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UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI WINS $1.37 MILLION RESEARCH SCHOLAR FUNDING FROM STATE OF OHIO

TWO OHIO EMINENT SCHOLAR AWARDS FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION IN CONCERT WITH OHIO'S THIRD FRONTIER PROJECT

COLUMBUS --- Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut announced today the University of Cincinnati is the winner of this year's two Ohio Eminent Scholar Awards in Third Frontier-related technology research. The Chancellor was joined by University of Cincinnati President Nancy Zimpher, UC engineers, researchers, scientists, and members of the Ohio General Assembly.

The University of Cincinnati's College of Engineering and McMicken College of Arts and Sciences will receive $1.37 million in state funds, to be matched by funds from the university itself, to conduct research directly focused on technology commercialization in concert with Ohio's Third Frontier Project in the fields of NanoBioDevices and Advanced Propulsion and Power Systems.

"The State of Ohio is proud to partner with the University of Cincinnati to support its role as a center of excellence in the Southwest Ohio region as it embarks on this important work," said Chancellor Fingerhut. "This is a prestigious award for UC, an institution we recognize as one of the finest urban research universities, ranked by the National Science Foundation among the top 25 public research universities in the country."

"It also comes at a time where we're experiencing an unprecedented level of investment by Ohio in higher education," Fingerhut continued, referring to the $1 billion boost in higher education spending agreed to by Governor Ted Strickland and the Ohio General Assembly.

The Ohio Eminent Scholar funding will allow the University of Cincinnati to recruit two senior faculty from among the nation's finest research talent who will relocate to UC and establish new centers of excellence for research and technology commercialization. The two new senior scholars will be Ohio's 50th and 51st Ohio Eminent Scholars since the program's 1983 inception, and the 13th and 14th at the University of Cincinnati.

"The University of Cincinnati is extremely proud of all of our Eminent Scholars and that UC was awarded two new Eminent Scholars - the only ones awarded this year," said University of Cincinnati President Nancy L. Zimpher. "UC is committed to continuing innovative research in key areas, such as advanced materials, biosciences, and power and propulsion. Our success in

these areas fosters visibility for Ohio nationally and internationally, strengthens our state and regional economic base, and provides further opportunities to attract top faculty and top students to Ohio."

About the Awards

NanoBioDevices

University of Cincinnati's first award funds an Ohio Eminent Scholar who will hold a joint appointment in the colleges of Engineering and Arts and Sciences, and who will work with other Eminent Scholars on the UC campus in such fields as chemistry, microelectronics, and medicine to establish a nationally recognized center of excellence in NanoBioDevices. The scholar and research team will focus on the experimental development of new nanoscale device architectures using specialty knowledge derived from electronics, chemistry, and biology. Examples of nanofabricated devices that might result from this work would include biosensors, nanomedical devices for targeted drug delivery, and nanostructured biometric materials.

Advanced Propulsion and Power Systems

University of Cincinnati's second award funds an Ohio Eminent Scholar who will strengthen and expand UC's existing life-management research activities in the areas of advanced erosion and corrosion protection. This scholar will also focus on manufacturing quality control along with mechanisms for real-time *in situ* engine health monitoring and inspections. Life-cycle management of propulsion and power systems is of major importance not only in the operation of existing commercial aircraft fleets but also in the design and development of future systems using lighter composite materials and thermal barrier coatings. The field is especially important because the aeronautics industry faces significant challenges in improving safety, increasing fuel efficiency, decreasing erosion and minimizing environmental impacts of air and noise pollution.

About the University of Cincinnati

Ranked by the National Science Foundation among the top 25 public research universities in the United States, UC's faculty have distinguished themselves worldwide for their creative teaching and research. The University of Cincinnati serves a diverse enrollment of more than 35,000 students through a balance of educational excellence and real-world experience. Founded in 1819, UC is the largest employer in the Cincinnati region, with an economic impact of more than $3 billion.

About the Ohio Eminent Scholars Program

The Ohio Eminent Scholars Program was created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1983 to foster national eminence of outstanding academic programs at Ohio colleges and universities. During the period 1984-2004 forty-nine endowed chairs were established at nine different Ohio universities. All forty-nine positions are currently occupied by distinguished senior scholars.

An Ohio Eminent Scholar is an individual acknowledged as a scholar of distinction by national measures who has a distinguished record of research and scholarly achievement. An Ohio Eminent Scholar must be a new hire to an Ohio university or college and may not be employed within the State of Ohio prior to the time of her or his appointment.

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