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February 5, 2004 Department of State Division of Corporations P.O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: Florida Information Technology Centers of Excellence, Inc.

Enclosed are the original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for:

\$87.50 (Filing Fee, Certificate of Status, Certified Copy

FROM: Joshua Singletary

401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084

904-476-6073

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

#### OF

# FLORIDA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

#### A NONPROFIT CORPORATION

We, the undersigned natural persons all being of the age of eighteen years or more and citizens of the United States, desiring to form a Nonprofit Corporation, acting as incorporator pursuant to and in compliance with the State of Florida Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for Profit), do hereby certify and adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation.

# ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the corporation shall be:

Florida Information Technology Centers of Excellence, Inc.

## ARTICLE II - PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal place of business and office of the Corporation is to be initially located in the City of St. Augustine, St. Johns County and the State of Florida. The Corporation may also maintain offices at such other places as the Board of Directors may, from time-to-time, determine.

The initial principal place of business and office mailing address of this Corporation shall be:

401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084

#### *ARTICLE III - PURPOSE*

The specific purposes for which the Corporation is organized are:

- (a) This corporation is organized to operate exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- (b) The mission and specific purpose of this Corporation is to: advance information technology education and scientific research:
  - 1. Advance information technology education and scientific research
  - 2. Aid in the scientific education of college or university students.
  - 3. Aid and encourage the development and retention of the information technology industry and workforce in the State of Florida and the United States
  - 4. Aid in fostering increased employment opportunities in information technology
  - 5. Aid industry in information technology training

- 6. Aid the information technology industry and organizations by providing access to a resource network and links to university research
- 7. Aid organizations with the opportunities to contribute and collaborate to achieve excellence in information technology through research
- (c) To engage in any and all activities and pursuits, and to support or assist such other organizations, as may be reasonably related to the foregoing and following purposes.
- (d) To engage in any and all other lawful purposes, activities and pursuits, which are substantially similar to the foregoing and which are or may hereafter be authorized by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (e) To solicit and receive contributions, purchase, own and sell real and personal property, to make contracts, to invest corporate funds, to spend corporate funds for corporate purposes and to engage in any activity "in furtherance of, incidental to, or connected with any of the other purposes".

## ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Section 1 - Number of Directors

The number of the Directors of the Corporation shall be three (3). These numbers may be increased or decreased by the amendment of these articles by the Board but shall in no case be less than three (3) Directors.

- (a) Joshua Singletary 401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084
- (b) Kathryn Wilkerson 2034 Duneagle Court Tallahassee, FL 32317
- (c) Deborah Kobza 401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084

# ARTICLE V - INUREMENT

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its Directors, Trustees, Officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof.

#### ARTICLE VI - LOBBYING

No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this Corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this Corporation.

## ARTICLE VII - DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

#### ARTICLE VIII

Provisions for the regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation shall be set forth in the Corporation By-Laws.

## ARTICLE IX – EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of the Articles of Incorporation for the Corporation is February 10, 2004.

#### ARTICLE X – INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND STREET ADDRESS

The name and address of the Registered Agent:

Joshua Singletary 401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084

#### ARTICLE XI - INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the Incorporator:

Joshua Singletary 401 Boating Club Road St. Augustine, FL 32084

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in this capacity.

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Signature/Registered Agent:	
Joshua Singletary	Date 2-4-04
Signature/Incorporator:	
Joshur Singletary	<u> 2-4-04</u> Date

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