

**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
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center



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Katie Mulholland, President Pro Tem, *Marion*
Sherry Bates, *Scranton*
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Robert Donley, Executive Director

July 12, 2016

The Honorable Terry E. Branstad, Governor
State of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Branstad:

This letter provides information about the telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents on July 18 in the Alumni Center at Iowa State University in Ames.

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

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/agendaitems.html

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

The meeting will come to order at 1:00 p.m. With a second reading, the Board will be asked to approve proposed tuition increases at the three public universities effective for the Fall 2016 semester. In total, all proposed tuition increases are expected to generate approximately \$21.1 million. The proposed tuition increases will assist the universities in managing inflationary expenses, meeting mandated salaries, and directing revenues to support teaching and student needs. More information is available in agenda item 4.

The Board will consider the proposed FY 2017 budgets for the three public universities, Iowa Public Radio and the Board Office. The proposed FY 2017 Regent Enterprise consolidated budget exceeds \$5.7 billion. The primary revenue sources providing FY 2017 general operating funds for Iowa's public universities are state appropriations and tuition revenues. The 2016 General Assembly approved increases to base funding for Iowa's public universities that were significantly less than the amount requested. In total, the general operating appropriations for the three universities are \$513 million. The Board will also consider restricted budgets which include budgets for athletics, capital funding previously approved by the General Assembly and residence system budgets. Additional details of the budgets may be found in agenda item 6.

The Board will also consider approval of a revised project description and budget for The Knoll modification project at Iowa State University. At its October 2013 meeting, the Board approved two projects for improvements to The Knoll, the ISU president's residence. Both projects were intended to support various events and educational activities that occur at The Knoll. The grounds and first floor of The Knoll are primarily used for University supported events. Over the course of a year, several thousand individuals attend events there. As predominantly public space, the University is responsible for maintaining this area. During the project design phase, it was determined that it would be best to also replace the public entrance stairs and the Americans with

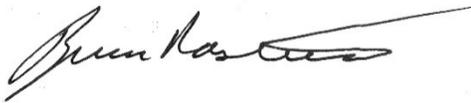
Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp at the front entry, implement changes to the existing deck with a four-season porch, and replace additional sidewalks around The Knoll. The University requests approval of a revised project description and budget (\$730,998, an increase of \$525,998). The project will be funded by gifts to the ISU Foundation specifically designated to this project; no general university funds including state appropriations or student fees would be utilized.

Other agenda items for consideration by the Board include:

- Consideration of personnel action for institutional heads and executive director compensation.
- Consideration of approval to proposed revisions of the Board of Regents policy manual. More information is available in agenda item 5.
- Consideration of approval of the 2016-2021 Board of Regents Strategic Plan. More information is available in agenda item 7.
- Receiving bids for the sale and award of three sets of bonds totaling an estimated \$60.36 million. More detailed information on these bond sales is available in agenda items 9a, 9b and 9c.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Bruce L. Rastetter

cc: Lt. Governor Kimberly Reynolds
Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa