



**2020-21 Annual Report**  
Board of Regents  
State of Iowa



## STATE OF EMERGENCY LIFTED

**O**n March 17, 2020, Governor Kim Reynolds issued a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Consistent with Governor Reynolds' proclamation, on March 18, 2020, Board President Mike Richards declared a State of Emergency at all of the institutions under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At that time, and in the months that followed, community spread of the virus nationally was increasing, and adherence to social distancing, mask-wearing, and isolation recommendations was needed to mitigate the spread of the virus.

In the first half of 2021, highly effective vaccines became widely available to adults and older children. More than 1.2 million Iowans received the vaccine and positivity and hospitalization rates declined sharply. In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) revised guidance with regard to social distancing, mask-wearing, and isolation for individuals who are fully vaccinated.

In consideration of significant improvements in the management of COVID-19 both in the State of Iowa and nationally, President Richards lifted the State of Emergency at the Board of Regents institutions effective May 20, 2021. Faculty and staff were required to return to campus to the extent their traditional, pre-pandemic responsibilities required effective July 1, 2021, and the institutions were directed to return to offering in-person academic coursework and educational experiences for the Fall 2021 semester. All members of the Regents campus communities were strongly encouraged to receive a vaccination against COVID-19, with the universities ensuring vaccine availability to faculty, staff and students.

Specific guidelines issued by the Board of Regents can be found by scanning the code in this section.



COVID Guidelines

## ACT/SAT REQUIREMENTS

**T**he Board waived requirements for students needing to submit either an ACT or SAT score in order to be admitted to the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, or the University of Northern Iowa for the 2021 and 2022 entering classes.

As part of his authority under the Regents State of Emergency declared on March 18, 2020, Board President Michael Richards signed a temporary waiver of Board of Regents policy and Iowa Administrative Code, which requires a standardized test score from any applicant to one of Iowa's Regent Universities.

## ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

**T**he Regents Advisory Group put forth five recommendations in addition to its moratorium on campus construction that results in new square footage:

### Digital Academic Delivery

The Advisory Group recommended the universities explore expanded digital delivery of courses, including assessing marketplace and identifying unmet needs and demand for online learning. The group recommends a Regents-wide analysis of the marketplace and existing infrastructure.

### Board Office Collaboration

The Group recommended the Executive Director find efficiencies through Board Office collaboration. These include internal audit integration, open records request policy, expansion of the Regents data warehouse, among others.

### Joint Contracts

Introducing joint contracts across Iowa's public universities is another potential avenue for savings and efficiencies. Motor pool overflow, mail and laundry services, insurance pools and pharmacy benefits, among others, are areas to consider.

### Institutional Collaboration

The group recommended the university presidents explore cross-institutional resource and service sharing where cost reductions or service improvements could be realized. Examples include payroll services, procurement and human resources, among others.

### Resource Opportunities

The university presidents should explore additional resource opportunities, including joint grant-seeking, expanded collaboration with Iowa's private institutions and community colleges, further recruitment of angel investors for economic development and property sales.

## IN-PERSON MEETINGS RETURN

**T**he June 1-3, 2021 meeting was the Board's first in-person meeting on a campus since its November 2019 meeting at UNI. The Board met virtually using video conferencing software during the COVID-19 pandemic from March 2020 to May 2021.

# BOARD NEWS

## WILSON NAMED 22ND UI PRESIDENT

Barbara Wilson, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs for the University of Illinois System, took office as the 22nd UI President July 15, 2021. The Board of Regents, announced Wilson as its unanimous selection at its meeting in Iowa City on April 30, 2021.



Wilson brings extensive leadership experience to her role as UI president. Since 2016, she served as executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs for the University of Illinois System, which enrolls more than 90,000 students across three main campuses and includes a 462-bed hospital. Before that, she served one year as interim chancellor for the Urbana-Champaign campus, a top-ranked land grant research institution with more than 45,000 students and nearly 2,000 tenure-track faculty.

Wilson, 63, succeeds Bruce Harreld, who served as Iowa's president from November 2015 to May 2021. Harreld announced in October 2020 his intent to retire. John Keller, UI associate provost and dean of the Graduate College, served as interim president after Harreld's last day on May 16 until Wilson began.

Before joining the Illinois faculty in 2000, Wilson was an assistant professor at the University of Louisville for three years and a faculty member at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) for 12 years. She also spent eight years as director of graduate studies in UCSB's Department of Communication.

A native of Appleton, Wisconsin, Wilson earned a Bachelor of Arts in journalism, a Master of Arts in communication arts, and a PhD in communication arts, all from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Wilson received a 5-year contract with an annual salary of \$600,000. She also received a 5-year deferred compensation plan with an annual contribution of \$400,000.

Sandy Daack-Hirsch, UI associate professor and interim executive associate dean of the College of Nursing, and Keller served as co-chairs of the 21-member search committee charged with recruiting and vetting applicants for the position. Professional consultant AGB Search guided the recruitment process at the direction of the Board of Regents.

## BATES ELECTED PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Regent Sherry Bates was unanimously elected as President Pro Tem on June 1, 2021. Her term as Pro Tem ends April 30, 2022, at which time the Board will hold elections for both President and President Pro Tem.



Sherry Bates

## WELCOME NEW REGENTS

The Board welcome two new regents in May, 2021. Greta Rouse and Abby Crow were appointed by Governor Kim Reynolds in April, 2021 to replace Regent Patty Cownie, whose term expired, and Regent Zack Leist, who graduated from Iowa State University. President Richards was reappointed to serve an additional six-year term.

Rouse previously served on the Board as an undergraduate and graduate student from 2008-12. Most recently, she served as the executive manager of Great Lakes Communications Corporation and was deputy communications director, scheduler and an advisor for the office of Governor Terry Branstad from 2012-14. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from ISU in 2010 and a master's degree in leisure, youth and human services from the University of Northern Iowa in 2012.



Greta Rouse

Crow, a University of Iowa student, is majoring in human physiology with the goal of pursuing a career in the medical field after she earns her degree. Currently a resident assistant, a nursing assistant at UIHC and a member the UI Honors Program, she is a past member of the UI undergraduate student government, serving as co-chair of the USG internal affairs committee.



Abby Crow

Rouse, Crow and Richards were appointed to six-year terms expiring in 2027.

## FREE SPEECH COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

On November 18, 2020, President Richards established a Free Speech advisory group charged with evaluating implementation of Board policy, as well as best practices from other institutions. The advisory group came forth with 10 recommendations.



Free Speech Recommendations

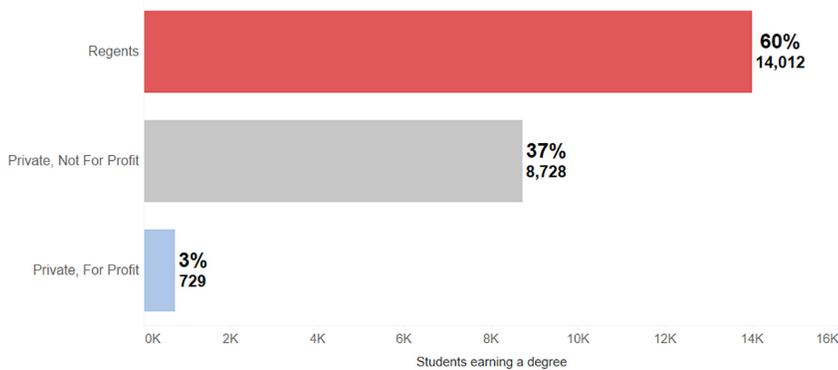
A standing committee on free speech was one recommendation. The committee, chaired by Regent Rouse and co-chaired by Regent Barker, held its first public meeting at the June 1-3, 2021 Regents meeting in Iowa City.

# EDUCATING IOWANS

## LEADING IOWA IN HIGHER ED

Students who earned a degree in Iowa in 2018-19 likely earned it at a Regents institution. With more than 14,000 bachelor's degrees awarded in 2018-19, the Regents institutions accounted for **60% of all bachelor's degrees** earned in Iowa.

### Students Earning a Bachelor's Degree in Iowa in 2018-19

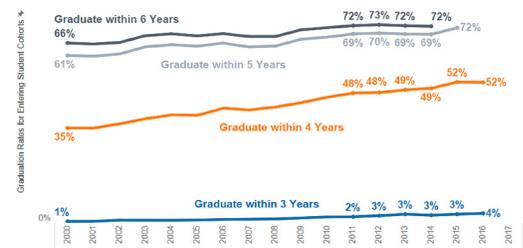


Source: U.S. Dept. of Education Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Graph shows Iowa institutions that reported students earning bachelor's degree in 2018-19. None of the Purdue Global campuses reported any graduates in IPEDS during this time.

## GRADUATING ON TIME

Fifty-two percent of undergraduates at Iowa's public universities graduate within four years, **up 17 percentage points** from a generation ago. The Regents six-year graduation rate is 72 percent, up six percentage points from 2000. Iowa's public universities are improving graduation rates and helping students graduate on time.

### Iowa Public University Graduation Rates

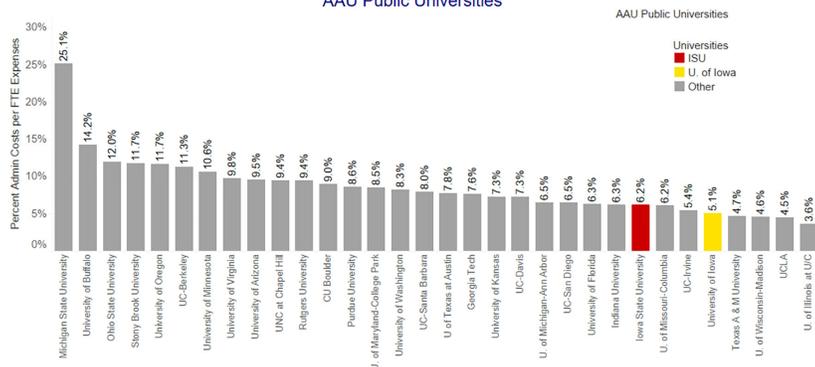


Sources: Iowa Board of Regents

## EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

Iowa's public universities continue to be efficient. Compared to their Association of American Universities (AAU) counterparts, the University of Iowa and Iowa State University **spend far less** on administrative costs as a percent of total expense than most. Just 5.1 percent and 6.2 percent of the respective budgets for Iowa and Iowa State are spent on administrative costs, which include general administrative services, executive direction and planning, legal and fiscal operations and public relations and development.

### Administrative Costs as a Percent of Total Expenses per FTE Student (2018 FY) AAU Public Universities

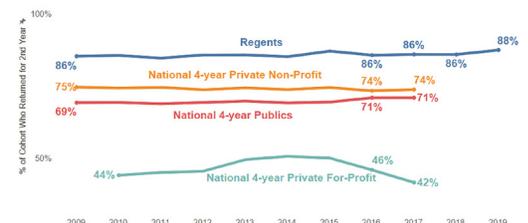


Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) 12-month full-time equivalent enrollment, 2018FY. Commonly referred to as "Administrative Costs", Institutional Support is defined as "the day-to-day operational support of the institution. Includ[ing] expenses for general administrative services, executive direction and planning, legal and fiscal operations, and public relations/development."

## START HERE, STAY HERE

One year undergraduate retention rates at the Regent universities have remained consistent over the past 10 years. **Eighty-eight percent** of the entering class of 2019 returned for their second year. This rate compares favorably to national one year retention rates at both 4-year public and 4-year private colleges and universities.

### Undergraduates Who Return for a Second Year at Same College by Institutional Type



Sources: Iowa Board of Regents & National Student Clearinghouse Research Center "Persistence & Retention - 2018" Report

# FINANCIAL PROFILE

The Board of Regents governs a \$6.26 billion enterprise that includes a world-class teaching hospital, two nationally ranked AAU research universities, two Special Schools and more than 70,000 students. A major role of the Board is **financial oversight**, which includes state appropriations, tuition revenues and restricted funds.

For FY 2021, the Iowa General Assembly appropriated \$578.9 million to the university general operating fund. The universities continue to be **more reliant on tuition revenues and less on state appropriations**, and the variance continues to widen.

Restricted funds, dollars specifically designated for a particular purpose or enterprise, totaled **\$2.7 billion** in FY 2021. Restricted funds include funding for capital projects, sponsored funding from federal and private sources, athletics, as well as other auxiliary or independent functions such as residence, parking, and utility systems.

The primary revenue sources for General Operating funds for Iowa's public universities and special schools are **state appropriations** and **tuition revenues**. Reflective of our mission to serve more than 70,000 students and Iowans in 99 counties, **salary and related benefits constitute 68 percent** of all Regent expenditures.

## General Operating Fund - All Institutions FY 2021 (excludes UIHC units)

	Board Approved Budget	Actual	Variance Over/(Under)	% of Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>				
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
General	\$ 578,929,327	\$ 578,399,366	\$ (529,961)	99.9%
Other	100,000	1,200	(98,800)	1.2%
<b>RESOURCES</b>				
Federal Support	15,711,970	16,572,652	860,682	105.5%
Interest	1,752,090	3,181,491	1,429,401	181.6%
Tuition	971,136,578	995,349,092	24,212,514	102.5%
Reimbursed Indirect Costs	68,527,015	79,216,423	10,689,408	115.6%
Sales and Services	6,875,284	6,392,165	(483,119)	93.0%
Other Income	1,906,330	3,925,591	2,019,261	205.9%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 1,644,938,594</b>	<b>\$ 1,683,037,980</b>	<b>\$ 38,099,386</b>	<b>102.3%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Salaries	\$ 1,093,313,080	\$ 1,112,417,444	\$ 19,104,364	101.7%
Prof. /Scientific Supplies	148,312,009	109,442,161	(38,869,848)	73.8%
Library Acquisitions	30,911,249	31,833,681	922,432	103.0%
Rentals	9,457,728	9,090,277	(367,451)	96.1%
Utilities	84,181,295	79,023,094	(5,158,201)	93.9%
Building Repairs	35,343,000	50,527,850	15,184,850	143.0%
Auditor of State	2,002,840	1,550,263	(452,577)	77.4%
Equipment	4,809,118	10,661,106	5,851,988	221.7%
Aid to Individuals	236,608,275	240,158,225	3,549,950	101.5%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 1,644,938,594</b>	<b>\$ 1,644,704,101</b>	<b>\$ (234,493)</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## TUITION

At its July 28, 2021 meeting, the Board of Regents approved tuition and fee rates for the 2021-22 academic year. Rates increased resident undergraduate tuition by \$283 at the University of Iowa, \$282 at Iowa State University and \$115 at the University of Northern Iowa.

The increase comes after last year's tuition freeze in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and follows a freeze in appropriations from the Iowa General Assembly. For fiscal year 2022, the Board requested an appropriation increase of \$18 million and a restoration of the \$8 million cut during FY 2021. The Iowa General Assembly froze appropriations for the general university funds to FY2021 levels and did not restore the \$8 million cut.

**IOWA**

	2020-21	2021-22	Inc.
Resident	8,073	8,356	283
Nonresident	30,036	30,319	283

**IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

	2020-21	2021-22	Inc.
Resident	8,042	8,324	282
Nonresident	23,230	24,136	906

**UNI** / University of Northern Iowa

	2020-21	2021-22	Inc.
Resident	7,665	7,780	115
Nonresident	18,207	18,480	273



**BOARD OF REGENTS, STATE OF IOWA**

Michael J. Richards, President, *West Des Moines*

Sherry Bates, President Pro Tem, *Scranton*

David Barker, *Iowa City*

Nancy Boettger, *Harlan*

Abby Crow, *Tiffin*

Milt Dakovich, *Waterloo*

Nancy Dunkel, *Dyersville*

Jim Lindenmayer, *Ottumwa*

Greta Rouse, *Emmetsburg*

Mark Braun, Executive Director

**IOWA**

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



**Iowa Education  
for Deaf & Blind**

**UNI** / University of  
Northern Iowa.