

***Governing Iowa's public  
universities and special schools***  
University of Iowa  
Iowa State University  
University of Northern Iowa  
Iowa School for the Deaf  
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School  
Lakeside Lab Regents Resource Center  
Quad-Cities Graduate Center  
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center  
Tri-State Graduate Center



David W. Miles, President, *West Des Moines*  
Jack B. Evans, Pro Tem, *Cedar Rapids*  
Bonnie J. Campbell, *Des Moines*  
Robert N. Downer, *Iowa City*  
Michael G. Gartner, *Des Moines*  
Ruth R. Harkin, *Cumming*  
Greta A. Johnson, *Le Mars*  
Craig A. Lang, *Brooklyn*  
Rose A. Vasquez, *Des Moines*  
  
Robert Donley, *Executive Director*

## **Statement from President Miles In Response to Governor's Announcement**

**October 8, 2009**

I commend Governor Culver for his swift action today in response to yesterday's report of the Revenue Estimating Conference and the need to prepare for additional decreases in State revenues. The Board of Regents also needs to act quickly given the potential impact of this national financial crisis on the many important programs and services that Iowa's Public Universities and Special Schools provide for our students, and for all of Iowa.

Over the past year, our institutions have responded proactively and effectively to the changing economic needs of our state. At the Board's direction, our university presidents have focused on key strategic initiatives, initiated efficiency and productivity improvements, consolidated or downsized academic programs, improved facility utilization, adjusted teaching and research loads, strictly limited salary increases, deferred open positions, implemented furloughs, and eliminated positions.

I want to extend my thanks to the presidents of Iowa's Public Universities and the superintendents of our Special Schools for their leadership in comprehensively reviewing their very complex operations, developing new ideas and approaches, and making difficult choices. I also want to thank the faculty, staff and students of our institutions for their unwavering support during this challenging time.

Today I must ask all who care about the Regent institutions to sacrifice once more.

In light of the Governor's announcement today of a 10% across-the-board budget cut, effective immediately, I am directing:

- A system-wide freeze on general education-funded hirings; and,
- A moratorium on all new building construction projects, except those directly related to flood restoration projects at the University of Iowa.

I will seek ratification of these mandates during a special telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, to be scheduled for Wednesday, October 14. In the meantime, I am directing the Board Office to prepare an implementation plan for the hiring freeze and construction moratorium.

These steps, while important, will not be enough to adjust to budget reductions of the magnitude facing our institutions. Accordingly, our October 14 meeting will be devoted solely to a discussion involving the Regents and the heads of our institutions regarding additional measures to adjust to the revised FY 2010 budget.

At the conclusion of that meeting, we will ask the institution heads to prepare specific action plans to be presented to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, October 29.

Iowa's Public Universities and Special Schools face significant headwinds, and difficult days lie ahead. As we move forward, we will face these difficulties together. Be assured that whatever challenges come our way, this Board and everyone at our institutions remain resolutely committed to (1) continued access for Iowa students to an outstanding higher education, and (2) protecting the exceptional quality of our educational, research and service activities.

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