

Dr. Donald Farish came to Rowan University in 1998 and is leading the transformation of the University into a leader in the economic development of the South Jersey region. The transition of the University began with a \$100 million gift from Henry Rowan and the introduction of an engineering program. Over the next decade there will be tremendous change at the University.

The continued growth and recognition of Rowan University was recently highlighted when The New Jersey Economic Development Authority awarded Rowan University \$6 million to construct the "South Jersey Technology Center at Rowan University," the initial phase of a Technology Park Rowan plans to build. The Technology Center represents the State's commitment to foster the economic development of South Jersey.

The Technology Center will provide a site for companies to pursue the commercialization of products they have created as well as give Rowan faculty and students the space to conduct more federal- and state-funded research projects. The ultimate goal of the research facility is to promote significant economic growth in the region by helping develop businesses, create jobs, and transform new technologies into commercial enterprises. The Technology Center will include state-of-the-art research facilities and affordable office and lab space for existing firms interested in testing new ideas and new companies looking for a suitable environment and support from Rowan University's engineering, business, and science colleges and departments.

In addition, the University has embarked on a two-phase campus expansion program. The first phase will cost \$270 million and began with groundbreaking on a new science building. The construction program will continue over the next 6 years and include a new education building, a theatre addition to Wilson Hall, a new residence hall, new parking structures, a faculty club and the relocation of the athletic fields to a site near Route 55. A second phase will include a new business building, a new residence hall, additional parking, and arts and science building and a second engineering building. Significant renovations to existing buildings are also planned.

Dr. Farish will be discussing the changes at Rowan.