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Dillard University secures $22 million in grant awards
Awards will fund recovery, research and outreach programs

(New Orleans -- May 24, 2007) – Dillard University has received nearly $22 million in major awards and grants, and will use the funds to strengthen its programs and rebuild its campus. The $22 million represents a 51% increase from last year which was, at the time, the highest amount in Dillard history [see graph below].

The awards include grants from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the National Science Foundation, and the Louisiana Board of Regents.

“Dillard University administrators and researchers are pursuing projects that bring many benefits to our students, our community, and our state,” said Theodore Callier, assistant vice president for sponsored programs at Dillard. “In addition to the economic impact, the awards afford students hands-on research opportunities and allow university administrators to continue rebuilding the university.”

Award highlights include:

- Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program, U.S. Department of Education - $2.4 million for technology, student retention, and the establishment of centers in bioscience, and business and global studies.

- Hurricane Education Recovery Awards, U.S. Department of Education - $7.5 million for critical rebuilding projects on campus, including the repair and restoration of several campus facilities such as renovation of the Will W. Alexander Library, and science laboratories and facilities.

- Hurricane Katrina Foreign Contributions Award, U.S. Department of Education - $4.5 million to repair and restore several essential facilities including three historic
dormitories (Hartzell, Camphor, and Straight Halls), as well as funding for student scholarships.

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – $2 million to rehabilitate and renovate academic and university-owned multi-unit housing facilities.

- Dillard University Federal Emergency Assistance, Louisiana Board of Regents - $5.3 million to help rebuild campus facilities and provide support for faculty and staff.

- Minority Worker Training Programs, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences - $1.5 million to implement construction and environmental remediation training through Dillard’s Deep South Center for Environmental Justice. This is part of a multi-year $6 million commitment from NIH through 2010.

- Louisiana Board of Regents Enhancement Grants - $350,000 for faculty research and development initiatives ranging from film studies to environmental sciences and public health.

- National Science Foundation - $561,000 for improving research and instruction in environmental and computational sciences. This is part of a multi-year $2.8 million commitment from NSF through 2010.

- National Science Foundation - $258,000 for collaborative research in material science with the University of New Hampshire as part of a three-year $600,000 commitment from NSF.

Single-year funding for government-sponsored programs and research for fiscal year 2006-2007 will exceed $22 million by June 30, 2007, with more than $21 million already received. This likely level of funding represents approximately 51%, ($7.3 million), more than fiscal year 2005-2006, and $14 million above the $8.1 million received in fiscal year 2004-2005.

“We will use these funds to ensure Dillard’s commitment to excellence in research and service. These awards are vital to recovery and building the New Dillard; Faculty and administrators are to be commended for a job well done,” said Dr. Walter Strong, executive vice president at Dillard.
Dillard University, a historically black college and university (HBCU), has been a cornerstone of educational excellence and a critical part of the New Orleans community since 1869. The university offers a quality, four-year, comprehensive undergraduate program to students who represent 29 states and three foreign countries. Dillard offers 36 degree programs through its six divisions: Business, Educational and Psychological Studies, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Public Health, Nursing, and Social Sciences.