

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR A NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:
FROM REACH PROGRAM TO UI REACH PROGRAM**

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval of the request by the University of Iowa to change the name of the REACH Program to the UI REACH in the College of Education.

Executive Summary: The proposed name change will distinguish the University of Iowa's program from others created with the same name. This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to pursue "educational excellence and impact" and Goal #8 – "Iowa's public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and effective."

Background:

- ◇ **Description of the program.** The REACH (Realizing Educational and Career Hopes) Program is a two-year transition certificate program for students with multiple intellectual, cognitive, and learning disabilities. The program provides a campus experience to empower young adults to become independent, engaged members of the community. Courses, campus life, and career preparation assist students to achieve their full potential. Post-graduation support assists students to transition to work and self-sufficiency. The program goals include the following: (1) achieve improved readiness for entry into meaningful and sustained employment; (2) attain expanded academic competencies, age-appropriate social experiences, and life skills which promote self-determination and self-advocacy; and (3) provide a person-centered quality education and related supports. The program was approved by the Board of Regents in February 2008 (Agenda Item #30).
- ◇ **Reason for proposed name change.** At least one Transition Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) has appropriated the REACH name. That program, located in South Carolina, has caused confusion for parents, especially because it uses a different model than the University of Iowa's. The proposed name change will distinguish the University of Iowa's program from any other program that might adopt the REACH name in the future. The proposed name change will eliminate confusion for marketing, recruiting, and reporting achievements and outcomes.
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** The purpose of the proposed name change is to distinguish it from all others.
- ◇ **Effect on program configuration.** The department expects no changes in program configuration or number of hours as a result of the proposed name change.
- ◇ **Effect on students.** There will be no negative impact on current students. Future program materials will include the new name.
- ◇ **Effect on resources.** The department expects minimum new costs as a result of implementing the proposed name change. New materials with the name change will not be used until existing materials have been exhausted.

- ◇ Date of implementation. The proposed name change will become effective upon approval by the Board of Regents and will be included in the University's General Catalog. The anticipated implementation date is January 2014.