

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Board of Regents  
**From:** Board Office  
**Subject:** Educational Leadership Program to be Offered in China, UNI  
**Date:** April 12, 2004

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**Recommended Action:**

Receive the Report on the UNI Educational Leadership Program to be offered in China.

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**Executive Summary:**

Program to be offered in Liaoning Province in China

The University of Northern Iowa's College of Education will offer the Masters Degree in Educational Leadership in Liaoning Province, China, beginning in Fall, 2004. The program will be offered through UNI's Continuing Education Division in partnership with Anshan Normal University.

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Program meets same quality standards currently offered in Iowa

The program of study will be guided by Iowa Standards for School Leaders and will meet the same quality standards as the Educational Leadership program that UNI already offers on campus and throughout Iowa via the Iowa Communications Network (ICN).

Upon completion of the three-year program, students will be awarded a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Northern Iowa.

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Expense payments guaranteed by China

The agreement guarantees a minimum of 75 students, with all program costs including travel and expenses for UNI faculty who teach in the program, guaranteed through student fees. Facilities and equipment will be provided by Anshan Normal University and a Chinese program representative will be responsible for program promotion, recruitment, fee collection, translation and coordination of program activities in China.

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Benefits to China      The availability of UNI's Educational Leadership program in northern China will have many educational benefits for Chinese educators:

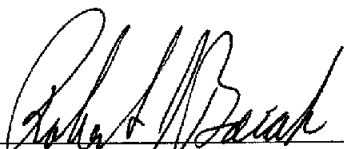
- A graduate degree from an American university has significant value to the people of China. However, few Chinese can afford the cost of living in the United States and attending college. Of those who can fund their education abroad, few can secure a visa.
- There is currently a strong emphasis in China for greater preparation of school leaders, including principals and directors. Expansion of the knowledge base and skill development in instructional best practice, professional development of teachers, change leadership and collaboration with the learning community are all highly valued for practicing and aspiring school leaders. The desire is to have well prepared educational leaders rather than top down managers.


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Benefits to UNI      Benefits to UNI:

- UNI's presence in this heavily agricultural region of China will increase awareness of Iowa and its agricultural heritage in the region, offering potential for additional partnerships in education and economic development.
- The program will benefit UNI faculty participants, who will bring valuable intercultural experiences and enhanced global awareness back to their Iowa students.

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Robert J. Barak

Approved:   
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Gregory S. Nichols