

**PROJECT FACT SHEET**  
**INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE RESEARCH CENTER**  
**BT-895**  
**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The International Hurricane Research Center (IHRC) at Florida International University (FIU) promotes a multi-disciplinary research mission focused on mitigating hurricane damage to people, the economy, and the built and natural environments. The IHRC has received funding from the State of Florida to construct its own building near the National Hurricane Center. This building will be one-of-a-kind and house the foremost hurricane impact research center in the world. Therefore it needs to be a signature building, both in design and construction materials, to promote outreach, education and fundraising for naming opportunities. The building is being planned as a dedicated structure to house each of the IHRC's four labs; a wind tunnel, a seminar/training room and an educational, interactive lobby, a marquis feature of the structure.

This new building will not only house academic researchers, but will also serve as a hub for coordinating with federal and state agencies, such as the National Hurricane Center and the National Weather Service's Miami Weather Forecast Office, NOAA's Hurricane Research Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and Florida Division of Emergency Management. The new facility will bring nationally and internationally acclaimed researchers to collaborate with FIU hurricane scientists and engineers, students, and the community at large.

Construction cost is estimated to be approximately \$10,000,000.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

All information submitted is subject to the Laws of Perjury as set forth in Chapter 837.06, F.S. The following minimum qualifying information is required by an Applicant to be eligible for consideration:

1. Letter of Intent and Summary Introduction narrative highlighting qualifications/legal nature of organization including proposed organization chart.
2. Completed (former Board of Regents) "Professional Qualifications Supplement (PQS)," dated September 1999.
3. Copies of the applicant's current Professional Registration Certificates from the appropriate governing board for the Applicant firm, its consulting engineers and all key professional personnel to be used on the project.
4. Location Proximity (highway distance) of Applicant's nearest established fully staffed office to the University Park Campus.

Firms will be evaluated in the following areas:

**Recent and Current Workload** – Evaluation of current phases of work in progress/manpower allocation in response to current workload.

**Adequacy of Personnel** – Applicant's experience and availability to perform the required services in light of its current workload.

**Experience and Performance Record** – Performance with respect to projects comparable in type, size and complexity for the most recent five-year period. Experience evaluation shall be on the basis of the firm's principals and project managers experience with institutional or other public agencies. The committee may take into consideration personal knowledge of the applicant's past performance evaluations with the University.

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**Services Provided by Applicant and Proposed Consultants** – Unique qualifications with respect to the project, including specialized equipment, awards or recognition received, special approaches, management tools or concepts developed.

**Volume of FIU Work Previously Awarded** – Volume of work on project previously awarded by the University for the past five years with the objective of effecting an equitable distribution of contracts among qualified Applicant firms, provided such distribution does not violate the principle of selection of the most highly qualified firm.

The Selection Committee shall review qualifying information submitted and score applicants in terms of points on a numerical scale multiplied by respective weights assigned to each criteria element as set by the committee. Committee votes will be computed as the sum of weighted scores. Selection is based on numerical scoring of the highest ranked applicants for interview.

**SELECTION SCHEDULE**

The anticipated schedule for selection, award, and negotiation is as follows:

Call for proposals in Florida Administrative Weekly:	February 15, 2008
PQS Applications Due:	(2:00 p.m. in CSC 236) March 18, 2008
Shortlist Meeting:	April 7, 2008
Final Presentations and Interviews:	April 25, 2008
Negotiation:	June 9, 2008
Notice-to-Proceed:	July 9, 2008

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Any change in the schedule or other additional information will be posted on the FIU Facilities web-site <http://facilities.fiu.edu>. Any question or explanation desired by an applicant regarding project or any part of the process must be requested in writing to [cecilia@fm.fiu.edu](mailto:cecilia@fm.fiu.edu) or via fax to 305-348-4091. Responses to questions and requests for information will be posted on the facilities web site. An effort will be made to respond to all applicant questions; however, the University is not obligated to and may choose not to answer every question. The last day written questions or inquiries will be considered for this project is March 14, 2008 at 12:00 pm.
2. The University is not liable for any costs incurred by the Applicants prior to the issuance of an executed contract. The University reserves the right to suspend or discontinue the selection process at any time and to return or reject any or all submissions of Design/Build qualifications without obligation to the respondent. The award of this contract is subject to availability of funds. If additional funding is realized, the University has the option to incorporate additional scope/ funding under this contract. Project development including professional services is contingent upon availability of funds.
3. In order to minimize the possibility of unethical pressures or influences on the recommendations of the Selection Committee, direct contact with the committee members is not permitted. The committee members are: Stephen Leatherman, Aimee Dingwell, Stephen Hawkins, Charles Scurr and John Cal. The goal of this committee is to assess the Applicants on an equitable basis. The committee members (may be subject to change without notice) shall serve throughout the screening process for a project until selection is completed.

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4. The Selection Committee will make a recommendation to the President of Florida International University. All finalists will be notified in writing of the President's action. Upon approval by the President, negotiations will be conducted in accordance with Section 287.055, Florida Statutes.
5. All team members of the selected firm should clearly address each of the selection criteria as appropriate within the submittal package.
6. The results of this screening process will be posted at Facilities Planning and Construction during regular business hours on the date listed in the Project Milestones or may be obtained online at <http://facilities.fiu.edu>. Any notification of intent to protest must be made within seventy-two (72) hours of posting.
7. All applicants will be notified of the results of the short listing in writing. Finalists will be informed
  - a. of the interview date and time and will be provided with a copy of FIU State University System's Agreement between Owner and Architect/Engineer, additional project information, and the topics
  - b. to be covered in the oral interview. The Committee shall be free to ask a Finalist any question it
  - c. deems relevant to its decision in ranking the Finalists. In making its decision, the Committee shall take into consideration, in addition to the information requested above, the following factors:
    1. **Understanding of the Project Requirements** – Finalists will be evaluated on the thoroughness demonstrated in understanding the nature and requirements of the project.
    2. **Approach and Method** – Finalists shall explain their approach, management and design methods they will employ to plan design and administer during construction the project, inclusive of procedures to assure timely performance of the work.
    3. **Unique Qualifications** – Finalist shall specify why it is uniquely qualified to undertake the project.
8. Applicants shall not include specialty consultants in their team. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be grounds for disqualification. If the applicant feels that its team will require the services of a specialty consultant, it should indicate for which disciplines it will require specialty consultant(s) according to the instructions on page 2 of 11 in the PQS form.