

Arkansas Research Matching Fund 2006 Report

**From the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority
March 31, 2006**

This is the fourth biennial report on the Arkansas Research Matching Fund. The Authority is pleased to report that \$292,671 was available in fiscal year 2006 (FY2006) and was allocated to match two federal awards. This is in contrast to the previous biennium when no research matching funds were available.

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority's Arkansas Research Matching Fund (established in 1999; Arkansas Code 15-3-201 et seq.) provides state funds to match federal awards for research and research equipment. The goal of the Arkansas Research Matching Fund is to improve the state's federal research and development ranking by helping to build university-based research infrastructure.

Data concerning the projects submitted to the Arkansas Research Matching Fund (see Table I) show that Arkansas scientists and engineers are competitive for federal awards. The continuing challenge is to find the increasingly required research matching dollars from non-federal sources. Although the research matching funds were used to support the projects indicated, the available funds were insufficient to "fully match" the two federal awards, placing a burden on participating campuses and limiting the participation of smaller campuses. Some federal awards are for multi-year projects; available matching funds will fall far short of next year's anticipated match requests.

Awards:

No funds were available for matching requests in FY2004 or FY2005, however, Accelerate Arkansas, a statewide volunteer group, was able to secure a biennial appropriation (\$291,671 each fiscal year) for research matching in the 2005 regular legislative session. The Authority's Board of Directors is grateful for the interest and support of research by Accelerate Arkansas.

The Board approved two Arkansas Research Matching Fund projects for FY2006, representing an investment of **\$292,671** or 20 percent of the required non-federal match. Participating colleges and universities provided the remaining 80 percent. These funds from the Authority and the institutions satisfied federal match requirements and resulted in federal funding that totaled **\$2,688,865**.

Table I. Match Sources for Federal Funds FY2006

Proposal ID	Institution/ P.I.s	Federal Co-Sponsor	Project Title	Federal Awards	STATE Match Funds Requested	Match source & amount	Total value of Award
05-ARMF-01 Dr. Collis	Geren (UAF)	NSF-EPSCoR	1) *Human Infrastructure Development Component	\$369,658	\$184,829	\$184,829 (ARMF)	\$554,487
	& Dr. John Hehr (UAF)		2) Arkansas EPSCoR Research Infrastructure (UAF)	\$1,829,547		\$914,775 (UAF)	\$2,744,322
	& Dr. Mansour Mortazavi (UAPB)		2) Arkansas EPSCoR Research Infrastructure (UAPB)	\$33,331		16,666 (UAPB)	\$49,997
	Dr. Abhijit Bhatta-charyya (UALR)		2) Arkansas EPSCoR Research Infrastructure (UALR)	\$71,329		35,664 (UALR)	\$106,993
	Total			\$2,303,865		\$1,151,934	\$3,455,799
05-ARMF-02	Dr. Keith Hudson, Consortium Chair	NASA	Base level – funding for research, K-12 outreach	\$300,000	\$122,610	\$107,842 (ARMF)	\$407,842
						\$14,849 "in-kind" (balance)	\$14,849
						\$177,309 (university consortium)	\$177,309
			Workforce Development	\$50,000		NA	\$50,000
			Affiliate structure grant	\$35,000		NA	\$35,000
			Total		\$385,000		\$300,000
Totals				\$2,688,865		\$1,451,934\$	\$3,840,799
Total ARMF						\$292,671 (ARMF)	
Total Institutional Match						\$1,159,263	
ARMF = Arkansas Research Matching Fund							

Looking ahead, it is anticipated that the demand for state matching funds in FY2007 will exceed the appropriation of \$292,671. For example, the FY07 match requirements needed for the two awards listed in Table I is \$406,637.