Advanced Technology Begins with Thinking People

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ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY BEGINS WITH THINKING PEOPLE

DAYTON, Ohio, January 15, 1982 -- A friend of the University of Dayton (Ohio) has made a gift of $150,000, to be matched by the University, to establish a $300,000 challenge grant to develop a new educational program, or significantly redesign an existing one, "to prepare professionals for the demands of designing and producing advanced technology for the enhancement of modern life." The grant will support a three-year program development effort.

University of Dayton President Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., issued the "challenge" in a letter to the faculty today, adding that "The University of Dayton, the people of the Miami Valley, and citizens of the world should be better off for our having developed this program."

The donor wishes to remain anonymous, but President Fitz did express appreciation and respect for the benefactor's generosity, and noted that he was "quite sure that UD's response to the challenge will confirm our claim that 'Advanced Technology Begins With Thinking People.'"

Faculty and staff of the University have been asked to submit mini-proposals for such a program by March 15. Two to four of the proposals submitted will be selected for further development. By August 2 these full proposals will be ready for review, and a winning proposal will be announced on September 16, 1982. Faculty, staff, and area professionals in advanced technology fields will be involved in the review and evaluation of proposals.

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Brother Fitz announced that the following criteria would be used in the selection of the Advanced Technology Grant recipient:

"The program should have a strong research component which would underpin and address an important need in the education of professionals in advanced technology, contribute to UD's strength in advanced technology education, and further develop the advanced technology resources of the area.

"The proposal should demonstrate a creative marshalling of existing University resources, personnel, curricula, and facilities, to implement the program.

"The program should ideally allow for the integration and interaction of undergraduate, graduate, and research activities. Evidence of both the educational and research dimensions is important to a winning proposal.

"The program proposal should demonstrate a realistic organizational structure, financial plan, and strategy for reallocating resources. It should give reasonable hope for continuity after the grant has been completed. Ideally, it should also identify ways in which the program might be attractive to private sources of continued financial support.

"The proposed program should prepare technically competent persons with the ethical and moral competencies needed to design and produce high technologies for the enhancement of modern society."

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UD currently offers 115 academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Sponsored research being done at the University last year topped $20.6 million. In Ohio, only Case Western Reserve University, Ohio State University, and the University of Cincinnati do more sponsored research.

The University of Dayton is an independent, Catholic university with an enrollment of 11,000 persons.

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