

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
Research and Economic Development Committee
April 18, 2007 Teleconference**

SUBJECT: Research Collaboration

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Discussion

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Article IX, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 13, 2007 the SUS Council of Vice Presidents for Research met, joined by Vice Chancellor LeMon and Mr. Jim Pirius, federal lobbyist for the SUS. A topic of interest was the extent to which the SUS might enhance collaborative activity in order to compete for competitive federal grants.

Mr. Pirius commented indicated that changes in the appropriations process were rapidly being implemented by Congress, and that these changes were likely to mean fewer congressional earmarks for the SUS. Accordingly, Mr. Pirius recommends that the SUS needs to move away from its traditional reliance on earmarks (see table below) and move toward competitive grants. It was agreed that the SUS should identify a handful of key focus areas for potential collaboration and enhanced visibility. These areas should align with expertise in the SUS and Florida needs. After discussion, the Council recommended the following areas for enhanced collaboration:

Environmental Issues: water, everglades, global warming, hurricanes, marine mammals, estuaries, conservation biology, and marine and terrestrial ecology.

Energy: hydrogen, solar, ocean power, grid power economics, and biomass conversion.

Security: intermodal transportation, port, disaster management, hurricane mitigation, weapons, advanced sensors, biodefense, rapid response, port security.

Team Performance through Simulation: teachers, law enforcement, first responders, health caregivers.

Biomedical Science: Alzheimer's, aging, cancer, neurodegenerative, cardiovascular, infectious, drug discovery, stem cell.

Emerging Research Tools: gene analysis, bioinformatics, supercomputing, bionic implants.

Supporting Documentation Included:
Facilitators / Presenters:

Table of 2005 Earmarks
Vice Chancellor LeMon