

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
March 29, 2007**

**SUBJECT:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act  
2006 Annual Report

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve the Economic Development Committee's Annual Report for Transmission

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7(d), Article IX, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The 2006 Legislature enacted the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act which created the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Centers of Excellence Program, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century World Class Scholars Program, and the State University System Research and Economic Development Investment Program. The legislation resulted in the awarding of 16 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar awards from the 26 proposals submitted by the universities with a total funding of \$20 million. The Board also recommended the establishment of six centers of excellence from the 32 proposals that were submitted with a total funding of \$30 million.

The 2006 legislation requires that an annual report be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate. The report is to include the number of 21<sup>st</sup> Century World Class Scholars attracted, the number of Centers of Excellence created or expanded, the success of collaborations with related industries, and the success of these programs. In subsequent years the annual reports will focus on accountability measures to monitor the performance of Centers of Excellence, as well as the contributions of those faculty awarded the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars designations.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** None

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