

NEWS

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THE GOVERNOR



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Governor James J. Blanchard will ask the State Legislature to enact his proposed Research Excellence Fund at a special hearing of the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, this Wednesday, May 1, at 9:00 a.m. At that time, Governor Blanchard has asked Mr. Robert H. Naftaly, director of the Department of Management and Budget, and proposed administrator of the fund, to present the details of the Governor's plan to distribute the funds. In addition, several of the university presidents will make presentations, as well as representatives of the business community.

Governor Blanchard believes that "the function of state government is to act as a facilitator in encouraging more interaction between higher education institutions and the private sector. Closer ties between the two can result in increased business and job creation. The Research Excellence Fund will make targeted investments in the existing strengths of our colleges and universities in those fields which hold the most potential for future economic benefit for all of Michigan".

Mr. Naftaly, in discussing some of the details of the Governor's proposal, stated that "each of the public four-year colleges and universities will be eligible to receive a portion

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of the fund, however there will be a rigorous review process prior to grant approval, including evaluation by well-known scientific experts and an economic analysis".

Details on the Governor's proposed distribution plan will be available at the hearing, which will be held in the third floor conference room of the Roosevelt Building.

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