



ROWAN UNIVERSITY RUTGERS CAMDEN BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESS RELEASE

May 23, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dana L. Redd

Phone: (856) 203-6757

Email: dredd@rucbog.com

Rowan University Rutgers Camden Board of Governors Mark Major Milestone in the Construction of the Joint Health Sciences Center with Steel Topping

CAMDEN, NJ – The Rowan University Rutgers Camden Board of Governors (Joint Board) celebrated a major milestone in the construction of its Joint Health Sciences Center with a ceremonial steel topping event. Federal, State and local officials were also present to thank individuals who have advanced the conceptual building design and worked to secure funding to support construction of the building since the groundbreaking held on October 19, 2017.

The Joint Health Sciences Center is an innovative facility that will provide unique education and training opportunities to a new generation of health care providers. The Center is designed to co-locate students from different academic disciplines to share laboratories, equipment and classrooms, exposing students to a broader educational experience and encouraging the connection of talents, goods and services. Rowan University, Rutgers-Camden, the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Camden County College, and the Joint Board of Governors administrators will all have a presence in the facility. Approximately two-thirds of the space will be dedicated to research, multi-purpose rooms and offices focused on biomedical research.

“The Joint Health Sciences Center is a symbol of the collaborative work between world-class institutions, and is an important milestone in fulfilling our mandate,” said Joint Board Chairman Jack Collins. “We are leveraging our educational and research assets to support growth in the region’s health care capacity. The power of synergic partnerships and collaboration can be quite transformative, as we move to establish a strong research and economic footprint in South Jersey.”

“Almost 40% of all the jobs in Camden are in the ‘Eds and Meds’ space,” said Dana L. Redd, Chief Executive Officer of the Joint Board. “Over the next decade, the eds and meds will create an additional 24,000 jobs in the Camden Metropolitan area. The Joint Health Sciences Center, as a multi-institutional building, will offer the residents of Camden and the region, different education ladders. It is exactly the kind of pragmatic approach to higher education that is needed.”

Set to open in mid-2019 at the intersection of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Broadway in Downtown Camden, the Joint Health Sciences Center will be the first of its kind in New Jersey. The construction of the 95,000 square foot building will generate approximately \$72 million in economic impact in the City of Camden alone. More importantly, the education and training that will take place in the Center will prepare generations of area residents for meaningful careers in health care and biomedical research.

“Growing and expanding the ‘eds and meds’ corridor in the Downtown area, has been integral to Camden and her people rising,” said Mayor Frank Moran. “Together, the city and its anchor institutions have made significant progress in establishing a new identity for Camden. We are committed to inclusive development and providing

job opportunities for our residents. While we have great momentum underway, the education and research that will take place at the Joint Health Sciences Center will provide wonderful possibilities for students and adult learners who desire to pursue career in medicine and the allied health professions.”

“Today’s event is another important milestone for Camden,” said Dr. Ali Houshmand, President of Rowan University. “As we “top off” a new health sciences research building, we take another step forward in bringing world class biomedical research to Camden’s growing Meds and Eds corridor. Rowan University is happy to partner with Rutgers-Camden and the State in this effort.”

“The Joint Health Sciences Center solidifies Camden’s rising reputation as a global center for innovation in the biosciences,” said Chancellor Phoebe Haddon. “The path-defining research that will take place in this facility will allow Rutgers-Camden researchers to illuminate new pathways for medical treatments and scientific advances. Better still, the nature of this building will promote meaningful collaborations among researchers and educators from Rutgers, Rowan and Camden County College. The Joint Health Sciences Center places New Jersey at the forefront of maximizing public investment in research and Rutgers University-Camden is proud to play a leading role in this endeavor.”

“Camden County College is excited for the opportunity to provide our popular healthcare programs in state-of-the-art simulation settings in the City of Camden,” stated Donald Borden, President of Camden County College. “This partnership also allows the College to create new programs to serve the community with training in emerging allied health careers. The collaboration between the Board of Governors, Rutgers University-Camden, Rowan University, and Camden County College is exciting and benefits students immensely.”

The Center was funded through the Biomedical Facilities Act and the Higher Education Bond Act thanks to the efforts of Congressman Norcross and Senate President Steve Sweeney. The Joint Board believes that an integrated facility like the Joint Health Sciences Center will serve as a model for how other state-funded institutions could avoid the need for duplicative facilities, thus lowering the burden on taxpayers.

###