

Robert J Smiddy Memorial Endowment Fund



Robert James Smiddy joined Dr. Kalai Mathee's research group at FIU Spring 2004. Like so many of his previous pursuits, he was passionately engaged and determined to be successful. Robert walked into the lab a former all-Dade swimmer and an accomplished concert pianist but his lab mates never knew. Robert did not give himself to boasting, from the moment he entered the lab he was focused on one goal, finish the research he had begun, write an undergraduate honors thesis and present his work to the department. Robert spent countless hours in the laboratory each day in addition to his undergraduate course work. His ambition showed promise to the Department of Biological Sciences at FIU and he was awarded the RISE scholarship. Robert quickly earned the respect and admiration of his lab mates. He had already drafted a manuscript for his thesis when his life was unexpectedly halted September 18, 2004. His research will be published. His fun demeanor and enthusiasm for scientific research will be sorely missed.

To honor Robert's passion for research, the "Robert James Smiddy Honors Research Award" is being established. This award will be given to the best undergraduate Biology Honors Research. We are soliciting your contributions to this fund with the goal of creating an FIU Foundation Memorial Endowment Account in order to ensure the perpetuity of the award.

Donations in the form of a check can be addressed to:

Florida International University Foundation

Memo: Robert J Smiddy Memorial Endowment Fund

Checks can be delivered to:

Melissa Doud (HLS421; ext. 1829 or 2913)

Carola Martinez (OE167; ext. 2202)

Checks can be mailed to:

Dr. Kalai Mathee, Department of Biological Sciences
Florida International University, University Park
Miami, FL 33199, USA