

AGENDA ITEM 8.F.

RE: Approval for Purchase of Microscopes for Natural Science Department

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Administration recommends approval of the purchase of microscopes for the Natural Sciences Department in the amount of \$223,054.08, to be funded by the Title III LEAPS Power Grant, utilizing the E&I Cooperative Agreement #CNR01457.

BACKGROUND: The Natural Sciences Department is requesting approval for the purchase of instructional microscopes to support laboratory instruction and course-based undergraduate research activities. These microscopes will expand hands-on learning opportunities for students enrolled in biology and other natural science courses, while also strengthening experiential learning and research competencies aligned with the College's academic mission.

The microscopes will be purchased from Nikon Instruments, Inc. through the E&I Cooperative Agreement #CNR01457, which ensures competitive pricing and compliance with procurement requirements.

This investment directly supports student success initiatives by enhancing instructional quality, expanding laboratory capacity, and strengthening course-based research experiences. The upgraded equipment will allow the Natural Sciences Department to better meet instructional demands and support high-impact teaching practices.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Total Cost: \$223,054.08
- Funding Source: Title III LEAPS Power Grant
- Budget Impact: No impact to the College's unrestricted funds

CONTACT PERSONS:

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Ms. Rosemary Aguero, Project Director

Mr. Miguel Rangel, Director of Purchasing