

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND  
CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

**2003 PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM**

**PEER REVIEW PANEL SUMMARY STATEMENT  
(PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION)**

**Proposal Number:** PC030462  
**Proposal Category:** HBCU Collaborative Partnership Training Award  
**Review Panel:** PRT-HBCU  
**Meeting Dates:** 07/23/2003 - 07/25/2003  
**Principal Investigator:**  
**Institution:** Florida A&M University  
**Project Title:** Florida A&M University (FAMU) Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research: A Collaborative Program Between FAMU and the Moffitt Cancer Center  
**Score:** 1.7  
**Standard Deviation:** 0.14  
**Budget Requested:** \$904,800.00

**SUMMARY:**

This proposal for an HBCU Collaborative Partnership Training Award describes a partnership between a historically black college, Florida A&M University (FAMU), and the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida. The goal of this proposal is to reduce the disproportionate burden of prostate cancer incidence and mortality among African-American men by increasing the number of FAMU scientists whose research focus is on prostate cancer and by enhancing the capacity for scientific research in prostate cancer at FAMU. To achieve this goal, the proposed FAMU Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research (FAMU MPC) Center will pursue work in the following three areas: prostate cancer research, prostate cancer training, and community dialogue and outreach. The successful completion of the aims within this proposal is predicted to result in: (1) the development of three research studies focusing on prostate cancer disparities in the African-American population; (2) the securing of funds from private or public agencies to support current and future research efforts; (3) the training of at least 11 FAMU researchers in clinical or population research relative to prostate cancer; and (4) the development of collaborative research outreach programs designed to create culturally appropriate, literacy-sensitive cancer interventions and effective dissemination of cancer information within the African-American community. Major **strengths** of this proposal include the rich environment for collaboration between the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida and FAMU. Both institutions are clearly enthusiastic about the establishment of the FAMU Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research Center. Both institutions offer the highest level of support. The efforts to solicit and review the three mentored faculty development research programs are

impressive. The Project Director is clearly an asset to the proposed center. The planned projects focus clearly on prostate cancer biology, etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis, and/or treatment as they relate to the African-American population. The 10-week didactic curriculum in prostate cancer is a particular strength of the proposal. The program oversight and formal plans to apply for peer-reviewed funding are commendable. The outreach program is strong. Minor **weaknesses** include the limited development of an ongoing formal training program after the funding period ends—one that would perpetuate and expand the skills acquired through one-on-one mentoring with prostate cancer researchers in the Moffitt Cancer Center. The projects for the faculty trainees are cited, but the hypotheses, study design, and data analysis are not fully developed. It is not clear whether the consultant has the expertise to design, carry out, and analyze a scientific study. However, although there were some minor weaknesses, the panel considered this to be a strong proposal overall, and rated it **excellent**. The panel reviewed the proposal on the basis of the published evaluation criteria and rated it as described below.

**Evaluation Criteria Rating Scale 1 (low merit) to 10 (high merit):**

<b>Criteria Description</b>	<b>Score</b>
Project Director	8.6
Applicant Institution	7.6
Collaborating Institution	8.0
Training/Research Plan	7.5
Scientific Relevance	8.1

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Project Director:**

Reviewer A: The Project Director, \_\_\_\_\_, is a FAMU faculty member. The PI is currently Associate Professor and Division Director in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and has a Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Florida. She is a strength of this proposal. She has solicited and reviewed several pilot projects for the Faculty Development Program, indicating her commitment and enthusiasm for furthering prostate cancer research at FAMU.

There are some weaknesses, however. The Project Director reports that she has spent 6 years in prostate cancer research, yet she lists only one peer-reviewed publication on prostate cancer. The Project Director's effort begins at 20 percent in Year 1 but drops to 5 percent by Year 3. Also, it is not clear if the Project Director has prior experience with a multi-institutional research project. In addition, it is not clear whether the Project Director has formal training in research methodology or clinical cancer medicine outside of her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences.

Reviewer B: The Project Director is Associate Professor and Division Director in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at FAMU. She received her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Florida. Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ has over 6 years of experience in prostate cancer research and lists several published abstracts and peer-reviewed publications focusing on the area of prostate cancer. She is currently the Principal Investigator of a prostate cancer project funded by the U.S. Army Medical and Materiel Command (20-percent effort). Her prostate cancer credentials make her the most logical candidate for the position of Project Director. In this proposal, she will commit 20 percent of her time in Year 1, 15 percent in Year 2, and 5 percent in Year 3 as Project Director.

A key component for success will be the Program Manager, who will administer this ambitious proposal. A full-time Program Manager will be hired to assist with the overall coordination of the grant and to provide day-to-day management of the FAMU MPC Center.

A weakness is the decision to delete such a critical position in the third year of the proposal. It seems to go against the long-term development and continuation of FAMU MPC Center. If—as predicted and expected by this partnership—the center grows, the Program Manager position will be indispensable to its management needs.

#### **Applicant Institution:**

Reviewer A: A major strength is that the collaboration advances the ability of the applicant institution to foster a group of researchers to be mentored by Moffitt Cancer Center faculty in prostate cancer research. The solicitation and review of the proposals for the Faculty Development Program is impressive and supports the institution's commitment and enthusiasm for the collaboration. The applicant institution has clearly played a role in the conception, design, and direction of the proposed partnership.

There are some weaknesses. There is a 10-week didactic curriculum at the beginning of the funding period; otherwise, no didactic training in formal research methodologies was mentioned. However, this is a key to clinical research—e.g., statistics, clinical epidemiology, health policy, and research/trial design. Despite the existence of the Clinical Scholars Program, there is no formal collaboration between FAMU and this potentially valuable program already in existence at the Moffitt Cancer Center. The proposal does not develop a formal training program in prostate cancer at FAMU to perpetuate and expand the skills acquired from mentoring with Moffitt Cancer Center prostate cancer researchers after the grant period has ended.

Reviewer B: Major strengths are apparent. FAMU, the applicant institution, is the leader in the conception, design and direction of this partnership. The FAMU Prostate Cancer Research Program Team, initiated over 5 years ago, was established with the intent of having FAMU researchers focus their research on alleviating the disproportionate prostate cancer cases and deaths witnessed in African-American men. Within the current proposal, at least 11 FAMU scientists with little-to-no apparent prior prostate cancer experience have expressed commitments to developing viable prostate cancer-related research projects. The aims in this proposal create the foundation for the establishment of the necessary networking, collaborations, and mentoring of FAMU scientists by established cancer researchers at Moffitt Cancer Center. These collaborations should enhance their development.

An inherent strength of FAMU is its reputation as a historically black college renowned in the African-American community, thus allowing the free flow of pertinent cancer-related information and dialogue generated by this partnership into areas where change and intervention are desperately needed.

The applicant institution, FAMU, has several apparent weaknesses that may play a role in terms of research productivity and the development of this proposal. Currently, there appears to be a limited number of active, focused prostate cancer researchers on the FAMU campus, with the Program Director being the exception. The participating scientists' publications and research records are not overly strong. It was briefly mentioned that the FAMU Prostate Cancer Research Program Team initially consisted of four scientists. However, now the FAMU Prostate Cancer Research Program Team has only one investigator, the Program Director, who has focused a research career exclusively on prostate cancer. A discussion/evaluation of what caused this initiative not to flourish should have been discussed in this proposal.

Although the partnering institutions do not sufficiently consider the distance between FAMU and the Moffitt Cancer Center (239 miles) as a problem, the lack of active prostate cancer programs on the FAMU campus means that FAMU scientists will probably need to spend an extensive amount of time in the laboratories of collaborating Moffitt Cancer Center scientists to become proficient prostate cancer scientists. Funds for travel and lodging may be underestimated. Although it was very positive to see the letter of support from the President of FAMU, it did not spell out the specific commitments his administration would put forth to ensure the success of this proposal.

### **Collaborating Institution:**

Reviewer A: The collaborating institution is a major strength of this proposal. The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida has an excellent record in clinical cancer care and cancer research, with well-funded sponsored projects. The institution has a rich experience in developing training programs, including Project Link to train high school and undergraduate students, the Clinical Scholars Program to award an M.S. in public health to medical and surgical fellows, and the Cancer Biology Graduate Program. The letter from the CEO and Center Director expresses commitment to FAMU's development during and after the funding period of the award. All three Moffitt Cancer Center (MCC) mentors for the faculty development projects include *curriculum vitae* and are funded in the budget.

The weaknesses are that some of the letters of support seem to be missing. There are no letters of support from any of the MCC mentors of the three faculty trainees. Only Dr. [redacted] is included in the budget for the faculty trainees, and only his *curriculum vitae* is included. There are no letters of support from any of the three MCC mentors for the faculty development projects.

Reviewer B: Major strengths were noted. MCC is the only National Cancer Institute (NCI) Comprehensive Cancer Center in the State of Florida. It is a recognized leader in focused, innovative research and an important resource for training future scientific and clinical leaders in oncology. MCC currently has good academic and industry funding. It has a state-of-the-art research facility that will be made available to collaborating FAMU faculty. MCC faculty members are engaged in a number of interdisciplinary collaborations and funded research efforts

that provide an excellent scientific environment for the proposed training program. These individuals will also contribute to the aims of this proposal because they have considerable experience in mentoring scientists to become independent investigators in prostate cancer research. Additionally, MCC has rich experience in developing institutional training and research programs, as evidenced by three current institutional programs: (1) Project LINK (Leaders In New Knowledge); (2) the Clinical Scholars Program; and (3) the Cancer Biology Graduate Program.

There are minor weaknesses. Besides the physical distance between MCC and FAMU, the other weakness is the collaborating institution's inexperience in training/collaborating with investigators from a historically black college or university. However, there is an ongoing collaboration with a minority-serving institution, the University of Puerto Rico, which is funded by NCI and has goals very similar to those proposed here.

### **Training/Research Plan:**

Reviewer A: There are major strengths in the training/research plan. The solicitation for proposals for the Faculty Development Program is credible and demonstrates commitment to furthering research in prostate cancer. There is a clear commitment to increasing the number of prostate cancer researchers through the Faculty Trainee Program as well. The conceptual framework, concepts, hypothesis, design, methods, and analyses of the faculty development research are well developed. The mechanism of creating an ongoing program in prostate cancer research is primarily through the mentoring and one-on-one training of a set of six investigators—three faculty trainees and three receiving faculty development awards—who will apply for extramural funding toward the end of the project. The extensive letters of support and the inclusion of both institutions in the budget indicate that there is excellent potential for long-term development.

One weakness is that formal training in didactic prostate cancer research consists of only a 10-week course at the beginning of the project. Other than the titles of lectures, little detail is provided about the intensity of the program or the curriculum. Additionally, there is no formal discussion of explicit resources, meetings, or ongoing collaboration between the two institutions after the funding period. It is not clear how the collaborating and applicant institutions propose to sustain the interactive environment necessary for the development of an effective program after the funding period.

The scientific rationale for the community dialogue and outreach is not fully developed. There are questions about the reference for prostate cancer screening recommendations. There do not appear to be any clear measurable outcomes from the program and or clear data analysis. No research instruments are provided for this part of the study. It is not clear what the qualifications of the consultant are, particularly with regard to the ability to perform data collection and participate in data analysis.

Reviewer B: There are several major strengths in the training/research plan. The FAMU MPC Center is an establishment developed to formalize a committed, long-term partnership between FAMU, a historically black college, and MCC, a collaborating non-HBCU cancer center. This partnership is very significant for FAMU's plan to develop a prostate cancer research and

training program that will increase the number of FAMU scientists working on prostate cancer disparity. With the proposed program, several FAMU faculty members have indicated their interests in being affiliated with the FAMU MPC center. Seven of them have confirmed their desire to develop and maintain a competitive and successful program in prostate cancer research. The mentorship, training, collaborative research (including joint publication and grant writing), and community outreach proposed in this program will support the development of prostate cancer research expertise in FAMU participants. Ultimately, the establishment of the FAMU MPC Center will be a great asset to FAMU in developing a critical mass of prostate cancer researchers to serve the African-American community in Florida.

The development of the FAMU faculty's prostate cancer research capabilities will be through collaborations and mentoring established by this proposal. Experienced senior cancer scientists at MCC will collaborate with and mentor FAMU researchers on prostate cancer research studies that will culminate in the development of proposals seeking extramural funding, addressing topics related to biological and sociocultural etiology in the disparities of prostate cancer incidence in the African-American population.

When developing their prostate cancer research projects, FAMU participants first identified both an area of research interest and an MCC collaborator/mentor specializing in that particular area. They then worked together to develop a proposal that was submitted as a pilot project addressing prostate cancer disparities. From this process, three research teams evolved to conduct three pilot projects. These pilot projects constitute the FAMU MPC Center's Prostate Cancer Faculty Development Awards.

A total of six FAMU faculty members will collaborate with four MCC scientists on these three pilot research projects focusing on prostate cancer disparity. All the pilot projects are well developed. The pilot entitled "The Role of Culture and Perceived Stress in African-American Males' Prostate Cancer Screening Behavior" is especially interesting because it will examine the influence of culturally derived gender roles and perceived stress on African-American males' prostate cancer screening behavior. In particular, the study will use the gender-role strain paradigm as a conceptual framework for understanding how different models of masculinity (what it means to be a man) internalized by African-American males affect their experience of stress and behavior related to medical procedures associated with prostate cancer screening. Beneficial data should result from this study. The generation of extramural funds anticipated from the pilot projects and research training programs found within this proposal will promote the success of the center.

There are some weaknesses. Given the importance of this collaboration between FAMU and MCC and the continued evolving of the FAMU MPC, there was no dialogue anticipating what steps would be taken if funding was not received after the final year of this grant. A strong statement from the leaders in both administrations committing funds to keep this center solvent would have been positive. Some of the predicted outcomes from the research projects in this proposal, such as the number of publications and grant submissions, are overly ambitious, especially since the majority of FAMU scientists have little or no experience in prostate cancer and have not generated much extramural funding.

**Scientific Relevance:**

Reviewer A: A strength is that the proposed research as outlined in the Faculty Development Awards addresses the disparity in prostate cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality between African-Americans and other ethnic groups. These projects focus clearly on prostate cancer biology, etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis, and/or treatment as they relate to the African-American population.

Reviewer B: There are major strengths in the scientific relevance of this proposal. This proposal allows FAMU researchers to receive training in clinical, basic, or population research relative to prostate cancer. This is extremely important because there is a lack of minority scientists in prostate cancer research. Three formal training plans are outlined in this proposal. The first one supplies general cancer training for all FAMU participants. As previously noted, only one FAMU faculty member currently has a research focus on prostate cancer. Therefore, it is imperative that all FAMU faculty participants get a comprehensive overview of prostate cancer biology, etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment, as well as the problem of prostate cancer disparity in the African-American population.

A weakness is that the predicted outcomes from this proposal are very ambitious. In regard to publishing data from “The African-American Men Prostate Cancer Forum,” consultations with statisticians are not mentioned to denote the number of responses needed to make relevant statements concerning prostate cancer and African-American males.

Consumer Reviewer: FAMU is a historically black college in the state with the second highest rate of newly diagnosed prostate cancer and the second highest estimated death rate (North Carolina is number one). A program that focuses on prostate cancer disparities experienced by the African-American population is needed. Training of FAMU participants, community dialogue, and outreach are essential.

**Budget:**

The panel recommended that the Project Director be funded at 20 percent through the entire grant period and that the Program Manager be funded throughout the entire grant period. Final budget is subject to Programmatic Review and negotiations.

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CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

**2003 PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM**

**PEER REVIEW PANEL SUMMARY STATEMENT ADDENDUM  
BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES  
(PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION)**

**Proposal Number:** PC030462  
**Proposal Category:** HBCU Collaborative Partnership Training Award  
**Review Panel:** PRT-HBCU  
**Meeting Dates:** 07/23/2003 - 07/25/2003  
**Principal Investigator:**  
**Institution:** Florida A&M University  
**Project Title:** Florida A&M University (FAMU) Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research: A Collaborative Program Between FAMU and the Moffitt Cancer Center  
**Score:** 1.7  
**Standard Deviation:** 0.14  
**Budget Requested:** \$904,800.00  
**Budget Recommended:** \$1,016,742.00

**BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Recommended Change</b>
Personnel	Fund Project Director at 20 percent through the entire grant period; fund Program Manager throughout the entire grant period.
Consultant Costs	No changes recommended
Major Equipment	No changes recommended
Materials, Supplies, and Consumables	No changes recommended
Travel Costs	No changes recommended
Research-related Patient Costs	No changes recommended
Other Expenses	No changes recommended
Consortium Costs	No changes recommended
Project Duration	No changes recommended

**Rationale for Budget Recommendations:**

The success of the grant will depend on the Project Director and the Program Manager participating at the initial effort throughout the grant period. Thus the Project Director's level of effort was increased from 15 percent to 20 percent for Year 2 and 5 percent to 20 percent for Year 3. The Program Manager's level of effort was maintained at 100 percent for Year 3.

**Administrative Note:**

The travel budget should be re-evaluated to account for the mileage between the two institutions.

**Principal Investigator:**

**Project Title:** Florida A&M University (FAMU) Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research: A Collaborative Program Between FAMU and the Moffitt Cancer Center

**TECHNICAL ABSTRACT:**

Background: The estimated new cases for prostate cancer in 2003 is 220,900 and estimated deaths 28,900. This makes prostate cancer the leader in new cancer cases and is the second leading cause of cancer death in men (excluding basal and squamous cell skin cancers). The American Cancer Society Cancer Facts for 2003 also states "African-American men have the highest prostate cancer incidence rates in the world!" They are also more likely to die from the disease than any other group. On a state level, the 2003 cancer statistics provides an estimate of 15,800 prostate cancer incidences and 2,100 deaths for the state of Florida. Florida ranks the second highest in estimated new prostate cancer cases and the second highest in estimated cancer deaths in the United States. Objective: Current prostate cancer research activities at Florida A&M University (FAMU) are limited. Given the magnitude of the racial disparities in prostate cancer and the high prostate cancer morbidity and mortality in Florida, FAMU, in collaboration with the Moffitt Cancer Center (MCC) proposes to create "The FAMU Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research (FAMU MPC) Center". Specific Aims: To achieve the objective of this application the following aims will be achieved within three years: Aim 1. Research: Researchers at the MCC and FAMU will provide mutual mentorship and collaborate on a minimum of three (3) prostate cancer research studies and seek extramural funding addressing topics related to biological and socio-cultural etiology in the disparities of prostate cancer incidence in the African-American population. Aim 2. Training: FAMU researchers in collaboration with the MCC researchers will develop, foster, and maintain a competitive research and training program at the FAMU MPC Center. MCC researchers will train at least eleven FAMU researchers in clinical, basic or population research relative to prostate cancer. The expected outcome for this aim is a structured research and training program that will assist FAMU researchers to develop their expertise in prostate cancer as independent researchers, successfully compete for extramural grants and independently conduct prostate cancer research. Ultimately, the number of FAMU investigators focusing on prostate cancer research will increase. Aim 3. Community Dialogue and Outreach: MCC and FAMU will take advantage of the considerable expertise of the joint collaborative investigative team in cancer screening, prevention and early detection and aim at developing collaborative research and outreach programs, to create solutions for the development and provision of culturally appropriate and literacy sensitive cancer interventions and effective penetration of cancer information within the African-American Community. Study Plan: FAMU and MCC scientists through formal training, collaboration, mentoring and networking will implement three major programs — research, training, and community dialogue / outreach. These programs will be co-directed by both FAMU and MCC faculty. The research program will focus on prostate cancer disparity in the African-American population through basic, clinical, cancer control and population science studies. The training program will focus on training all FAMU participants. Community Dialogue / Outreach will serve to enhance community outreach, information dissemination, and external communications with the African-American community. We will collaborate with the Florida Prostate Cancer Network (FPCN), an organization created by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ to enhance prostate cancer community outreach. The FPCN, created in 1997, is a non-profit organization

that has been successful in educating the community about prostate cancer state-wide. Other community organizations and state departments that will be collaborating with us for successful implementation of the FAMU MPC Center are the Florida Department of Health, the American Cancer Society, the public health chapter of the Florida Medical Association, and the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council. Relevance: The long term goal of the FAMU MPC Center is to "Eliminate the disproportionate prostate cancer morbidity and mortality experienced by African-American men." Through the FAMU MPC Center, we will develop, promote and sustain independent, competitive "Prostate Cancer Research and Training Program" at FAMU, that creates opportunities and promotes careers in prostate cancer research for FAMU scientists. Current prostate cancer research activities at FAMU are limited. Over the last five years, four (4) FAMU investigators, the FAMU Prostate Cancer Research Program Team, have attempted to study and find solutions to the prostate cancer disparity experienced by African-American men. Of these four investigators, only one (the Principal Investigator of this grant) has focused her research career exclusively on prostate cancer. As of now, over ten (10) FAMU scientists are interested in developing their expertise in prostate cancer research to be able to address the prostate cancer disparities in the African-American community. The combination of prostate cancer training by MCC scientists and collaborative research focusing on the problem of prostate cancer disparity will lead to the desired product for this grant: successful FAMU prostate cancer researchers.

**Principal Investigator:**

**Project Title:**

Florida A&M University (FAMU) Center for Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research: A Collaborative Program Between FAMU and the Moffitt Cancer Center

**PUBLIC ABSTRACT:**

Introduction: Prostate cancer is the leader in new cancer cases and is the second leading cause of cancer death in men. According to the American Cancer Society, "African-American men have the highest prostate cancer incidence rates in the world!" They are also more likely to die from the disease than any other group. In Florida, it is projected that 15,800 men will develop prostate cancer and 2,100 men will die from the disease this year alone. Florida ranks the second highest in estimated new prostate cancer cases and the second highest in estimated cancer deaths in the United States. As a Historically Black University, Florida A&M University (FAMU) researchers are expected to focus their research on conquering the disproportionate prostate cancer cases and deaths seen in African-American men. However, prostate cancer research at FAMU is limited. To enable us to assist our constituent (the African-American community in Florida), FAMU will partner with the Moffitt Cancer Center (MCC) to create "The FAMU Minority Prostate Cancer Training and Research (FAMU MPC) Center". To achieve the objective of this application, the following aims will be carried out within three years: Aim 1. Prostate Cancer Research: Three prostate cancer research studies focusing on disparities of prostate cancer incidence in the African-American population will be conducted. In addition, FAMU researchers will work with MCC scientists to seek funding from private or public agencies to support their research. Aim 2. Prostate Cancer Training: MCC researchers will train at least 11 FAMU researchers in clinical, basic or population research relative to prostate cancer. Aim 3. Community Dialogue and Outreach: MCC and FAMU will develop collaborative research and outreach programs, to create (i) solutions for the development and provision of culturally appropriate and literacy sensitive cancer interventions, and (ii) effective penetration of cancer information within the African-American Community. Study Plan: FAMU and MCC scientists through formal training, collaboration, mentoring and networking will implement three major programs — A research program that will focus on prostate cancer disparities experienced by the African-American population through basic, clinical, cancer control and population science studies; Training program focusing on training all FAMU participants; and Community Dialogue / Outreach program to enhance community outreach, information dissemination, and external communications with the African-American community. We will collaborate with the Florida Prostate Cancer Network (FPCN), an organization created by Mr. [REDACTED], to enhance prostate cancer community outreach. Other community organizations and state departments that will be collaborating with us for successful implementation of the FAMU MPC Center are the Florida Department of Health, the American Cancer Society, the public health chapter of the Florida Medical Association, and the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council. Study Applicability: The long term goal of the FAMU MPC Center is to "Eliminate the disproportionate prostate cancer morbidity and mortality experienced by African-American men." We will develop, promote and sustain independent, competitive program that creates opportunities and promotes careers in prostate cancer research for FAMU scientists to assist the African-American community combat prostate cancer. Current prostate cancer research activities at FAMU are limited. Only one FAMU faculty (the Principal Investigator of this grant) has focused her research career exclusively on prostate cancer. As of now, over ten (10) FAMU

scientists are interested in developing their expertise in prostate cancer research. The combination of prostate cancer training and collaborative research will lead to an increase in the number of successful FAMU prostate cancer researchers. Expected Outcomes: The expected outcomes for the aims proposed in this application are as follows: Expectations for Faculty Training. The program proposed in this application is a structured research and training program that will assist FAMU researchers and trainees to develop their expertise in prostate cancer as independent researchers, successfully compete for grants to support their research and independently conduct prostate cancer research. At the end of three years, at least four grants will be written and submitted to a public or private agency for funding. Expectations for Faculty Research. The expected outcome for the collaborative research between FAMU and MCC are that FAMU faculty will (i) complete three projects focusing on prostate cancer disparity in African-American men, (ii) present the study results of their pilot projects at professional meetings, (iii) publish the results of their pilot projects in peer-reviewed journals, and (iv) submit grant applications on prostate cancer disparity in the African-American community to public or private agencies for funding. Expectations for Community Dialogue and Outreach. The expected outcome for this program includes (i) prostate cancer education for a large number of African-American men that attend the prostate cancer forum, (ii) free prostate cancer screening for forum participants, and (iii) a published prostate cancer guide module that will promote appropriate and culturally sensitive communication with African-American males.