in the core subject areas. The RAI was effective with the entering class of 2009. The evaluation conducted during 2010-2011 was to determine if high school graduates were inappropriately affected by the new admission requirements and to collect feedback from high school counselors.

Presentation – Military Students at the Regent Universities — The Board will hear a presentation regarding military students at the universities including benefits available, issues faced by military students, services provided, and best practices regarding services for military students.

Faculty Presentation — Students and faculty will discuss their projects in the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) at the University of Iowa. The ICRU promotes undergraduate involvement in research and creative projects. The research support programs through ICRU encourage direct involvement of undergraduate students in the scholarly efforts to faculty by providing financial support for a student involved in research.
Presidential Search – Iowa State University — The Board will discuss the selection of an executive search firm to assist with the presidential search at ISU. At its April meeting, the Board interviewed four firms responding to the RFP issued by Board. The Board will discuss also the responsibilities of the search firm and the search committee as well the qualities of the next ISU president.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David W. Miles

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