Suggested Language for ARRA Funding Proposals

Revised April 1, 2009

Job Creation and Preservation

In keeping with the objectives of the ARRA, this proposal will provide an immediate stimulus to the economy through the retention or creation of jobs. Funds provided through this proposal are anticipated to directly support the retention or creation of XX jobs at the U of M, resulting in increased spending in the local and state economies.

In addition, this proposal anticipates spending $X,XXX for the procurement of additional needed equipment such as XX and YY. This spending will support local and regional suppliers and provide further stimulus to the economy.

General Information on the U of M

Founded in 1851 as a public land-grant university, the University of Minnesota is the state's only research university and a major center of education, creative scholarship, research, and service. The U of M is one of the largest universities in the U.S., with more than 66,000 students and some 4,000 full-time faculty, and is one of the largest employers in Minnesota.

The U of M is also one of only four universities in the nation that have a Medical School, College of Veterinary Medicine, Engineering School, and Agricultural College on the same campus. This makes the U of M one of the nation's largest and most complex campuses and significantly facilitates interdisciplinary research and projects. U of M researchers were awarded $675 million in sponsored research funding in fiscal year 2008.

General Information on the University's Economic Impact

As the state's only research university, the University of Minnesota is the economic engine for Minnesota. As such, the U of M's impact is felt far and wide:

- More than 21,500 jobs are directly related to research grants awarded to the U of M
- Each year the U of M makes a major contribution to Minnesota's workforce needs by providing:
    - 13,000-plus graduates
    - 40 percent of STEM degrees at bachelor's level or higher
    - Majority of engineers
    - Nearly 90 percent of health care professionals
- U of M alumni have had a significant economic impact in Minnesota and across the U.S.
    - Formed 10,000 companies in Minnesota and another 9,000 across the nation
    - These companies employ 500,000 people in Minnesota and another 600,000 nationally
    - On an annual basis these companies generate $100 billion in revenues in Minnesota and an additional $130 billion nationally

Information on the Commercialization of University Research

University of Minnesota research has been successfully commercialized in a broad range of industries, including pharmaceutics, medical devices, green technologies, agricultural products, engineering, transportation, and many others. A total of 281 current license agreements annually generate nearly $90 million in revenue that is used to reward inventors, fund research and scholarly activity, and help colleges and departments support deserving students.

Research conducted at the U of M has launched entire industries that provide economic vitality, jobs, and tax revenues for the state. Prominent examples include:

- Medical devices

  Medtronic founder Earl Bakken began working with legendary U of M heart surgeon C. Walton Lillehei in 1957. At Lillehei's request, Bakken created a transistorized, battery-powered pacemaker that allowed the U of M to lead the way in short-term pacing of the heart. Soon, both Medtronic and pacemaker technology started to take off, and the rest is history.

  Today, the medical device industry in Minnesota annually generates more than $30 billion in revenue and employs about 36,500 Minnesotans.

- Taconite

  Known as the 'father of taconite,' U of M researcher Edward Wilson Davis was regarded as one of the world's foremost authorities on the processing of iron ore and taconite. When Minnesota's high-grade ore was depleted during World War II, the application of Davis' taconite pellet process beginning in the mid-1950s allowed lower-grade iron ore to be used.

  Davis' invention breathed new life into Minnesota's Iron Range and helped sustain the country's post-war building boom. Today, taconite mining annually contributes $1.5 billion to the state's economy and provides two-thirds of the iron used to build American cars, ships, homes and bridges.

  Some estimate that in terms of the industrial value, economic activity, and tax revenue generated, Davis' taconite production process is by far the most valuable technological process ever transferred from a university laboratory to an industry.