



News Release

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Conference to Feature Research Center Finalists

PIERRE, S.D. – Eleven faculty teams from South Dakota public universities are in the running to become state-funded research centers as part of Gov. Mike Rounds' 2010 Initiative.

The teams will be introduced May 10 at the Research 2010! Conference. The event Monday at the Ramkota RiverCentre in Pierre is co-sponsored by the South Dakota Board of Regents and the Department of Tourism and State Development. Sessions will focus on steps South Dakota must take to strengthen university research capacity and translate it into economic development.

“We have 11 solid research proposals under review,” said Robert T. Tad Perry, the regents’ executive director. “All of these proposals have been scrutinized by a group of external reviewers experienced in assessing large-scale, complex proposals.” The reviewers delivered their findings this week to the regents’ Research Affairs Council. A final decision on which projects will be funded is expected later this month from the Governor’s Research and Commercialization Council, Perry said.

The 11 research proposals being considered are:

- Creation of a South Dakota Sustainable Energy Institute
- Center for Applied Research in Biogeosciences
- South Dakota Signal Transduction Center
- Center for the Research, Development, and Commercialization of Advanced Information Systems for Agriculture, Disaster Mitigation, and Homeland Security
- National Biometric Infrastructure
- Center for Accelerated Applications at the Nanoscale
- Institute for Belowground Biocomplexity
- South Dakota Women’s Research Center
- Food and Bio-products Innovation and Commercialization Center
- Center for the Research and Development of Light-Activated Materials
- Center for Infectious Disease Research and Vaccinology

Principal investigators on each of the 11 research proposals will have their work on display at Monday’s conference. In addition to presentations from regional and national experts on university research and commercialization, Gov. Rounds will open the conference with his remarks at 10 a.m.