

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

PROPOSED NEW INSTITUTE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
MIDWEST GRAPE AND WINE INDUSTRY INSTITUTE

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval to the Board of the request by Iowa State University to establish a new Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute in the College of Agriculture.

Executive Summary: The purpose of the proposed Institute is to provide excellence in wine and wine-making (enology) research, teaching, and extension education to support the development of the Midwest's growing grape and wine industry. The proposed Institute will respond to industry needs regarding relevant grape and wine research and education. This proposal was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval.

Background:

- ◇ The proposed Institute will be affiliated with ISU Extension, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, and the Department of Horticulture.
- ◇ The purpose of the proposed Institute is to support the development of the Midwest's grape and wine industry through:
 - ☑ Partnerships with community colleges to develop an enology and viticulture jobs training program;
 - ☑ Development of analytical and diagnostic for-fee services, workshops, and short courses to increase knowledge in grape production, wine-making, and marketing for grape and wine producers;
 - ☑ Extension and outreach services to industry through hands-on assistance in locating vineyards, variety selection, in-season management practices, harvesting, and distance/continuing education;
 - ☑ Development of a Wine Quality Award program to provide wine buyers with quality assurances; and
 - ☑ Research on the development of cold-hardy grape varieties suitable to all the climatic regions of the Midwest and on the development of new methods of processing grapes into wine, as well as training of winemakers.
- ◇ There are no similar institutes, centers, or programs in Iowa.
- ◇ According to ISU, there will be no new financial obligations to the general fund as a result of the proposed Institute. Funds obtained from the Iowa Grape and Wine Development Commission (through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship), ISU Extension, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and a private donor will support the proposed Institute. Additional revenues from federal agencies, professional associations, and private donors will be sought to augment the initial budget and grow the Institute's educational and research programming.

- ◇ The Institute staff will include a director and an office assistant. Additional staff will be added as sources of funding and Institute programs and activities grow. The focus will be to expand the reach of the Institute through partnerships with others and through grants and contracts.
- ◇ The projected costs of the Institute for the first three years are \$219,805 (FY 06), \$343,787 (FY 07), and \$199,821 (FY 08).
- ◇ The proposed Institute addresses the University's Strategic Plan through the following activities:
 - ☑ Creating knowledge through enology research and diagnostic services.
 - ☑ Sharing knowledge by collaborating with the wine and grape industry and community colleges, educating undergraduate and graduate students to include off-campus clients, and cooperating with state and federal agencies.
 - ☑ Applying knowledge through job training and Extension education programs.
 - ☑ Supporting the economic development and growth of the Midwest's growing wine industry.

Details about the proposed Institute are on file in the Board Office.