UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Actions Requested: Consider ratification of the Executive Director’s emergency approvals for the University of Iowa to purchase:

- A robotic surgery system in the amount of $1.7 million for the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC);
- Four heavy duty, low floor, 40-foot, diesel powered transit buses for $1,276,540; and
- Eight heavy duty, low floor, 40-foot, diesel powered transit buses for $2,556,776.

Executive Summary: Equipment purchases at the Regent institutions costing more than $1 million are required by Board policy to be approved by the Board of Regents. The Executive Director may approve emergency purchases exceeding $1,000,000 to be followed by Board ratification.

Robotic System
Description: The robotic system consists of a Surgeon Console, Surgical Arm Cart, Video Cart, High Definition Vision System, System Documentation, Reusable Accessory Starter Kit, System Software, Training Instrument Starter Kit, and Stocking Order.

Justification: The University of Iowa reports that a second robotic system is critical to the advancement of UIHC’s growing robotic surgery program. The second robot system will help the program continue to grow and allow UIHC to continue to gain recognition as a state and national leader in developing and offering cutting-edge clinical services and more efficient health care delivery models that emphasize a quality-driven patient experience. UIHC currently has a robot system that was purchased in 2002.

Known Alternatives: Intuitive Surgical Robot is the only known vendor that has surgical robots.

Estimated Cost and Source of Funding: The cost to the University for the robotic system is $1,700,000. The order needed to be placed with Intuitive Surgical by June 21, 2007, with delivery by June 30, 2007, to save $120,000; total cost for the equipment is $1,820,000. The source of funding is University Hospitals Clinical Capital Funds.

Transit Buses
Description: Heavy Duty, Low Floor, 40-Foot, Diesel Powered Transit Buses.

Justification: The University of Iowa reports that the new buses would replace the existing Cambus transit buses, which have been in service for 18 years and are increasingly expensive to maintain and operate; Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) recognized and established useful life for these buses is 12 years.

Known Alternatives: The Office of Public Transit in the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) reviewed and approved the Request for Proposals (RFP) and the procurement process was deemed compliant with all FTA procurement regulations. RFP responses were received from two corporations and the Evaluation Committee determined that Gillig Corporation’s proposal was the most responsive and the best value.
Estimated Cost and Source of Funding: Two separate request for proposals were solicited, one for four buses and one for eight buses:

- Total cost for the four buses is $1,276,540; net cost to the University is $247,340. The University will receive reimbursement of $1,029,200 from FTA grants awarded to the IDOT.
- Total cost for the eight buses is $2,556,776; net cost to the University is $434,652. The University will receive reimbursement of $2,122,124 from FTA grants awarded to the IDOT.

The funding source for all buses is capital equipment funds.

**Board Policy:** Chapter 7:06B(12) of the Regent Policy Manual requires that:

- Equipment costing more than $1,000,000 be submitted to the Board for approval; and
- Requests submitted to the Board Office for approval must include the following information:
  - Description of the equipment;
  - Justification of the need for the equipment;
  - Any known alternatives to the equipment proposed; and
  - Estimated cost and source of funding.