TAB I

July 22, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO:             State Board of Regents

FROM:       David L. Buhler

SUBJECT:   Technology Initiative Advisory Board – Funding Allocations from the 2015 Legislative
                   Session

## Issue

This item requests the endorsement of the allocation of Utah's Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative funding that was appropriated by the 2015 Legislature.  In accordance with state statute, institutional allocations of new Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative appropriations are recommended by the Technology Initiative Advisory Board (TIAB) to the Board of Regents.

## Background

The 2001 legislature approved SB61: *Enhancements to the State Systems of Public and Higher Education*. This legislation established an Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative within the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) to increase the number of students graduating from engineering, computer science, and related technology programs.  During the last 14 years, the Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative has been successful in increasing the number of graduates in these areas within USHE.  Key provisions of SB61 and a list of the TIAB members are included in the attachment.

The TIAB, appointed by the Governor, was established to recommend funding allocations to the Board of Regents.  During the 2015 legislative session, $3,500,000 of on-going funds and $1,000,000 of one-time funds were appropriated to the initiative for distribution to USHE institutions commencing with the 2015-2016 fiscal year (FY16).

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF UTAH

UtahStateUniversity

WEBER STATE
UNIVERSITY

SUU
SOUTHERN
UTAH
UNIVERSITY

SNOW COLLEGE

DSU
DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY

UTAH VALLEY
UVU
UNIVERSITY

Salt Lake
Community
College

The following table gives a summary of funding over the life of the initiative (FY02 through FY16):

| Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative Funding History FY 02 – FY16 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Funds Appropriated | | |
| Year | Ongoing | One time | Loan Forgiveness* |
| 2001-02 | 1,000,000 | 2,500,000 | 500,000 |
| 2002-03 | 2,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| 2003-04 | 500,000 | 0 | 50,000 |
| 2004-05 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 0 |
| 2005-06 | 1,500,000 | 500,000 | 0 |
| 2006-07 | 500,000 | 700,000 | 0 |
| 2007-08 | 3,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 0 |
| 2008-09 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 |
| 2009-10 | 0 | 2,000,000 | 0 |
| 2010-11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2011-12 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2012-13 | 2,500,000 | 0 | 0 |
| 2013-14 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014-15 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2015-16 | 3,500,000 | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| **Total** | **15,000,000** | **10,450,000** | **550,000** |

*In 2001, SB 61 established a loan forgiveness fund to assist students in obtaining degrees in engineering and computer science.  In 2009, SB105 changed the loan forgiveness program to a scholarship program for the purpose of recruiting, retaining, and training engineering and computer science and related technology students.  Scholarship funds were part of the $2,500,000 appropriation during the 2012 legislative session.*

Since inception, nearly 27,000 degrees targeted by the initiative have been awarded by institutions within USHE.  It is believed that this initiative has made a significant difference for Utah.  According to the most recent data available the following degree completions show growth at key points in time.

| Degree Category | FY00- Prior to Initiative | FY11- Last Funding Appropriation (effective FY12) | FY14- Latest Year Graduation Data Available |
|---|---|---|---|
| Engineering | 862 | 1338 | 1321 |
| Computer Science | 513 | 755 | 958 |
| Total | 1375 | 2093 | 2279 |

Note: Data does not include University of Utah College of Mines that was added to the FY16 TIAB funding recommendation below.

The TIAB has considered proposals from the USHE institutions and recommends that funding from the 2015 Legislature be allocated and distributed to the institutions effective FY16 as follows:

| Institution | Graduation Growth Increase FY11 – FY14 | On-going Funds | One-time Funds |
|---|---|---|---|
| University of Utah- College of Engineering | 116 | $1,800,000 | $ 500,000 |
| University of Utah- College of Mines | 22 | | 40,000 |
| Utah State University | -22 | 515,000 | 140,000 |
| Weber State University | 28 | 440,000 | 130,000 |
| Southern Utah University | -4 | 25,000 | |
| Snow College | 4 | 113,000 | 50,000 |
| Dixie State University | 7 | 175,000 | 45,000 |
| Utah Valley University | 38 | 375,000 | 75,000 |
| Salt Lake Community College | 19 | 57,000 | 20,000 |
| **Total** | **208** | **$3,500,000** | **$1,000,000** |

## Policy Issues

State statute requires the TIAB to recommend funding allocations to the Board of Regents.  The process to recommend funding allocations has been followed consistent with state statute.

## Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends the Board of Regents endorse the allocation of Engineering and Computer Technology Initiative funds appropriated by the 2015 Legislature as recommended by the Technology Initiative Advisory Board and that these funds be distributed to institutions effective with the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

_____
David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/BKC
Attachment

<div align="center">Attachment</div>

Key provisions of SB61:

1.  Established a goal to triple the number of graduates from USHE institutions in engineering, computer science, and related technology.
2.  Directed the Regents to establish rules providing the criteria for those fields of study that qualify as "related technology."
3.  Provided supplemental funds for equipment purchases to improve the quality of instructional programs in engineering, computer science, and related technologies.
4.  Established a student scholarship to encourage enrollment in programs included in the initiative.
5.  Provided funding for USHE institutions to hire and retain qualified faculty to teach in initiative programs.
6.  Increased program capacity by funding new and renovated capital facilities, and funding for new engineering and computer science programs.
7.  Created a Technology Initiative Advisory Board to make recommendations to the Regents in its administration of the initiative. Required that the advisory board be composed of individuals appointed by the Governor from business and industry who have expertise in the areas of engineering, computer science, and related technologies.

Technology Initiative Advisory Board Members

- John Sutherland (Chair)          Brigham Young University
- Susan Johnson (Co-Chair)        Futura Industries
- Richard Anderson                Hewlett Packard, Retired
- Reed Brown                      Local Digital Insider
- Roland Christensen              Applied Composite Technology
- Ed Ekstrom                      Yorke Capital
- Chuck Taylor                    SyberJet Aircraft
- J. Howard VanBoerum             VanBoerum & Frank
- Vance Checketts                 EMC
- Mark Ripke                      Boeing