

From: McCarthy, Ann M [BOARD]

Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 12:01 PM

To: brastetter@summitag.com; Katie Mulholland; Carroll, Nicole [BOARD]; Dakovich, Milt [BOARD]; Downer, Bob; Harkin, Ruth (ruth.harkin@cox.net); McKibben, Larry [BOARD]; Rastetter, Bruce [BOARD]; Walsh, Hannah [BOARD]; Mulholland, Katie [BOARD]; Sahai, Subhash [BOARD]

Cc: Sara Hobson (shobson@summitfarms.com); 'Carla McComb'; Donley, Robert [BOARD]; Koppin, Sheila M [BOARD]

Subject: Iowa State University Tuition Proposal Letter

Regents,

You might find the attached letter to the General Assembly of interest.

Let me know if you have questions.

Thank you.

Ann McCarthy
Policy and Operations Officer
Board of Regents, State of Iowa

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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11/17/14

Honorable Members of the Iowa General Assembly
State of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am writing on behalf of the student body at Iowa State University in support of funding and long-term planning for Higher Education in Iowa.

First, the resident undergraduate students of Iowa State University sincerely thank you for supporting a tuition freeze for the last two years. We appreciate your commitment to support our students as they pursue a degree.

However, the student body at Iowa State University is hesitant to support a tuition freeze for a third year for undergraduate resident students. We can only support the tuition freeze if the loss in revenue is offset by equal increases in state appropriations. In addition, the uncertainty of future state appropriations leaves students with a fear of large tuition spikes. Students would rather burden small, incremental increases each year. Additionally, students want the academic resources and services that can be funded through a small tuition or larger appropriation increase.

Students desire the savings from the TIER study to be used to improve the quality of education at the regent universities, not to simply reduce the cost. We need to investigate if our high average student debt is due to a higher tuition than average, or if there are other factors causing high debt that can be mitigated with the monies available for reallocation after the efficiency study is implemented.

We strongly believe that long term planning strategies should be implemented for tuition planning, and adapted in Iowa. A long-term planning process, rather than a year-by-year process will allow Iowa families adequate time to plan for the cost of higher education.

The student body at Iowa State University believes that if tuition for non-residents would increase, it should not exceed 1.2% in order to continue to allow for Iowa State University to enroll unique students from around the world. Resident students value the perspective from others, and we want to know with confidence that the diversity of our student body will not be lost because of a rising cost of higher education.

Finally, and most importantly, the student body believes that performance based funding should be adapted in Iowa to ensure that State funding follows Iowans and promotes affordability and accessibility while still maintaining a high quality educational experience.

We, the students of Iowa State University, consider performance based funding a measure through which our university can demonstrate accountability to the General Assembly, but urge you to demonstrate the same accountability to Iowans and implement long-term tuition planning in conjunction with the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,



Hillary Kletscher
President, Government of the Student Body
Iowa State University