

**From:** Dave Miles [mailto:dmiles@wbcap.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 06, 2009 9:29 AM  
**To:** ona iverson  
**Cc:** Donley, Robert [BOARD]; Brunson, Marcia R [BOARD]  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry #105 (10) Iowa State Univ. Funding cuts

Ona,

Thanks very much for your email. I will have the Board office forward it to each of the Regents.

There are no good choices here -- at least in the short run. Students will pay more for less. Good programs will be reduced or eliminated. Quality faculty and staff members will experience temporary furloughs or position eliminations.

The reduction in state support for Iowa's public universities has been ongoing for some years now, but has accelerated dramatically in the last 18 months. I expect no relief in the current legislative session.

Though it may not appear so, this Board is fully committed to protecting the core quality of Iowa State. We are increasing tuition levels and adjusting our operating model to minimize as much as possible the negative impacts of the budget cuts, but the sacrifices that are needed will be shared by all. While it is true that tuition at our universities is below median, significant near-term increases to tuition levels create a significant burden for our students and their families. Remember also that ISU graduates have among the highest student debt levels of any public university in the country. We must protect the quality of ISU, but we must also maintain access and affordability.

Thank you for your passionate support of Iowa State.

Regards,

Dave Miles

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**From:** ona iverson [mailto:roiverson56@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2009 4:57 PM  
**To:** miles.david.w@gmail.com  
**Cc:** ona  
**Subject:** Iowa State Univ. Funding cuts

I have just learned of the Draconian cuts in funding being proposed at ISU, in addition to the ones announced earlier, and I am extremely disappointed, angry, dismayed and unable to understand how the Board of Regents can act in a manner so contrary to everything Iowa has traditionally stood for concerning education.

Iowa State University has one of the lowest tuition rates of any public university in the country already and to cut faculty and staff, as well as resources further is putting them in an untenable position. Balancing the budget on the backs of faculty and staff puts an unfair burden on them, and will result in the loss of some the best and brightest --who will seek an environment where their teaching and research is appreciated. If the Regents desire is to turn Iowa's universities into second or third rate places of education, this is exactly the way to do it. To weed out actual units, departments, and faculty at random is to water down excellence which, in many cases, has taken decades to gain respect from the larger national education community.

Raising tuition to a level commensurate with that found at equivalent universities surely

cannot put that big a burden on Iowa's students who desire an excellent education. The Regents were assigned their positions (I assume) to promote the Regent's institutions, not act as critics and naysayers (which has often seemed the case.) As the old adage goes, "Put your money where your mouth is" and support the universities at a level that will show that Iowa truly is concerned that excellence be maintained and that ALL citizens of Iowa help pay the price, not just the faculty and staff at these already underfunded institutions.

Sincerely,

Ona Iverson

Please forward the email addresses of the other members of the Board of Regents.