

**Governing Iowa's public  
universities and special schools**

University of Iowa  
Iowa State University  
University of Northern Iowa  
Iowa School for the Deaf  
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School  
Lakeside Laboratory Regents Resource Center  
Northwest Iowa Regents Resource Center  
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center



Michael J. Richards, MD, President, *West Des Moines*  
Patty Cownie, President Pro Tem, *Des Moines*  
Sherry Bates, *Scranton*  
Nancy Boettger, *Harlan*  
Milt Dakovich, *Waterloo*  
Nancy Dunkel, *Dyersville*  
Rachael Johnson, *Sioux City*  
Larry McKibben, JD, *Marshalltown*  
Subhash Sahai, MD, *Webster City*

Mark J. Braun, Executive Director

April 6, 2018

The Honorable Kim Reynolds, Governor  
State of Iowa  
State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Reynolds:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on April 11-12 at Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs.

The meeting materials are available on the Regents website at the following link:

<http://www.iowaregents.edu/meetings/upcoming-meetings-and-agendas/>

Audio streaming of the meeting may be accessed through the Board of Regents website. I am available at any time to answer questions.

The Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 11. The committee will consider the approval of a revised project description and budget for the agricultural engineering and agronomy farm vehicle dynamometer facility at Iowa State University (P&F item 2). A dynamometer tests an engine's power, force and torque, and this would be one of the very few in the world of its caliber. The project budget has increased from \$2.4 million to \$2.9 million and would be funded from university funds and private giving.

The committee also will consider Iowa State University's request to sell approximately 68 acres of farmland to the Iowa State University Research Park at a price of \$2.2 million. This parcel of land is immediately south of the ISU Research Park's core facility and would allow for its continued development.

The committee will consider the naming of several facilities at Iowa State. The names up for consideration to be named are the Robert T. Hamilton Poultry Teaching and Research Farm, the Iowa Egg Council Layer Research Facility, and the Hy-Line Genetics Research Building.

The committee also will consider the University of Northern Iowa's request to raze one building. This house, located at 8628 University Avenue in Cedar Falls, was formerly the home of UNI's environmental health and safety staff until they relocated elsewhere. The house, now vacant, adds ongoing costs to the university through maintenance and utilities, and does not add benefit to the university's inventory. The area would be turned into greenspace. The cost to raze the house and restore the site is \$46,000 which would be funded from a non-general fund departmental account.

The Campus Safety and Security Committee, chaired by Regent Johnson, will meet at approximately 12:30 p.m. It will receive the annual Campus Safety and Security Report (CSS item 2). The committee also will receive recommendations concerning revisions to future submissions of the Campus Safety and Security Report.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Boettger, will meet at approximately 1:00 p.m. The committee will consider program additions, suspensions, terminations and name changes at the public universities. The committee also will receive a presentation on bilingual and bimodal education at Iowa School for the Deaf.

The committee will receive the annual reports on faculty tenure and promotion and tenure actions (ASAC items 5 and 6). The reports include approval of promotion and tenure actions for the academic year beginning this fall. The University of Iowa is requesting approval of 150 promotion and tenure actions; Iowa State University is requesting 81; and the University of Northern Iowa is requesting 23. In 2017-18, the number of tenured faculty at the universities was 2,560, a one percent decrease from the previous year. The number of tenure-track faculty was 840, a less than one percent decrease from the previous year. The committee also will receive the annual faculty resignations report (ASAC item 7). The total number of faculty resignations at Regent universities remained the same for the second year in a row at 133.

Additionally, the committee will receive the annual financial aid report (ASAC item 8). In 2016-17, the total amount of financial aid awarded to Regent university students was \$1.09 billion, an increase of 5.2 percent.

The full Board will convene at approximately 2:15 p.m. The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee, chaired by Regent Bates, will meet at this time. The committee will receive UIHC's operating and financial performance report.

The Audit and Compliance Committee, chaired by Regent Dunkel, will meet following the UIHC Committee meeting. The committee will review several state audit reports with Auditor of State Mary Mosiman. Board of Regents Chief Audit Executive Patrice Sayre will review internal audit reports. External audit reports of Iowa Public Radio and the Quad Cities Graduate Study Center also will be reviewed.

On Thursday, April 12, the Board will have breakfast with student leaders from the public universities at 8 a.m. The Board will convene in open session at 9 a.m. and begin with up to 30 minutes of public comment.

The Board will consider approval of 2018-19 proposed rates for room and board at the universities (agenda item 9). The residence systems are self-supporting operations and do not receive state appropriated funds for operations or capital improvements. The universities provide many different room and board options to students. Proposed rate increases for each university's most popular residence hall room and meal plan are 2.7 percent at the University of Iowa, 2.4 percent at Iowa State University, and 1.9 percent at the University of Northern Iowa.

The Board will have its first reading of proposed conditional 2018-2019 tuition and mandatory fees. Consistent with the Board's strategic plan, determining and fulfilling appropriate resource needs are essential in providing high quality public education, cutting-edge research and needed public services. Predictability, transparency and long-term planning strategies are woven throughout the plan. It is proposed that tuition for undergraduate resident students at the University of Iowa and Iowa State University increase by 3.8 percent, while increasing 2.8 percent at the University of Northern Iowa. The universities also propose varying differential tuition rates for certain higher-cost programs, as well as varying increases for nonresident and graduate rates. Agenda item 12 has additional details.

Other items to come before the Board include:

- A presentation on FY19 salary policies from faculty/staff at Regents institutions who are not organized for the purpose of collective bargaining.
- Each of the institutional heads will provide an update on campus activities.
- The Regents, university presidents, and special schools superintendent will engage in a discussion regarding resource management at Iowa's public institutions.
- An update on relevant findings and recommendations from a 2008 Access and Affordability Taskforce.
- The Board will elect a President and President Pro Tem, whose terms shall run from May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2020.
- Bids for the sale and award of \$32.9 million in athletics facilities revenue bonds for the University of Iowa. Additional information is available in agenda item 2.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Richards". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Richards".

Michael J. Richards

cc: Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa