November 8, 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 November 15-16 that will be held in the Slife Ballroom in the Commons on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

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

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 Investment and Finance Committee, chaired by Regent McKibben, will meet at 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 15. The committee will receive the investment and cash management report for the third quarter of 2018, the FY 2018 Comprehensive Fiscal Report, and the proposed bond issuance schedule for calendar year 2019.

The full Board will convene in open session at 12:30 p.m. and begin with a public comment period. The Board will then have a discussion on tuition and resources at the public universities. The Board of Regents strategic plan calls for adequate support of Regents institutions from all sources, and promoting the effective use of resources to meet institutional missions. More detail is available in agenda item 3. The Board will then receive the Fall 2018 Enrollment Report. Total headcount of students at Iowa’s public universities is 77,860, and more than 61 percent of those students are Iowa residents.

The Audit and Compliance Committee, chaired by Regent Dunkel, will meet at approximately 2 p.m. Board of Regents Chief Audit Executive Patrice Sayre will review numerous internal audits, and review the proposed audit and compliance committee calendar for 2019.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee, chaired by Regent Bates, will meet at approximately 2:30 p.m. The committee will receive the operating and financial performance report and hear a faculty presentation.

On Friday, November 16, the Board will have breakfast with student leaders from the public universities. At 9 a.m., the Academic Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Boettger, will meet.
The committee will consider approval of name changes to programs and one department, a request for a new programs and one institute, receive the annual academic program review report, and receive a faculty presentation. It will also receive a presentation (jointly with the Campus and Student Affairs Committee) on university admissions.

The committee will receive the report on Professional Development Assignments (PDAs) for FY2018 (AA item 7). There were 122 PDAs approved for that fiscal year. PDAs provide increased visibility and prominence of faculty in research and scholarship. The replacement cost of PDAs ($570,504) was leveraged to obtain more than $4.7 million in grants and other external funding resulting from those assignments. The committee will also consider approval of requests for PDAs for FY2020 (AA item 8) as specified in Iowa Code §262.9. A total of 135 have been requested with an estimated replacement cost of $461,999.

The Campus and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Johnson, will meet at approximately 10 a.m. It will receive the current Clery Act Reports, and a presentation on public safety at the public universities.

The Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet at 10:30 a.m. The committee will consider the register of University of Iowa capital improvement transactions (P&F item 2). The first project to consider requests approval of the schematic design, project description and budget for renovation of a portion of the 4th floor of UIHC’s south wing. This project would convert the Rossi Guest House to a suite of 25 single-bed, acute-care inpatient rooms. The project budget of $4.4 million would be funded by hospital building usage funds.

The next project to consider requests approval of the schematic design, project description and budget to replace the main filters at the university’s water plant. This project will create more consistent water quality and improve the efficiency of the water plant. The project budget of $4 million would be funded by utility enterprise renewal and improvement funds.

The next project to consider requests approval of a revised schematic design, project description and budget for the expansion and renovation of the psychiatric unit on the 7th floor of the Roy Carver Pavilion at UIHC. The original project description and budget only included the north half of the space, but during the design phase, using the south half became feasible. This would double the amount of beds available to 25. The revised budget of $15.1 million would be funded by university hospitals building usage funds.

The committee will consider a request from the University of Iowa to raze two buildings (P&F item 3). These two brick buildings have significant deferred maintenance issues, are in need of significant energy conservation improvements, and are beyond their useful lives. Removal of these buildings is in concert with the university’s master plan. Both properties would be restored to green space following demolition.

The committee will also consider the register of Iowa State University capital improvement transactions (P&F item 5). The first project to consider requests approval for the schematic design, project description and budget for creation of space for the Nanovaccine Institute (NI) on the 5th floor of the Advanced Teaching and Research Building. Currently, NI researchers are using lab space scattered across campus, and contiguous lab and headquarter space would allow researchers to collaborate more efficiently. The project budget of $7 million would be funded by private giving and university funds.
The next project to consider requests approval for the schematic design, project description and budget for remodeling of Helser Residence Hall. Work would include floor tile replacement, painting and repair of walls, installation of LED lighting and replacing built-in furniture. The project budget of $3.2 million would be funded by dormitory system improvement funds.

The next project to consider requests approval for the schematic design, project description and budget for construction and improvements of athletic facilities at Jack Trice Stadium. This project has four components: construction of a sports performance center, renovations to the Jacobson Building, construction of a north entry plaza to Jack Trice Stadium, and an addition to the Bergstrom Football Complex. The project budget of $90 million would be funded by private giving and athletic department funds.

The next project to consider requests approval of a revised project description and budget for the poultry farm teaching and research facilities. Under this revised project description and budget, the previously-designed six buildings would be combined into one building. This now singular facility would be more economical to construct, manage and maintain. The revised project budget of $5.75 million would be funded by private giving.

The full Board is scheduled to convene at approximately 10:45 a.m. The Board will receive the annual report on economic development. In FY 2018, Iowa’s public universities received more than $1.1 billion in total sponsored funding. For FY 2018, the Iowa General Assembly provided $8.7 million in total funding for economic development activities. Revenue to Iowa companies as a result of licensed technology was $41.74 million in FY 2018. In addition, a total of 3,673 individuals were employed by the 179 companies located at the SUI, ISU and UNI research parks and business incubators. More information is available in agenda item 11.

Other agenda items for the Board include:

- Receiving bids for the sale and award of SUI athletics facilities revenue bonds for an estimated $29.5 million.
- Receiving a report on the condition of higher education in Iowa from the Iowa College Student Aid Commission
- Receiving reports from the institutional heads at the public universities and special schools.
- Receiving a presentation on the freedom of expression at public universities.
- Being presented updates on the strategic plans of the public universities, special schools and Board of Regents.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Richards

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