

**Contact: Brock Ascher**

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020 VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING**

**ORIGINATED FROM BOARD OF REGENTS OFFICE  
URBANDALE, IOWA**

**Board Members**

**November 18, 2020**

Michael Richards, President	Present
Patty Cownie, President Pro Tem	Present
David Barker	Present
Sherry Bates	Present
Nancy Boettger	Present
Milt Dakovich	Present
Nancy Dunkel	Present
Zack Leist	Present
Jim Lindenmayer	Present

**Board Office**

Brock Ascher, Kristin Bauer, Brad Berg, Mark Braun, Mary Braun, Aimee Claeys, Stephanie Griffin, Josh Lehman, John Nash, Patrice Sayre.

**SUI**

Bruce Harreld  
Kevin Kregel  
Rod Lehnertz  
John Keller  
Sandra Daack-Hirsch

**ISU**

Wendy Wintersteen  
Jonathan Wickert  
Pam Cain

**UNI**

Mark Nook  
Jim Wohlpart  
Michael Hager

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. Video of the meeting is also available on the website.

**Virtual Meeting**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and resulting social distancing directives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Board held its November 18 meeting virtually, using web conferencing software.

**Committee Meetings**

The Campus and Student Affairs, Property and Facilities, Academic Affairs and Investment and Finance Committees met virtually on November 10, 2020.

**Call to Order for November 18, 2020**

Executive Director Braun called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. President Richards was experiencing technical difficulties.

**Roll Call:**

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

*The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee met at 10 a.m.*

*The Audit and Compliance Committee met at 11:14 a.m.*

**Consent Agenda**

- ✓ MOVED by BOETTGER, SECONDED by COWNIE, to approve and receive the following CONSENT AGENDA items:
  - a) Minutes of September 23, 2020 Meeting
  - b) Meeting of November 10, 2020, Campus and Student Affairs Committee
  - c) Meeting of November 10, 2020, Property and Facilities Committee
  - d) Meeting of November 10, 2020, Investment and Finance Committee
  - e) Meeting of November 10, 2020, Academic Affairs Committee
  - f) Meeting of November 18, 2020, Audit and Compliance Committee
  - g) Meeting of November 18, 2020, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee
  - h) Personnel Appointments
  - i) Interagency Cooperation Plan Report
  - j) Request for Professional Development Assignments, FY 2022
  - k) Board Policy Manual Revision - Chapter 2.3
  - l) Iowa Public Radio Board Appointment
  - m) Naming of Bargaining Teams
  - n) Ratification of Emergency Authorizations
  - o) Minutes of October 5, 2020 Board Meeting
  - p) Advisory Group Ratification

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

MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL

**University of Iowa Presidential Search Update**

John Keller and Sandra Daack-Hirsch, co-chairs of the University of Iowa Presidential Search Committee, presented an update on the search for the next SUI president.

**Advisory Group Recommendations**

Regents Barker and Dunkel, co-chairs of the Regents Advisory Group, presented recommendations on collaboration efforts across the Regents Enterprise. Five recommendations in addition to the group's October moratorium on campus construction that results in new square footage, were discussed. The recommendations centered on digital academic delivery, Board Office collaboration, joint contracts, institutional collaboration and resource opportunities.

**Board President Report**

President Richards read a statement:

*I want to touch on a couple of topics today.*

*The first is tuition. In June, the Board voted to keep tuition and mandatory fees flat for the fall 2020 semester for all students. I said at the time that we would evaluate tuition for the spring semester.*

*The Board will not be increasing tuition or mandatory fees for the rest of this academic year. Because of COVID, pausing the five-year tuition model for one academic year was the right thing to do. But in balancing the financial needs of our institutions, we are planning to resume the five-year tuition plan beginning with the fall 2021 semester.*

*The second issue I want to address is free speech.*

*Everyone has the right to express their own opinion. Disagreeing on issues and having a respectful debate about those issues should happen on our university campuses. What should not happen is preventing another person or group's opinion from being expressed, or threatening those opinions with possible repercussions. This is not who we are, and it is not right.*

*At the February Board meeting, during the institutional head updates, I would like the presidents to provide a full and thorough update to the Board about exactly how each institution is protecting free speech on campus and in the classroom.*

*Last year, the Board adopted a free speech policy, and this Board will not tolerate the violation of anyone's freedom of speech on our campuses.*

*I am creating a committee at the Board level to review our policy. The committee members will consist of Regents Barker, Boettger and Leist. Between now and the February Board meeting, this committee will evaluate the implementation of the Board's policy, as well as best practices from other institutions, and bring any recommendations on changes that need to be made to strengthen our efforts on free speech.*

*This is an issue we must address, and a conversation that should be transparent and public.*

**Reports from Institutional Heads**

UNI President Mark Nook, Special Schools Superintendent Steve Gettel, UI President Bruce Harrel and ISU President Wendy Wintersteen provided updates on their respective institutions.

**Economic Development Reports**

Jon Darsee, UI chief innovation officer, David Spalding, Raisbeck Endowed Dean of the ISU Ivy College of Business and interim VP of economic development and industry relations and Randy Pilkington, UNI executive director of business and community services provided updates on economic development at their respective institutions.

**Fall 2020 Enrollment Report**

Board of Regents associate chief academic officer Jason Pontius presented the Fall 2020 Enrollment Report. Pontius noted that enrollment was down 4.4 percent from 2019, a drop of 3,333 students across Iowa’s public universities, that the drop was largely expected and that much of the decline can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Closed Session**

- ✓ MOVED by BOETTGER, SECONDED by BATES, to enter into closed session in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.5.1.a, to review confidential employee records in the matter of an employee appeal; in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.5.1.c, to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent and premature disclosure would likely prejudice or disadvantage the position of the Board; and in accordance with Iowa Code section 20.17.3 to discuss collective bargaining strategy with counsel.

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

MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL

*The Board convened in closed session at 2:35 p.m.*

*The Board reconvened in open session at 3:52 p.m.*

**Employee Appeal**

- ✓ MOVED by LINDENMAYER, SECONDED by BATES, to affirm the final institutional decision in its entirety.

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

MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL

**Adjourn**

President Richards adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.