

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REVISIONS TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY MANUAL – CHAPTER 6**

**Action Requested:** Consider, as a first and final reading, approval of revisions to Chapter 6.08 of the Board of Regents Policy Manual.

**Executive Summary:** The following changes reflect the need for Board of Regents approval to create centers and institutes and to name such centers or institutes at the public universities. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priorities to provide “educational excellence and impact.”

**Background:**

6.08 Approval of New Centers and Institutes

- A. Centers, institutes, and similar organizational units can make a major contribution to a university. Such units, if well organized, adequately funded, and appropriately integrated into the university, can support the mission of the university, particularly in the areas of research and public service. On the other hand, a center or institute can detract from the teaching commitment of the institution by siphoning off faculty resources or by otherwise diverting attention and money from more appropriate purposes. Furthermore, such units are often easier to create than to discontinue, particularly when an ongoing commitment of internal financial resources is involved.
- B. Proposals to create new centers or institutes at the universities, ~~which require an annual institutional commitment of \$250,000 or more,~~ shall be submitted to the Board Office. Following review by the Board Office and approval by the Council of Provosts, the request shall be placed on the agenda for the next appropriate meeting of the Board of Regents' Education and Student Affairs Committee. The Committee shall review the proposal and recommend action by the Board of Regents or take other action as it deems appropriate. ~~If the total amount of the external funding is \$1 million or more, the proposal for the center or institute shall be submitted to the Board Office as information for the Board of Regents. Information about centers or institutes which do not meet either of the thresholds shall be submitted to the Board Office at the discretion of the institution.~~
- C. The proposals shall be submitted in a format developed by the Board Office (Form C).
- D. The institutions shall conduct a review of Board-approved centers and institutes on a seven year cycle and shall provide the Board Office with an annual list of centers and institutes that have been reviewed. A one page report on each center or institute reviewed shall be provided to the Board Office in a format developed by the Board Office (Form D).
- E. The Board Office shall periodically and selectively identify centers and institutes from the reports submitted by the institution to be audited on site. The Board Office shall determine if any matters resulting from the audits need Board action and place them on the agenda of the Board of Regents Education and Student Affairs Committee.

- F. The name of a proposed center or institute typically follows the function of the unit. However, from time to time, the university desires to honor an individual by naming a center or institute for that individual. All proposed honorary names of centers and institutes at the Regent universities, including UIHC, shall obtain specific Board of Regents approval prior to naming.
- a. Before proceeding with any naming, all circumstances surrounding the naming must be carefully considered, including the overall benefit to the institution, whether the name is and will continue to be a positive reflection on the institution, and whether the name is consistent with the purpose and mission of the Board of Regents and its institutions.
  - b. The Board may name centers and institutes in honor of persons (living or deceased) or entities, such as a business or foundation. The following are examples of the categories of persons and entities eligible for naming:
    - i. Alumni with close ties to the institution.
    - ii. Distinguished Iowans.
    - iii. Persons who have made an outstanding contribution to a field of study, discipline, university, the State of Iowa, the nation, or the world.
    - iv. Donors who have made significant contributions to the institution, especially to the college that houses the center or institute or to the center or institute.
    - v. Employees (president, superintendents, faculty, staff). However, no center or institute may be named for a current Regent employee. Naming cannot occur earlier than two years following the end of employment/appointment or upon death.
  - c. A center or institute cannot be named for an elected official until that individual is no longer in office.
- G. Institutional responsibilities regarding due diligence concerning the proposed naming are described in §1.11E in the Board of Regents Policy Manual.