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April 28, 2006

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Note to editors/news directors:

A 200-dpi JPEG photo of Benjamin Allen is available online at

<http://www.uni.edu/presidentialsearch/images/benallen.jpg>

Background information on Benjamin Allen is available at <http://www.provost.iastate.edu/bio/allen.html>

A 200-dpi JPEG photo of Robert D. Koob is available online at

<http://www.uni.edu/pubrel/newsroom/facstaff/pages/koob.htm>

**Board of Regents names Benjamin J. Allen new UNI president**

(DES MOINES, Iowa) -- The Board of Regents, State of Iowa, has selected Benjamin J. Allen, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost of Iowa State University, as the ninth president of the University of Northern Iowa.

"We had an outstanding group of highly qualified candidates and great input from UNI students, faculty, staff, the Campus Committee for the Presidential Search and the Presidential Search and Screen Committee," said Michael Gartner, President of the Board of Regents. "We firmly believe Ben Allen is the right person at the right time for UNI. He has the right combination of skills and background to lead UNI into the future."

Dr. Allen joined Iowa State University in 1979 as a faculty member in the College of Business. His administrative positions at Iowa State University have included Chair of the Department of Transportation and Logistics (1984-1988); Director of the Midwest Transportation Center (1988-1990); Dean of the College of Business (1994-2000); Interim Vice President for External Affairs (2001-2002); and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost (2002-present).

Dr. Allen will officially take over as UNI president on June 5, 2006. He replaces Robert D. Koob, who will retire in May.

The other two finalists for the position were Stephen Lehmkuhle, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Missouri System, and John W. Folkins, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Bowling Green State University.

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