Governor promotes excellence in higher education

Celeste gives $500,000 to four OSU programs

By Elaine McGrath
Lantern staff writer

Four OSU programs were awarded $500,000 endowments by Gov. Richard F. Celeste Friday.

The endowments will be matched by private funds and will be used to attract distinguished educators to Ohio's universities under the Eminent Scholars Program.

Celeste said the programs were chosen because they are recognized as excellent and have the potential to achieve national and international acclaim.

Four Ohio universities received a total of nine eminent scholar awards. OSU topped the list with four awards, followed by the University of Cincinnati with three and Ohio University and the University of Akron with one each.

The endowments were made through the Ohio Board of Regents, which gave its approval Friday. The winning programs were selected by a review team that included state and national scholars and business and industry leaders, said Elaine Hairston, director of special programs for the board.

Fifty-seven programs submitted eminent scholar proposals to the board.

"We've experienced growth. Now we need to emphasize excellence in higher education," Celeste said.

"By stressing what is good and making it better . . . we can attract the best young people to Ohio's colleges and keep them here."

President Edward H. Jennings said a committee will be appointed to conduct a nationwide search for scholars to fill the positions.

"We've talked to some people already," he said.

He said OSU will not be able to fill the positions by fall quarter, because the academic recruiting season is during fall and winter.

Jennings said 'all the positions will be filled by fall 1986. The scholars will be permanent faculty members and will teach at both graduates and undergraduates, he said.

The OSU programs receiving eminent scholar awards are experimental physical chemistry, Department of Chemistry; molecular genetics, College of Biological Sciences; scientific computation, Department of Mathematics; and art and design technology, Departments of Art Education and Industrial Design and School of Music.

The mechanical engineering and nursing programs at OSU also received money under the Program Excellence awards. The awards are one-time grants used to purchase equipment for computer-aided instruction, Jennings said.

The program excellence grants were awarded to 22 programs at nine Ohio institutions and ranged from $75,000 to $200,000. The board had received 131 program excellence proposals.

The nursing program received $109,500 and mechanical engineering $169,000.
Eminent Scholar selected for OSU

A research scientist with Bell Telephone Laboratories has been recommended to fill one of the four Eminent Scholar positions at Ohio State University.

Terry A. Miller, who has been with the Bell labs in Murray Hill, N.J., for the past 16 years, will become the Eminent Scholar in experimental physical chemistry if the OSU Board of Trustees approves his appointment.

Miller, who was in Columbus on Monday, said he is eager to come to OSU because he considers it a high-quality institution.

"OSU has had a long history of outstanding work in my own discipline," he said.

Miller's specialty involves the use of lasers to probe the structure and reactivity of molecules.

Heinz G. Floss, chairman of OSU's department of chemistry, said Miller also would teach.

Miller would receive a base salary of $60,000 per year through the Eminent Scholar Program. Floss said Miller would receive an additional undisclosed amount if his appointment is approved.

Last week, the Ohio Board of Regents awarded four $500,000 Eminent Scholar endowments to OSU. The endowments are to be used to attract top scholar-researchers to the university.

Three other Ohio universities shared a total of five endowments. Each $500,000 award is to be matched with $500,000 from the universities to support the special positions.

Miller, who has a doctorate in chemistry from Cambridge University in England, would join the faculty next fall.

The other three Eminent Scholar posts are to be filled later this year, OSU officials said.

In another matter Monday, ground-breaking ceremonies were held for OSU's new $16.4 million chemistry building. The four-story brick building, which will be on W. 18th Ave. on the central campus, is expected to be open by early 1986.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Ohio State University's new chemistry building will house the university's Eminent Scholar in Experimental Physical Chemistry.

During groundbreaking ceremonies for the building Monday (5/14), Ohio State Associate Provost Elmer F. Baumer announced that Terry A. Miller would be recommended for appointment to the eminent scholar position. Miller has been a research scientist with Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey since 1968.

Ohio State officials learned Friday that the university would receive $500,000 to support the position under the State of Ohio's new eminent scholars program. After the grant is matched by an equal amount in university funds, a $1 million endowment will be created.

Once Miller's appointment is approved by the university's Board of Trustees, he will join the faculty of the department of chemistry this autumn quarter. Laboratory facilities to support his research will be included in the new chemistry building, department officials said.

Miller received a bachelor's degree in chemistry "with highest distinction" from the University of Kansas in 1965. He earned the Ph.D. in chemistry from Cambridge University in 1968.
Floss used the occasion to announce a fund-raising drive that will complete the creation of a $250,000 endowed professorship honoring Melvin S. Newman, professor emeritus of chemistry. The campaign has a goal of $100,000.

Contributions will be matched on a one-for-two basis by the $50,000 Foulk Memorial Fund, an existing Ohio State endowment created by a former chemistry professor. The university received about $100,000 in gifts when Newman retired in 1978.

When the campaign is completed, the resulting endowment will support a full-time chemistry faculty member, most likely in organic chemistry.

Newman joined the Ohio State faculty in 1936. His career included the unusual distinction of advancement directly from assistant professor to professor and, in 1965, he was named one of the first three Regents Professors at Ohio State. He received the university's highest award for service, the Sullivant Medal, in 1976 and an honorary doctoral degree in 1979.

He also has received the American Chemical Society Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry, the Morley Medal from the Cleveland ACS Section, the Wilbur Lucius Cross Medal from Yale University (his alma mater), and the University of New Orleans' first honorary Doctor of Science Degree. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1956.

Newman lives at 2239 Onandaga Drive, Upper Arlington.

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(Contact: Leon Rubin, (614) 422-2711.)
State presents University four awards

By Greg Brown  ON CAMPUS - 30 May 1983

"We now have a rare opportunity to build additional quality into some of our already fine programs at Ohio State," said Associate Provost Eimer Baumer in reaction to the news that Ohio State received four Eminent Scholars Awards earlier this month.

"The University can become preeminent in a number of academic fields, and these awards will help us reach some of our long-term goals," said Baumer, who coordinated the award program process at Ohio State.

Gov. Richard Celeste presented the Eminent Scholars Awards during a press conference and ceremony at the governor's office May 11.

President Edward H. Jennings accepted awards for the University in experimental physical chemistry and scientific computation, both in the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences; molecular genetics in the College of Biological Sciences; and art and design technology in the College of the Arts.

The governor also presented the University with two Program Excellence Awards for enhancement of undergraduate programs, one in the College of Engineering, and one in the College of Nursing.

Each Eminent Scholars Award carries with it a $50,000 matching grant to help fund the work of a prominent researcher and teacher in the respective academic area. Gov. Celeste presented a total of nine awards to the state's universities. Others were three to the University of Cincinnati, and one each to Ohio University and the University of Akron.

"This is an occasion long anticipated," said Gov. Celeste during the presentation. "With these awards, I hope you all of you have an idea of the scope and excellence we have in Ohio. Higher education has taken an important step forward."

During the ceremony, Celeste singled out his "pioneering work" in genetics being done at Ohio State, and how that work as attracted scholars from all over the world to visit and learn about the University's research first hand.

The Ohio General Assembly provided $5 million for the Eminent Scholars Program in its 1983-85 biennial budget for the purpose of fostering the growth eminence in Ohio's academic programs, while bringing educational resources to bear on compelling statewide problems.

The regents received 57 proposals in October 1983, with Ohio State submitting 26 of them. Last December the regents announced 24 semi-finalists, 13 of which were from Ohio State.

"We had an excellent group of proposals submitted from many areas of the University," said Baumer. "I expect and hope that most of these proposals will be submitted again for the program next year."

President Jennings said, "Our success in the Eminent Scholars competition is, I believe, an acknowledgement by the State of Ohio of the many accomplishments that Ohio State can contribute to the state. These awards recognize past accomplishments, and our potential for future success."

In addition to the four awards from the regents, Ohio State is funding the Department of Economics' Eminent Scholars proposal with undesignated private contributions to the University.

"We were prepared to provide matching funds for up to six Eminent Scholars," Jennings said. "We have decided to move ahead and use those budgeted University funds for one additional endowed chair drawn from the Eminent Scholars proposals, and recognizing the high level of excellence that already exists."

The four Ohio Eminent Scholars funded under the state program will represent excellence in research and teaching in the following areas:

- The College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Department of Chemistry, Eminent Scholar in Chemistry, to conduct basic research in experimental physical chemistry with specialization in modern spectroscopy, a research tool which allows scientists to probe chemical systems with unprecedented detail and accuracy. The field has particular application to advances in the electronics and communications industries and biotechnology.

The Department of Chemistry already has named Terry Miller, a research scientist with Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey, as the Eminent Scholar in Chemistry. (See "Chemistry names story on this page.)

- The College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Department of Mathematics, Eminent Scholar in Mathematics to work in the area of scientific computation. The scholar's position will be the nucleus of a Center for Scientific Computation at Ohio State and provide statewide access to a national supercomputer network.

Basic research in scientific computing, including computer languages, algorithms, numerical analysis, and computational mathematics, has applications to the design and operation of technologically sophisticated industrial operations and products, including computer assisted design, robotics, computer simulations, and mathematical modeling.

- The College of Biological Sciences, Eminent Scholar in Molecular Genetics to enhance interdisciplinary research involving recombinant DNA technology among the departments of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, and the Graduate Program in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology.

The field is the scientific foundation for advances in biotechnology research, and has major applications to developments in agricultural industries through contributions to plant and animal research.

- The College of the Arts, departments of Art Education and Industrial Design, and the School of Music, Eminent Scholar in Art and Design Technology, to help Ohio industrial and fine arts designers, artists, and architects take a leadership role in an increasingly automated manufacturing and production environment.

The scholar will be the focus for advances in both the design process and computer design technologies, enhancing Ohio's identity as a hub for all aspects of the international design field. Applications range from product design and testing to medical imaging and telecommunications.

The University-funded proposal in economics will bring to Ohio State a prominent scholar in industrial structure, competition, and regulation. The new scholar's teaching and research will provide a basis for identification of and means of encouraging economic growth opportunities in Ohio.
“Ohio’s industrial planning expertise can be greatly enhanced through better understanding of the effects of policy actions on market behavior, and greater capabilities for analyzing and evaluating industrial policy alternatives,” Jennings said.

The president said Ohio’s ability to respond to the rapid industrial changes sweeping the nation and the world, can be improved by “research aimed at creating methods of adapting to and anticipating changes in the economic environment.”

International searches are now underway for scholars to fill the remaining positions.

Program Excellence Awards, funded by the state legislature with $3 million for the 1983-85 biennium, reward and enhance undergraduate academic programs recognized for their superior quality. The two awards to Ohio State are:

- **The College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering,** $169,000 to enhance computer-assisted instruction through purchasing microcomputers and spectrum analyzers to complement existing undergraduate computer instruction.

- **The College of Nursing,** $109,500 to support the use of computers in undergraduate instruction providing students a patient case history and giving them experience in assessing patient conditions, collecting essential data, interpreting that information, and choosing the correct nursing intervention to treat the patient.
OSU's first eminent scholar keeps low profile

By Diane McCracken
Lantern staff writer

He has a title four times longer than his name and earns more than $80,000 a year at Ohio State, but he likes to keep a low profile on his work in his Evans Lab basement office.

Terry A. Miller is OSU's first eminent scholar. He came to Ohio State fall quarter after being named Ohio Eminent Scholar in Experimental Physical Chemistry earlier in the year.

Before accepting the OSU position, Miller did technical research at Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J. His research at Bell Labs helped to identify chemicals that could interfere with making circuits.

Identifying these chemicals allows better control of the circuit-making process. Therefore, more useable circuits are produced.

Miller's OSU post is one of four endowed by the Ohio Board of Regents Eminent Scholar Program. His chemistry position is the only one that has been filled.

Miller's specialty is laser spectroscopy. He explained that by using lasers to identify chemical compounds, the health and state of molecules can be immediately determined.

Unlike traditional wet-chemical analysis, "lasers can detect molecules very sensitively and unambiguously," Miller said.

He said certain chemicals are created by chemical reactions, but die before the final products are formed. These chemicals may last only one-billionth of a second, but are important to the final products.

"By identifying the states of these intermediaries (chemicals), one can identify the state of the reaction and potential problems which may arise," Miller said.

Although Miller's research does not focus on organic molecules, one of his colleagues at Stanford is working on using laser spectroscopy for biological diagnosis.

"He hopes in the future to be able to do an instantaneous measurement of the health of the molecules in a person's body by shining lasers through them for the diagnosis," Miller said.

Miller could not estimate how much time he would spend in a particular area of research. He said when a person begins a research project, he usually does not know what to expect and may find insights leading to further research in a specific area.

"It's both exciting and frustrating," Miller said. "But you have to have perseverance. It is the number of times you succeed that's important."

He said if all the research dollars spent in the late '60s had been used to improve what already existed, transistors would never have been invented.

"One truly new discovery can have such consequences both economically and impacting someone's life, that 1000 failures pale beside it," Miller said.

In addition to his research, Miller will also be teaching graduate and undergraduate chemistry courses.

Miller said he does not mind the basement office because it is close to his laser laboratory. He added that when the new chemistry building is complete, his office will also be in the basement, but it will be next to a new lab designed specifically for laser spectroscopy research.

Miller does not plan to keep such a low profile of his work in the new facility. "Visitors from countries abroad will be invited to come join in our experiments," Miller said. "Collaborative work will lead to future discoveries to benefit all."
Second Ohio eminent scholar named

Ohio State has selected Mihai Nadin, a professor at the Rhode Island School of Design, as the Eminent Scholar in Art and Design Technology, the second of five such planned prestigious appointments.

Nadin specializes in philosophy, design, communication, computer graphics, aesthetics, and artificial intelligence. He is founder and director of the Institute for the Semiotics of the Visual at the Rhode Island School of Design. Semiotics is the philosophical study of signs and symbols.

The eminent scholar in art and design technology will hold a joint appointment in the Department of Art Education, the Department of Industrial Design, and the School of Music.

A native of Romania, Nadin holds an M.S. degree in electronics and computer science from the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest as well as an M.A. in philosophy and a Ph.D. in aesthetics from the University of Bucharest. He holds a post-doctoral degree in philosophy, logic, and theory of science from Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany.

Nadin speaks and writes six languages and reads Latin and classical Greek. He is the author of 18 books and has written 20 studies that are included in other books, as well as numerous articles, papers, and lectures.

Ohio State received four of the state’s nine eminent scholar awards, each providing a $500,000 matching grant to help fund the work of a prominent researcher and teacher in a specific academic area. When matched by University funds, the grant provides a $1 million endowment.

A fifth eminent scholar post has been funded internally by the University and will be located within the Department of Economics.
Eminent scholar joins Ohio State's Biochemistry and Genetics staff

By Heather L. Weigand
Lantern staff writer

The third of four Ohio Eminent Scholars has been approved and will assume his position July 1.

Alan M. Lambowitz, a professor of biochemistry at the St. Louis University School of Medicine, will be a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Genetics. The appointment was approved at Friday's board of trustees meeting.

"I am very excited about coming to Ohio State. The program seems like an extremely strong one," Lambowitz said.

Lambowitz, 37, who will receive $65,040 annually, is a molecular biologist specializing in studying and researching gene expression in the fungus Neurospora.

He said the administration seems to be very interested in developing molecular research at Ohio State, and "they have the vision to make it one of the best researching programs in the nation."

Lambowitz received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Brooklyn College in 1968, his Master of Science degree in 1970 and his Ph.D. in 1972, in both molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University. He has been with the St. Louis University School of Medicine for nine years.

"We were very fortunate that we found someone who is a leader in the field of molecular genetics," William A. Jensen, dean of the College of Biological Sciences, said.

The Eminent Scholar Program was started two years ago, said Dick Stoddard, special assistant to vice president in research and graduate studies. The salary as well as research support for each Eminent Scholar is funded by a $1 million endowment program. Half of that million is from the state and the other half is from the university, Stoddard said.

The Ohio Board of Regents does the selection process and the university nominates people, then submits a proposal in a specialized field, he said.

Nine awards were selected and Ohio State received four of them.

The university currently has two Eminent Scholars. Terry A. Miller received the award in experimental physical chemistry and Mihal Nadin is an Eminent Scholar in art and design technology.
Trustees approve Lambowitz as Eminent Scholar

By Earle Holland

Alan M. Lambowitz, a professor of biochemistry at the St. Louis University School of Medicine, has been named Ohio Eminent Scholar in Molecular Genetics at Ohio State.

The appointment was approved by the Board of Trustees at its Nov. 1 meeting.

Lambowitz, 37, is a molecular biologist specializing in the study of gene expression in the fungus Neurospora. Neurospora is one of the standard experimental organisms used for biological research. His work centers on discovering the mechanism for gene expression in organisms.

"Alan Lambowitz is a rapidly rising star in the field of molecular biology and has already become a leader in his field," says William A. Jensen, dean of the College of Biological Sciences. "His appointment will strengthen our studies in this area."

Lambowitz will hold the position of professor in the departments of biochemistry and genetics.

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Trustees approve Lambowitz Eminent Scholar

He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from Brooklyn College in 1968, his M.S. degree in 1970 and his Ph.D. in 1972, both in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University.

He has been on the faculty at the St. Louis University School of Medicine since 1976, having been promoted from assistant professor to associate professor to his current post of professor. Since 1978, he also has served as a member of the medical mycology center at the Washington University School of Medicine.

Prior to that, he held positions as senior staff fellow at the National Institute of Mental Health Laboratory of General and Comparative Biochemistry; research associate at the Rockefeller University Laboratory of Cell Biology, and post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Department of Biophysics and Physical Biochemistry.

Lambowitz is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi and now holds an advisory position with the National Institutes of Health Molecular Biology Study Section. He has been author or co-author of more than 60 published papers since 1971.

Gov. Richard Celeste and the Ohio General Assembly authorized creation of nine Eminent Scholar positions in the current biennial state budget. In a competition among all the state-assisted universities conducted by the Ohio Board of Regents last year, Ohio State received four of the Eminent Scholar awards.

The Eminent Scholar Program is designed to attract nationally and internationally known scholars to further strengthen outstanding academic programs that deal with compelling statewide problems.

The salary and program support for each Eminent Scholar at Ohio State will be funded with income from an endowment created from $500,000 allocated by the state of Ohio matched by gift funds to the University.

Currently, Terry A. Miller holds the Eminent Scholar post in experimental physical chemistry and Mihai Nadin is the Eminent Scholar in art and design technology.

Still to be named is an Eminent Scholar in scientific computation.
Gov. Richard Celeste will attend a reception at Ohio State University Thursday (11/21) to "officially welcome" the university's three Ohio Eminent Scholars.

The reception will be from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Terrace Lounge on the third floor of the Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St. Attending will be representatives from the Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio State President Edward H. Jennings and his staff, deans, department chairpersons and student leaders.

The university's three Ohio Eminent Scholars are:

--Terry A. Miller, Ohio Eminent Scholar in Experimental Physical Chemistry, appointed in October 1984. He came to Ohio State from Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey where he had been a research scientist since 1968.

--Mihai Nadin, Ohio Eminent Scholar in Art and Design Technology, appointed last June. He came to the university this fall from the Rhode Island School of Design where he was a professor. He was the founder and director of the Institute for the Semiotics of the Visual in Providence, R.I.

--Alan M. Lambowitz, Ohio Eminent Scholar in Molecular Genetics, appointed earlier this month. He came to Ohio State from the St. Louis University School of Medicine where he was a professor and molecular biologist.

Ohio State has not yet appointed a person to fill its fourth position, the Ohio Eminent Scholar in Scientific Computation.

The Ohio General Assembly provided $4.5 million for the Eminent Scholar Program in its 1983-85 biennial budget "for the purpose of fostering the growth of eminence in Ohio's academic programs while bringing educational resources to bear on compelling statewide problems."

The Ohio Board of Regents reviewed the proposals for eminent scholars and in May 1984 Gov. Celeste announced nine awards to the state's universities. Each award carried with it a $500,000 state matching grant to support the work of the eminent scholar.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
3 win $1 million for research

By Bob Isemann
Lantern Staff Writer

Three Ohio Eminent Scholars, selected by the Ohio Board of Regents, will receive $1 million in grants to do research at Ohio State.

Terry A. Miller, researcher of experimental physical chemistry, Mihai Nadin, researcher of art and design technology, and Alan M. Lambowitz, researcher of molecular genetics are coming to Ohio State as participants of the statewide Ohio Eminent Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program draws students to Ohio State and other universities by providing the scholars with $500,000 to support their research. The state then matches the grant. Ohio State received four of the nine awards, but so far only three recipients have been named.

Gov. Richard F. Celeste said the scholars' research will enhance the quality of universities and overall education throughout the state. "We deal with a global marketplace and technological change that are constant challenges," Celeste said at a welcoming ceremony Thursday in the Ohio Union.

The scholarship program is part of Ohio State's selective excellence program. President Edward H. Jennings said, "Ohio State is one of America's great universities, but you must keep moving. You can't stand still."

Miller, formerly a research scientist for Bell Telephone Laboratories since 1968, said Ohio's commitment to educational excellence is unparalleled in any state.

"It is that commitment to excellence... that makes it possible for Ohio State to really become a world-class research university."

Industries that need answers to technological problems recognize the top research facilities in the world and go to those facilities for help in solving their problems, Miller said.

Lambowitz, who was a professor and molecular biologist at the St. Louis University School of Medicine, said the research done in the biotechnology and molecular genetic programs at Ohio State will benefit existing Ohio corporations and also spur the development of new companies in the field.

Ohio State is recruiting the fourth scholar, Jennings said, and will name the scholar as soon as possible.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Ohio State University was awarded four of the state's nine Eminent Scholar grants Friday (6/13), more than any other university.

Ohio State will receive funding for Eminent Scholars in condensed matter/materials research physics, hydrogeology, industrial microbiology and mechanical systems.

The awards were announced at the Ohio Board of Regents' monthly meeting and at a news conference by Gov. Richard F. Celeste.

The Eminent Scholars program, funded by the state, provides universities $500,000 per award to attract and support a world-class scholar in a specified academic area.

Universities must at least match the state grant to provide a $1 million total endowment. However, Ohio State will provide a $750,000 match for its Eminent Scholars to make a total endowment of $1.25 million.

In all, state universities submitted 61 proposals to compete for the nine Eminent Scholar positions. Ohio State submitted 28 proposals.

A selection panel of faculty and regents staff members chose 24 semifinalists in December. A separate 15-member panel of national academic and business leaders reviewed those proposals...
and visited the universities before recommending the nine award winners.

The Eminent Scholars program was first funded in the 1983-85 state budget. Ohio State received four of the nine awards in that competition.

Terry Miller in experimental physical chemistry, Mihai Nadin in art and design technology, and Alan Lambowitz in molecular genetics fill three of the positions. An Eminent Scholar in scientific computation is yet to be named.

Ohio State's Eminent Scholar awards this year and the departments or colleges that sponsored them are:

Condensed Matter/Materials Research Physics (Department of Physics): Condensed matter physics is the study of solids, liquids and other states of matter in which the atoms are at a density comparable to ordinary materials. Included among its many subfields are the study of magnetic materials, semiconductors, metals and alloys, polymers, superconductors, surfaces and liquid crystals. In recent years, a primary focus of this field has been the study of advanced new materials. Such products as the semiconductors at the heart of sophisticated computer microchips and the heat-resistant tiles used to protect spacecraft are the result of modern materials research. The Eminent Scholar will help develop the physics department's research and teaching in these key areas.

Contact: Les Blatt, chairperson, Department of Physics, (614) 422-5713.

Hydrogeology (Department of Geology and Mineralogy): Hydrogeology is the study of the movement, distribution, properties and effects of water below or on the earth's surface. An expanded and strengthened program in hydrogeology at Ohio State will help address the problems caused by a current national shortage of trained hydrogeologists. These specialists deal with identification of below-surface water supplies, movement of contaminants below the earth's surface and restoration of contaminated underground water supplies. The Eminent Scholar is expected to specialize in water resources geochemistry and will complement the existing hydrogeology program, accelerating

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theoretical and applied research in problems of concern to industry and government.

Contact: Scott Bair, assistant professor, Department of Geology and Mineralogy, (614) 422-4286 or 422-7221.

Industrial Microbiology (Department of Microbiology): Microorganisms are essential tools of our industrial society. They are responsible for the production of chemicals such as antibiotics and other drugs, are used to produce foods and beverages and are also used to detoxify and recycle wastes at sewage treatment facilities. The Department of Microbiology already has several faculty members who have received industrial sponsorship of their work and have filed and received patents for industrial applications of microorganisms. The Eminent Scholar will help provide a focused identity for Ohio State's research in this area. The appointee also will be a major resource for the development of Ohio State's new Biotechnology Center.

Contact: John Reeve, chairperson, Department of Microbiology, (614) 422-2301.

Mechanical Systems (Department of Mechanical Engineering): The mechanical systems program at Ohio State is involved in research that makes manufacturing considerations a part of the process of designing new products. By taking such considerations into account, researchers hope to speed up production and eliminate many problems in the manufacturing process. The Eminent Scholar will help develop the use of computers and computer graphics in this emerging field. The scholar also will help attract the best students and faculty to the program and increase the department's interactions with industry.

Contact: Lawrence Kennedy, chairperson, Department of Mechanical Engineering, (614) 422-5782.
State presents four

By Jeff Grabmeier

Ohio State received four of the state's nine Eminent Scholar grants for 1986, more than any other university, the Ohio Board of Regents announced June 13.

The University will receive funding for Eminent Scholars in condensed matter/materials research physics, hydrogeology, industrial microbiology and mechanical systems.

"I think the fact that we did so well in the competition shows that Ohio State has a great base of excellence on which to build," said Jack Hollander, vice president for research and graduate studies.

"These four awards are going to put us in an even better position nationally in these important fields."

Hollander accepted the awards for Ohio State at ceremonies held by the regents and Gov. Richard F. Celeste.

Ohio State also received Program Excellence awards to improve undergraduate programs in electrical engineering and journalism. The Department of Electrical Engineering was awarded $137,815 and the School of Journalism will receive $151,665.

The Eminent Scholars program provides universities $500,000 per award to attract and support a world-class scholar in a specified academic area.

Universities must at least match the state grant to provide a $1 million total endowment. However, Ohio State will provide a $750,000 match for its Eminent Scholars to make a total endowment of $1.25 million.

At the awards ceremony, Celeste praised the universities that received the Eminent Scholar awards.

"Today's announcements represent the purest form of academic competition," Celeste said. "We're in a room of winners. It's a competition that's based on academic criteria, not political clout, not geographical balance.

"The winners of today's awards are a sign to all that we in Ohio have made a decision to invest in quality in these institutions and these arenas where we feel confident that we can meet world-class competition," Celeste said.

In all, state universities submitted 61 proposals to compete for the nine Eminent Scholar positions. Ohio State submitted 28 proposals.

A selection panel of faculty and regents staff members chose 24 semifinalists in December. A separate 15-member panel of national academic and business leaders reviewed those proposals and visited the universities before recommending the nine award winners.

The University of Cincinnati received three Eminent Scholar awards and Miami University and Bowling Green State University each received one award.

The Eminent Scholars program was first funded in the 1983-85 state budget. Ohio State received four of the nine awards in that competition.

Three of those positions were filled by Terry Miller in experimental physical chemistry, Mihai Nadin in art and design technology and Alan Lambowitz in molecular genetics. An Eminent Scholar in scientific computation is yet to be named.

Hollander said the departments that received Eminent Scholars will begin as soon as possible to search for qualified persons to fill the positions.

"The real work begins now," he said.

"Eminent Scholars, by their very definition, are not easy to find. They are very rare. But I'm hoping that within the year we can have these scholars on the campus."

Eminent Scholars and Program Excellence are two of the five programs in the Selective Excellence initiative funded by the Ohio General Assembly to enhance the best programs at colleges and universities in the state. The Selective Excellence programs received $81.7 million from the legislature for the 1985-87 biennium.

Continued on page 8.
Eminent scholars...

Continued from page 3.

Ohio State was awarded Eminent Scholars in the following fields:

- Condensed Matter/Materials Research Physics (Department of Physics): Condensed matter physics is the study of solids, liquids and other states of matter in which the atoms are at a density comparable to ordinary materials. Included among its many subfields are the study of magnetic materials, semiconductors, metals and alloys, polymers, superconductors, surfaces and liquid crystals.

In recent years, a primary focus of this field has been the study of advanced new materials. Such products as the semiconductors at the heart of sophisticated computer microchips and the heat-resistant tiles used to protect spacecraft are the result of modern materials research. The Eminent Scholar will help develop the physics department’s research and teaching in these key areas.

- Hydrogeology (Department of Geology and Mineralogy): Hydrogeology is the study of the movement, distribution, properties and effects of water below or on the earth’s surface. An expanded and strengthened program in hydrogeology at Ohio State will help address the problems caused by a current national shortage of trained hydrogeologists. These specialists deal with identification of below-surface water supplies, movement of contaminants below the earth’s surface and restoration of contaminated underground water supplies.

The Eminent Scholar is expected to specialize in water resources geochemistry and will complement the existing hydrogeology program, accelerating theoretical and applied research in problems of concern to industry and government.

- Industrial Microbiology (Department of Microbiology): Microorganisms are essential tools of our industrial society. They are responsible for the production of chemicals such as antibiotics and other drugs, are used to produce foods and beverages and are also used to detoxify and recycle wastes at sewage treatment facilities.

The Department of Microbiology already has several faculty members who have received industrial sponsorship of their work and have filed and received patents for industrial applications of microorganisms. The Eminent Scholar will help provide a focused identity for Ohio State’s research in this area. The appointee also will be a major resource for the development of Ohio State’s new Biotechnology Center.

- Mechanical Systems (Department of Mechanical Engineering): The mechanical systems program at Ohio State is involved in research that makes manufacturing considerations a part of the process of designing new products. By taking such considerations into account, researchers hope to speed up production and eliminate many problems in the manufacturing process.

The Eminent Scholar will help develop the use of computers and computer graphics in this emerging field. The scholar also will help attract the best students and faculty to the program and increase the department’s interactions with industry.

Program Excellence awards were made to these Ohio State academic units:

- Department of Electrical Engineering: The $137,815 grant will be used to establish a computer graphic-based instructional facility that will allow undergraduates to gain experience in computer applications to electrical engineering.

- School of Journalism: The $151,665 grant will be used to furnish a television laboratory-newsgroom with state-of-the-art editing and production equipment for instruction in television journalism.
Excellence funds awarded to five OSU departments

By Chuck Segal
Lantern Staff Writer

Gov. Richard F. Celeste presented President Edward H. Jennings Wednesday with two checks for four Eminent Scholars awards and two Program Excellence grants.

The Eminent Scholars program awarded nine outstanding university departments in Ohio with $500,000 awards to hire a world-class scholar to teach and do research. The schools must match the award with their own funds. Ohio State won four of the nine awards.

The Eminent Scholars grants were awarded to the departments of Geology and Mineralogy, Mechanical Engineering, Microbiology, Journalism and Physics.

"The dedication of excellence has far reaching effects that go well beyond those which are first and foremost in the classroom," Celeste said. "It reaches into the marketplace and creates jobs and improves the quality of life for all Ohioans."

Ohio State will give each department $750,000 in addition to the $500,000 awarded by the state.

Ohio State also won two Program Excellence awards. These awards are given to top notch undergraduate programs to make the programs even better. Each school sends the Board of Regents proposals for improvements it would like to make in its best programs. The Regents visit the departments and decide which will receive the awards.

Since the Selective Excellence program began in 1983, the state has awarded 40 undergraduate departments.

Only the interest from the Eminent Scholars funds are given to the department.

The Geology department will use its award money to fund research projects on industrial water usage. "Water is as valuable in an industrial and agricultural state as energy resources," said Geology and Mineralogy Department Chairman Peter Webb. "That is why it is important to study hydrology at Ohio State."

Ohio State racked up nearly $5 million in awards and grants for excellence Wednesday.

The School of Journalism will use its grant to purchase equipment to furnish a television studio soon to be constructed, said Journalism director Walter Bunge. The studio will provide a laboratory for television broadcast students to do in-studio productions which will eventually be aired over cable or WOSU.

The Department of Electrical Engineering received $137,815 to establish a computer graphics-based instructional facility.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering will employ the money to hire two additional faculty to study design and systems control, said Raj Singh, professor of Mechanical Engineering. Design and control systems are used to design automated machines, manufacturing systems, robots and intelligence machines.

The Physics Department will apply the grant money to its ongoing research programs. S. Leslie Blatt, chairman of the physics department said the department has been expanding its materials research and offerings for more than a decade. This involves creating and studying properties of new material which can be used in electronics and construction, and in the manufacturing of all sorts of products like semi-conductors and integrated circuits, materials used in building aircraft frames, he said.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Frank W. Schwartz, a professor of geology at the University of Alberta, will be recommended as Ohio State University's *Eminent Scholar* in Hydrogeology.

Ohio State President Edward H. Jennings will recommend Schwartz's appointment to the Board of Trustees at its meeting Sept. 4. If the appointment is approved by the trustees, Schwartz is expected to join the faculty in the Department of Geology and Mineralogy in the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences in October 1988.

Schwartz, 41, has been a member of the faculty at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, since 1972. He has lectured and consulted extensively throughout the United States and Canada on underground water contamination, radioactive waste disposal, the effects of mining and irrigation on water quality, and other hydrogeological topics.

Hydrogeology is the study of the movement, distribution, properties and effects of water below or on the earth's surface.

Peter Webb, chairperson of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy, said: "The thrust of Ohio State's hydrogeology program is finding ways to prevent contamination of the vast --more--
underground water resources of this region. Frank Schwartz is one of the most outstanding researchers in this field, and his leadership will help make Ohio State's program in hydrogeology one of the best."

Schwartz uses sophisticated computer models to study how pesticides and other organic materials get into underground water and how these organic materials move through or are deposited in the ground. This research, along with that of other Ohio State geology faculty members, will increase understanding of the ways that underground water becomes contaminated, Webb said.

"Frank Schwartz is an outstanding scientist and a widely recognized leader in the vitally important field of hydrogeology," Jennings said. "We are delighted that he has accepted the invitation to become Ohio Eminent Scholar in Hydrogeology and to have him join our distinguished faculty in this area."

Schwartz, a Canadian, earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1968, his master's degree from the University of Manitoba in 1970, and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1972 -- all in geology.

He is the recipient of two very prestigious honors from the Geological Society of America: The O.E. Meinzer Award and the John Birdsall Distinguished Lectureship in Hydrogeology. The author of more than 65 journal articles, Schwartz has served as a committee member or consultant for numerous projects related to groundwater contamination, the effects of mining on water quality, chemical spills, and other hydrogeological studies by government and private industry in the United States and Canada.
Gov. Richard Celeste and the Ohio General Assembly authorized creation of nine Eminent Scholar positions in the 1985-87 biennial budget. In a competition among all the state-assisted universities conducted by the Ohio Board of Regents last year, Ohio State received four of the Eminent Scholar awards. The university also received four of the nine Eminent Scholar positions funded in the 1983-85 biennium.

The chair in hydrogeology is the first of Ohio State's second-round Eminent Scholar positions to be filled. Faculty have been appointed to three of the four first-round positions: Terry Miller in experimental physical chemistry, Mihai Nadin in art and design technology, and Alan Lambowitz in molecular genetics.

The Eminent Scholar Program is designed to attract nationally and internationally known scholars to further strengthen outstanding academic programs which deal with compelling statewide problems.

The salary and program support for each Eminent Scholar at Ohio State will be funded with income from an endowment created from $500,000 allocated from the State of Ohio and matched by $750,000 in gift funds to the university.

Still to be named at Ohio State are Eminent Scholars in scientific computation, condensed matter physics, mechanical systems engineering, and industrial microbiology.

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Contact: Scott Bair, professor of geology, (614) 292-4286; or Howard Gauthier, associate provost, (614) 292-5881.
OSU ready to hire leading biotech researcher

By David Loe
Dispatch Science Editor

F. Robert Tabita, 44, a microbiologist known worldwide for research in plant and bacterial enzymes, is expected to be approved as Ohio State University's sixth Eminent Scholar today when university trustees meet.

Tabita, now at the University of Texas, accepted the OSU post in December. He plans to move from Austin, Texas, to Columbus next January.

The Eminent Scholars program was established in 1983 by the Ohio Board of Regents to spur recruitment of outstanding academicians to Ohio's public campuses. In 4 years, there have been 11 such appointments, including five at OSU.

"There's a good spirit as far as cooperating on multidisciplinary projects in science at Ohio State," said Tabita yesterday.

Tabita's reputation comes from his discovery that some bacteria possess a simplified version of the complex enzyme that plants use to convert sunlight to chemical energy and to break down carbon dioxide.

"I'M INTERESTED in carbon dioxide fixation in plants and algae and bacteria," he said. "The process is similar in different organisms, but if one wants to study it, to see how it works, it's simpler to do it with bacteria."

By learning more about how plants convert sunlight and carbon dioxide into usable form, science can lead the way to better industrial use of microorganisms to produce chemicals and other products, Tabita said.

Tabita was born in New York City and is a graduate of St. John's and Syracuse universities. He did post-doctoral studies at the University of Washington before going to the University of Texas in 1973.

Tabita said six to nine of the 12 staff people and students in his laboratory probably will move to his new laboratory in the OSU Biological Sciences Building.

"When an institution like Ohio State is able to recruit somebody who is a sure winner for federal funding, it doesn't cost anything," Reeve said. "What the university is doing is hiring somebody who is a very short period of time will be sponsoring education at Ohio State."
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Two Ohio Eminent Scholars were appointed to the Ohio State University faculty Friday (2/5) by the university's Board of Trustees.

Gregory R. Baker, a research scientist for the Exxon Research and Engineering Co., has been named Ohio Eminent Scholar in Scientific Computation Research in Mathematics.

F. Robert Tabita, a professor of microbiology at the University of Texas, has been named Ohio Eminent Scholar in Industrial and Agricultural Applications of Microorganisms Research in Microbiology.

Baker, who will join the faculty of the Department of Mathematics on Oct. 1, uses computers to solve difficult scientific problems. He is focusing on fluid dynamics problems, which also are of interest to physicists and engineers. He is doing basic research into the problems of laser fusion, which is of potential value in new ways to generate energy.

Another area he is researching is the way computers solve scientific problems.

"We are looking at the mathematical aspects of using computers," he said. "We are examining whether the methods of solution are reliable."

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Baker is coming to Ohio State because he believes the institution is willing to commit its resources to first-class research.

"I think the administration at Ohio State is supportive and wants to give people the opportunity to establish these kinds of programs," he said. "They are very far-sighted."

Baker received two Bachelor of Science degrees and a Master of Science degree from the University of Natal in South Africa. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1977. Baker spent four years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before going to the University of Arizona in 1981.

At Arizona, he was a professor in the Applied Mathematics Program and was its director for one year. He began working for Exxon in 1986. He also is a visiting fellow at Princeton University's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

"Greg's coming fits in nicely with our efforts to develop scientific computation at Ohio State," said Joe Ferrar, chairperson of the Department of Mathematics. "The position as we envision it is an interdisciplinary one, reaching out to other departments."

Tabita will join the faculty of the Department of Microbiology in January 1989. He works with carbon dioxide and nitrogen fixation. Carbon dioxide fixation is a process by which all organisms are able to produce organic carbon. This mechanism is an important agricultural and industrial process.

"I am interested in that mechanism," he said. "We want to improve the efficiency of the carbon formation, which may help
improve the ability of plants to be more productive."

In his research, he also is trying to understand the process by which organisms absorb nitrogen. Tabita said the study of the microorganisms involved in this process offers the opportunity to understand how they interact with their environment. His work is expected to be a significant addition to Ohio State's biotechnology initiative.

"I am coming to Ohio State because I am impressed with the types of research going on here," Tabita said. "There is a spirit of cooperation in furthering the solution of some interesting problems in science."

Tabita received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from St. John's University. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in microbial biochemistry from Syracuse University in 1971. Tabita then was a National Institutes of Health post-doctoral fellow in chemistry at Washington State University.

He has been at the University of Texas in the Department of Microbiology since 1973. He has been assistant director for that school's Center for Applied Microbiology since 1981.

"We are adding a scientist of international reputation and caliber to our research program here," said John Reeve, chairperson of Ohio State's Department of Microbiology. "It's a vote of confidence for our program and a strong endorsement of Ohio State that he believes this is the right place for him to pursue his research."

Baker and Tabita are the sixth and seventh Eminent Scholars named by Ohio State. The university has been awarded eight
positions thus far. The one yet to be filled is in mechanical systems engineering. Gov. Richard Celeste and the Ohio General Assembly first authorized the creation of Eminent Scholar positions in 1983.

Already named as Eminent Scholars at Ohio State are: Alan Lambowitz, molecular genetics; Mahai Nadin, art and design technology; Terry Miller, experimental physical chemistry; Frank Schwartz, hydrogeology; and John Wilkins, condensed matter and materials physics.

The Eminent Scholar Program is designed to attract nationally and internationally known scholars to further strengthen outstanding academic programs which deal with statewide problems.

The salary and program support for each Eminent Scholar at Ohio State is funded with income from an endowment created from $500,000 allocated by the State of Ohio and matched by $750,000 in gift funds to the university.

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Contact: Joe Ferrar, (614) 292-7173, and John Reeve, (614) 292-2301.
Written by Robert Gelchion. (BobG/254)
University receives money for three eminent scholars

By David Moore
Lantern staff writer

The Ohio Board of Regents awarded Ohio State funds for three eminent scholars Friday, which will bring the university's number of eminent scholars to 10.

In Ohio's Eminent Scholars program, the Board of Regents agrees to match funds of up to $500,000 of Ohio universities to bring renowned scholars into the state.

Since the program was launched in 1983, the Regents have awarded funds for 27 eminent scholars to Ohio universities.

The Board chose Ohio State's proposals from 44 applicants. The biochemistry, chemistry, and metallurgical engineering departments were awarded the grants.

Professor Edward Behrman, chairman of the biochemistry department, said eminent scholars bring talent and money into the university.

Professor Devon W. Meek, chairman of the chemistry department, said eminent scholars bring a "tremendous advantage recruiting new faculty and grad students."

But getting the funds is the easy part.

Behrman said finding an eminent scholar is a long, drawn-out process.

Each applicant must visit the university to view university facilities. Selecting a scholar for the biochemistry department could take almost a year.

Behrman said, "We advertise nationally, perhaps internationally, and ask candidates to visit.

"When you bring in anyone in the sciences into the university, especially an eminent scholar, you have to provide a suitable laboratory," he said.

George Barber, professor of biochemistry, said eminent scholar Alan Lambowitz used three or four laboratories to help research his specialty.

Lambowitz said he brought 12 graduate students, post doctorates and other research assistants to the university to aid his research.

Lambowitz works with the biochemistry, molecular genetics and biotechnology departments.

"(Moving to Ohio State) was really a difficult endeavor," Lambowitz said. "The field is very competitive."

The Board also gave Ohio State three Program Excellence awards totalling $430,710.

Both the mechanical engineering department and the honors physics department gained $146,500; the industrial design department received $137,710.

Kate Carey, spokeswoman for the Board of Regents, said the program excellence awards are used to improve undergraduate education.

In addition, the Board gave the university $194,500 to replace the roof of Robinson Laboratory.
State funds 3 new scholars, and programs

The state's Ohio Eminent Scholars Program will bring three more senior faculty positions to Ohio State and an equal number of Program Excellence Grants to the University in the next year.

The awards were announced June 17 by the Ohio Board of Regents. Nine Eminent Scholar positions and 22 Program Excellence Grants were awarded statewide.

New Eminent Scholars at Ohio State are to be appointed in the following areas:

* Protein Engineering in the Department of Biochemistry to study the relationship between the structure and function of proteins;
* Biological Macromolecular Structure to study the links between chemistry and biology, especially large biological molecules such as proteins, enzymes and nucleic acids. This position would involve some concentration in X-ray crystallography;
* High-Temperature Physics to study the behavior of materials at high temperatures, including new composite materials.

The new awards bring the total number of Eminent Scholar positions at Ohio State to 11.

Program Excellence Grants also were awarded in the following areas: the industrial design program, $146,500; the honors physics program, $137,710; and the mechanical engineering program, $146,500. This was the second such award to Ohio State's mechanical engineering program.

The 22 Program Excellence Grants awarded statewide ranged from $94,000 to $146,500. These are one-time enrichment grants given to undergraduate programs at two- and four-year colleges.

Four other Ohio universities shared six other Eminent Scholar Awards — the University of Cincinnati with three; Bowling Green State University, Akron Uni-

Continued on page 2.
Philadelphia designer chosen as OSU scholar

Noel Mayo, an industrial designer from Philadelphia, has been recommended to be Ohio Eminent Scholar in Art and Design Technology at The Ohio State University.

Mayo will join the faculty of OSU's department of industrial design on Oct. 1, pending approval by the OSU Board of Trustees.

Mayo is president of Noel Mayo Associates in Philadelphia. Formed in 1963, the company has planned and designed more than 350 projects.

Mayo is a former chairman of the industrial design department at the University of the Arts, where he was the first black graduate in industrial design in the 1950s when the school was known as Philadelphia College of Art.

He is to serve as one of 11 eminent scholars at OSU. The statewide program was initiated in 1983 by Gov. Richard F. Celeste.

Noel Mayo
OHIO EMINENT SCHOLAR APPOINTED

COLUMBUS -- A world renowned biochemist has been appointed Ohio Eminent Scholar in Biological Macromolecular Structure at The Ohio State University.

Muttaiya Sundaralingam was named by the university's Board of Trustees Friday (12/1) to a joint appointment, effective immediately, in the Department of Chemistry and the Biotechnology Center.

Sundaralingam comes to Ohio State from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was Steenbock Professor of Biomolecular Structure and chair of the doctoral program in biophysics.

He is internationally known for his work in determining the structure of large biological molecules (macromolecules), such as proteins and nucleic acids (DNA and RNA), and in determining their underlying structural principles. In his research, he uses high intensity X-ray beams to reveal the three-dimensional arrangement of a substance's atoms.

His research has implications in many areas, including improved design of proteins, hormones, anti-viral agents and anti-cancer drugs.
"The structural information obtained by X-ray crystallography is often the most critical step in our search to understand and influence biological processes," said Russell Pitzer, chairperson of Ohio State's chemistry department. "Dr. Sundaralingam will contribute in a fundamental way to our chemical and biochemical research programs. We are very excited about his appointment."

Sundaralingam said he is "very delighted at this tremendous opportunity" to set up a center for X-ray crystallography at Ohio State. He will continue his research in collaboration with scientists in the Department of Chemistry and in the Biotechnology Center.

"Much of biotechnology's applications to agriculture, to medicine, and to industry in general revolve around understanding the structure of macromolecules," said Pappachan Kolattukudy, director of the Biotechnology Center. "Dr. Sundaralingam's expertise as one of the leading scientists in the field of determining the structure of such molecules will be a major fundamental support to a broad array of biotechnology projects on campus and across Ohio."

A native of Malaysia and Sri Lanka, Sundaralingam, 58, earned his doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh. After serving as a postdoctoral fellow and research instructor at the University of Washington, he joined the chemistry faculty at Case Western Reserve University before moving to the University of Wisconsin in 1969. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil and a Guggenheim Fellow at Oxford University in England.

Sundaralingam is one of five biophysicists whose published work is most frequently cited by other scientists. He has published more than 250 articles in scientific journals and has lectured throughout the world.

Sundaralingam is the eighth Ohio Eminent Scholar named at Ohio State. The Ohio Eminent Scholar Program, administered by the Board of Regents, was created by the General Assembly in 1983 to bring faculty of international stature to Ohio universities.

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Contact: Russell Pitzer, chair, Department of Chemistry, (614) 292-6723.

(Trus 83)
Two Eminent Scholars Named

Hamish L. Fraser and Muttaiya Sundaralingam have been named Ohio Eminent Scholars. Seven other faculty members also hold this title.

Fraser, a former professor at the University of Illinois, will work in the area of high-temperature structural materials. He is a professor of materials science and engineering.

Fraser has been a major contributor to the development and application of advanced alloys, intermetallics, and composite materials for high-performance engines. An expert in electron microscopy, Fraser has written more than 200 papers on analytical electron microscopy, materials processing, and advanced materials.

Electron microscopy uses electrons to analyze a material's structure, in contrast to the optical microscope, which uses light. Materials processing and advanced materials are terms which apply to combining known materials to produce new ones with exceptional properties.

Sundaralingam, a former professor at the University of Wisconsin, will work in the area of biological macromolecular structure. He is a professor of chemistry and will be associated with the Biotechnology Center.

He is widely known for his work in determining the structure of large biological molecules, including DNA and RNA, and in determining their underlying structural principles. In his research, he uses high-intensity X-ray beams to reveal the three-dimensional arrangement of a substance's atoms.

His research has implications in many areas, including improved design of proteins, hormones, antiviral agents, and anti-cancer drugs.
TRUSTEES APPOINT OHIO EMINENT SCHOLAR, DEAN AND OTHERS

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University Board of Trustees Thursday (5/3) named Bharat Bhushan of IBM Corporation as Ohio Eminent Scholar in Mechanical Engineering effective Jan. 1, 1991.

Bhushan is an authority on tribology, the study of friction between interacting parts such as gears. He has been senior engineer at IBM's Research Division and manager of the Head-Disk Interface Department of Almaden Research Center, San Jose, Calif. since 1986.

In 1989 he was a visiting scholar at the University of California, Berkeley.

"Dr. Bhushan is one of the world's top tribologists, and he will be a noted addition to our faculty," said Donald D. Glower, dean of the College of Engineering.

"He is expected to expand our activities in tribology with particular focus on problems related to magnetic storage devices."

The Ohio Eminent Scholar Program is a state-wide plan to attract superior scholars to the state's campuses. It is funded in part by the Ohio Board of Regents and in part by the participating universities.
OSU wins excellence awards

By Tim Doulin  
*Dispatch Higher Education Reporter*

The Ohio State University bolstered its claim to excellence by receiving a record six *Ohio Eminent Scholar* awards and one Program Excellence award from the Ohio Board of Regents yesterday.

The regents gave a total of nine Eminent Scholar awards and 21 Program Excellence awards to 15 state-supported colleges and universities. Grants with the awards totaled $7.5 million. The awards are presented every two years.

"The institution takes this as a measure of its worth, a measure of its progress," said OSU Provost Frederick E. Hutchinson. "It will have a very nice beneficial effect on campus morale."

OSU again dominated the Eminent Scholar awards, which recognize the strongest graduate research programs in the state. OSU received awards for cosmology, experimental materials research, geodynamics, German, social psychology and soil ecology.

Ohio University, Bowling Green State University and the University of Cincinnati received one Eminent Scholar award each.

Each Eminent Scholar award-winning department receives a $500,000 grant from the state, which is to be matched by its school to create a $1 million endowment to attract outstanding scholars in various disciplines.

In the past, OSU has pledged to contribute $750,000 for each scholar award, making the endowment $1.25 million. OSU officials plan to do the same for the six new awards, Hutchinson said.

"We have some very hard work to do because to go recruit six Eminent Scholars is a major task," he said.

It will take 18 months to three years to fill all six scholar positions, Hutchinson said.

OSU has received 17 of the 36 Eminent Scholar awards since the program began in 1983. The University of Cincinnati has the second highest total, 10.

OSU also received a $148,699 grant for rhetoric and composition through the Program Excellence awards, which honor top undergraduate programs.

Ohio University received four Program Excellence awards — more than any other school — in journalism, visual communications, honors tutorial and general education. Grants received by the school ranged from $150,465 to $139,494.

After the awards ceremony, the regents presented a resolution to Gov. Richard F. Celeste, who created the Eminent Scholar and Program Excellence awards in his first executive budget.

"These awards build on the best in us," Celeste said in accepting the resolution.
6 of 9 Eminent Scholars will join this faculty

By Ruth Gerstner

Ohio State continues to dominate the Ohio Eminent Scholars program, receiving six of the nine positions awarded in the most recent competition.

The Board of Regents announced June 14 that the University had been awarded Ohio Eminent Scholar positions in cosmology, experimental materials research, geodynamics, German, social psychology, and soil ecology.

In addition, a $148,699 grant was awarded to the Rhetoric and Composition Program in the Department of English. It was one of 21 Program Excellence grants awarded by the regents to outstanding undergraduate programs.

Frederick E. Hutchinson, vice president for academic affairs and provost, says the results of the competition reflect the quality of the faculty and programs.

"The institution takes this as a measure of its worth, a measure of its progress," he says. "It will have a very nice beneficial effect on campus morale."

However, he notes, winning the awards is just the first step. "Recruiting six Ohio Eminent Scholars is a major task."

The Ohio Eminent Scholars program recognizes the strongest graduate and research programs at state universities. It is one of four Selective Excellence initiatives. The state provides $500,000 for each faculty position, to which the University adds $750,000 in non-state funds to create an endowed professorship.

Briefly, the new positions, their departments, and their goals are:

- **Cosmology, Astronomy**, to contribute to the success of the Columbus Project telescope.
- **Experimental Materials Research, Physics**, to lead a strong experimental program at Ohio State and stimulate materials education and research at other universities and in industry.
- **Geodynamics, Geodetic Science and Surveying**, to work closely with researchers in other units, such as geology and mineralogy, the Center for Mapping and the Byrd Polar Research Center.
- **German, German**, to examine the interrelationships between cultural diversity and common concerns.
- **Social Psychology, Psychology**, to contribute to research on motivational and decision-making processes that are important to understanding and solving many contemporary problems.
- **Soil Ecology, Agronomy and Entomology**, to reinforce and complement interdisciplinary researchers.

The Department of English sought the Program Excellence funds, in part, to create a computer classroom for minority and at-risk students and Honors freshman English classes to meet jointly.
Excellence brings $6 million to OSU

By Renee Varcalle
Lantern staff writer

The Ohio State University made a claim to excellence by receiving a record of seven awards in the Board of Regents' Ohio Eminent Scholars program.

Six programs at the university won an Ohio Eminent Scholar Award and one program received a Program Excellence Award.

The six programs that won the Ohio Eminent Scholars Awards were: cosmology, experimental materials research, geodynamics, German, social psychology, and soil ecology, said Marlene Rushay, Associate to Vice Chancellor for Academic and Special Programs at the Ohio Board of Regents.

The rhetoric and composition program won a $148,699 Program Excellence Award, Rushay said.

Rushay said each winner of an Ohio Eminent Scholar Award receives a $500,000 grant which is matched at least dollar-for-dollar by non-state funds to create an endowed professorship of $1 million or more.

Program Excellence Award winners receive one-time grants based on funding requests. The grants are between $50,000 and $200,000 and are used to further program quality.

Rushay said winners were selected based on such things as curriculum, faculty, students, and services. Student achievements, such as successful job and professional school placement, and performance on tests for professional licenses are also considered, Rushay said.

Every year, the Ohio Eminent Scholars program recognizes the best graduate and research programs at state universities.

Thirty-nine programs from universities across the state participated in the 1990 competition. Twenty-one programs from seven different institutions were selected as finalists, and nine programs from four different institutions received awards, Rushay said.

The program began in 1984 with $4.5 million of state funds. It was created to recognize and enhance selected graduate academic programs in Ohio while using educational resources to try to solve statewide problems, Rushay said.

"I have worked with the Ohio Eminent Scholars program since its inception, and I am particularly pleased to see the breadth of programs among this year's award winners, each one addressing major areas of importance to Ohio," said Regents' Chancellor Elaine H. Hairston.

"The competition for Program Excellence Awards was exceptionally keen this year," Hairston said.

"It is gratifying to know that the Selective Excellence initiatives have built such outstanding quality across a broad range of Ohio's undergraduate programs," said Ted Bonda, Ohio Board of Regents chairman.

Following the announcement of the 1990 Ohio Eminent Scholar and Program Excellence Award winners, Bonda honored Gov. Richard F. Celeste, who founded the program.

"When Gov. Celeste included the Ohio Eminent Scholar and Program Excellence programs in his first executive budget, he was leading Ohio into a pioneering effort in higher education incentive-funding programs," Bonda said.

These programs have brought national acclaim to Ohio and have added to the strength of a broad array of academic programs across Ohio's higher education system, Bonda said.
Scholars awarded positions

By Jose Espinoza
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State continues to lead the Ohio Eminent Scholars program, receiving six of nine positions awarded in the most recent competition.

The Board of Regents announced June 14 that the university had been awarded six of the Ohio Eminent Scholar positions.

Three of the six positions are in the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, including cosmology, experimental materials research and geodynamics. The other three positions are in German, social psychology, and soil ecology.

Howard Gauthier, associate provost for academic affairs, said these positions carry prestige and endowed professorship. Delays to fill these positions exist because of the status and careful considerations taken in the search for these scholars, he said.

Ohio State is still searching for an Eminent Scholar in protein engineering from the competition before the one June 14.

The Ohio Eminent Scholars program is one of four Selective Excellence initiatives statewide. It recognizes the strongest graduate and research programs at state universities. The state provides $500,000 for each faculty position, to which the University adds $750,000 in non-state funds to create endowed professorships.

"With these Eminent Scholar positions, the University seeks to attract other scholars to come to Ohio State," Gauthier said. "It will become like a magnet attracting other prominent scholars, quality post-graduate students, and quality graduate students."

Gauthier also said that the University received 11 other Eminent Scholar awards in three previous competitions. Together with the six new positions, Ohio State has received 17 Eminent Scholar awards in the last eight years, almost half of the 36 positions awarded statewide.

Frederick E. Hutchinson, vice-president for academic affairs and provost, said that the results of the competition reflect the quality of the faculty and programs.

"The institution takes this as a measure of its worth, a measure of its progress," he said. "It will have a very nice beneficial effect on campus morale."

The University not only recruits prominent scholars nationwide but it also seeks them abroad. Three of the ten positions already filled were found in India, Canada, and England. Gauthier said that the University's goal is to improve nationally and internationally as a research institution.

Briefly . . . the positions include their departments, and their goals are Cosmology and astronomy, to contribute to the success of the Columbus Project Telescope.

• Experimental materials research, Physics, to lead a strong experimental program at Ohio State and accelerate materials education and research at other universities and industry.

• Geodynamics, Geodetic Science and Surveying, to work closely with researches in other units such as geology and mineralogy, the Center for Mapping and the Byrd Polar Research Center.

• German, German, to study the interrelationships between cultural diversity and common concerns.

• Social psychology, Psychology, to research on motivational and decision-making processes that are important to understanding and solving contemporary problems.

• Soil ecology, Agronomy and Entomology, to reinforce and complement interdisciplinary researches.
OSU receives six scholar posts

By Diana Flounders
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State was awarded six new Ohio Eminent Scholar positions by the Ohio Board of Regents, bringing the number of such positions to 17, said Michael D. Fellows, director of the Office of Trusts and Estates.

The six positions are funded with $500,000 from the state, matched with $500,000 in unrestricted gifts to the university, Fellows said.

Ohio State’s new positions are in experimental materials research, social psychology, soil ecology, German, cosmology and geodynamics, Fellows said.

Linda Ogden, of the Ohio Board of Regents, said the Ohio Eminent Scholar program was established to help boost research and programming efforts for Ohio colleges.

"The program is comprised of world-class scholars in their research areas who will bring their expertise to Ohio and who generally receive instantaneous recognition in their fields," Ogden said.

Howard L. Gauthier, associate provost for academic affairs, said of the 36 Eminent Scholar positions that have currently been awarded to Ohio colleges, Ohio State has been awarded the most positions with 17.

"No other university has come close to OSU in the number of positions awarded," he said. "I doubt any program has done more to enhance higher education in the state of Ohio."

The Ohio Eminent Scholar positions are awarded on the basis of merit only, Gauthier said.

"For eligibility, departments must prove their academic excellence, both inside and outside the university," Gauthier said.

The selection of Eminent Scholar positions involves a review process that takes place once every two years. All state-supported colleges are invited to compete by submitting proposals to a review committee that selects the best ones, Gauthier said. Then the provost advisory committee reviews the proposals and submits its choices to the Ohio Board of Regents.

After the Board of Regents makes its selections, positions are awarded and scholars are recruited by the program to fill the positions, Gauthier said.
State report on scholar program rules some university presidents

By Tim Doolin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Presidents of some of Ohio's public universities are critical of a study that says the state should stop funding a program to attract top scientists and scholars to their campuses.
The Ohio General Assembly Legislative Office of Education Oversight made public last week a study that recommends the Eminent Scholars program be discontinued for the next four years, as it is flawed and expensive.

OSU President Gordon Gee said the program has problems but so does the study.
"I do not believe the report was written in a fashion to be mean-spirited, but I do think it shows a lack of understanding of how the academic system works," he said.
"This is still a program in its infancy and may have some problems that need to be corrected, but the nature of this program is on target, and we need to keep it in place." The program was developed to attract top researchers and scholars to Ohio to boost academic reputations of universities and help solve statewide problems.

Since the program began in 1983, the regents have awarded 36 grants totaling $18 million. The Ohio State University has received the most grants with 17. None of the 36 grants will be affected if the program is suspended.

Gee said the study failed to take into account how eminent scholars have attracted top postdoctoral researchers and promising junior faculty members to the university.

At OSU, the presence of two eminent scholars helped attract Kenneth Wilson, a member of the physics department and the state's only Nobel Laureate, Gee said.

In a letter to the regents, Ohio University President Charles J. Ping said the program has been an outstanding return on investment for the state. The major problem with the program has been that the endowment has been insufficient to attract and keep eminent scholars, he said.

"This seems to be a problem not with the concept but with the willingness of the state to support the program at a level that permits an 'eminent' level of research and scholarly activity on the part of scholars," Ping wrote.

Miami University President Paul G. Pearson called the study, conducted by the eight-member research office established by the legislature two years ago, unprofessional and superficial.

"It is really a political document rather than a thorough evaluation of scholarship for the state of Ohio," he said.
Educators rush to attack proposal to halt Eminent Scholar funding

By JOHN FUNK
PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

COLUMBUS — Ohio's educational establishment recoiled in anger and horror yesterday to a draft report from a legislative watchdog recommending that the state stop funding for at least four years a program to attract top scientists and scholars.

"Why shouldn't we have excellence in this state? Why should we be second-rate?" demanded Alva (Ted) Bonda, chairman of the Ohio Board of Regents, upon hearing the recommendations of the Legislative Office of Education Oversight.

The Eminent Scholar Program has cost taxpayers $18 million since it began seeding investment portfolios in 1983 that will be earmarked for 36 endowed chairs at six state universities.

So far the universities have put up $27.3 million in matching funds to fill 22 of the positions. They will spend an estimated additional $35.1 million to fill the remaining chairs, according to the oversight report. Most of the chairs are in science and engineering.

In addition to Bonda, who registered his protest in an interview, regents Chancellor Elaine H. Hairston and the presidents of Ohio State University, Ohio University, Miami University, Bowling Green State University and the University of Akron submitted written objections to the Board of Regents.

The Plain Dealer obtained a draft of the report Wednesday from a source who asked not to be identified.

Following yesterday's meeting, the newspaper filed a request under Ohio's Open Records Law to obtain the written objections to the study from the Board of Regents after Vice Chancellor William Napier said Troy would not let him release the report. Troy later denied that, saying "I can't block their response."

Bonda said he would wage a lobbying battle both in the General Assembly and the governor's office to see that the state's Eminent Scholar Program is not suspended.

Calling the oversight committee's staff report "not a fair and full evaluation of the program," Bonda said he would support an effort to have the program re-evaluated by a blue-ribbon committee of scientists and business leaders both from Ohio and the nation.

"We'll do whatever is necessary to see that this evaluation happens," he vowed.

"I've been on the Board of Regents 6½ years. Never has an Ohio school been considered in the top 10 in the nation. Programs like Eminent Scholar are making it happen. It has changed Ohio's image and how Ohio feels about itself. If you stop for four years, you lose a whole generation," he lamented.
Budget cuts eliminate Ohio scholar program

By Carolyn Flesch
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State’s Eminent Scholar program is another victim of Ohio legislator’s decision to eliminate funding for higher education programs.

The Eminent Scholar Program is one of five programs contained in the Selective Excellence Program, which was designed in 1985 to attract federal and private dollars for research to Ohio state colleges and to make Ohio’s colleges more prominent nationally.

Two other programs contained in the Selective Excellence Program, the Program Excellence and the Academic Challenge Programs were also cut from the budget. The Program Excellence Program provided funds to encourage top undergraduate programs to enter competitions for federal grants. The Academic Challenge Program provided funds for educational programs that helped to further the state’s interests. Only the Productivity Improvement Challenge and Research Challenge Programs survived.

Former OSU President Edward Jennings once said the Eminent Scholars Program was “the best bargain the state government ever got.”

The three programs which have proven to be the most important for Ohio State were the ones dropped, said Howard Gauthier, associate provost of Academic Affairs.

The three programs were dropped to save state funds in the 1991-92 Ohio budget but could be reinstated in the 1994-95 state budget, said Linda Ogden, communications administrator for the Ohio Board of Regents.

The Eminent Scholars Program provided state funding to entice world-class scholars to teach at Ohio state colleges. The scholars are under an open contract and can remain at the university so long as they wish. Originators hope these scholars will attract other top faculty and top students to the college and bring research grants. Nine Eminent Scholars grants of $500,000 were made to Ohio state colleges every two years during the former state budget.

Ohio State has received 17 of 38 Eminent Scholars grants given to Ohio colleges by the state since 1983, and these positions will not be affected by the budget cuts, Gauthier said.

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Ten of the positions have been filled, and a search is underway to fill the remaining positions.

In addition to the $500,000 grant Ohio State received for each scholar, the university raised $750,000 in donations to set up an endowment fund. This fund, totalling $1.25 million for each scholar, ensures payment of the positions.

A study has shown that the state and the university fully recover money invested in the program after less than two and a half years in federal grants the scholars attract and in the benefits of the research they do, Gauthier said.

To receive an Eminent Scholars grant, university departments file proposals with the provost of Academic Affairs. A review process follows and then the regents board announces its choices for the grants.

Terry Miller, Eminent Scholar in experimental physical chemistry, was the first scholar to come to Ohio State in 1984.

Miller said the Eminent Scholar position, the strength of the department and the university enticed him to accept the post.

He said the Selective Excellence programs have established a national reputation for interest in academic quality in Ohio.

But the elimination of some of its programs sends out the opposite message, Miller said.

Bharat Bhushan, Eminent Scholar in mechanical systems, Department of Mechanical Engineering, joined the OSU staff July 1, of this year.

Bhushan said he was impressed by the strong commitment to academic excellence shown by the university president and faculty.

However, Bhushan is not totally disheartened by the two-year freeze put on the program by the state. He said the program should be studied to see concerns about the availability of scholars and the question about unfair competition between schools in Ohio can be evaluated.

Bhushan said a lesser-known school might have more difficulty attracting top scholars in a field.
EMINENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Consultant says program too costly

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

Ohio's eminent scholars program to bring top researchers to state campuses should be halted because it's too expensive for many schools to maintain, says an independent consultant.

The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems in Boulder, Colo., also recommends overhauling other components of the selective excellence program, a showpiece of former Gov. Richard F. Celeste's administration. The program was one of the first in the country giving cash awards to campuses for outstanding teaching, research and service.

The Boulder group was hired to evaluate the program, which provided more than $216 million to colleges and universities between 1988 and 1991. About $18 million went to the eminent scholars program to help establish 36 endowed chairs for top scholars and scientists.

The chairs already awarded would not be affected by a decision to discontinue the program. The consultant's recommendation simply advises the state not to award additional chairs.

The Ohio Board of Regents, which administers the program, is not bound by the center's recommendations but is discussing with colleges and universities possible changes to the program.

Regents will recommend the program be funded for the 1993-1995 biennium, although dollar amounts and program changes won't be decided until next week, said E. Garrison Walters, vice chancellor for academic and special programs.

"We agree with the general conclusion that these were successful programs in the context of the 1980s, but needed to be modified in an important way in the 1990s," said Walters.

The eminent scholars program is the high-profile component of the selective excellence program with universities competing for endowed chairs to attract top scholars, research grants and academic prestige.

Each chair was backed by a one-time $500,000 grant from the state with the university at least matching that total. The state award, however, only covered 15 to 30 percent of the actual cost to create the positions, said the consultant. Costs include salary, establishment of laboratories and hiring of assistants.

Smaller institutions that hired eminent scholars had trouble financing them.

The report credited the eminent scholars with often enhancing the national reputation of the departments they joined. A residual benefit was that the eminent scholar often attracted promising junior faculty members and research money to the university, the report said.

Consultants confirmed many of last year's findings by the Ohio Legislative Office of Education Oversight, which recommended not funding any additional professorships. As a result, the program is not in the current biennial budget.

The selective excellence program also includes Program Excellence, which recognizes top undergraduate programs; Academic Challenge, which establishes specialized research centers; Research Challenge, which supports basic research; and the Productivity Improvement Challenge Program, which helps two-year institutions support business-oriented training and education.
UCLA PROFESSOR NAMED EMINENT SCHOLAR IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

COLUMBUS -- Marilynn B. Brewer, director of the Institute for Social Science Research at the University of California, Los Angeles, has been named the Ohio Eminent Scholar in Social Psychology.

The Ohio State University Board of Trustees Friday (12/4) named Brewer to the post effective next July 1. Brewer is a professor of psychology at UCLA and will hold that position at Ohio State.

The Eminent Scholar Program is a state initiative designed to attract nationally and internationally known scholars to further strengthen outstanding academic programs in the state. Ohio State has been awarded 17 eminent scholars positions. Brewer is the eleventh eminent scholar to be named.
O U T I L E T

Michael B. Lafferty and Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporters

Ohio University microbiologist and
Eminent Scholar John Kopchick
thinks he's close to developing
drugs to help eliminate
blindness and kidney
problems in diabetes and the
deforming childhood affliction
called "giantism."

"We're on the verge of hopefully
having a drug to place into people
that will alleviate some of the problems in
diabetes. If that happens, it will be the
proudest moment of my life," Kopchick said.

Giantism occurs when the pituitary gland produces too
much human growth hormone.

By altering just one of the 191 amino acids in the
growth hormone, Kopchick can create an engineered
hormone to halt the damaging effects. His research also
could lead to the development of therapeutic drugs to
treat diabetes and other hormonal problems.

The research illustrates both the promise and the
uncertainty of the state's effort, through the Eminent
Scholars program, to bring to Ohio some of the best and
brightest minds in science and the humanities. A drug to
help diabetics is important, but from the standpoint of
economic development, there's no guarantee such a drug
would put Ohioans to work or be made in Ohio.

Microbiologist John Kopchick is developing drugs at
Ohio University to fight several illnesses.

And what is the priority of such work compared with
the state's other needs, such as rebuilding its
manufacturing base and its cities, controlling pollution and
caring for rising numbers of poor and homeless people?

Kopchick believes he is doing just what state
lawmakers intended when they set up the Eminent
Scholars program in 1983. He is a researcher and a
teacher, and he's bringing money into Ohio — $2 million
in grants alone since he left a national drug company in
1987 to work at OU.

But critics say the Eminent Scholars program is
unfocused, too expensive and lacking in concrete results.

Nearly a decade ago, the General Assembly spent $18
million to help fund 36 endowed chairs. The Ohio Board of
Regents, which administers the program, approved the
positions on the basis of competitive proposals from the
various universities.

The state provided $500,000 for each position, and the
universities put up at least $300,000, raised from
collections. Interest on this endowment of $1 million or
more was to finance each Eminent Scholar's faculty chair.

The idea was to upgrade already-strong university
departments, such as those in chemistry, physics,
biotechnology and liberal arts, by hiring renowned
researchers who would boost the programs to "world
class" status. The presence on Ohio campuses of such

Pianist and composer James Tocco was brought to the University of Cincinnati as a
force in the arts.
What’s cost vs. worth of top educators?

Chemist Terry Miller, left, guides research on diamond films at Ohio State University. At right is Aldo Salzberg, award-winning undergraduate.

Miller is working on ways to make thin diamond films cheaply and effectively to coat cutting blades and helicopter rotors and lo fashion super-fast computer chips. The $1 million endowed chair, Miller said, has brought $2.5 million in grants to his program over the last eight years, most of which has gone to pay graduate students and post-doctoral researchers and to buy supplies.

The Eminent Scholar together have attracted a total of $275.5 million in research grants since 1983. Cincinnati’s program has been tailored to help southwestern Ohio companies. But James Tocco, a pianist and concert music composer at the Indiana University School of Music, also was hired with local needs in mind, said Tepe, UC’s vice president for research. And, while some lawmakers attacked hiring liberal arts scholars, Tepe defends the idea.

“What attracts people to an area? It’s the overall quality of life,” he said. “We have a wonderful orchestra, an art museum, ballet company. How can we create a better quality of life? One of the ways is through the arts. We probably will never bring in a research grant, but he is the kind of person who brings in gifts to the university,” Tepe said.

And Tocco came cheaper than a scientist, Tepe said.

“All I had to pay him was a big piano.”
Scholarly facts

Here are the scholars for each university, their dates of appointment, previous employment, specialty and amount of research grants since appointment.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

- Robert Tabita/1989
  University of Texas
  microbiology—$1.5 million

- John Wilkins/1987
  Cornell University
  physics—$1.2 million

- Frank Schwartz/1987
  University of Alberta
  geology—$638,915

- Alan Lambowitz/1985
  St. Louis University
  genetics—$2.8 million

- Terry Miller/1984
  Bell Labs
  chemistry—$2.3 million

- Noel Mayo/1989
  Philadelphia College of the Arts
  art and design technology—$ N/A

- Bharat Bhushan/1991
  IBM
  mechanical systems engineer
  $80,000

- Muttaiya Sundaralingam/1989
  University of Wisconsin
  biomolecular structure—$1.7 million

- Hamish Fraser/1990
  University of Illinois
  electron microscopy of materials
  $639,973

- Gregory Baker/1988
  Exxon Research/Princeton
  University
  mathematics—$144,601
Scholars program backed

Regents chancellor remains optimistic

By Michael B. Lafferty
Dispatch Science Reporter

Eminent Scholars will be back, says the Ohio Board of Regents chancellor.

"I do not feel a sense of loss. I don't look at it as a program that has died," said Elaine Hairston, who is credited with starting the program. But she agreed that education has higher priorities now and that stopping funding for Eminent Scholars is in the best interest of the state.

"We've lost $271 million from the base budget since 1988, and per-student funding is down by 23 percent since 1990," she said.

Tuition is 60 percent above the national average, and state support for higher education is 42nd in the nation, she said.

"We are in a time when we have to make very hard choices. In hard times we must do the basic job of education first," Hairston said.

Hairston said the scholars program was born over several months in 1981 and 1982 in conversations she had with former Regents Chancellor Edward Q. Moulton and former OSU President Novice G. Fawcett.

The idea evolved from comments by members of the General Assembly about how Ohio could boost the academic image of its universities, Hairston said.

"This program was aimed at building excellence in our universities and how we connect that excellence to solve problems for the state," she said.

"I am enormously pleased and proud of its development," she said.

Critics have said the scholars have not addressed pressing problems of the state that some members of the General Assembly might want investigated.

But the idea behind Eminent Scholars was to boost already strong academic programs to "world-class" status, Hairston said. "Finding an answer for burning sulfuric coal is worthwhile, but the Eminent Scholars began from a different base."

If the program is funded again, Hairston said endowments should be boosted substantially, with the state and universities pitching in up to $1 million each.

"We have now in Ohio a group of scholar leaders who provide that extra impetus toward excellence that sets the standard in a way that is enriching to students and to their colleagues and to all of higher education."

Elaine Hairston
Board of Regents chancellor

Hairston said the scholars have boosted Ohio's image and have helped attract research money not only to their own programs but to other research areas.

Scholars also are working together. For example, there is joint research between the materials science programs at the University of Akron, Bowling Green State University, the University of Cincinnati and Ohio State University.

Hairston also is not worried that 12 appointments have yet to be made. "The worst thing you can do is press for a quick appointment," she said. "You want to ensure that you get extremely high quality."