

**Governing Iowa's public
universities and special schools**

University of Iowa
Iowa State University
University of Northern Iowa
Iowa School for the Deaf
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
Lakeside Lab Regents Resource Center
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center
Tri-State Graduate Center



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June 20, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bob Donley, Executive Director, (515) 281-3934

Board President Thanks Governor for Commitment to Higher Education

The Board of Regents would like to sincerely thank Governor Branstad for signing House File 604 and 648. The bills provide critical funding necessary for Iowa's public universities as they seek to enhance the quality of life in Iowa and beyond through education, research and service. In particular, the Board is pleased to see the Governor approve the following items:

- A 2.6% increase in general university operating appropriations which will allow Iowa's public universities to freeze undergraduate resident tuition in the 2013-2014 academic year.
- \$10 million in one-time funds for the University of Northern Iowa. This funding is critical for UNI as it seeks to deal with the budget difficulties resulting from its focus on educating in-state students.
- \$2 million for the University of Iowa Entrepreneurship Initiative.
- \$12 million for an Economic Development Core Facility located at the ISU Research Park.
- \$7.5 million for the Bio-Economy Initiative at ISU.
- \$1 million to construct a multipurpose training facility at the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa.

"We could not be happier with the Governor's approval of this funding as it will greatly enhance the universities' ability to serve Iowans with our world-class institutions," said Board President Bruce Rastetter. "However, the Board is disappointed that funds necessary for the planning and design for the highest priority academic capital projects, which are central to the specific missions of each university, were not approved," added President Rastetter.

The funding not approved includes \$3 million for the construction of a new pharmacy building at the University of Iowa; \$2.5 million for the construction of a biosciences building at Iowa State University; and \$1.5 million for the renovation and modernization of the Schindler Education Center at UNI.

“While the Board remains committed to each of these academic capital projects, we understand the Governor’s concerns. To that end, at the August Board of Regents meeting, we will be reinstating the Board of Regents Property and Facilities Committee. Through the work of this committee, we will further develop our capital requests and again make the case to the Governor and General Assembly for these critical projects,” stated President Rastetter.

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