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**PUBLIC POLICY****STAC adds federal R&D funds database**
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PROVIDENCE - With stimulus dollars beginning to flow out of Washington, D.C., the R.I. Science and Technology Advisory Council (STAC) has added a funding database to its Web site in an effort to make it easier for researchers and businesses to find federal funding opportunities.

The free database is at directory.stac.ri.gov/opportunities/. In a news release, STAC said the site will be updated daily with news and additional information.

The announcement comes as federal agencies finalize regulations that will govern how they distribute \$21.5 billion in competitive research and development funds that were part of the economic stimulus package President Barack Obama signed in February.

Council co-chairman Clyde Briant, vice president for research at Brown University, called the new site "just the sort of thing STAC should be doing in serving Rhode Island's research and entrepreneurial community."

The searchable database, which is open to the public, offers information on funding eligibility criteria, important dates, funding figures and links to full proposal requests and applications. In addition to the database, more information on funding is available at stac.ri.gov/funding/.

"Federal stimulus funding opportunities are many and rapidly emerging, and knowing what's happening is a big job," STAC co-chairman Jeff Seemann, dean of the University of Rhode Island's College of the Environment and Life Sciences, said in a statement. "STAC is pleased to put this Web site together and maintain it as a part of the public service it performs in supporting the growth of science and technology in Rhode Island."

R.I. Gov. Donald L. Carcieri opposed spending money on research and development funding in a Feb. 5 letter to President Barack Obama that suggested limiting stimulus outlays to fiscal subsidies for states and infrastructure improvements, and putting the rest toward reducing the amount of tax withheld from workers' paychecks.

The R.I. Science and Technology Advisory Council, or STAC, was created in 2005 to help turn Rhode Island into a regional hub for the life sciences, information technology and other research-based industries. For more information, visit www.stac.ri.gov.



GRAPHIC COURTESY STAC

A DATABASE OF FEDERAL DOLLARS available for science and technology research has been added to the R.I. Science and Technology Advisory Council's Web site.

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