

UNF Board of Trustees

January 17, 2008

Issue Delegation of Approval Authority – State University Research Commercialization Assistance Grant Proposals

Proposed Action Approval

Background Information

The State University Research Commercialization Assistance Grant Program was established by the 2007 Florida Legislature within the 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act (F.S. 1004.226). The Program is designed to promote the commercialization of university research products for the purpose of enhancing the state's economy and creating a more vital link between venture capitalists, industry, and Florida's state universities. Under the Program, a state university, or a cooperative of state universities, may apply for early stage capital funding for the purpose of developing products and services resulting from university research.

Addressing the grant proposal submission process, the legislation (Section 1004.226(7)(b)) states that, "Any state university, upon approval of its board of trustees, may submit a request to the board [i.e. the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board] for a grant to facilitate the commercialization of a university research product or the commercialization of a patent held by a state agency under a cooperative agreement between the state agency and the university."

In order to facilitate the submission of grant proposals to the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board and to avoid potential delays, it is recommended that the University Board of Trustees delegate approval authority to the President, who may, in turn, delegated this authority to the appropriate university administrative office.

Supporting Documentation

- Delegation of Approval Authority - State University Research Commercialization Assistance Grants
- The 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act