
From: Tuttle, Ilene [BOARD]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2008 11:55 AM
To: Smith, Dianne [BOARD]
Subject: FW: Letter re: Government Oversight Committee

Attachments: diannes@iastate.edu_20081017_130749.pdf



diannes@iastate.ed
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-----Original Message-----

From: Tuttle, Ilene [BOARD]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2008 11:48 AM
To: Campbell, Bonnie J.; Downer, Robert; Evans, Jack B.; Gartner, Michael; Harkin, Ruth; Johnson, Greta A.; Lang, Craig; Miles, David; Vasquez, Rose
Subject: FW: Letter re: Government Oversight Committee

FYI -- Attached letter.

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Robert Donley, *Executive Director*

October 17, 2008

The Honorable Thomas Courtney
Chair, Government Oversight Committee
Iowa Senate

The Honorable Vicky Lensing
Chair, Government Oversight Committee
House of Representatives

Dear Senator Courtney and Representative Lensing:

Thank you for the opportunity for myself, the Board of Regents Advisory Committee and the Stolar Group to meet with the Government Oversight Committee to discuss recent developments in the University of Iowa assault case. This opportunity was very helpful toward our efforts to address this issue in an open and forthcoming manner.

At that meeting, I indicated I would update your Committees on subsequent actions taken by the Board of Regents in the resolution of this incident, as well as initiatives we will undertake to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

On September 25th, the Board met in Des Moines to receive University of Iowa President Sally Mason's response to the Stolar Group's report. As you are aware, President Mason accepted the recommendations made in the Stolar report and announced that she had terminated the employment of the University's General Counsel and Vice-President for Student Services and Dean of Students. The Board also adopted a resolution, which is attached, directing all five Regents institutions to undertake a comprehensive review of their policies and procedures dealing with sexual assault in light of the report's recommendations, which include, in part:

- Make available a trained advocate to alleged victims of sexual assault during all stages of the reporting and investigative process;
- Designate a single coordinating office and procedure to deal with all sexual assaults;
- Ensure that General Counsel for each institution is not involved in the management of sexual assault and sexual harassment investigations;
- Remove all authority from any and all departments, other than the single designated coordinating office, to conduct investigations of sexual assault;
- Implement a formal procedure by which investigators in the office designated to handle sexual assault investigations who may be perceived as having a conflict of interest may be recused.

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Thomas Courtney
Vicky Lensing
October 17, 2008

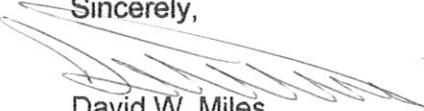
The Board of Regents and the institutions are rapidly moving this process forward. The Board has directed the institutions to complete the comprehensive review of their sexual assault policies by December 11, 2008. At that time, the institutions will also be expected to present a proposal for common policies and procedures dealing with sexual assault that address the Stolar Report recommendations and are consistent with standards and best practices available in the higher education community.

As part of the process of evaluating the best available practices in the higher education community, the Regents universities will be participating in a U.S. Department of Justice Campus Violence Prevention Project. The Department recently named the University of Northern Iowa a "Flagship Institution" under the Grants to Reduce Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus Program. This designation includes a \$1 million grant which will be used to create a Campus Gender Violence Task Force where professionals from the violence prevention field and representatives from each of the Regents campuses will assess policies, programs and issues that are needed to create safe campus communities. Additional information on this important grant is attached.

As these initiatives are further developed and implemented, I will continue to provide you periodic updates. I will also have Bob Donley call your office to schedule an appointment to meet with the Committee following our December Board meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Bob Donley, Executive Director of the Board, should you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



David W. Miles
President
Board of Regents

cc: Members, Board of Regents, State of Iowa