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Court in session

Furman University

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Furman shares in \$16 million biomedical research grant

FURMAN IS AMONG 10 colleges and universities in South Carolina sharing a \$16 million grant to support a network to develop biomedical research programs in areas such as regenerative medicine, biochemistry and molecular biology.

Furman's share of the grant is \$2 million, with the remainder going to the state's three comprehensive research institutions (University of South Carolina, Clemson and the Medical University of South Carolina), Claflin University, College of Charleston, Francis Marion University, South Carolina State University, USC-Beaufort and Winthrop University.

The funding comes from the National Center for Research Resources, a division of the National Institutes of Health, and supports the work of SC INBRE (the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence), a group of academic institutions collaborating to enhance biomedical research and increase competitiveness among researchers in the state. The grant represents a continuation of a \$17 million grant received five years ago from the NIH.

Chemistry professor John Wheeler, Furman's director of integrative research in the sciences, says the funding will support the research efforts of target faculty in the biology, chemistry and psychology departments. The grant will also benefit Furman undergraduates by providing funding for research and travel during the summer and the academic year.

A portion of the grant is earmarked for biomedical sciences instrumentation, such as equipment for spectroscopy, chemical separations, and tools supporting molecular biology. It will also augment outreach programs for middle and high school students and teachers in the Upstate.



Court in session

STUDENTS AND STAFF HAD A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY to witness the state's legal system in action February 16 when the South Carolina Court of Appeals held a session in the Watkins Room of the University Center. Four judges — The Hon. John Cannon Few (Greenville), The Hon. Aphrodite Konduros (Greenville), The Hon. James E. Lockemy (Dillon) and The Hon. Paul E. Short, Jr. (Chester) — were on hand to hear appeals of three cases: a murder case, a medical lawsuit, and a billboard dispute between the city of Greenville and the sign owner. (For details, visit www.furman.edu/if/court.doc.) Furman president Rod Smolla, a legal scholar and First Amendment expert, introduced each case. Photos by Jeremy Fleming.