



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Tropical Research and Education Center

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Anitere Flores

3. **Date of Submission:** 11/06/2017

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Tropical Research and Education Center (TREC) provides science-based solutions for the agricultural community needs to ensure it remains productive and viable. However, we currently have limited facilities and resources to keep up with the growing needs of the agriculture industry in South Florida. This project will provide for upgrades and renovation to the TREC campus in Homestead and will greatly improve responsiveness to its clientele. The updates will include a new, state-of-the-art laboratory, greenhouses, shade houses, a lecture center hall and dormitory for students. It will also enable the modernization of the TREC Plant Diagnostic Clinic, which is an essential and critical resource to the local agriculture industry.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested? Board of Governors

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
	8,847,585	8,847,585

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	0	0.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 8,847,585

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**



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- Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes
- In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional) 1
- What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2017-18
- Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? Yes
- Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18 (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
Column:	A	B	C
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *	Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)
Input Amounts:		750,000	750,000

10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

- If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

\$8,000,000

11. Program Performance:

- What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

To modernize, upgrade and provide additional facilities to meet the demands of the agriculture industry for research, education and extension services.

- What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Construction

- How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		



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<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction of a research laboratory, greenhouses, shade houses, a lecture center hall, a dormitory for students and modernization of the plant diagnostic clinic.	8,847,585
TOTAL		8,847,585

d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

The upgrades will lead to increased agricultural production through research that includes management of pests and diseases, drought-resistant/drought-tolerant crops and higher production with reduced irrigation and fertilizers, and flood-tolerant crops. In addition, the development of new crops by TREC's plant breeders will provide growers with new plant materials for the industry. In turn, the efforts to decrease production costs and losses and to increase crop production will provide a significant positive impact to the economy of the second largest industry in south Florida, as well as providing more space for high-end, state-of-the-art technology research, opportunities, and hands-on experience for students.

e. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The south Florida agricultural community is the primary target population. In addition, results of research projects generated with new facilities can impact the agricultural industry community and the general population statewide. Finally, graduate students will be an additional target population served by this project.

f. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Potential benefits and outcomes include increased agricultural production, reduction of production costs, reduced irrigation and fertilizer use, and the development of new plant varieties by our plant breeders, therefore providing new plant material to the industry. Results can be quantified through industry/grower surveys, number of new plant varieties developed and released to the industry, the implementation of new best management practices to reduce water and fertilizer use by the industry. Additional data, such as fertilizer sales and water use data can also assist in measuring the outcome of this project.



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- g. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

None.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

Tropical Research and Education Center which is a part of UF/IFAS

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. Name: Jack Payne
- b. Organization: UF/IFAS Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- c. Email: Jackpayne@ufl.edu
- d. Phone Number: (352)392-1971

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. Organization: UF/IFAS Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- b. County: Miami-Dade
- c. Organization Type:
 - ☐ For Profit
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☒ University or College
 - ☐ Other (Please specify)
- d. Contact Name: Carolina Vendrame
- e. E-mail Address: cvendram@ufl.edu
- f. Phone Number: (786)205-0042

15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.

- a. Name: Mary Ann
- b. Firm: UF/IFAS
- c. Email: mgosa@ufl.edu
- d. Phone Number: (850)322-7259