

September 4, 2003

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

From: Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson, Chair, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Consideration of Budget for S.C. Research Centers for Economic Excellence
FY 2003-04**

Background

Attached please find the budget approved by the Review Board, which oversees the Research Centers of Excellence for Economic Development program, at its meeting on August 25, 20003.

Under the legislation establishing this program, the Commission on Higher Education must approve the budget for the Research Centers program. This program has been funded with \$30 million dollars from the lottery for FY 2003-04.

For FY 2002-03, the Review Board awarded \$30 million dollars to the following Research Centers/Endowed Professorships:

Automotive Research	Clemson	\$10 million
Marine Genomics	MUSC	\$ 4 million
Brain Imaging	MUSC/USC	\$ 5 million
Proteomics	MUSC	\$ 4 million
Neuroscience	MUSC	\$ 3 million
Nanostructures	USC	\$ 4 million

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission the budget submitted by the Research Centers for Economic Excellence Review Board for FY 2003-04.

The Committee will make its recommendations to the Commission on September 4.