UNIVERSITY OF IOWA REQUEST TO RAZE SIX BUILDINGS

Action Requested: Consider recommending to the Board approval to raze six small apartment buildings (Fleur Apartments) on the Iowa Center for Higher Education campus at 2700, 2702, 2710, 2712, 2714, and 2716 Fleur Drive in Des Moines.

Executive Summary: The University requests approval to raze the 47-year old Fleur Apartments on the Iowa Center for Higher Education campus, the old AIB College of Business, in Des Moines (see Attachment A). The Fleur Apartments were built in 1969 and are located on the southeast corner of the campus. Each of the six buildings has 10,081 square feet, three-story wood frame construction, and 12 apartments. The AIB College of Business purchased the buildings from a private developer in 1984. The buildings were used by AIB primarily as dormitory apartments for their students. One was used for offices.

Razing the structures was chosen because they do not fit the current or future programming plans for the campus, are unoccupied posing a serious security hazard, carry a significant maintenance cost of $100,000 per year, and have exceeded their estimated life of 35 years. Also, it would be very difficult to repurpose the Fleur Apartments for other uses, such as classroom or office space. The buildings are not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible, do not contain fire sprinkler systems, and are poorly insulated.

Following demolition, the area will be graded, seeded, and remain part of the campus green space until a future use is determined for the location.