

## **COMMITTEE MINUTES for EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *February 3, 2021*

Location: *RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult*

Convened: *10:35 AM*

Adjourned: *12:00 PM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Representatives Kerr-CH, Gobble-VC, Winckler-RM, Dolecheck, Moore, T., Siegrist

Absent:

Excused: Representatives Cahill, Staed, Williams

Chair Kerr calls meeting to order at 10:34 AM.

Clerk calls the roll.

Previous meeting's minutes approved.

Speakers introduced.

Mark Nook, President of University of Northern Iowa, discusses the role of his university, response costs for Covid, and CARES Act money. He also discusses UNI's state appropriation request.

Representative Winckler asks a question.

Mark Nook answers about recruiting lower income and minority students to go to UNI.

Representative Winckler asks a question about how UNI helps minorities become teachers.

Mark Nook answers by discussing a partnership that UNI has with the Waterloo CSD.

Representative Moore asks a question about UNI's first year retention rate.

Mark Nook answers discussing the different directions take after their first year at UNI.

Wendy Wintersteen, President of Iowa State University, answers Representative Moore's question and Representative Winckler's question.

Bruce Harreld, President of Iowa University, answers Representative Moore's question, discussing how they are changing first-year courses to increase retention.

Representative Moore thanks the presidents for their responses and asks an additional question about whether student debt counseling includes discussions about the income potential of different degrees.

Mark Nook answers by talking about their process of signing of on private loans for their students and how they counsel students.

Wendy Wintersteen discusses how ISU took off of forms the information about the maximum amount a student could take out. She also discusses how scholarships can be used.

Bruce Harreld discusses the difference between the amount of student debt for those who graduate with debt and the average debt of all graduates. He also discusses graduate students who incur more debt than undergraduate students.

Wendy Wintersteen discusses Iowa State University, the enrollment numbers, in-person learning, the Student Innovation Center, Research Park, Veterinary Medicine facility, Covid-19 vaccines, revenue, and state appropriations for ISU.

Representative Winckler asks a question on the effect of removing tenure.

Wendy Wintersteen answers saying that it will negatively impact the recruitment and retention of high quality professors.

Bruce Harreld echoes the comments of Wendy Wintersteen.

Mark Nook agrees with the other presidents, adding that professors earn tenure and that it is not given.

Bruce Harreld speaks again about the review of tenure.

Bruce Harreld speaks on the University of Iowa, financial challenges, state appropriations, achievements of tenured staff, the relationship between state funding and the Board of Regents, and the Iowa Flood Center.

Representative Moore asks a question about enrollment numbers at UI and ISU.

Bruce Harreld answers that over 1000 students have been lost, that online courses present challenges, and that birth rates present long-term problems.

Wendy Wintersteen discusses ISU's loss of international students.

Bruce Harreld adds that other countries are not sending as many students anymore.

Chair Kerr adjourns meeting at 12:02PM.

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Representative David Kerr

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Paul Attema, Committee Secretary