

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Title: Scholarship Support for the Nuclear Engineering Program (NEP) at South Carolina State University (SCSU).

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Funding Requested: \$374,087

Abstract: The South Carolina State University's Nuclear Engineering and Science Programs is submitting a scholarship grant to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory commission grant program SBCR-FN-0511-MSIP02. The scholarship grant will be used to provide tuition, room and board and book scholarship support in the amount of \$374,087 for eight (8) undergraduate students majoring in Nuclear Engineering, Radio Chemistry, Health Physics and other STEM disciplines for a two year project period. Scholarship recipients will be required to participate in a speaker series designed to introduce them to professionals in the field and broaden their knowledge of career opportunities.

Since its inception in 2001, the Nuclear Engineering Program has focused on producing minority Nuclear Engineers. The Program has produced sixteen graduates to date, eight of which graduated this past May (2011). Over the past few years, the program has grown dramatically, and nearly half of the current 55 students are female. In November 2007, the Nuclear Engineering Program (NEP) was reviewed by an Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (EAC of ABET) team, and received a favorable review. The program received the ABET-EAC accreditation in August 2008.

The Radiochemistry program, initiated in 2005, has produced eight graduates, most of whom are minority females. Most of them are currently pursuing advanced or professional degrees in Radiochemistry and Homeland Security areas or nuclear pharmacy. The NEP at South Carolina State University has a Health Physics option within the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Enrollment in the program is expected to grow due to recruitment efforts both internally and externally from technical college transfer students. Two technical colleges, Midlands Technical College in Columbia, SC and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College have expressed interest in joint programs in Health Physics with South Carolina State University. Two preliminary meetings have already been held with these schools.

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