



[Note: Updated August 18, 2009 with applicant information and approximate award amounts (pending further budget analysis) for approved awards. Award amounts for infrastructure projects will be posted following approval by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.]

August 14, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

The University of Iowa was appropriated \$35.5 million in non-recurring federal stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for use in fiscal year (FY) 2010. The University used \$20 million of that amount to help its General Education Fund and other state-supported units transition to FY 2011 while minimizing disruptions for students and immediate layoffs. Another portion of the ARRA funding will be used to fund proposals that emerged from a competitive process as the best ideas to promote both the longer term purposes of ARRA and the University of Iowa strategic plan.

Below is a summary of the competitive process and its results. Please note: **Proposals that include an infrastructure component of \$500,000 or more are subject to approval by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, or by the Board Office.** We anticipate that the Board of Regents will consider the proposals that require formal action at their meeting on September 16 and 17, 2009.

Results of ARRA Competitive Awards: Shaping a Leaner and Stronger University

Review process:

Academic and administrative units submitted more than 200 proposals, totaling \$100M, for the \$15.5M in available ARRA funding. President Mason, informed by the recommendations of the provost and the senior vice president (who were in turn informed by the evaluations of a campus-wide review committee and by deans' intra-collegiate ratings), approved 18 proposals. The successful proposals total \$14.0M (\$1.5M is set aside for later allocation). Based on a model for indirect job creation used by the University of Iowa Economic Research Institute, the funding of these proposals will save and/or create 110 on-campus jobs and 340 indirect off-campus jobs. By creating efficiencies and new opportunities, the proposals will help the University aggregate budgets, avoid \$2.6M in recurring costs, and generate \$2.7M in net revenue beginning in FY 2011. The budget savings and net revenue generation will assist in avoiding greater than inflationary tuition rate increases for resident undergraduate students in FY 2011. The proposals are clustered as follows:

1. Transforming undergraduate education with “Active Learning Centers”: Innovative, collaborative, and cost-effective learning in hi-tech classrooms

Most campus classrooms are designed for lectures. This initiative by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will create 6 to 10 classrooms of varying sizes for (a) self-paced, independent learning in skills courses and (b) small group learning in problem-solving courses. Interactive pedagogy in technologically-sophisticated environments promotes student learning and success, especially in lower division courses with larger introductory classes. The ultimate goal is increased student retention. Every 1% increase in first-year student retention translates to \$2M in tuition revenue over four years. The College projects \$0.6M in annual savings from research and teaching assistant expense. Applicants: Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering; Associate Provosts for Undergraduate Education and Academic Administration; Information Technology Services.

2. Sustainability on campus: Energy conservation and water quality

Energy savings: The “Energy Hawks” initiative will identify energy efficiency opportunities in campus buildings and implement conservation measures. A new Energy Control Center will manage energy use to reduce consumption within controlled buildings. The projected annual utility savings for the General Education Fund is \$1M. Applicant: Facilities Management.

Clean water: The UI Water Plant purifies raw water from the Iowa River and provides clean drinking water for the campus. The College of Engineering maintains student learning and research labs in this facility. The project will provide needed renovations and additions for student and faculty research experiences on water quality and sustainability. Applicant: Keri Hornbuckle, professor and DEO, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering; Barry Butler, dean, College of Engineering. Approximate cost: \$0.5M.

Standardization for cost-savings: Standardization of “virtual servers” (one large server to do the work of 30 smaller servers), standard printers, and common storage service will result in immediate and recurrent savings in equipment purchases and energy costs. Applicant: Information Technology Services. Approximate cost: \$0.45 M.

3. Educational opportunities for Iowans in their home communities

Business education: There are significant numbers of adults in Iowa who, because of work and family obligations, cannot relocate to Iowa City for graduate or baccalaureate education. The Tippie College of Business will expand its “MBA for Professionals and Managers” program by consolidating and renovating facilities in downtown Cedar Rapids and Des Moines. The result will be increased capacity to meet the burgeoning student demand in these communities. In addition, a partnership between the University and five community colleges (from the Quad Cities to Sioux City) will offer online and on-site baccalaureate degree courses in entrepreneurship. This ARRA investment will generate new student opportunities as well as tuition revenue growth. Applicants: Tippie College of Business, Department of Management & Organizations, Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, Division of Continuing Education. Approximate cost: \$0.645M.

Public health education: The College of Public Health will expand its current capabilities to support distance-based curriculum development and education for public health workforce development in rural Iowa communities and throughout the world. This will include the capacity for live web-conferencing. This effort will generate new educational opportunities for students and stimulate tuition revenue growth. Applicant: College of Public Health. Approximate cost: \$0.3M.

4. Strengthening research capabilities and advanced education

Academic computing: To preserve its competitive position in research and teaching, the University must continue to develop its capabilities in cyber-infrastructure: (1) Data center facilities for high-performance computing in the sciences, engineering, and humanities (e.g., Walt Whitman Archive) to process and analyze voluminous amounts of data; (2) electronic systems to store the data; and (3) faculty and student network access that will increase high speed connectivity tenfold (to 1000Mb/s from the current campus standard of 100Mb/s). This will increase student learning and research opportunities and will also bolster the University’s ability to attract external grants. Applicants: Research Administration and Information Technology Services.

Med Labs Faculty Start-up: 3,500SF will be renovated to aid in the recruitment of a director for the new Diabetes Center and accompanying commitments for diabetes research that follow on the recent \$25 million gift commitment from the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Moreover, UI will hire faculty and staff in anticipation of the opening of the Iowa Institute for Biomedical Discovery. ARRA funding for these efforts will create 30 new positions that will occupy the created research space—three faculty and 27 accompanying staff. Applicant: Michael Apicella, professor and DEO, Department of Microbiology; Paul Rothman, dean, Carver College of Medicine.

Instrumentation for research and graduate and undergraduate education:

- The University will develop an interdisciplinary and laboratory-based curriculum on nano-scale devices in engineering, which is expected to generate \$0.2M/year in external resources, in addition to providing undergraduate instruction in nanotechnology. It is projected that this

field will need highly skilled professionals now and well into the future. Applicants: David R. Andersen, professor, and Hassan Raza, assistant professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; Barry Butler, dean, College of Engineering. Approximate cost: \$0.5M.

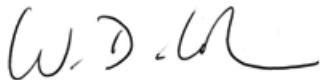
- The University plans to acquire: DNA sequencing robots to increase automated sequencing, thereby reducing costs for personnel and outsourcing; a genome sequencer for personalized medicine; an unlimited campus-wide license for DNA analysis software in lieu of more expensive, multiple licenses obtained by different campus units; and computer-based microscopy slides for histology courses, saving personnel costs and the space required for traditional glass slides. Applicants: Kevin L. Knudtson, director, DNA Facility; Robert C. Piper and Scott Moye-Rowley, professors, Department of Physiology; Fred R. Dee, professor, Department of Pathology; Paul M. Heidger, professor, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology; Paul Rothman, dean, Carver College of Medicine. Approximate cost: \$0.9M.

5. Beyond traditional markets: Recruiting of diverse domestic and international students

The trend in Iowa and other Midwestern states is declining numbers of high school graduates. Competition among universities is increasing in these markets. There are pockets of opportunity, however: Latino immigrants, who are increasing the diversity of Iowa; states beyond those contiguous to Iowa; and emerging economies of the world. UI needs to recruit strategically in both traditional and new markets in order to achieve enrollment goals and contribute to the future Iowa workforce. (The percentage of international graduates who remain in Iowa for their first job is slightly higher than for Iowa residents. And, every 100 new non-resident enrollments generates \$2.2M in gross annual tuition revenue.) Various offices on campus—Admissions, Student Financial Aid, the Center for Diversity & Enrichment, International Programs, Finance & Operations—will develop and implement an integrated enrollment management plan to expand access, recruitment, diversity, and academic success of domestic and international students. Applicants: International Programs, Special Assistant to the President for Equal Opportunity and Diversity and Associate Provost for Diversity, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Office of Admissions. Approximate cost: \$0.72M.

We want to thank the many individuals who invested time and energy in preparing and submitting ARRA proposals. We were deeply impressed with the number and quality of the proposals, which taken together make a powerful statement about the talent and creativity of the faculty and staff at this University. Unfortunately, the meritorious proposals far exceeded the ARRA funds available—but we are excited that we will be able to fund the remarkable projects described here, each of which will help us become a stronger university.

Sincerely,



Wallace D. Loh
Executive Vice President and Provost



Douglas K. True
Senior Vice President and Treasurer