

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 6.7     Joint Use Agreement for \$353,200 between Sinclair Community College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the 122nd Ohio General Assembly enacted H.B. 850 which includes an appropriation of \$6.3 million for Noncredit Job Training Facilities Grants; and

WHEREAS, in November 1999 the Board of Regents approved a \$538,550 Noncredit Job Training Facilities Grant for Sinclair Community College; and

WHEREAS, of this amount, \$353,200 is to be used for a joint use agreement between Sinclair Community College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation to provide funding for a Learning Center at the Miami Valley Research Park; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents' Rule 3333-1-03 requires that a joint use agreement between the institution for which funds are appropriated and the organization which will own or lease and operate facilities to be constructed or improved with such funds must be approved by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair Community College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation have presented a joint use agreement for approval by the Ohio Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair Community College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation enjoy mutual educational, programmatic, training and research linkages, which will provide numerous educational and programming opportunities for both parties; and

WHEREAS, the agreement has been reviewed and its format is found to be appropriate, its description of extent and nature of use has been specified, and the commitment extends no less than fifteen years and it is, in all other respects, in conformity with Rule 3333-1-03; and

WHEREAS, the parties have determined that the value of the use of the Center is reasonably related to the amount of the appropriation;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and with the concurrence of the Resources Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents, that the joint use agreement between Sinclair Community College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation, attached and made a part hereof, be approved.

## **BACKGROUND**

House Bill 850 of the 122<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly appropriated \$6.3 million for Non-Credit Job Training Facilities Grants of which the Board of Regents approved \$538,550 for Sinclair Community College in November 1999. Of this amount, Sinclair Community College proposes to use \$353,200 for a joint use agreement between the College and the Miami Valley Research Foundation to provide funding for a Learning Center at the Miami Valley Research Park. The remaining \$185,350 will be used solely by Sinclair to purchase computers and related equipment.

The university-related Miami Valley Research Park is owned by the Miami Valley Research Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 1980. The Park is located just east of Dayton in the suburban communities of Kettering and Beavercreek, Ohio. The Park is financially self-sustaining and has eleven buildings, 1.7 million square feet of space, 45 resident organizations, and 2,400 resident employees. The Foundation's mission is to foster and promote research, technological, scientific and educational activities that attract advanced technology companies involved in basic research and/or prototype development. The Foundation's ultimate goal is to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities and to improve the economic welfare of the Dayton metropolitan area.

The concept for the Research Park began in the late 1970's as the Dayton area began to react to a major industry restructuring and the beginning of a national recession. Together with local university presidents, community leaders decided to create a world-class research park that could attract research and technology enterprises from business, industry and government to build and operate facilities in the Park. The State of Ohio embraced this concept and donated 675 acres of land and \$20 million to begin the Park. The Research Park's development is still in its infancy. A comprehensive land-use plan, design manual and set of restrictions have been adopted that provide low-density development (25%) and assures protection for residents' property values. Strict performance standards apply and there is a major emphasis on environmentally-sensitive planning.

The proposed Learning Center at Miami Valley Research Park would be operated by the Corporate & Community Services division of Sinclair Community College in partnership with the Miami Valley Research Foundation and the Foundation's other university partners, which include Central State University, the University of Dayton, and Wright State University. The Center would offer non-credit and credit courses on information technology for the entire Miami Valley Community. The initial set of classes would begin in September 2000, and would include courses on a variety of general-interest information technology topics. The Learning Center would be equipped with state-of-the-art telecommunications technology. In addition to traditional classrooms, the facility would include rooms specifically designed for seminars and distance learning via videoconferencing and/or the Internet. The Center would be able to connect with the Center for Interactive Learning on Sinclair's campus as well as other remote learning sites throughout the world.

The addition of the proposed Learning Center would benefit Sinclair Community College and other local educational institutions tremendously by opening up a market for on-site training for the 2,400 employees of the 45 high tech organizations located in the Park and by providing up to 10,000 square feet of space to Sinclair at one-half the market value. In addition, the Center would reinforce Sinclair's reputation as a leader in enhanced learning opportunities, and would help stimulate technology-based competitive growth for the region.