

University of Idaho

Office of the Vice President of Research and
Economic Development

Morrill Hall 109
PO Box 443010
Moscow ID 83844-3010

Phone: 208-885-4989

Fax: 208-885-4990

Email: vpresearch@uidaho.edu

Web: www.uidaho.edu/research

January 28, 2011

Ms. Patty Sanchez
Academic Affairs Program Manager
Office of the Chief Academic Officer
and CAAP and HERC Committees
Office of the State Board of Education
650 W. State St., P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0037

Subject: 2010 Infrastructure Report

Dear Ms. Sanchez:

The University of Idaho's summary report on the FY2010 HERC Infrastructure allocation is enclosed.

HERC infrastructure funding continues to be a key investment for strengthening the University of Idaho's research capabilities, building our national research competitiveness, leveraging other funding sources, and furthering our ability to develop strength in strategic areas of science and technology and economic development.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



John K. McIver
Vice President of Research and Economic Development

University of Idaho
Report of FY2010 HERC Infrastructure Allocation Summary

The University of Idaho utilized FY2010 infrastructure funding toward, but not limited to, several priority investments categorized here as support for technicians, library support, and faculty release time. These key investments are described more specifically below.

Library support for **SciFinder Scholar** has enabled students and faculty at the University to access a wide diversity of research from around the world in many scientific disciplines, including biomedical sciences, chemistry, engineering, material science, and agricultural science. With over 24,300 searches in the past year, this tool is one of the most heavily used databases by researchers at the University of Idaho. Faculty describe the importance of this database resource by saying,

“SciFinder has changed the way I can do science; SciFinder is a need. It has transformed chemical research and we cannot function without it.” T. B.

“Access to SciFinder Scholar is absolutely critical for our ability to conduct (high-quality) research.” P.H.

“SciFinder Scholar is an absolutely invaluable resource.” P.G.

Research infrastructure, including the technicians that enable operation at the **Taylor Ranch Wilderness Research Station**, leverages the statewide NSF-EPSCoR grant to study “Water Resources in a Changing Climate.” This is establishing the Salmon Basin as a natural and internationally recognized laboratory—this region is Idaho’s “window” into climate change. The site involves researchers from all three public universities and includes partnerships with multiple government agencies and universities outside the state. Continuing and building on the efforts based out of Taylor Ranch is central to this effort to improve Idaho’s research infrastructure, to build competitiveness, and our capacity to address the world’s most pressing environmental challenges.

This support also enabled UI faculty to lead and develop a complex and potentially transformative proposal for \$3.9 million to the NSF **ADVANCE** program (Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers) to position the institution to better attract and retain the nations’ best scientific talent. Pursuit of this opportunity would not have been possible otherwise, and while the proposal was not successful in the recent competition, the groundwork done on this project positions the University of Idaho to be very competitive in future competitions.

FY 2010 INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT SUMMARY

<i>Detailed Allocations</i>		<i>University of Idaho</i>
<i>Library Support</i>		\$79,320
<i>Graduate Research Assistantships/Research Associates</i>		
<i>Post Doctoral Fellows</i>		
<i>Technician Support</i>		\$103,500
<i>Maintenance Contracts</i>		
<i>Research Equipment</i>		
<i>Competitively Awarded Summer Research Support</i>		
<i>Start-Up Funds for New Hires</i>		
<i>Incentives to Reward Faculty for Research Achievements</i>		
<i>Other : Faculty Release Time</i>		\$17,180
<i>Total Allocation</i>		\$200,000

FY 2010 INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT SUMMARY

<i>Detailed Allocations</i>		<i>University of Idaho</i>
<i>Publications in refereed journals</i>	37	
<i>Presentations at professional meetings and conferences</i>	6	
<i>Grants Received as a result</i>	21 for \$2.83 M	
<i>Grants Pending+</i>	12 for \$6.35 M	
<i>Student Participation</i>	4	
<i>Faculty Participation*</i>	19	
<i>Other Participation</i>	8	
<i>Patents Awarded</i>	2	
<i>Patents Pending</i>	2	
<i>Manuscripts Submitted^</i>	6	

Notes: *SciFinder continues to be one of the most heavily used databases by researchers at the University of Idaho. The number of searches for 2010 was 24,306; the actual unique number of faculty and students using the system is not reported. +A \$3.99 M NSF ADANCE proposal is not included above because it was recently declined. ^submitted=pending