

**From:** Steinke, Gary W [BOARD]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2007 11:53 AM  
**To:** Arbisser, Amir; Becker, Mary Ellen; Connolly, Jenny; Downer, Robert; Fry, Bobbi; Harkin, Ruth; Krause, Lisa; Michael Gartner; Smith, Judy; Teresa Wahlert; Vasquez, Rose  
**Subject:** Math-Science educational initiative

I SENT THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL TO THE PRESIDENTS THIS MORNING AND INADVERTENTLY DID NOT INCLUDE THE REGENTS ON THE DISTRIBUTION:

Good Morning,

Last year the Board of Regents entered into a contract with Dr. Carol Bradley to determine what barriers exist to the notion of "seamless education" at all levels of public education in Iowa. Specifically, the Board asked Dr. Bradley to ascertain what barriers exist in the current relationships between the sectors, and what processes, structures, or initiatives could be discussed or implemented to further the seamless objective from pre-K through college.

Dr. Bradley met with many, many, education leaders in the state at all levels of education, from K-12 teachers and administrators, to community college presidents and faculty, and many Regents and the Presidents of the Universities, as you know. Most educators in the state believe that Iowa must dramatically improve the teaching of math and science at all levels of our educational system. Obviously, there are a myriad of strategies and processes to consider, but this goal is an important one, and one that will benefit the people of Iowa and Iowa students as they work their way through our educational system.

Recently, an outline for proceeding with this initiative was discussed with Regent Gartner and me. President Allen, Provost Lubker, and Dr. Bradley discussed the importance of such an initiative and shared with us some ideas President Allen has for moving forward. Obviously, an initiative of this type fits in well with the long standing mission of UNI, and also dovetails very well with previous Board direction to President Allen regarding the importance of the College of Education and the mission of UNI as it relates to teacher training and innovative techniques to overcome issues faced by teachers and faculty at all levels. For these reasons President Allen has agreed to lead this effort understanding that close collaboration with ISU and SUI is an essential component for this initiative to be successful.

As I understand the next step in the formulation of this collaboration, President Allen will be contacting each of the Presidents to discuss the initiative and get your thoughts and ideas for moving forward. I believe this has the potential to be one of the most visible and important collaborations between the three universities that has been undertaken in a very long time. The impact on Iowa students and Iowa's educational system could be huge, and I know the Iowa General Assembly and Governor Culver will be pleased and supportive.

Thank you for making this collaboration a reality.

Gary Steinke  
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