

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
May 8, 2008**

**SUBJECT:** Centers of Excellence Recommendations

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve awards associated with the 2007-08 Centers of Excellence Program.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution  
1004.226 Florida Statutes

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

1004.226 Florida Statutes created the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act, of which the Centers of Excellence Program is one of several embedded programs. The 2007 Florida Legislature made an appropriation of \$100M for the creation of world class research centers. Subsequent to budget reductions and costs associated with the external review of proposals by a nationally recognized entity, \$87,353,547 remains for Center awards.

The same statute created the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board which was charged with making recommendations for Centers of Excellence to the Florida Board of Governors. The Technology Board received a total of 41 proposals of which 7 are being recommended for either full or partial funding. The FTRSB's recommendations are outlined in an April 15, 2008 letter from FTRSB Chair Joseph Lacher to Chancellor Rosenberg. The Technology Board recommendations were considered and approved by the Board of Governors Research and Economic Development Committee on May 8, 2008.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** (Included in Committee agenda item)

**Facilitators / Presenters:** Vice Chancellor R.E. LeMon