

**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
Western 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*
Jim Lindenmayer, PhD, *Ottumwa*
Larry McKibben, JD, *Marshalltown*

Mark J. Braun, Executive Director

February 19, 2019

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 February 27-28 held in Reiman Ballroom in the Alumni Center at Iowa State University.

For your convenience, the meeting agenda is included after this letter. Full meeting materials are available on the Board of Regents website at the following link:

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

Additionally, audio streaming of the meeting may be accessed through the Board's website.

There are a few individual reports that the Board will receive that I want to highlight.

The Academic Affairs Committee will receive the annual distance education report. This report shows that our public universities are doing outstanding work in providing access to distance learning opportunities. Since 2013, total enrollment in distance education is up 44 percent, and total credit hours taken is up 40 percent. In 2017-18, more than 240,000 credit hours were taken, including by students in all 99 Iowa counties.

Additionally, the Academic Affairs Committee will receive a presentation about an update on services provided at the Western Iowa Regents Resource Center (WIRRC). As the 26 counties in Western Iowa are farther geographically removed from Iowa's public universities, the WIRRC helps provide access to the Regents institutions. The WIRCC, with staff in Creston, Council Bluffs, Harlan, Sheldon and Sioux City, employs a number of transfer specialists who work with students to help them understand the different avenues to receiving an education at a Regent institution. In many cases, these avenues allow students to remain in their home communities while completing their degrees.

One of the Regents' top priorities is to make higher education affordable and accessible for Iowans. The Campus and Student Affairs Committee will receive the annual student financial aid report, which shows that in 2017-18, the total amount of financial aid awarded to Regent university students topped \$1 billion for the fifth consecutive year. Iowa's public universities awarded more than \$410 million in institutional aid, with 70 percent of that going to undergraduates. This financial assistance is critical in helping our students keep student debt low, and our public universities are among the lowest in average graduate debt when compared to other Iowa four-year colleges and universities.

The annual graduation and retention report will be received by the Board. Across the Regent enterprise, 86 percent of students return for their second year, which is well above the national average. Our universities rank well above the national average for public universities in four-, five- and six-year graduation rates. Additionally, the state of Iowa ranks first with 81.9 percent of students that start at our four-year public university that earn a degree at our institutions or elsewhere. These graduation and retention rates directly affect Iowa's workforce in a positive way. Each year across the Regent enterprise, we add approximately 5,000 educated workers to the Iowa workforce, and 59 percent of bachelor's degree earners choose to remain in Iowa after they graduate.

We will have many other items of business to attend to as well. All of the Board's committees will meet on Wednesday, February 27:

- The Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet at 11:30 a.m. Among other items, the committee will consider the register of capital improvement transactions, which includes eight projects across the Regent Enterprise. Total estimated cost is \$71.8 million. Additional details are available in P&F items 3, 5 and 6. The committee will also receive a report that the Regent Enterprise has paid state of Iowa contractors \$842.4 million over the past four years, an average of \$210.6 million per year.
- The Investment and Finance Committee, chaired by Regent McKibben, will meet at approximately 11:45 a.m. The committee will receive the investment and cash management report for the fourth quarter of 2018.
- The Academic Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Boettger, will meet at 1 p.m. In addition to receiving the aforementioned distance education report, the committee will consider several department name changes and receive a presentation on a faculty fellowship at Iowa State University.
- The Campus and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Johnson, will meet at approximately 2 p.m. In addition to receiving the financial aid report, it will receive a presentation on student mental health.
- The Audit and Compliance Committee, chaired by Regent Dunkel, will meet at approximately 3 p.m. Board of Regents Chief Audit Executive Patrice Sayre will review numerous internal audits, and the annual external audit of University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics will be reviewed.
- The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee, chaired by Regent Bates, will meet at approximately 3:30 p.m. The committee will receive the operating and financial performance report and hear a faculty presentation.

Other agenda items for the Board include:

- A request by the University of Iowa to reconsider closure of the Labor Center
- Receiving bids for the sale and award of hospital revenue bonds for an estimated \$42.5 million
- Receiving reports from the institutional heads at the public universities and special schools

- Receiving a presentation on outreach and engagement efforts from the public universities and special schools
- Receiving the annual residence system governance report
- Ratification of collective bargaining agreements

The Board will also have breakfast with the student government leaders from the universities, as well as have a public comment period.

If we can provide additional information, or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Richards". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "R".

Michael J. Richards

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

**Meeting of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa
February 27-28, 2019
Reiman Ballroom, Alumni Center
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa**

Wednesday, February 27, 2017

11:30 a.m. Property and Facilities Committee (Regent Dakovich)

1. Minutes of November 16, 2018 Committee Meeting
2. Payments to Iowa Contractors per County
3. Register of the University of Iowa Capital Improvement Business Transactions
4. University of Iowa Request to Raze Two Buildings
5. Register of Iowa State University Capital Improvement Business Transactions
6. Register of the University of Northern Iowa Capital Improvement Business Transactions
7. Institutional Agreements, Leases and Easements

11:45 a.m. Investment and Finance Committee (Regent McKibben)

1. Minutes of November 15, 2018, Committee Meeting
2. Investment and Cash Management Report for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2018

Noon Break for Lunch

1 p.m. Academic Affairs Committee (Regent Boettger)

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes from November 15, 2018 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting
 - b. Iowa State University name change request: Biochemistry
 - c. Iowa State University name change request: Experiential Graphic Design
 - d. University of Iowa department name change request: Business Analytics
 - e. University of Iowa department name change request: Management and Entrepreneurship
2. University of Iowa Program Closures
 - a. BA in Comparative Literature closure
 - b. Online Bachelor of Business Administration closure
3. University of Iowa new program: MS in Engineering and Information Technology
4. Iowa School for the Deaf: Weighted GPA Request

5. Annual Distance Education report
6. Update on Western Iowa Regents Resource Center
7. Presentation from Iowa State University: Miller Faculty Fellowship Program

2 p.m. Campus and Student Affairs Committee (Regent Johnson)

1. Student Financial Aid Report
2. Student Mental Health Presentation

2:45 p.m. Board Convenes in Open Session (President Richards)

1. Call to Order for February 27, 2019
2. Sale and Award of \$42,475,000 (Estimated) Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series S.U.I. 2019

3 p.m. Audit and Compliance Committee (Regent Dunkel)

1. Minutes of November 16, 2018 Committee Meeting
2. University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Audit Report
3. Internal Audit Reports Issued

3:30 p.m. University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee (Regent Bates)

1. Minutes of November 15, 2018 Committee Meeting
2. University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Presentation

3. Closed Session

5 p.m. Anticipated Adjournment

Thursday, February 28, 2018

8 a.m. Breakfast with Student Leaders

9:30 a.m. Board Convenes in Open Session (President Richards)

4. Call to Order for February 28, 2019
5. Public Comment
6. Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes of November 15-16, 2018 Board Meeting
 - b. Meeting of February 27, 2019 Property and Facilities Committee
 - c. Meeting of November 15, 2018 Academic Affairs Committee
 - d. Minutes of January 15, 2019 Board Meeting
 - e. Meeting of February 27, 2019 Investment and Finance Committee
 - f. Board Policy Manual Revisions
 - g. Personnel Appointments
 - h. Span of Control Report
 - i. Affirmative Action/Diversity Report
 - j. Semi-Annual Claims Activity Reports: July 1, 2018- December 31, 2018
 - k. University of Iowa Reimbursement Resolution - Motor Vehicles
 - l. Proposed University Parking for FY 2020
 - m. Request to Reconsider Closure of University of Iowa Labor Center
7. Board President Report
8. Reports From Institutional Heads
9. Outreach and Engagement Efforts from the Regent Enterprise
10. Residence System Governance Report

Noon Break for Lunch

11. Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreements
12. Graduation and Retention Report

2 p.m. Anticipated Adjournment