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### GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HEARING - BOARD OF REGENTS

**Hearing.** Representatives of the Board of Regents and its institutions presented information to Governor Terry Branstad and his staff regarding the FY 2018 budget requests on November 22, 2016. Board President Bruce Rastetter discussed the Board's goal of guaranteeing tuition rates for two years so that students can plan their finances. He noted that this is difficult without two-year state appropriations. Governor Branstad commented that his administration will submit a biennial budget to the Legislature for FY 2018.

**Iowa State University (ISU).** President Steven Leath presented highlights of ISU's achievements and the FY 2018 budget request. He noted that due to steadily increasing enrollment, the state funding per resident student has been steadily declining.

**University of Iowa (UI).** President Bruce Harreld highlighted UI's achievements and FY 2018 budget request. He stressed the importance of establishing competitive faculty salaries so that UI can recruit quality faculty from around the country.

**University of Northern Iowa (UNI).** Interim President Jim Wohlpart highlighted UNI's achievements and budget request. He discussed the year's record enrollments, UNI's successful freshman retention efforts, and the need to now focus on retaining sophomores. He noted that UNI is requesting \$2.5 million more than the 2.0% increase requested by the other universities and said that the funds will be used to change UNI's business model.

**Special Schools.** Superintendent Steve Gettel highlighted the achievements and challenges of the Iowa School for the Deaf and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. Among the challenges facing the programs are reading delays among students, a lack of assessment data, insufficient early childhood intervention, limited family resources and gaps in access to services, and maintaining competitive salaries to aid teacher recruitment.

**More Information.** Further details regarding the Board of Regents FY 2018 budget request can be found [here](#).

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