

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Report on Meeting of the Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Date: May 12, 2003

Recommended Action:

Receive the report.

Executive Summary:

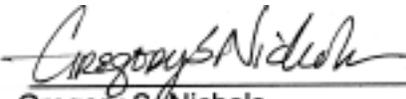
The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met on April 1, 2003, with the Executive Director, who represents the Regents as a member of the Commission, in attendance.

Highlights of the discussion included the following items.

- The ICSAC Executive Director was authorized to sign a 28E agreement with Iowa Student Loan Corporation creating an Iowa-based student loan guarantor-servicing center. This project will allow for Iowans to be employed in servicing student loans rather than having that work done elsewhere.
- The Commission agreed to waive the 'guarantee fee' charged to student and parent borrowers for the 2003-2004 academic year. This action will save Iowa families over \$3 million in fees, and the cost is covered by reserve funds previously accumulated. This is the fourth year for the fee waiver program in Iowa, but future actions at the federal level regarding reserve requirements may make it more difficult to do so in the future.
- Approval was given for the tentative allocation of state-funded Iowa Grants for FY 2004. State legislation requires that 37.6% of these funds be directed to Regent institutions, which amounts to roughly \$390,000.
- Commissioners received the legislatively mandated annual report on student and faculty ethnic diversity. Since this report was first completed in 1992, college and university resident minority population increased 64% and minority students receiving grant assistance increased 81%. There were gains in minority student population in all higher education sectors but most notably in the 2-year institutions. Minority faculty numbers increased 50% during this same period.
- Student loan guarantee volume through the first half of fiscal year 2003 was reported as \$158 million in the Stafford and PLUS (parents

loans) programs, and total outstanding commitments as of mid-year were \$1.99 billion.

Additional discussions were held at the meeting on legislative and budget issues and administrative rules revisions. Detailed information on any of these matters is available upon request.



Gregory S. Nichols