

# George Mason University

## Leveraging the Investment of Commonwealth Funds in Support of Research

Presentation for the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Education February 5, 2008

Prepared by: Matthew Kluger, Vice President for Research & Economic Development  
Presented by: Alan Merten, President



## Background

Commonwealth Research Initiative (CRI) funds started in FY07 (July 1, 2006). To date Mason has received the following:

- \$5,955,000 in CRI funds
- \$3,400,000 in Equipment Trust Funds

The data presented are of February 2008

## Highlights – CRI Funds Use:

**Cancer** research - proteomic research mainly on identifiers of cancer (diagnosis and treatment);  
**Biodefense and Infectious Disease** research;  
**Information Technology & Bioengineering** research;  
**Neurosciences** (often in conjunction with the bioengineering initiative);  
**Public Health** research;  
**Research Computing Center**

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## Spires of Excellence Stimulated

The CRI funds have been used to create two major spires of excellence at Mason:

- **Bioengineering and Neurosciences**
- **Public Health** research and education

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# Operating Principles

- Alignment of research areas with funding opportunities
- Strategic recruitment of faculty
- Strategic purchase of core equipment
- Increased focus on protecting intellectual property and translation of the research to the marketplace

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# How were the funds used?

- Support for our Center for Applied Proteomics and Personalized Medicine (CAPMM) and the National Center for Biodefense and Infectious Diseases (NCBID)
- Support for faculty recruitment in Bioengineering and Neuroscience
- Support for the Center for the Study of Chronic Illness and Disability
- Support towards the creation of a Research Computing Center

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# What is the ROI?

Commonwealth Investment - \$5,955,000 +  
\$3,400,000

R&D Awards to date resulting from the above  
investments are \$15,424,000.

Our expectation is that the ROI over the long-  
term will be greater than a factor of 4.

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