Richard T. Schoephoerster, Ph.D., P.E., Dean of the College of Engineering has been appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Texas Emerging Technology Fund by Governor Rick Perry. He joins twelve other board members that comprise a committee responsible for reviewing commercialization and matching grant proposals to make recommendations to the Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker.

Board members are industry leaders in Texas and/or nationally recognized researchers from Texas higher education institutions. Members will serve either a one or two-year term determined by drawing lots at the first committee meeting.

The Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) http://governor.state.tx.us/ecodev/etf was created by the Texas Legislature in 2005 at the urging of Gov. Perry to provide Texas with an unparalleled advantage in the research, development, and commercialization of emerging technologies. ETF grants are awarded in three areas:

* Commercialization Awards help companies take ideas from concept to development to ready for marketplace.

* Matching Awards create public-private partnerships which leverage the unique strengths of universities, federal government grant programs and industry

* Research Superiority Acquisition funds assist Texas higher education institutions recruit the best research talent in the world