

Board of Regents, State of Iowa

Strategic Planning Session

October 30, 2008

Fundamental conditions and implications

1. There will be no more than the current three public universities.
 - In order to serve the residents of the state and increase education attainment levels of the working age population, the universities will have to deliver more of their programs to place-bound adults.
2. State resources will continue to be severely constrained.
 - Productivity of the system will have to be increased (greater institutional collaboration is one avenue to such improvement).
 - Pressure to increase tuition will make strategies to ensure affordability of a university education more important.
3. Iowa will be a slow growth state (negative growth in the working age population) in the absence of a concerted effort to change this demographic trajectory.

Goal

A working age population (ages 25-64) that is:

- At least as large as that population currently.
- Educated to levels that make them competitive with the best in the world.

Priorities

- Contribute, as appropriate, to improvement of the K-12 system of the state.
 - Link the intellectual assets of the system of universities to the economic development needs and strategies of the state.
 - Focus primarily on developing the bio-economy and environmental health sectors (build on the natural, economic, and educational assets of the state).
 - Objective is to create many more high-wage jobs.
 - Enhance the cultural and recreational amenities of the state as a contributing factor in making Iowa a destination state for people of all ages and backgrounds.
-
1. Reduce achievement gap between minorities and non-minorities.
 2. Determine how higher education contributes to economic development. How are intellectual assets transferred to a diversified economy?
 3. Raise educational level of the general population. What strategies are needed to keep college graduates in Iowa?
 4. Keep a college education affordable. What strategies are needed to pay for education?

