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April 10, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors, Offices of Research

FROM: E. Joseph Savoie  
Commissioner of Higher Education

RE: 1. Out-of-State Consultants' Reports and Funding Recommendations for Proposals Submitted under the Board of Regents Support Fund Programs, FY 2002-03

2. **April 22, 2003 DEADLINE** for Campus Responses to Funding Stipulations Contained in Enclosed Reports

Enclosed are thirteen reports from out-of-state consultants which recommend funding for proposals submitted in FY 2002-03 under Board of Regents Support Fund programs. The Board is expected to act on these recommendations, as well as on campus requests for matching funds to endow professorships, at its meeting of April 24, 2003.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: THESE THIRTEEN REPORTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.laregents.org>. ACTION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS IS REQUIRED BEFORE FUNDING IS ASSURED FOR ANY OF THE PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED THEREIN.**

**ENDOWED CHAIRS PROGRAM:**

Report 1

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:**

Report 2 Industrial Ties Research Subprogram

Report 3 Research Competitiveness Subprogram

**ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:**

Report 4 Undergraduate Enhancement Program

Report 5 Traditional Enhancement Program: Multi-disciplinary

Report 6 Traditional Enhancement Program: Biological Sciences

Report 7 Traditional Enhancement Program: Computer and Information Sciences

Report 8 Traditional Enhancement Program: Engineering B

Report 9 Traditional Enhancement Program: Humanities

Report 10 Traditional Enhancement Program: Social Sciences

Report 11 Enhancement Education Program

Report 12 Enhancement Pilot Program for Two-Year Institutions

**GRADUATE FELLOWS:**

Report 13

Relative to the Endowed Chairs report, affected campuses should note that the following stipulation in the Board's Request for Proposals #2002-16 must be applied to the 21 proposals which were reviewed under the Competitive Endowed Chairs Program.

**. . . When requests exceed funds available, the following limitations apply relative to the amount of money that will be awarded per campus under the competitive program: (a) each public campus will be limited to \$1.2 million per fiscal year; and (b) all LAICU campuses combined will be limited to a total of \$1.2 million per fiscal year.**

Assuming that \$3.2 million is available to the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program in FY 2002-03, application of the above will mean that the proposals ranked one through three and five through eight will be funded. One of these proposals is for a \$2 million chair, requiring a BoR match of \$800,000.

The precise amount of money available for Support Fund programs will not be known until the Board is certain whether additional monies from the State General Fund will be available for the Board's use this year to fund additional endowed chair and endowed professorship requests.\* The total maximum amounts of FY 2002-03 money anticipated to be available for new projects recommended in each of the following reports are as follows:

1.	Endowed Chairs	\$3,200,000
2.	Industrial Ties Research Subprogram	\$ 650,000
3.	Research Competitiveness Subprogram	\$1,266,359
4.	Undergraduate Enhancement	\$1,280,000
5.	Traditional Enhancement, Multi-disciplinary	\$ 200,000
6.	Traditional Enhancement, Biological Sciences	\$1,135,693
7.	Traditional Enhancement, Computer and Information Sciences	\$ 531,632
8.	Traditional Enhancement, Engineering B	\$1,352,260
9.	Traditional Enhancement, Humanities	\$ 647,860
10.	Traditional Enhancement, Social Sciences	\$ 952,450
11.	Enhancement Education Program	\$ 947,502
12.	Enhancement Pilot Program for Two-Year Institutions	\$ 800,000

Campuses with projects recommended for funding should note that, in some instances, reviewers recommended modifications in the budgetary level and/or institutional matching commitment. **All institutions with proposals recommended for funding must inform the Sponsored Programs Section in writing no later than 4:30 P.M., Tuesday April 22, 2003, if any of the following conditions apply:**

1. Difficulties are foreseen in adjusting to the recommended modifications in funding levels, institutional matching requirements, or other stipulations set forth in these reports;

**NOTE:** If budgets have been reduced with no indication of the manner in which the reduction should/must be accomplished, the principal investigator/project director will be allowed to reduce the budget as he/she deems most appropriate to accomplish the objectives set forth in the proposal as originally submitted.

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\*The Legislature has provided a special appropriation for this purpose during four of the past six fiscal years.

2. There has been a change in the employment status of any individual listed as a lead principal investigator, or of any other individual named in the application who is critical to the successful completion of the proposed work;
3. The same or a very similar project has already been funded or will be funded in the near future from another source; and/or
4. Problems exist, or funding stipulations have been recommended, that cannot be resolved within the next few weeks, and which, therefore, might preclude the Board's being able to award the Support Fund money by June 30, 2003, or at all. Typical problems of this type include but are not limited to: (a) the institution's inability to fulfill a promised institutional matching commitment, as set forth in the proposal; or (b) the Support Fund award being contingent upon the applicant's success in securing additional funding from, for example, a Federal agency or an industry.

**Institutions with proposals recommended for funding for which none of the preceding conditions apply must ALSO provide written assurance that (a) no problems will exist if the proposal(s) recommended are funded in the manner and at the budgetary levels stipulated by the consultants; and (b) the commitments made by applicant(s) and the institution, as set forth in the original proposal(s), will be met. These responses are also due in writing no later than April 22, 2003.**

**We strongly prefer that your office coordinate and submit all responses from your institution.**  
This enables us to give you the maximum amount of time available (i.e., until April 22) to submit your responses.

**ALL RESPONSES MUST BE MAILED, FAXED, or E-MAILED TO:**

Mr. John Wallin  
Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration  
Louisiana Board of Regents  
P. O. Box 3677  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-3677  
FAX: (225) 342-3371  
e-mail: jwallin@laregents.org

Perusal of these reports also results in the following observations, some of which are unique to the particular circumstances of this fiscal year:

1. No Priority II projects will be funded this year from either of the Research and Development Subprograms (Reports 2 and 3). We do believe, however, that money will be available to fund each of the top 13 ITRS Priority I projects and the top thirty-eight (38) RCS Priority I projects at the levels recommended by consultants.
2. We anticipate that money will be available to fund all Priority I Traditional and Undergraduate Enhancement proposals, as well as Priority I Education Enhancement and Enhancement Pilot Program for Two-Year Institutions proposals (Reports 4 through 12) at the levels recommended by consultants. With the single exception of the Traditional Enhancement Biological Sciences category, we do not anticipate that funds will be available for any Priority II Enhancement

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projects. There are stipulations in the funding recommendations of the Biological Sciences report that make it possible that some Priority II proposals in that category **might** be funded.

Directors, Offices of Research  
April 10, 2003  
Page 4

The effective date of contracts for funded projects will be June 1, 2003. Applicants whose projects are funded will be informed as quickly as possible after April 24 of the items required for their contracts.

If you have any questions about this memorandum or the attached consultants' reports, please feel free to call Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, or Mr. Wallin at (225) 342-4253.

JW/vd  
Enclosures  
cc: System and Campus Heads (memorandum only)  
(Conrep.03 C:JW)