

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
November 16, 2006**

SUBJECT: 21st Century Scholars Program

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve awards associated with the 2006 21st Century Scholars Program.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution
House Bill 1237, 2006 Florida Legislature

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

House Bill 1237 created the 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act, of which the 21st Century World Class Scholars Program is one of several embedded programs. The Program provides for the allocation of \$20M, matched dollar for dollar by SUS institutions, for purposes of recruiting and retaining scholars with national and international reputations for the State University System in the economically critical areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Five universities submitted a total of 24 candidate positions with requests totaling just over \$50M for this program. These requests were considered by the Board of Governors Research and Economic and Development Committee during a November 3, 2006 conference call, and again for final recommendation to the full Board of Governors at its meeting November 16, 2006. Because final Committee recommendations cannot be available as of the preparation of this agenda item, final award recommendations will be reflected in the Board of Governors minutes of its November 16, 2005 meeting.

In requesting these state matching funds the university presidents will submit written verification that the universities' match of these funds has been secured, and the source of those funds. Funds will be released as soon as practical upon receipt and review of this information.

Supporting Documentation Included: Staff Recommendations, November 3, 2006

Facilitators / Presenters: R.E. LeMon, Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs