MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents

From: Board Office

Subject: Report on Meeting of the Iowa College Student Aid Commission

Date: September 9, 2002

Recommended Action:

Receive the report.

Executive Summary:

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission (ICSAC) met on August 6, 2002, in Des Moines. Executive Director Nichols, who represents the Board on this Commission, was in attendance at the meeting.

Notable items of business discussed at that meeting are detailed below.

Michelle Durand-Adams from Waukee was elected for another one- year term as Chair of the ICSAC.

Amendments to Iowa Administrative Rules related to the following were given approval by the Commission:

- Chapter 12.2 (4) related to the definition of 'institutions located in lowa' for purposes of determining lowa Tuition Grant eligibility {preliminary approval};
- Chapter 21 related to approval of postsecondary schools by the state and the criteria for faculty standards and the location of students {final approval};
- Chapter 37 related to allowing the Commission to initiate action that could lead to denial, revocation, or suspension of state authorized licenses held by persons not in satisfactory payment status on a defaulted student loan held by the Commission {final approval}.

Allocations for all 2002-2003 federal LEAP (Leveraging Education Assistance Programs) funds were made to the Iowa Grant program. This will result in a \$121,000 increase in Iowa Grant funds available to students at Regent institutions. Combined with state funding, the program total will be approximately \$500,000 for the year. These federal funds, however, may not be available in future years due to decreased state support for student aid programs.

Approval was granted to earmark some of the Commission's interest income for special programs designed to reduce defaults on student loans, including a program known as "student loan outfitters" designed to work with students considered at risk for default in order to help them avoid that scenario.

Preliminary discussion was held regarding potential initiatives to include in the FY 2004 budget request for student aid programs and the state fiscal situation.

A report was presented on the final FY 2003 program expenditures for various state grant and scholarship programs, indicating most were at expected levels.

The Commission will meet in September to further consider FY 2004 budgetary requests and other issues.

Gregory S. Nichols

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