REGENT RESOURCE CENTERS UPDATE

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval to rename the Southwest and Northwest Regent Resource Centers into a single “Western Iowa Regent Resource Center.”

Executive Summary:
- Over the past few months the Statewide Extension, Continuing and Distance Education Committee (SECDEC) of the Regent universities conducted a review of the Southwest (SWIRRC) and Northwest (NWIRRC) Regent Resource Centers. This review was a cooperative effort with the directors of each of the centers.
- The objectives of this evaluation were to gain a better understanding of the work of the centers and to identify the challenges to improving and expanding on that work.
- Both centers actively participate in regional college and career fairs and local business councils. In some cases, K-12 and AEA partnerships have been developed, as well as connections to industry partners and local chambers of commerce.
- SECDEC makes the following recommendations based on analysis of this information and in light of ongoing Regent efforts to improve accessibility and service to Iowans in an efficient manner:
  - Rename the Southwest and Northwest Regent Resource Centers into a single “Western Iowa Regent Resource Center.” The four community college partnerships at the heart of the current centers will be maintained (Northwest Iowa Community College, Western Iowa Tech Community College, Iowa Western Community College, Southwest Iowa Community College).
  - Service agreements, partnerships and lease agreements should be reviewed to determine areas for efficiency or improved consistency of service across the region.
  - The Council of Provosts reviewed and approved this request.