



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1549

1. **Title of Project:** UWF - Ph.D. Intelligent Systems and Robotics

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Doug Broxson

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/04/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

We live in a world where advances in computers, intelligent systems and robotics allow us to do things that did not seem possible a few decades ago. Robots and intelligent systems run entire manufacturing plants, perform surgery and take their place on distant battlefields.

The University of West Florida will launch a new doctoral program in intelligent systems and robotics in Fall 2019. This program combines the world-class talents of UWF faculty with scientists from the Florida Institute of Human and Machine Cognition, a not-for-profit research institute of the Florida State University System that pioneers technologies that extend human capacity. IHMC has partnerships in place with the Department of Defense, National Science Foundation, DARPA, NASA, National Institutes of Health, Raytheon, IBM, Microsoft, Boeing, and Lockheed Martin, among others.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Board of Governors

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,250,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,250,000	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>1,250,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2017-18		1,000,000	141	Yes



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9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.** 700000

10. **Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Wages for four faculty positions and a program coordinator	613,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Computer equipment, departmental expenses, library materials, research materials and laboratory equipment	636,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,250,000</b>

11. **Program Performance:**

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

The degree will produce graduates to serve the manufacturing, health care, defense and other high-tech industries, providing critical support to high-demand career fields. Graduates will combine these disciplines in ways that benefit our world. The degree will be the first of its kind in Florida. Nationally, few schools offer this specific Ph.D. program in robotics—Carnegie Mellon University, Georgia Tech and University of Pittsburgh. The proposed doctorate will attract talented students from across the world to Florida.

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

Education and training in intelligent systems and robotics. High level research into intelligent systems and robotics.

- c. **What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

It will allow UWF to increase its impact on Northwest Florida’s economic development and is a high technology enterprise. A program in intelligent systems that serves manufacturing, healthcare, defense and other high-tech industries will provide significant economic benefits to the state and region.

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

University Students. Fully grown program will have just over 100 students enrolled annually.



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

Improve quality of education: This degree program area provides significant opportunities for achieving national distinction through the production of high quality doctoral graduates. In turn, UWF will be providing critical support to in-demand high technology career fields from medical device development to remote exploration to industrial robotics. This proposed program will attract talented students from around the world to UWF and also draw from and bolster UWF's existing undergraduate programs Increase or improve economic activity: Intelligent systems and robotics serves the workforce needs of manufacturing, healthcare, defense, and other high-tech industries providing significant economic benefits to the state. Fields such as space exploration, defense, and healthcare are poised to become even larger users of robotics and intelligent systems. UWF graduates will provide leadership, expertise, and innovation to keep Florida at the forefront of the advances in high-tech industry

**f. 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?**

All university appropriations are subject to Legislative and Executive Branch review.

**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.**

N/A

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Martha Saunders
- b. **Organization:** University of West Florida
- c. **E-mail Address:** presidentsoffice@uwf.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)474-2200

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** University of West Florida
- b. **County:** Escambia
- 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:** Martha Saunders
- e. **E-mail Address:** presidentsoffice@uwf.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (850)474-2200



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#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Andrew Romer
- b. **Firm Name:** University of West Florida
- c. **E-mail Address:** [aromer@uwf.edu](mailto:aromer@uwf.edu)
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)474-2200