

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
September 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Florida Collaborative Data Initiative Legislative Budget Request

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For Information and Consideration of the Florida Collaborative Data Initiative Legislative Budget Request

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This request is for six Florida universities (UF, FSU, USF, UCF, FIU and FAU) to build a shared research data storage and sharing system that allows researchers to easily collaborate, store enormous quantities of data securely and be more competitive for federal grants. The service will be provided by the Sunshine State Education and Research Computing Alliance (SSERCA) through six of its member institutions (UF, FSU, USF, UCF, FIU, FAU). Additional universities can be added to the system in the future. UNF, UWF, and FAMU are already participating affiliate members.

A shared research data storage system encourages more cross-university collaboration, leveraging the best researchers in the state and making Florida researchers more competitive for federal grants. Each initial storage unit will cost \$650,000 and will be purchased using first year salary savings, as a phased approach for staff hiring will be implemented. When demand dictates, additional and replacement storage will be purchased using grants and institutional sources of funds.

The total request is for \$2,161,800 recurring which will be evenly divided among the six universities (\$360,300) to cover new staff positions and the annual equipment maintenance contract of \$60,000 at each location.

Supporting Documentation Included: Legislative Budget Request Form I and II

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