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Office of the President
March 5, 2002

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTER FOR STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Center for Structural Biology.

Background: The over-all objective of the Center is to promote and facilitate the use of structural biology in research, teaching, and commercial development at the University and within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Center will bring together expertise and research facilities in the application of synchrotron beamline technology, x-ray crystallography, NMR spectroscopy, computational sciences, structural bioinformatics, and proteomics to address important questions about structural biology. A National Science Foundation EPSCoR grant provided the original funding for the proposed Center, including facilities for X-ray crystallographic analysis, molecular modeling, and NMR spectroscopy.

Participation in the Center is open to anyone with research interest in structural biology. The Center will work with other units to coordinate the use of current and new facilities that support research in structural biology. In addition, the Center will help to oversee a core laboratory for the preparation of biological materials, their crystallization and structural analysis.

The Center will report to the Vice President for Research. A director appointed by the Vice President for Research will oversee the Center. An advisory board consisting of qualified and interested faculty in structural biology and related fields, appointed by the Vice President for Research, will advise the director and will help set both the long term and short term goals and objectives of the Center.

The Center for Structural Biology meets the criteria for establishing centers. It is supported by the Acting Vice President for Research and has been approved by the University Senate.

Action Taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____