



**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER &  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE**

College of Engineering & Computer Science  
Florida Atlantic University

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**National Science Foundation  
Industry/University  
Cooperative Research Center  
For Advanced Knowledge Enablement**

*A Powerful Research Partnership Linking Business,  
Education and Government*



Florida Atlantic University has received a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to create the Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement (CAKE), an Industry/University Cooperative Research Center that will provide a framework for interaction between university faculty and industry in the critically important areas of information technology, communication and

- computing. Advanced research carried out by CAKE will fortify other areas of science and technology and spur economic productivity. With the primary objective of developing long-term partnerships among business, academia and government, CAKE will focus on high-quality, collaborative research yielding technological innovations and new ideas that can be directly transferred to U.S. industry,

- Operated by FAU's Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, this Center is one of only 12 NSF-supported facilities of its kind in the United States. Two are in Florida. FAU's Center will be operated jointly with the one that was established at Florida International University in 2008.

## Mission

CAKE will work to accomplish the following goals:

- To continuously evolve an understanding of the technology needs of the industry sector through direct contact with industry professionals and related corporations
- To identify basic research themes that meet needs of the private and public sectors
- To conduct industry-relevant research

## Research Agenda

CAKE's research agenda includes the creation of new technologies for various Web-based applications, video compression and communication, next-generation hardware/software development techniques and tools for mobile devices, RFID-based automation systems and other high-tech and interdisciplinary initiatives.

The research will be applicable to many fields, including national defense, homeland security, healthcare, biomedical science, environmental science, entertainment, finance and technology services. Issues of interest to multiple industries will be explored through partnerships and collaborative research.

## Membership

Membership in CAKE is open to private business, government agencies and others with information technology, communication and computing research needs. The Center will provide its partners with numerous benefits, including early access to research

- innovations and opportunities to interact and work with university faculty, advanced students and industry peers. In addition, the Center will offer members a platform to leverage research and development investments with multi-university centers renowned for their groundbreaking research capabilities.
- NSF seed funding will range from \$307,000 to \$750,000 annually over five years, with sustaining support coming from CAKE members. Yearly membership fees range from \$5,000 for small companies



Industry Advisory Board Meeting

- to \$24,000 for medium-sized and large companies, although there is no limit on the amount a company might choose to allocate for this purpose. Companies paying higher membership fees will have priority in selecting the Center's research projects.

- CAKE will also closely collaborate with more than 40 companies, including 17 start-ups located in the FAU Research & Development Park on the Boca Raton campus.

## Center Organization

- The NSF requires a minimum of six industrial members and \$150,000 in annual memberships for certification as an Industry/University Cooperative Research Center. FAU's goal is to have at least 10 members in the

- first year, with a total of \$300,000 in membership fees.

The Center's Industry Advisory Board (IAB), made up of representatives of all members, has the responsibility of determining the research areas in which membership fees will be invested. Board members will make recommendations on:

- Research projects to be carried out by the Center
- The allocation of resources to these research projects

The IAB will meet twice a year to discuss proposed projects and set research priorities for the Center.

The director of CAKE is Dr. Borko Furht, chairman and professor, Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Florida Atlantic University. An academic advisory board, consisting of the faculty of the department, will advise the director.

Co-principal investigators of the FAU CAKE are Drs. Hari Kalva, associate professor, Abhijit Pandya, professor, Shihong Huang, assistant professor, Ankur Agarwal, assistant professor, and Ionut Cardei, assistant professor.

The NSF program requires independent evaluators. Serving the Center in this capacity will be Dr. Vida Scarpello, a recognized expert in the field of industrial relations who has been a consultant to major U.S. corporations as well as city and state governments.

The Center will use the existing laboratories of participating faculty researchers.

## Companies

The following companies have made preliminary commitments to join the Center:

- LexisNexis
- Pronto Progress
- Real Networks
- Partner Community
- Motorola
- Vivaja Technologies
- Ingenious Software
- Ineoquest
- Evolux Transportation

## Contacts

For more information about the FAU Industry/University Cooperative Research Center, contact the center's coordinator, Jean Mangiaracina, 561.297.3482, [ceecs@fau.edu](mailto:ceecs@fau.edu), or the director, Dr. Borko Furht, 561.297.3486, [bfurht@fau.edu](mailto:bfurht@fau.edu).

*"This is a win-win situation for both our university and our industry and government partners," said Dr. Borko Furht, chair, department of computer and electrical engineering and director of CAKE at FAU. "This grant provides FAU with the opportunity to conduct industrially relevant research, receive additional seed funding, and moreover, benefit from the recognition and prestige of being an NSF research center."*

*"This Center presents a great opportunity to South Florida's high-tech community," says Jaime Borrás, former corporate vice president of Motorola and current chairman of Mobile Technology Consortium, which consists of 50 high-tech companies in South Florida. "Building a bridge linking academia, industry and government in a coordinated research initiative is something that is desperately needed in this region."*

*"The new center, representing the combined efforts of FAU and FIU researchers, now has the critical mass to serve the information technology industry and to help South Florida IT to mature into the top tier," said Dr. Naphtali Rishe, Director of the I/UCRC-CAKE and the Inaugural Outstanding University Professor of FIU.*



Research and Development Park at FAU



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BOCA RATON, Fla., Sept. 18 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Florida Atlantic University's department of computer and electrical engineering and computer science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science joins Florida International University (FIU) as one of only nine National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored industry/university cooperative research centers in the U.S.

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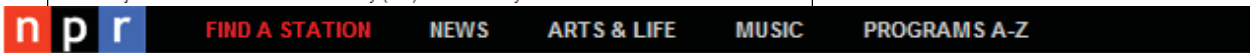
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