



News Release

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University Research Projects Benefit from Legislative Support

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents received \$5.9 million in one-time funds during the 2012 legislative session, and higher education officials say that \$2 million will go to improve research capacity at all six public universities in South Dakota.

Proposals were solicited to leverage the one-time state dollars with non-state grant funding obtained by the campuses. Earlier this fall, a review committee composed of regents, state legislators, and research administrators selected proposals to be funded.

“We were particularly interested in projects that emphasized research topics related to alternative energy, biotechnology, information systems, or the Sanford Underground Research Facility,” said Paul Turman, the regent’s vice president for research and economic development. “Funds are to be used to help pay for scientific equipment that would enhance the capabilities of our campus research laboratories in these critical research areas,” Turman said. “We were pleased to see the high caliber of proposals submitted, which resulted from competitive processes at each campus prior to submitting for review by the committee.”

The projects funded include:

- \$500,000 to **South Dakota State University** to obtain X-ray diffraction and microstructure analysis systems, and pilot scale extrusion systems for bioenergy and biotechnology processing.
- \$425,000 to **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology** for new faculty start-up funds, major research equipment upgrades, and the creation of a new high-performance computational system.
- \$375,000 to **The University of South Dakota** to develop research infrastructure for the commercialization activity related to germanium crystal growth, and to support start-up funds in the area of neurobehavioral sciences.
- \$293,947 to **Black Hills State University** for scientific laboratory equipment to support a growing research program in biomedical research and renewable energy.

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- \$219,655 to **Dakota State University** in support of start-up funds for new faculty positions in information systems and cybersecurity, as well as the creation of a mobile security laboratory.
- \$186,398 to **Northern State University** to acquire scientific laboratory equipment to support biology faculty at NSU and enhance the university's technology infrastructure.