



Florida High Tech Corridor Council

ANNUAL REPORT

2004/2005

Dear Fellow Floridians:

Florida's Legislature makes a substantial public investment in the Florida High Tech Corridor Council via its partner Universities ... the University of Central Florida, the University of South Florida and the University of Florida.

In turn, the Universities use these public funds to attract, retain and grow high tech industry and the workforce to support it for a 23-county region that makes up the primary service areas of the universities and 14 partner community colleges.

The majority of the funds are devoted to a one-of-a-kind Matching Grants Research Program that to date has used \$43 million of public money to attract \$90 million of matching money from private companies and from other grants to generate a total of \$133 million in sponsored research on the campuses of the three universities in partnership with high tech employers.

This year, the Council directed more than \$3.2 million to research, which was matched by more than \$10 million in corporate and federal funds – for a total of nearly \$13.4 million.

Over the nine-year history of the grant program the combined funds have been used to engage more than 1,000 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students and research assistants and 325 faculty members in side-by-side research with scientists and engineers from the 255 participating companies.

A pilot study by Real Estate Research Consultants, Inc. (an Orlando-based economics research firm) has indicated that for each dollar allocated through the Matching Grants Research Program another \$1.50 is generated by other sources. UCF's Center for Economic Competitiveness is now expanding that pilot study into a full economic impact study to verify the results.

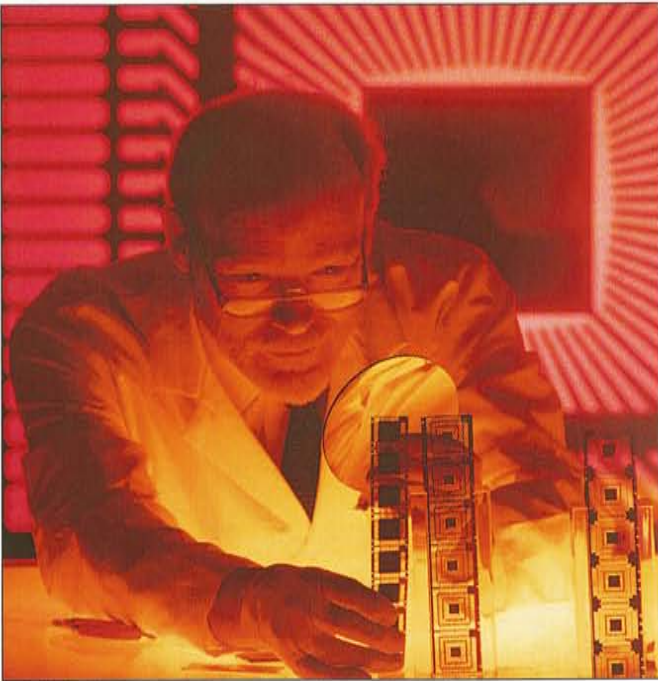
As well, the Council – made up of industry leaders appointed by the presidents of the three Universities – directs money to workforce development, education and marketing programs designed to enhance economic development programs in partnership with more than 20 local economic development agencies throughout the Corridor region.

Equally important to the state's investment and the matching dollars provided by research partners is the donation of companies and individuals who in our 2004-2005 fiscal year provided 33,000 hours of volunteer and in-kind service valued at more than \$953,000. Their tireless efforts in support of our programs have made it possible for the Council to operate with minimal administrative and staff expenses while achieving truly important goals for the diversification of our region's economy.

Sincerely,

Randy Berridge
President





Year in Review

The 2004-2005 year for the Florida High Tech Corridor Council (FHTCC) has been one of successful growth and expansion. In January, with a move designed to increase the state's ability to attract, retain and grow high tech industry and the workforce to support it, FHTCC welcomed the University of Florida (UF) as a full partner in the economic development initiative founded in 1996 by the University of Central Florida (UCF) and the University of South Florida (USF).

UF has pledged to invest \$2 million annually in the Council's Matching Grants Research Program that to date has generated more than \$133 million in applied research within the key industries targeted for growth – aviation & aerospace, information technology, life sciences & medical technologies, microelectronics & nanotechnology, modeling, simulation & training, and optics & photonics.

With the addition of UF, the Council expanded its territory and now includes two additional counties, Alachua and Putnam. This brings the total number of counties in the High Tech Corridor to 23. The Council has also added a new industrial sector at UF's suggestion. Agritech focuses on technologies supporting Florida's legacy agribusiness interests.

The Council funds dozens of research, marketing and industry initiatives. A brief overview of some of these projects for the 2004-2005 fiscal year include:

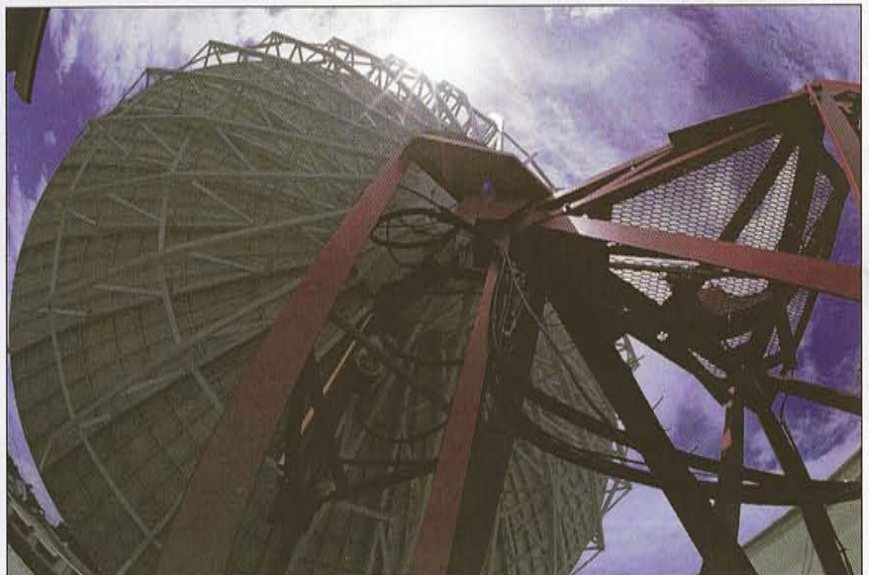
- **Matching Grants Research Program** – Accomplishing the Council's mission of attracting, retaining and growing high tech industry is made possible, in large part, due to funding new and expanding high tech companies in the development of exciting new technologies. This year, the Council directed more than \$3.2 million to research, which was matched by more than \$10 million in corporate and federal funds – for a total of nearly \$13.4 million.

Since its inception in 1996, the Council has partnered with 255 companies on more than 615 research projects and has contributed more than \$43 million. The partnering companies matched that with more than \$90 million, for a total of more than \$133 million.

These combined funds have been used over the eight-year history of the grant program to engage 1,033 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students and research assistants and 328 faculty members in side-by-side research with scientists and engineers from the 255 companies.

- **The Life Sciences Roadmap** – Building on the development of the state's growing life sciences community, a comprehensive study of Florida's life sciences cluster is under way, co-sponsored by Workforce Florida, Enterprise Florida, the FHTCC and numerous EDO partners.

Known as "The Life Sciences Roadmap," the study is being conducted by the Milken Institute and is aimed at creating a definitive strategic plan for the growth and development of Florida's life sciences industry. Researchers will evaluate





the state's current life sciences strengths and resources, as well as its potential for cluster growth and innovation. From these findings, state and local economic development leaders will identify action items and objectives for growing Florida's high-value life sciences cluster.

- **techPATH** – One of the Council's major workforce initiatives, techPATH, focuses its activities on attempting to create heightened interest in high tech careers in the K-12 student community. techCAMPs, an initiative of techPATH, provide teachers with exposure to various high tech environments and tools for sharing that knowledge in the classroom.

The one- to two-day techCAMPs provide classroom teachers with a comprehensive overview of the industry under examination, as well as provide information on available careers and the education necessary to enter the field.

This year, more than 190 educators from eight different Corridor counties participated in techCAMPs exploring the region's modeling, simulation and training industry. Many traded in their chalk boards and classrooms to drive simulated big rigs, while others took a behind-the-scenes tour of The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man® ride at Universal's Islands of Adventure® to gain new insights into careers their students may explore.

Since 1998, there have been more than 25 techCAMPs delivered to more than 1,200 educators. Plans for digital media and medical technology techCAMPs are currently under way.

The techPATH team created another tool to equip Florida's students to enter the region's high tech workforce – an educational video titled, "A SIMsational Career!" The video, produced by techPATH and Daytona Beach Community College, provides information about career opportunities, educational requirements and earning potential in the rapidly growing field of modeling, simulation and training. The video has been distributed to high schools and public libraries throughout the Corridor.

- **2+2 Associate Degrees** – Members of the Corridor workforce team continue to work on the development of 2+2 degrees, certificates and curricula designed to train post-secondary students for jobs in the high tech arena. These groundbreaking academic programs – offered in concert with UCF, USF and UF and the 14 community colleges that serve the region – partner a community college with one or all of the universities to assure that after the first two years of a student's college career at the community college level, there is a program available for the student to follow toward a bachelor's degree. This provides a seamless educational opportunity, assuring future employers a well-trained workforce.
- **florida.high.tech 2005 High Tech Directory** – For the fifth year, the Council in conjunction with the Maddux Business Report produced the region's most comprehensive directory of high tech companies listing more than 2,400 high tech firms. The directory also provided statistics and editorial content on each of the six sectors in the 23-county Corridor and is distributed through direct mail, trade missions and trade shows nationwide.
- **Volunteer Support Tops Last Year** – While the above projects were under way, many other endeavors were taking place simultaneously. During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, more than 2,200 volunteers provided more than 33,000 hours in support of a variety of marketing, workforce and industry projects. The Council's investment of more than \$4.9 million was matched by more than \$6 million in cash and in-kind support from our corporate, academic, government, economic development and community partners.



Summary of Corridor Program Investments

	Corridor Funds Invested	Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Total Allocated
Technology Degrees	\$ 125,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 244,502	\$ 421,502
Workforce Development	\$ 1,122,639	\$ 1,369,058	\$ 572,183	\$ 3,063,880
Trade Shows/Trade Missions & Conferences	\$ 85,073	\$ 152,303	\$ 3,300	\$ 240,676
Marketing & Public Relations	\$ 907,214	\$ 525,903	\$ 87,300	\$ 1,520,417
Industry Association & Research Projects	\$ 2,417,604	\$ 4,587,941	\$ N/A	\$ 7,005,545
Administration	\$ 248,500	\$ 40,650	\$ 46,140	\$ 335,290
TOTAL	\$ 4,906,030	\$ 6,727,855	\$ 953,425	\$ 12,587,310

Funded Research Projects by Sector

	Corridor Funds Invested	Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Total Allocated
Aviation & Aerospace	\$ 98,752	\$ 119,605	\$ 82,900	\$ 301,257
Information Technology	\$ 434,930	\$ 1,133,495	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,598,425
Life Sciences & Medical Technologies	\$ 295,600	\$ 446,864	\$ 225,783	\$ 968,247
Optics & Photonics	\$ 951,000	\$ 4,152,000	\$ 210,928	\$ 5,313,928
Microelectronics & Nanotechnology	\$ 690,104	\$ 1,059,586	\$ 351,223	\$ 2,100,913
Modeling, Simulation & Training (MS&T)	\$ 70,805	\$ 271,323	\$ 250,000	\$ 592,128
Other Research Projects	\$ 703,106	\$ 1,731,642	\$ 90,000	\$ 2,524,748
TOTAL	\$ 3,244,297	\$ 8,914,515	\$ 1,240,834	\$ 13,399,646

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An economic development initiative of:

