



Louisiana EPSCoR

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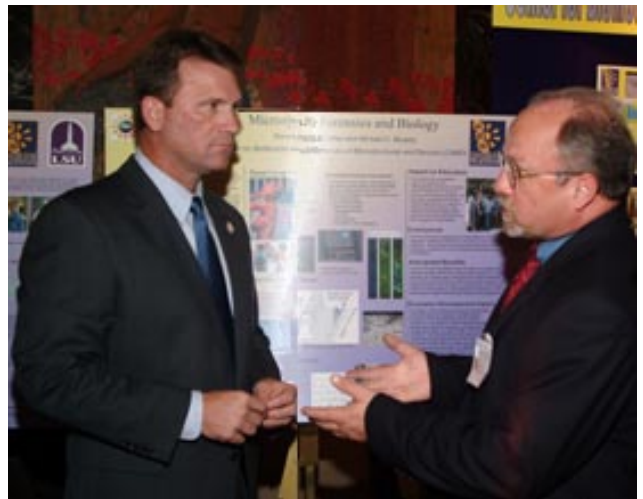
Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

LOUISIANA AWARDED \$9M NSF GRANT

A \$9 million National Science Foundation grant to enhance the State's research infrastructure has been awarded to the Board of Regents and the Louisiana EPSCoR program.

With matching funds of \$3 million from the Board of Regents Support Fund and \$1.5 million from participating institutions, the competitively awarded Research Infrastructure Improvement grant will total \$13.5 million over the next three years. The Board of Regents and Louisiana EPSCoR will use the funds to foster research with the potential to lift Louisiana to a higher level of national competitiveness for federal science and engineering funding.

"The systemic programs in this Research Infrastructure Improvement award are designed to enhance tools, people and ideas throughout the State by enhancing Louisiana's research and development competitiveness; building partnerships among Louisiana universities, national laboratories, and the private sector; and attracting students into the science and engineering fields," said Louisiana EPSCoR Director Dr. Michael Khonsari.



State Senator Clo Fontenot (left) and Dr. Steven Soper of LSU, Director of the Center for Biological Modular Microsystems, discuss CBM² at the recent Louisiana EPSCoR research showcase at the Capitol Rotunda.



The integrated suite of programs was designed by LA EPSCoR to build infrastructure to stimulate long-term research competitiveness. These programs are consistent with NSF's Strategic Outcome Goals of enhancing Tools, People, and Ideas. (For more information, visit <http://laregents.org>.)

The centerpiece of the new grant will be the establishment of a nationally prominent Center for Biological Modular Microsystems (CBM²). It will bring together an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional research team possessing expertise in microsystems engineering, materials, chemistry, and biological systems. CBM² has the state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to develop the tools needed for research in medicine, forensics, biology and drug discovery. Dr. Khonsari noted that "the Center's pioneering research and development on the design and fabrication of functional high-performance biological tools and devices will put Louisiana on the map as a major player at the national level."

"This new NSF EPSCoR grant is further confirmation that Louisiana's research universities are able to compete on a national scale," said Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Savoie. "In particular, the work of Louisiana's university researchers in micro-nano technologies has produced promising results with potentially valuable applications in a wide range of disciplines, from medicine to manufacturing."

The initiative builds upon the significant advancements in micro-nano technologies made during previous NSF EPSCoR funding. CBM² includes researchers from Louisiana State University and A&M College, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Tulane University Health Sciences Center, the J. Bennett Johnston Center for Advanced Microstructures and Devices (CAMD), and Xavier University of Louisiana.

Louisiana EPSCoR and the Louisiana Board of Regents: A Winning Partnership

Louisiana EPSCoR has been awarded over \$89.5 million from the various EPSCoR participating agencies since its inception. Of that amount, over \$32.6 million was from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The constitutionally protected Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) has provided matching funds of over \$31.3 million for the EPSCoR program.

In all EPSCoR programs, the objectives are to strengthen targeted R&D areas relevant to the State, diversify its economy and, in the process, develop Louisiana's research capacity, infrastructure, and science and engineering personnel.

Opportunities for Louisiana Researchers

Through Louisiana EPSCoR's Research Infrastructure Improvement Award from NSF, university faculty can take advantage of the following programs/funding opportunities:

- Preliminary Planning Grants for Major Initiatives
- Planning Grants for Major Center Initiatives
- Pilot Funding for New Research (Pfund)
- Faculty Research Fellowships
- Links with Industry, Research Centers, and National Laboratories (LINK)
- Grant Writing Seminars and Workshops
- Travel Grants for Emerging Faculty (TGEF)
- Speaking of Science Speakers' Bureau (SoS)
- Faculty Expertise Database with Funding Alerts (LA FED)

For RFP's and additional information, visit the Board of Regents' Office of Sponsored Programs website at <http://laregents.org>.

Center for Biological Modular Microsystems

Director

Dr. Steven Soper, Wm. L. & Patricia Senn, Jr. Professor of Chemistry, Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU)



Co-Directors

Dr. Mark Batzer, Professor of Biological Sciences, LSU

Dr. Jost Goettfert, Director of Microfabrication and Associate Professor of Research, J. Bennett Johnston Center for Advanced Microstructures and Devices

Dr. Robin McCarley, Professor of Chemistry, LSU

Dr. Michael Murphy, Associate Professor of Engineering, LSU

Dr. Su-Seng Pang, Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives & Jack Holmes Professor of Mechanical Engineering, LSU

Dr. Isiah Warner, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Boyd Professor; Philip W. West Professor of Analytical & Environmental Chemistry and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor, LSU

Participating Institutions

- Louisiana State University and A&M College
- Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
- J. Bennett Johnston Center for Advanced Microstructures and Devices
- Tulane University Health Sciences Center
- Xavier University of Louisiana

For additional information, visit <http://www.lsu.edu/cbmm>



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