

Helping Businesses Start, Grow and Succeed

Press Release



Small Business Development Center at UCF

December 19, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Hal Thayer, Communications Director, SBDC at UCF, 407.420.4850 or hthayer@bus.ucf.edu

SBDC at UCF Regional Director Eunice Choi Recognized for Obtaining \$1.6 Million in FY11 Funding

Orlando, FL – Eunice Choi, Regional Director at the Small Business Development Center at the University of Central Florida (SBDC at UCF), was recognized recently by UCF President John C. Hitt at the schools New Women Faculty reception as one of UCF's 10 highest-funded contract and grant recipients and one of three (3) women at UCF who raised in excess of \$1 million dollars in external Fiscal Year 2011 funding for the university and, in Ms. Choi's case, its College of Business Administration, the sponsoring institution for the Small Business Development Center at UCF.

Each year, UCF's Office of Research & Commercialization produces a tally of the funding received from external sources to highlight the magnitude of UCF's efforts at attracting funds to support and expand services to help the state and the region's economy. For Fiscal Year 2011, the university raised over \$106 million to support its research and commercialization efforts.

Over twenty members of the university community were identified as "millionaires" for bringing to UCF \$1 million or more in funding for the fiscal year. Of that group, SBDC Regional Director Choi secured over \$1.6 million for the university, coming in 9th on the list of "millionaires."

"In these difficult economic times, obtaining external funding is imperative. Thanks to the efforts of Eunice Choi and her staff, the SBDC at UCF is able to offer valuable assistance to the small business community" noted Dr. Foard Jones, Interim Dean at the College of Business Administration which sponsors the SBDC at UCF.

"I appreciate this recognition," Ms. Choi commented. "Thanks to the support of numerous external sources and the University of Central Florida's commitment to the economic well being of the communities that surround them, the Small Business Development Center at UCF is able to maintain its momentum assisting small business in our region."

UCF

With its main office in the National Entrepreneur Center (formerly the Disney Entrepreneur Center) now located at the Fashion Square Mall in Orlando, the SBDC at UCF is part of the UCF College of Business Administration and the Florida Small Business Development Center Network, providing business seminars and free one-on-one business consultation to small business owners. The SBDC at UCF serves an eight-county area that includes Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties and maintains six satellite service centers. In 2010, the SBDC at UCF helped entrepreneurs create or retain 1,241 jobs, win contract awards worth \$38.3 million, acquire \$20 million in capital formation, and increase sales by \$18.4 million. The SBDC at UCF is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

SBDC at UCF | 3201 E. Colonial Drive | Orlando, FL 32801 | p 407.420.4850 | f 407.420.4862

sbdc@bus.ucf.edu | www.sbdcorlando.com

State Designated as Florida's Principal Provider of Small Business Assistance