



Item: AF: A-1

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

SUBJECT: 2008-09 Legislative Budget Request

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval of FAU 2008-09 Legislative Budget Request for Submission to the FBOG.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Florida Statutes [sections 1011.40(1) and 1001.74 (12)] require each university to submit a budget request to the legislature within the guidelines established by the Florida Board of Governors (FBOG). FBOG instructions for budget submission, which were addressed to each state university president in a memorandum from Chancellor Rosenberg dated April 11, 2007 provide a format for the submission of institutional requests by June 27, 2007. The request from Chancellor Rosenberg acknowledges each institution's responsibility to articulate its own statement of budgetary needs, however, restricts the total request to an 8% allocation as determined by the university's 2007-08 recurring general revenue and lottery operating appropriation. At FAU, this amount totals \$14,744,364.

In the interest of readability, the document that follows presents a narrative draft of the requested items categorized by strategic goal. The proposed LBR will be submitted to the FBOG pending full approval by the Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees at its June 27, 2007 meeting.

This document was reviewed by the President and Executive Committee and represents Florida Atlantic University's request to the FBOG for additional funding in 2008-09.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

Budget requests will be reviewed by the Florida BOG in Summer 2007. Selected items will be forwarded to the 2008 Florida Legislature for review and approval. Once authorized by the Florida Legislature and the Governor's Office, the approved allocations will be disbursed at the start of the new fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding received for these initiatives will assist the University in achieving its strategic priorities. This additional funding affords the University with the opportunity to recruit and retain a strong, diverse student population; to meet the special needs of its local and regional communities; to strengthen and expand its academic offerings to multiple delivery sites; and to enhance its overall performance and efficiencies within its multi-campus structure.

Supporting Documentation:
Presented by: Dr. John Pritchett, Provost

Proposed 2008-09 LBR
Phone: 561-297-2011

Florida Atlantic University 2008-09 Legislative Budget Request

Promoting Student Access and Success

Request: \$2,800,000

Principal Strategic Plan objectives addressed in this request

Goal 1: Providing Increased Access to Higher Education

Objective 3: Promote the academic success and improve the retention rate of first-time-in-college (FTIC) students.

3-8. Establish a Center for Teaching Excellence and Student Success.

Goal 1: Providing Increased Access to Higher Education

Objective 6: Adopt strategies that assure racial and ethnic diversity within the student body.

6-1. Use increased financial aid resources to improve recruitment of targeted student populations for enrollment in FAU degree programs.

Florida Atlantic University engages in many efforts to promote student access to higher education and the successful completion of degree programs in order to promote the benefits that come from an educated workforce. FAU's strategic plan features two initiatives that are essential to addressing the goal of promoting student access and success.

The first initiative is support for the further development of Florida Atlantic University's Center for Teaching Excellence and Student Success (CTESS). CTESS seeks to increase student achievement, retention and graduation rates through the following mechanisms:

- Creating a comprehensive program of tutoring and mentoring services for students with a focus on "high-risk" disciplines (i.e., those with a high rate of failure).
- Combining in a single cohesive unit academic support services for students and professional development activities for faculty in order to improve their command of the art and science of teaching, aimed specifically at helping students succeed academically.
- Offering student success activities that are aimed broadly at increasing retention rates by helping students improve their writing, math, study, organizational and time management skills.
- Integrating career counseling and development with academic skill development to ensure that students graduate with the competencies needed to succeed in the work place.
- Increasing faculty productivity by ensuring that teachers develop the best instructional practices and use these effectively in their classrooms.

Through these activities, and others to be developed with funds appropriated through this Legislative Budget Request, CTESS will become the focal point for initiating and coordinating a wide and growing range of activities geared to promoting student academic and career success.

In a second important area, Florida Atlantic University plays a critical role in promoting access to higher education for a large segment of high school graduates in its six-county service area who lack both the financial means and educational support mechanisms to consider traditional approaches to college selection and attendance. Many of these students are the first generation in their families to attend college and a preponderance of these students come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. This second initiative seeks support for an innovative program developed jointly by FAU's Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Office of Student Financial Aid to identify, mentor, and enroll students who might not otherwise aspire to attend a college or university. This comprehensive initiative will employ carefully-selected criteria to identify and mentor promising students in middle school in order to give them the skills, academic preparation, and aspiration to seek higher education. While focused on Florida Atlantic University's programs and admissions requirements, these efforts will contribute to access and success at all of Florida's universities, based on the individual student's preferences.

This initiative will support financial aid geared towards increasing the enrollment of students from varied socio-economic backgrounds as well as high-performing students from targeted urban high schools in FAU's service area. This effort combining need-based financial aid coupled with extensive outreach and recruitment will ensure that FAU is competitive with other flagship universities in attracting students of the highest academic caliber regardless of their financial need while ensuring that students from lower socio-economic households receive financial aid awards that will enable them to focus on their studies without financial impediment. A major focus of this initiative will be to reduce the student loan debt burden on students from low-income backgrounds.

Linking Cutting Edge Research and Training Partnerships to Economic and Workforce Development

Request: \$9,804,364

Principal Strategic Plan objectives addressed in this request

Goal 3: Building World-Class Academic Partnerships and Research Capacity

Objective 1: Increase significantly the University's total research expenditures to expand and enhance national recognition of FAU's academic and research programs.

Goal 2: Meeting Statewide Professional and Workforce Needs

Objective 5: Prepare Florida Atlantic University students to transition competitively into the workforce through partnerships with business and industry.

Florida Atlantic University is in the unique position to capitalize, on behalf of the State of Florida, on its already productive research partnerships with three outstanding research organizations: Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Scripps-Florida, and Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Research. The funds requested here will focus on initiatives that will augment and enhance on-going collaborative activities, especially those revolving around the development of interdisciplinary programs in bioengineering, bioinformatics, biotechnology and nanotechnology in collaboration with Scripps and Torrey Pines that take full advantage of FAU's research facilities on the John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter. These funds will also support closely-related initiatives related to research directed at discovery of "medicines from the sea" in concert with Harbor Branch Oceanographic and to fully develop FAU programs at its new facility at Harbor Branch.

The prospect of increased collaboration with Scripps-Florida and other organizations headquartered at or near Florida Atlantic University's John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter provide the ideal environment for the growth and expansion of FAU's programs in bioengineering and in bioinformatics. Beginning in 2009, FAU will reacquire space in two academic and research facilities on the MacArthur Campus that have been on loan to Scripps-Florida. These buildings are already outfitted to support research and education in bioengineering, bioinformatics, biotechnology, and nanotechnology. Funds from this request will allow FAU to hire faculty, graduate research assistants, and support staff to ensure the growth and development of these programs.

The following list indicates some of the emerging areas that FAU's interdisciplinary biotechnology focus will address:

- Biomedical and Biosystems Engineering
- Bioinformatics and Genome Research
- Biotechnology Robotics and Automation
- Biomechanics and Bioprocessing
- Combinatorial Approaches to Drug Design
- Drug Bioavailability and Delivery
- Imaging Nanotechnology Diagnostics
- Neuroscience and Neurosurgical Engineering
- Organ Culture Systems
- Systems Biology

Students enrolled in these programs will work closely with faculty in support of on-going research projects and will spend time working with local business and industry through a required Co-Operative Education experience. Co-op

programs have been found to promote economic development by providing employers with personnel who have been screened and trained with the employer's full participation and provide the student with practical experiences that are critical to linking theory and practice in the real world. Thus, support for these programs will enhance the supply of trained personnel who are essential to Florida's continued economic growth and development.

These research partnerships will develop and employ cutting-edge technology to make the jump from scientific discovery to practical application. This will increase their positive economic impact, especially as related to workforce utilization and the subsidiary multiplier effects of increased employment, commercialization, and licensing income. An integral component of both these R&D efforts will be attention to undergraduate and master's degree-level training to ensure a steady supply of skilled personnel for Florida's workforce. A core goal of these efforts to build research will be to integrate student workforce training in biotechnology. Through fast-track programs geared towards the rapid acquisition of both the bachelor's and master's degree in close articulation with Palm Beach Community College's innovative associate's degree in biotechnology and bioinformatics, FAU will maximize the hands-on opportunities for students to earn degrees in targeted areas and to create seamless career paths into the workforce.

One of Florida Atlantic University's highest strategic priorities is the continued development of world-class academic programs and research capacity. FAU is committed to recruiting the top graduate students in their disciplines in order to ensure continued success in cutting edge research. FAU must offer competitive benefits to these highly sought-after graduate students who assist research faculty and who represent a valuable economic resource to the State of Florida. Currently, FAU's graduate student benefit levels lag behind those offered by other universities in Florida and the nation. These requested funds, as directed by FAU's strategic plan, will begin to address the gap by increasing benefits for incoming graduate students to more competitive levels and by providing upgrades to the highest performing graduate students already enrolled at FAU. Funding in subsequent years will be sought to keep FAU competitive and to increase the number of graduate research positions offered, especially in emerging and highly competitive fields like bioengineering, bioinformatics, biotechnology, and biochemistry.

Florida Atlantic University Strategic Plan Initiatives Addressing Florida's Needs

Request: \$2,140,000

Principal Strategic Plan objectives addressed in this request

Goal 2: Meeting Statewide Professional and Workforce Needs

Objective 1: Expand production of degrees in nursing, engineering and teaching to align with approved Board of Trustees and Board of Governors targets.

Florida Atlantic University, in 2006, adopted a far-reaching strategic plan whose goals derive from and support the Board of Governor's strategic plan. One of the foundations of the FAU strategic plan is the need to address statewide needs for targeted degrees and workforce development in the critical areas of nursing, education, and technology. The funds requested here would support FAU's efforts to prepare workforce practitioners in the following areas:

- Nurse educators and practicing nurses, especially those with advanced degrees;
- Teachers in areas of critical need through a combination of pre-service (undergraduate) education and training, innovative approaches to alternative certification, and direct staff training and retention activities in partnership with local school districts;
- Technology-related programs serving distinct local and statewide needs in emerging fields.

Florida Atlantic University has been a leader in graduating advance-degree nurses to address the shortage of nursing faculty. However, constrained funding has made it necessary for the College of Nursing, faced with high demand from candidates with exceptional qualifications, to limit enrollment in practice-oriented programs, especially those leading to bachelor's and master's degrees. Funding from this request will enable the College of Nursing to continue to serve 70 FTE students who are currently served by faculty (clinical ratio = 10:1) who are funded through grants by local health care agencies. Without recurring hard dollar support, the College of Nursing will be forced over the next two fiscal years to reduce enrollments by up to 70 FTE students. Funds from this appropriations request would also enable the College to fully implement a cooperative teaching/service program that introduces nursing students to the demands of working with the elderly, especially those with progressive degrees of memory loss.

Florida Atlantic University's innovative effort labeled the Florida Initiative for the Advancement of Teaching (FIAT) will expand the pool of qualified teachers through the following efforts:

- Identifying college freshmen and sophomores and introducing them to teaching by linking them to master teachers who will mentor them and provide role models.
- Developing Educator Training Programs tailored to the needs of prospective teachers at various career stages or junctures: undergraduate pre-service; alternate entry for non-education majors; alternate entry and certification for mid-career personnel.
- Conducting research and evaluation to identify best practices and to develop new strategies for expanding the supply and quality of teachers.

This initiative received \$500,000 in non-recurring funds in 2007-08. Funds from this request are needed to provide recurring funds to support the initiative and to fully fund the initiative (increments of \$1.2m annually) over the next 2-3 years.

Florida Atlantic University's Strategic Plan places high priority of two programs in the technology sphere that promise to contribute heavily to workforce needs: 1) The program in Geomatics Engineering addresses the need to train individuals in the use of technology applied to land surveying and development. This program addresses the shortage of skilled personnel who are capable of employing tools like remote sensing, geographic information systems, and computer-based simulation and mapping to the demand for systematic mapping and development planning. 2) FAU's program in Civil Engineering has high student demand and is expanding its graduate programs. Funds from this budget request will support additional student enrollment and degree completers. This program will prepare students for direct entry into high demand/high salary jobs in the Florida workforce. High return on investment in these two high technology programs should be immediate.

Office of the Provost
Revised 6/25/07



2008-09 Proposed FAU Legislative Budget Request

Presentation to the FAU Board of Trustees
Joint Committee Meeting – June 13, 2007

2008-09 Proposed FAU Legislative Budget Request



Initiative 1

Promoting Student Access and Success

In support of:

FAU Strategic Goal 1-Objective 3-8; Goal 1-Objective 6-1

Request

\$2,800,000

- Provide support for the further development of Florida Atlantic University's Center for Teaching Excellence and Student Success (CTESS). CTESS seeks to increase student achievement, retention and graduation rates through various mechanisms designed to maximize student success.
- Provide support for an innovative program developed jointly by FAU's Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Office of Student Financial Aid to identify, mentor, and enroll students who might not otherwise aspire to attend a college or university. This comprehensive initiative will employ carefully-selected criteria to identify and mentor promising students in middle school in order to give them the skills, academic preparation, and aspiration to seek higher education.
- Enhance and expand need-based financial aid.

2008-09 Proposed FAU Legislative Budget Request



Initiative 2**Linking Cutting Edge Research and Training Partnerships to Economic and Workforce Development****In support of:**

FAU Strategic Goal 3 - Objective 1; Goal 2 - Objective 5

Request**\$9,804,364**

- Full funding of joint FAU-Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution collaboration at the Fort Pierce facility
- Development of programs in bioengineering, bioinformatics, biotechnology and nanotechnology in collaboration with Scripps and Torrey Pines that take full advantage of FAU's research facilities on the John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter.
- Graduate Student Benefits

2008-09 Proposed FAU Legislative Budget Request

**Initiative 3****Florida Atlantic University Strategic Plan Initiatives Addressing Florida's Needs****In support of:**

FAU Strategic Goal 2 - Objective 1

Request**\$2,140,000**

Funds will support FAU's efforts to prepare workforce practitioners in the following areas:

- Nursing educators and practicing nurses
- Teachers in areas of critical need
- Emerging technologies such as Geomatics Engineering and Civil Engineering

2008-09 Proposed FAU Legislative Budget Request

