



Daily Times
Herald
Carroll, IA
Circ. 5928
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7/9/2010
45521



Victed in March.

209-21-26

Broadband expansion welcomed

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — The Iowa Board of Regents says the University of Iowa and Iowa State University will benefit from the planned expansion of the nation's broadband network.

President Barack Obama recently announced an investment in 66 new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act broadband projects nationwide. The public-private investment of more than \$1 billion includes about \$90 million in grants and loans coming to Iowa.

Plans include a \$16.2 million grant for upgrades to the Iowa Communication Network. The 3,000-mile fiber optic telecommunications network provides voice, video, data and Internet service to kindergarten through 12th grade schools, colleges, hospitals, state and federal government offices, National Guard armories and libraries across Iowa.

University of Iowa spokesman Steve Fleagle says the funding will be used to increase the network's capacity tenfold.

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