

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Report on Meeting of the Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Date: April 8, 2002

Recommended Action:

Receive the report.

Executive Summary:

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met on March 25, 2002. The Executive Director represents the Board of Regents, State of Iowa as a member of this commission. At the meeting on March 25, a number of issues were discussed and actions taken as summarized briefly below.

Background/Analysis:

1. A report was received that state budget proposals for various student aid programs in FY03 appear likely to be reduced to a degree that federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) and Supplemental Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (SLEAP) funds (which are supplemental federal funds of about \$700,000 available if "maintenance of effort" requirements are met) will NOT be accessible to Iowa.
2. Draft administrative rules amendments were advanced to the "notice of intended action" stage regarding the requirements for approval of postsecondary schools in Iowa.
3. The Commission waived, for the 2002-2003 academic year, guarantee fees charged to student and parent borrowers, and instead will tap the state's federal student loan reserve fund for those expenses.
4. Commission approval of a 28E agreement with the Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance for collection of defaulted student loans was given.
5. The 2002-2003 academic year budget for the iLink Service Center, created to process Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) loans within Iowa, was approved.
6. The tentative Iowa grant allocations for the 2002-03 academic year, of which 37.6% of the resources are directed to Regent institutions, were approved.

7. The annual report on student and faculty ethnic diversity was received.
8. A task force report on a proposed Student Loan Default Awareness and Prevention Program was received.

The Commission will meet in May in Davenport, at which time representatives of the North Central Association will join the group to discuss program quality and institution registration issues.



Gregory S. Nichols