REGISTER OF UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Actions Requested: Recommend the Board approve the proposed:

1. Permission to Proceed with Project Planning for the:
   - UNI Wrestling Practice Facility project, including a request to waive the Design Professional Selection Process to allow UNI to hire RDG Planning and Design of Iowa City.
Executive Summary: The University of Northern Iowa requests Board approval of Permission to Proceed with Project Planning to build the new UNI Wrestling Facility Replacement project. The estimated project budget of $5 million would be funded by Private Gifts.

Background: The wrestling program was previously housed in the West Gym. The West Gym facility has reached the end of its useful life and has been vacated.

The proposed new facility would be approximately 11,000 gross square feet with practice areas, wrestling mats, a team room, a strength and conditioning area, training room, lockers, showers, restrooms, coaches’ offices, an athlete lounge and general storage.

The most cost-effective site is in an underutilized gravel parking lot south of West 27th Street and west of Panther Parkway. This site is close to wrestling’s competition venue (McLeod Center), proximate to existing utilities, parking and central athletic administration support. The location provides the UNI wrestling program high visibility in the University community.

The West Gym has been deemed unsafe and has been vacated. The UNI wrestling program is temporarily located off campus in a tenant building. A new replacement facility is required to incorporate all of UNI wrestling’s space programming needs on campus.

Waiver of the Design Professional Selection Process
The University of Northern Iowa also requests Board approval to waive the Design Professional Selection Process to hire RDG Planning and Design of Iowa City. RDG has worked extensively on UNI athletics projects and has a substantial understanding of their project needs. While RDG does hold a five-year UNI “Indefinite Scope of Professional Services” Agreement for project budgets under $5 million, UNI is not using that agreement should the project budget go over $5 million.