The goals of the Board of Regents

STRATEGIC PLAN

support the success of the state of Iowa
The Iowa Economy and Workforce

- Educating students who are well prepared to meet the needs of Iowa’s workforce of today and tomorrow.

- In FY 2011, recipients of $834 million in total sponsored funding dollars, generating $90.4 million in revenue to Iowa companies, and housing 121 companies employing 2,509 Iowans at the universities’ research parks and business incubators.

- Recipients of a $20 million Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) grant from the National Science Foundation that will build an exciting future for Iowa by expanding the state’s research capacity in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency to establish Iowa as a leader in the transition to renewable energy sources.

- Continuing development of the Biorenewables Complex at Iowa State University to advance the University’s teaching and research initiatives in biorenewable resources and enhance the state’s presence as a world center of the emerging bioeconomy.

“The Board of Regents goal of affordability for all Iowans is critical to supporting the education of Iowa’s workforce of tomorrow.”

Craig Lang, President
Affordability

- Iowa’s Public Universities have strengthened student support by funding increases in student financial aid, an essential element for attracting high achieving students and providing an affordable education. In FY 2011, gross tuition proceeds directed to undergraduate student financial aid, specifically for Iowa residents with need, totaled $35 million.

- Despite the continued reductions in general education funding, the Board of Regents held the FY 2011 tuition increase for undergraduate resident students to $346 (6%) for the academic year. For the subsequent years, tuition increases were set at lower rates—$306–308 (5%) in FY 2012, and $240–242 (3.75%) in FY 2013. The FY 2013 rate is the lowest tuition increase since FY 1997 (with the exception of the FY 2009 increase of 3.2%).

- Iowa’s Public Universities implemented many efficiency, sustainability and cost-saving measures to address affordability for our students and their families. These efforts helped tremendously in protecting our students from the burden of higher tuition increases.

Efficiencies

- In FY 2011, the projected savings from new, collaborative purchasing agreements at Iowa’s Public Universities and Special Schools exceeded $1.1 million.

Distance Education

- In FY 2011, a growing number of students totaling more than 27,000, including those at Iowa’s community colleges, were enrolled in distance education credit courses at Iowa’s Public Universities.

Graduation Rates and Minorities

- The excellence of our first-year student retention rates, achieved with the success of learning communities and other student support programs, continues to strengthen our graduation rates, including for our minority students.

REGENT UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION FUNDING

In FY 2011, the disparity between tuition revenues and state appropriations in support of Iowa’s Public Universities continued to grow. Tuition support reached a record 58.3%, with 35.7% from state appropriations and 6% from other sources.
Special Schools

- The Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs, and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and Statewide System for Vision Services based in Vinton, continue their excellence in providing education and outreach services to meet the special needs of Iowa's children who are deaf or hard of hearing, or blind or visually impaired.

Student Outcomes Assessments

- A growing number of programs with student outcomes assessments provides accountability for student learning, ensures a quality educational experience and prepares students for the Iowa workforce.

"It is our job to articulate the importance of Iowa's Public Universities in support of the Board's Strategic Plan goals, particularly as it relates to affordability for our students."

Bruce Rastetter
President Pro Tem

FALL 2011 ENROLLMENT

Fall 2011 enrollment at Iowa's Public Universities of 73,948 students included 47,375 Iowans.
The STEM Initiative

- Participation by University of Northern Iowa President Ben Allen as co-chair, with Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds, of the Governor's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Advisory Council, in support of the education of Iowans for the jobs of tomorrow.

- Continuing development of a STEM Innovation Center at the University of Iowa, in partnership with Kirkwood Community College and the Iowa City Community School District, to develop and evaluate new models for STEM education and teacher preparation.

- Recipients of STEM education funding as one component of the $20 million Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) grant from the National Science Foundation to increase the pool of Iowans well trained in the sciences and allow the state to compete in the 21st century global economy.

- Providing dedicated living-learning communities to support and bring together STEM students who share common academic goals and courses in STEM fields.

- Developing a community college STEM grant at the University of Iowa to encourage underrepresented community college students to attend the UI, via distance learning, in STEM-related fields.

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Education and Support of Iowa’s Teachers

- Continuing development of the first statewide Research and Development (R&D) School at the University of Northern Iowa, a collaboration between Iowa’s Public Universities and the Iowa Department of Education, to support the educational attainment and personal development of all Iowa pre-K through 12 students, enhance the preparation and professional competence of Iowa educators, and focus on research to meet Iowa’s changing educational needs.

- Developing distance education teacher preparation programs at the University of Northern Iowa to include elementary education courses at Iowa’s community colleges, graduate programs in four areas of teacher education and professional development workshops to support Iowa’s rural teachers.