



Press Release

Tuesday, July 1, 2008
For Immediate Release
www.sura.org

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SURA Adds Membership Opportunities to Expand Collaboration

Washington, DC – The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) announced today establishment of new membership categories to expand collaboration with corporate and academic partners and other stakeholders. The ability for these entities to affiliate with SURA is intended to enrich the research capabilities of the 27-year old coalition.

Comprised of 64 universities primarily from 16 Southeastern states, SURA's programmatic initiatives have grown beyond their stewardship of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News, Virginia – the catalyst for the organization's beginning. With new projects established in the information technology, coastal research and technology commercialization fields, the expanded membership is meant to partner the university consortia more closely with the private sector and other educational entities.

“As we leverage the intellectual capital of our universities, it naturally makes sense to match those efforts with private sector leaders who can advance this research,” said Jerry P. Draayer, SURA President & CEO. “Expanded partnerships with business and academic leaders will surely advance our efforts to grow research capacity in the nation.”

The membership categories now include Standard Members, Corporate Members, and Affiliate Members. Within the corporate membership, private partners may select one of three levels of participation: Gold, Silver, and Small Business. New member applications are reviewed by SURA's Council of Presidents or SURA's Board of Trustees. Dues levels, which include an initiative and annual fees, range with the categories and can be found on the website. The new structure was approved in the April meeting of the Board of Trustees and validated by the Council of Presidents last month. More information is available at:

<http://www.sura.org/about/membership.html>

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The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit www.sura.org.