October 10, 2017

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 October 18-19 in the Slife Ballroom of 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 Academic and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by Regent Boettger, will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 18. The committee will receive a report on academic program review, receive requests to create one center and eliminate another, receive a request to create a new program, and receive a faculty presentation. The committee also will receive the Fall 2017 Enrollment Report. Total headcount of students at Iowa’s public universities is 80,066, and more than 60 percent of those students are Iowa residents.

The Campus Safety and Security Committee, chaired by Regent Johnson, will meet at approximately 10:45 a.m. Among other items, the committee will receive an update on planning for the 2017 Campus Safety and Security Summit, and receive student and committee member presentations on safety and security issues on the campuses.

The Investment and Finance Committee, chaired by Regent McKibben, will meet at approximately 11:45 a.m. It will receive the FY 2017 Comprehensive Fiscal Report, the proposed bond issuance schedule for calendar year 2018, and a list of modifications of financial institutions, brokerage firms and money market mutual funds.

At 1:00 p.m., the Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet. The committee will consider the register of University of Iowa capital improvement transactions (P&F item 2). The first project to consider is a request to proceed with project description and budget for an update to Burge Residence Hall. This project would replace vanities, water supply piping, sanitary lines, and finishes throughout all five floors of the building. The project budget of $8.4 million would be funded by residence system room and board charges.
The second project to consider is a request to proceed with project description and budget to increase the cooling tower capacity for Chilled Water Plant #2. A new cooling tower would be installed on the roof of the existing plant, increasing cooling capacity and overall performance. The project budget of $5.2 million would be funded by utility renewal and improvement funds and/or utility enterprise revenue bonds.

The University of Iowa will also ask the committee for consideration to transfer three parcels of real estate from the University of Iowa Facilities Corporation to the Board of Regents. All three properties have no debt and are located in Iowa City. Additional information can be found in P&F item 3.

The committee then will consider the register of Iowa State University capital improvement business transactions (P&F item 4). The first project is a request for permission to proceed with project planning for interior improvements to the Knoll. The Knoll is the university president’s residence and has been a campus landmark for more than 115 years. Improvements to be considered include door repairs/replacements, carpet and hardwood floor replacement, kitchen modernization, painting and updating hall and bathroom fixtures and finishes. As part of the presidential search and transition process, Iowa State wishes to accomplish necessary modifications and renovations. The project budget of $750,000 would be funded by private and non-general fund sources.

The second project is a request to approve the project description and budget for window replacement in Friley Residence Hall. This project would replace all windows, blinds and window sealants in all five stories of the building, which houses 1,220 students. The project budget of $4.8 million would be funded by residence hall funds.

The third project is a request to approve a revised budget for the Veterinary Medicine-Stereotactic Radiation Therapy addition. The revised budget of $3.7 million, an increase of $950,000, will allow the university to incorporate additional technology-leading oncology equipment, include additional ancillary space for recovery, and cover the higher-than-anticipated equipment and construction costs. The budget increase would be funded by College of Veterinary Medicine funds and private giving.

The fourth project is a request to approve a revised budget for window replacement in Wallace and Wilson Residence Halls. The windows in 10 floors of both buildings have reached the end of their life cycle and would be replaced with energy-efficient, insulated windows. Replacing the windows would improve comfort for the students, reducing energy consumption, and improve the exterior of both buildings. The revised budget of $4.5 million would be funded by residence hall funds.

The full Board will convene at approximately 1:30 p.m. The Audit and Compliance Committee, chaired by Regent Dunkel, will meet at this time. Board of Regents Chief Audit Executive Stewart will review numerous internal audits.

The Board will receive the annual report on economic development. In FY 2017, Iowa’s public universities received $1.1 billion in total sponsored funding. For FY 2017, the Iowa General Assembly provided $8.8 million in total funding for economic development activities. As a result, revenue to Iowa companies as a result of licensed technology increased from $9.56 million in FY 2016 to $14.1 million in FY 2017. In addition, a total of 3,493 individuals were employed by the 185 companies located at the SUI, ISU and UNI research parks and business incubators. More information is available in agenda item 6.

On Thursday, October 19, the Board will have breakfast with student leaders from the public universities. At 10:00 a.m., the Board will convene in open session and receive public comment.
The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee, chaired by Regent Bates, will then meet. The committee will receive the operating and financial performance report, hear a faculty presentation, and receive an update on the search for a new Vice President for Medical Affairs.

The Board will consider approval of Iowa State University’s request to name the College of Business as the “Debbie and Jerry Ivy College of Business.” Debbie and Jerry Ivy committed $50 million to the College of Business in September 2017, the largest-ever to the college. If approved, this would be the first donor-named college at Iowa State.

Other agenda items for the Board include:

- Interviewing the finalist for the Board of Regents Executive Director’s position, and possibly appointing a new Executive Director.
- Receiving reports from institutional heads at the public universities and special schools.
- Being presented progress reports on strategic plans at the public universities and special schools.
- Receiving the 2017 Faculty Activities Report.
- Receiving a faculty presentation on the University of Northern Iowa’s focus on community engagement.
- Receiving bids for the sale and award of SUI athletics facilities revenue bonds for an estimated $31.7 million, and bids for the sale and award of SUI athletic facilities revenue refunding bonds for an estimated $22.3 million.

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