

Date:	February 20, 2008	Place:	Rm 102, Supreme Court Consult Rm		
Convened:	2/20/2008 1:10 PM	Recessed:	Reconvened:	Adjourned:	2/20/2008 2:00 PM
Present:	Representatives Mertz-CH, Whitaker-VC, Drake-RM, Davitt, De Boef, Dolecheck, Frevert, Gayman, Greiner, Huseman, Kuhn, Miller, H., Olson, S., Rayhons, Reasoner, Reichert, Swaim, Wenthe, Worthan, Zirkelbach				
Absent:	None				
Excused:	Representative Struyk				

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mertz.

Roll call was taken.

Representative Mertz introduced guest speaker Dr. Steven Howell who is the Director of the Plant Sciences Institute at ISU. The Plant Sciences Institute (PSI) is a major force in ushering in new technologies to the University and recruiting faculty to build a premier program in the plant sciences. Its goal is to generate knowledge and develop practices for the creation of valuable traits in crops important to Iowa using the power of genomics and bioinformatics. Dr. Howell gave what he considered a snapshot overview of the exciting times in plant sciences at PSI.

Following a questions and answer period, Representative Mertz thanked Dr. Howell for his presentation.

As bill were not ready for assignment, Representative Rayhons moved to arise.

Representative Dolores Mertz

Donna Downey, Committee Secretary