Examples of ways to enhance competitiveness

- ➢ **One critical component of enhancing competitiveness is people. Funds for the following could significantly enhance our recruitment efforts:**
  - o **Supplementation of salary packages.**
  - o **Supplementation of start-up funds.**
- ➢ **Renovation funds. (However with limited funds need careful consideration here).**
- ➢ **Equipment acquisition and replacement.**
- ➢ **Funds for support personnel, e.g. technicians to maintain shared instrumentation.**
- ➢ **Supplements to grant awards to assist where budget may have been reduced or the research Is moving in a new direction.**
- ➢ **Funds for seminars, visiting scientists and mini-sabbaticals**

What kinds of programs can best address your needs?

Assumption: NIH IDeA will be funded at $100M

- **$30 million: Continuation of COBRE awards made in FY00**
- **$30 million: Another round of COBRE awards in FY01 with some modifications in the program**
- **$40 million: Infrastructure awards for IDeA states. (Similar to NSF EPSCoR Infrastructure Awards, but for enhancing biomedical research)**

General Comments

- **Funding should definitely be awarded on a competitive basis, based on the best science. This is essential!**
- **The limitation of two proposals per state may be too restrictive. While it does provide quality control there are states that have more than two groups that could and should be able to submit.**
- **There should not be an expectation that only joint programs between several institutions in a state be funded.**

- If the goal of the IDeA program is to truly enhance biomedical research in the IDeA states then funding should only be made available to institutions granting Ph.D.'s in biomedical related disciplines or to medical research centers in the IDeA states.
- It is premature to make awards to baccalaureate and masters level institutions.
- A co-funding proposal could be considered, but only if it were used to fund the proposals that just missed the cut-off point. Care would have to be taken that co-funding was not used to fund proposals that would have been funded anyway.