COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Economic Development Committee Members  
   Board of Regents, State of Iowa

FROM: Anthony G. Girardi

DATE: April 20, 2005

SUBJ: ISU’s biotechnology risk assessment project

Recommended Action:
Receive the report.

Executive Summary:
Iowa State University will provide an oral report on the Biotechnology Risk Assessment Project.

Background:

Biosciences Alliance’s Integrated Biosecurity platform
This collaborative effort is the focus of the Biosciences Alliance’s Integrated Biosecurity platform. The effort is led by ISU’s Biosafety Institute for Genetically Modified Agricultural Products (or BIGMAP) in close collaboration with researchers at the University of Iowa.

Project purposes
The project’s purposes are to develop and implement methodologies for independent risk/benefit assessment of genetically modified agricultural products; develop strategies for mitigating risks; and communicate findings to key regulatory agencies, policymakers, and to the public to safeguard consumers and the environment.