Smith, Dianne [BOARD]

From: Koppin, Sheila M [BOARD]

Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 2:58 PM

To: 'Fandel, Linda [IGOV]'; margaret.hough@iowa.gov; (matt.hinch@iowa.gov);

brastetter@summitag.com; Katie Mulholland'; Donley, Robert [BOARD]; Sayre, Patrice [BOARD]; Brunson, Marcia R [BOARD]; Smith, Dianne [BOARD]; Keith Saunders (keithsaunders@uiowa.edu); Murphy, Joseph D [GOV R]; Braun, Mary; Dakovich, Milt [BOARD]; Downer, Bob; Harkin, Ruth (ruth.harkin@cox.net); McKibben, Larry [BOARD]; Rastetter, Bruce [BOARD]; Walsh, Hannah [BOARD]; Mulholland, Katie [BOARD]; Bates, Sherry

[BOARD]; Sahai, Subhash [BOARD]

Subject: Board of Regents Meeting, March 11, 2015



Sheila Doyle Koppin
Regent Communication Officer
and Transparency Officer
Board of Regents, State of Iowa
11260 Aurora Avenue
Urbandale, IA 50322
(515) 281-3332
www.regents.iowa.gov
Twitter @IowaRegents

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Subhash C. Sahai, Webster City
Hannah M. Walsh, Spirit Lake

Robert Donley, Executive Director

March 3, 2015

The Honorable Terry Branstad, Governor State of Iowa State Capitol Building Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Branstad:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on March 11 at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

The meeting materials are available on the Regent website at the following address:

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/agendaitems.html

I am available at any time to answer questions about the meeting materials or any other matter.

Audio streaming of the meeting may be accessed through the Board of Regents website.

The Board will tour the new Children's Hospital on Tuesday. The new facility is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2016.

The Property and Facilities Committee will meet at 9 a.m. on March 11. The committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will review the University of Iowa capital register. The register contains two major projects. First, the university is asking for permission to proceed with project planning for the construction of the West Campus Energy Plant. The estimated project cost of \$75 million would be funded with utility system revenue bonds. The new plant will be adjacent to the UIHC and would supplement the utility services provided by the main campus power plant. The new facility would provide critically important redundancy and future growth options at a location away from the Iowa River floodplain. In the second item on the register, the university is requesting approval of the schematic design and budget (\$95 million) for the construction of the Madison Street Residence Hall. The residence hall would be constructed on the site of the old Iowa City water plant. The 12-story residence hall would provide housing for 1,000 to 1,050 students (primarily freshmen) and provide dining services for 2,000 students. The project would be funded by dormitory residence bonds. It is anticipated the residence hall would be open for occupancy in the fall of 2017. More information on these projects may be found in P&F Agenda Item #2.

The Education and Student Affairs Committee chaired by President Pro Tem Mulholland will also meet on March 11 at 9 a.m. The committee will review the annual report of student retention and graduation rates. The report is in two parts. The first part provides information on retention rates as well as four- and six-year graduation rates of first-time, full-time freshmen and transfer students. The second part includes the annual update of enrollment and graduation of women and minorities from STEM programs at the Regent universities. Some highlights of the report include: (1) an average of approximately 84.7% of the past 10 entering classes at the Regent universities returned for the second year of studies; (2) one year retention rates have consistently exceeded the national averages; (3) an average of 67.7% of the past 10 entering classes at the Regent universities graduated within six years; (4) six-year graduation rates at the Regent universities have consistently exceeded the national averages (5) undergraduate enrollment in STEM programs increased from 24,409 in 2013 to 25,841 in 2014 - 5.9%; (6) undergraduate minority enrollment in STEM programs increased 17.6% and undergraduate women enrollment in STEM programs increased 6%. More specific information on the report may be found in ESAC Agenda Item #7. The committee will receive an update from representatives of the University of Iowa on the "Iowa Degree in Three". The degree is designed for students who are academically prepared to complete more semester hours per term than average or who come to the university with completed college credits. The degree will be available to new first-year students enrolling in the Fall of 2015 and after. Initially, the majors available through the program are Communication Studies, English, History, International Studies, Marketing and Theatre Arts. More information on this degree may be found in ESAC Agenda Item #8.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee will review the year-to-date report of operational and financial performance and receive a presentation on outcomes at the UI Children's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and new national standards for Prenatal Care.

The Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by Regent Downer will review the investment and cash management report for the period ended December 31, 2014, with the Board's investment advisor, Wilshire Consulting.

Agenda items for consideration by the full Board include the following:

The Board will receive reports from Presidents Mason, Leath, and Ruud and Superintendent Gettel.

The Board will review four annual reports – Campus Safety and Security, Comprehensive Human Resources, Span of Control and Residence System. The annual report on Span of Control is required by Iowa Code §262.9(C), and per the statute will be forwarded to the Governor and the General Assembly following Board review.

As a part of the Residence System Governance Report, the Board is asked to consider the FY 2016 residence system budgets and the academic year 2015-2016 proposed rates for room and board at the universities. Approval of the rates will be considered at the April meeting. The residence systems are self-supporting operations and do not receive state appropriations for operations or capital improvements. The universities provide numerous room and board options to students. Rate increases for a double room with primary meal plans are 3.41% for SUI, 3.15% for ISU and 3.07% for UNI. Agenda Item #11 contains details on the residence systems five-year plans, budget summaries, and detailed rate proposals.

The Board will consider ratification of three collective bargaining agreements. Voluntary agreements were reached on all three of the Board's collective bargaining agreements. The agreement with the UNI-United Faculty provides for a wage increase of 2.5% in each year of the two-year agreement. It is estimated the cost of the agreement to be 2.8% each year which includes projected increases in fringe benefits. The agreement with United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 896/COGS will provide minimum tuition scholarship to University of Iowa graduate assistants equal to 100% of the cost of resident graduate tuition in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Education. The agreement also provides for contribution of 25% of mandatory fees and a 1% increase in the average graduate assistant stipend on July 1. 2015, and 3% on July 1, 2016. It is estimated the cost of the agreement including projected increases for fringe benefits is 3.18% in FY 2016 and 2.92% in FY 2017. The agreement with Service Employees International Union Local 199 (tertiary care employees at the UIHC) provides for 2.75% increases in each year of the two-year agreement. It is estimated the cost of the agreement is 3.45% in the first year and 2.67% in the second year. Estimates include projected increases in fringe benefits.

The Board will consider an early retirement incentive program for employees of the Board Office. The program is similar to that approved for the University of Iowa at the February 2015 meeting of the Board. Employees may apply for the program between March 12 and April 13, 2015, and retire no later than July 1, 2015.

The Board will receive updates on the TIER study and the University of Iowa presidential search.

The Board will receive bids at the March meeting for three separate refundings (one for each of the universities) of outstanding bonds issued for self-liquidating facilities that are expected to result in interest rate savings, thereby lowering debt service payments. University of Iowa Facilities Corporation is also scheduled to sell refunding bonds. It is estimated the four refundings would result in present value savings of \$4.6 million. The Board Office, in conjunction with the Board's Municipal Advisor, will continue to review potential refundings of outstanding bond issues.

The Board will receive two presentations:

Lynn Allendorf, Director of the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at the University of Iowa, will make a presentation on the "Venture School – Accelerating Early Stage Startups". Venture School is an intense business acceleration program which increases the likelihood of success for early stage startups. During the program, businesses test their hypothesis about customer need, value creation and their target market in order to identify a sustainable business model for their startups.

Dr. Daniel McGehee, Director of Transportation and Vehicle Safety Research Division at the University of Iowa Public Policy Center, and Dr. Christopher Buresh, associate professor in the Carver College of Medicine, will provide the Board with information concerning TraumaHawk, a smart phone app being developed at the University of Iowa in collaboration with the National Advanced Driving Simulator and the Iowa Department of Transportation. The app will send photographs from the scene of a motor vehicle crash to providers at hospital emergency rooms long before victims arrive at the hospital. Early access to photographs of the crash of a vehicle can help improve triage and assist the trauma center staff in better predicting injuries and treatment options and often aid in the implementation of remote treatment.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Bruce L. Rastetter

cc: Lt. Governor Kimberly Reynolds

Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa