

Contact: Brock Ascher

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13-14, 2019, BOARD MEETING

**SLIFE BALLROOM
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA**

Board Members	November 13, 2019	November 14, 2019
Michael Richards, President	Present	Present
Patty Cownie, President Pro Tem	Present	Present
David Barker	Present	Present
Sherry Bates	Present	Present
Nancy Boettger	Present	Present
Milt Dakovich	Present	Present
Nancy Dunkel	Present	Present
Zack Leist	Present	Present
Jim Lindenmayer	Present	Present

Board Office

Kristin Bauer, Brad Berg, Rachel Boon, Mark Braun, Mary Braun, Aimee Claeys, Laura Dickson, Josh Lehman, John Nash, Jason Pontius, Keith Saunders, Patrice Sayre.

SUI	ISU	UNI	ISD/IESBVI
Bruce Harreld	Wendy Wintersteen	Mark Nook	Steve Gettel
Montserrat Fuentes	Jonathan Wickert	Jim Wohlpart	John Cool
Rod Lehnertz	Pam Cain	Michael Hager	Mark Huss
Brooks Jackson			
Suresh Gunasekaran			
Mark Henrichs			
Brad Haws			
David Kieft			

Guests

Dave Smith, Marquette Associates
Doug Oest, Marquette Associates
Hannah Ruffridge, Emsi

The corresponding memorandum for each agenda item, an integral component of the minutes, is available on the Board of Regents website: <http://www.iowaregents.edu>. Copies of these memoranda can also be obtained from the Board Office by calling 515-281-3934. Audio of the meeting is also available on the website.

November 13, 2019

The Property and Facilities Committee met at 11 a.m.

The Campus and Student Affairs Committee met at 11:32 a.m.

The Academic Affairs Committee met at 1:04 p.m.

Call to Order for November 13, 2019

President Richards called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Roll Call:

	Barker	Bates	Boettger	Cownie	Dakovich	Dunkel	Leist	Lindenmayer	Richards
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent									

The Audit and Compliance Committee met at 3 p.m.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee met at 3:10 p.m.

Public Comment

President Richards noted that public comment on issues that come before the Board is an important part of the Board's deliberations.

Chris Simmons, student, spoke on the five-year tuition model. Sara Castro, student, spoke on the five-year tuition model, the proposed employee sick bank. Gisselle Herrera, UNI student, spoke on the concerns of racial and ethnic minorities at the Regents institutions and tuition rates. Becky Hawbaker, president of United Faculty at UNI, spoke on issues of diversity and inclusion at UNI.

Adjourn

President Richards adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

November 14, 2019

Call to Order for November 14, 2019

President Richards called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Roll Call:

	Barker	Bates	Boettger	Cownie	Dakovich	Dunkel	Leist	Lindenmayer	Richards
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent									

Consent Agenda

- ✓ MOVED by DUNKEL, SECONDED by LEIST, to approve and receive the following CONSENT AGENDA items:
 - a) Minutes of September 18-19, 2019 Meeting
 - b) Meeting of November 13, 2019 Property and Facilities Committee
 - c) Meeting of November 13, 2019 Investment and Finance Committee
 - d) Meeting of November 13, 2019 Academic Affairs Committee
 - e) Personnel Appointments
 - f) Cooperative Purchasing Plan Report
 - g) Request for Professional Development Assignments, 2020-2021
 - h) Policy Manual Revisions - Catastrophic Illness
 - i) Policy Manual Addition - Sports Wagering
 - j) Policy Manual Revisions - Property & Facilities
 - k) Adopt Amendments to Administrative Code 681-3
 - l) Iowa State University Reimbursement Resolutions
 - m) Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School Property Sale
 - n) Requests for honorary degrees at the University of Iowa
 - o) Meeting of November 13, 2019 Audit and Compliance Committee

	Barker	Bates	Boettger	Cownie	Dakovich	Dunkel	Leist	Lindenmayer	Richards
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent									

MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL

Board President Report

President Richards read a statement:

Today, I will take a few moments to talk about accessibility to our public universities for Iowans.

The first priority of the Board’s Strategic Plan is “Ensuring Access to Education and Student Success.” There are numerous objectives and metrics associated with this priority, but today I will address access – specifically, how Iowans are admitted to our public universities.

First, let’s talk generally about the college admissions process, which varies from school to school nationally.

At one end of the spectrum is open admissions. Generally, colleges that follow this approach admit any student that has graduated from high school or received a GED. Most colleges in this category are community colleges, or those that grant associate degrees. There are some, but not many, four year colleges with this type of admissions policy. Institutions that are open admissions tend to have low tuition and higher state support.

On the other end is extremely selective holistic review. In this approach, admission of students is done on a case-by-case basis. These colleges consider a wide variety of factors, including academic metrics and a student's personal attributes and experiences. Applicants may also need to write admissions essays or be interviewed. Each school that uses holistic review as its base admissions standard might have different criteria and evaluation processes, but this process is selective and subjective. Ivy League schools represent an extreme example of selective holistic review. These institutions nearly always have much higher tuition as they limit the number of seats available.

There are many different places where colleges fall along the spectrum in between.

With that as a backdrop, I want to address how Iowa's Regent Universities handle admissions. Historically, the Board has believed in broad access for Iowans, using merit-based admissions processes for automatic admission for Iowa students that demonstrate readiness to be successful. This approach goes back decades.

Currently, for Iowa students we use the Regent Admission Index. Any Iowa student who achieves a score of 245 is automatically admitted to any of the three Regent universities. Additionally, any Iowa student below 245 can be considered for admission via holistic review.

As a Board, we could choose a more selective, less transparent approach to admissions with a limit on how many qualified Iowa students our institutions will accept. Changing any part of this approach would likely raise our national rankings. Our graduation and retention rates are already very good, but if we became more selective in admissions, they could go up even more.

We have not made that choice. Iowans pay taxes, and part of those taxes come to our universities through state appropriations. If we were to be more selective, fewer Iowans would be able to attend Iowa's Regent universities. Because we rely on state appropriations, we do not believe this is the right approach.

The Board has also attempted to keep tuition rates as predictable and affordable as possible. Our resident undergraduate tuition rates are the lowest, or nearly the lowest, in each of the universities' peer groups. The Board's five-year tuition model, started last year, provides stability and predictability for future tuition increases.

As previous Boards have decided for decades, it is this Board's priority to keep our Regent universities accessible and affordable. We want every qualified Iowan who wishes to attend one of our schools to be able to do so. By keeping our approach and with sustained support from the state, we believe we are achieving that goal.

Reports from Institutional Heads

UNI President Mark Nook, Special Schools Superintendent Steve Gettel, SUI President Bruce Harreld and ISU President Wendy Wintersteen gave reports on recent activities at their respective institutions.

Economic Development and Technology Transfer Report

Board of Regents State Relations Officer Mary Braun introduced David Spalding, Raisbeck Endowed Dean of the Debbie and Jerry Ivy College of Business and interim vice president of economic development and industry relations at ISU, John Darsee, chief innovation officer at SUI, and Randy Pilkington, executive director of business and community services at UNI. The three university representatives presented reports on the economic development activities at their respective universities.

Fall 2019 Enrollment Report

President Richards recognized Board of Regents Associate Chief Academic Officer Jason Pontius, who presented the annual fall enrollment report. Pontius noted a decrease in enrollment for the third-straight year, but an overall increase over a 10-year period.

Regent Barker asked for clarification on the reasons for the short term and projected long-term decline in enrollment. Pontius noted national competition, managed enrollment and the good economy are reasons for the short term decline.

Regent Economic Impact Study

Keith Saunders, Board of Regents state relations officer, introduced Hannah Ruffridge, assistant director of consulting for higher education at Emsi. Ruffridge presented the Regent economic impact study, which found that Iowa's Regent institutions add \$11.8 billion in added income to the state and support nearly 150,000 jobs, among other findings.

Regent Barker thanked Ruffridge for the report and noted that he appreciated the conservative approach that was taken in the report.

Regent Boettger stated that the economic impact of the Regents institutions is a message that the Board should take effort to spread.

Regent Bates noted her appreciation of the report's statewide focus.

Adjourn

President Richards adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.