

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 14, 2002

SUBJECT: Academic Improvement Trust Fund Use Approval

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval item: Request for Use Approval for Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The proposals for use of funds from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund were formerly approved by the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) as required by Chapter 240.36(6)(c), Florida Statutes. Several years ago, the members of the SBCC delegated this approval to the Executive Director.

Chapter 2001-170, Laws of Florida, abolished the State Board of Community Colleges. The duties and responsibilities of the Board were transferred to the Florida Board of Education by a Type Two Transfer.

Therefore, the board of trustees of each community college and the Florida Board of Education are responsible for determining the uses for the proceeds of their respective trust funds. Such uses of the proceeds shall be limited to expenditure of the funds for:

- (1) Scientific and Technical Equipment;
- (2) Other activities that will benefit future students as well as students currently enrolled at the community college and that will improve the quality of education at the community or in the community college system;
- (3) Scholarships, loans, or need-based grants.

The following colleges have submitted requests for use of these funds:

- Indian River Community College - \$59,903.20 to purchase instructional equipment to enhance the quality of the IRCC instructional program at the 2+2 Joint Use Facility with Florida Atlantic University at the St. Lucie West Campus. A list of the requested scientific equipment for the Biology Lab is attached.
- Pensacola Junior College - \$82,042 to purchase digital equipment for WSRE-TV to prepare for the digital television transition federally mandated for public television stations.
- Santa Fe Community College - \$26,894.50 to replace the obsolete automotive

alignment equipment used to train SFCC automotive students. The present equipment is nearly 20 years old, out of date and requires frequent maintenance. A list of equipment and quote from Hunter Engineering is attached.

The community college boards of trustees have approved the uses of these funds and have certified that the uses meet the criteria stated in law. It is the opinion of the staff of the Division of Community Colleges that the colleges have complied with the requirements stated in statute and recommend Board approval of these uses from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

Supporting Documentation Included: Request for Use Approval Forms submitted by the above colleges.

Facilitators/Presenters: Ed Cisek