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## EDUCATION

### \$3M grant goes to FIU center

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The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation has made a \$3 million gift to the Global Entrepreneurship Center at Florida International University in Miami. The grant is aimed at promoting the entrepreneurial spirit at FIU and in South Florida.

"We see the public university in South Florida as a natural place to support an innovative entrepreneurship center

with a unique international flair that can set off a cultural transformation," said Carl Schramm, chief executive of the Kauffman Foundation, in a press release announcing the grant.

FIU is one of eight schools selected for the grants totaling \$25 million. Other recipients include Washington University in St. Louis, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and

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### Grant bolsters business center

#### ■ FIU

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the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The eight schools were selected from 15 finalist schools that participated in a six-month competition. In June, each finalist was awarded a \$50,000 planning grant by the Kauffman Foundation to develop a 5-year plan for entrepreneurship training.

FIU President Modesto Maidique said the university's center will gain national stature from its association with the Kauffman Foundation. "It's like a brand . . . and the Kauffman brand is the best in entrepreneurship," he said.

The university said the gift would spur additional investment for the center. Talks are under way with two South Florida entrepreneurs, said Howard Lipman, FIU's vice president of university advancement.

The 11-month-old Global Entrepreneurship Center focuses on family businesses by providing expert advice, net-

working and education.

Alan Carsrud, the center's executive director, said FIU would be hiring 10 new faculty members and training 45 existing faculty members to teach entrepreneurship across academic disciplines.

"If you're an artist and you try to sell your paintings, you're an entrepreneur. If you want your child care facility at your church to survive, you're an entrepreneur. . . . Entrepreneurship is an attitude," Carsrud said.

Based in Kansas City, Mo., the Kauffman Foundation works with partners to encourage entrepreneurship across America and improve the education of children and youth.

In the past two years, the foundation has given \$250,000 to Florida universities including \$100,000 to FIU, \$90,000 to University of South Florida, \$50,000 to University of Central Florida and \$10,000 to Palm Beach Atlantic College.

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