RESOLUTION #1

THE PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING OF HIGHER EDUCATION
IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Rowan Board of Trustees is desirous of working toward expansion of higher education opportunities in the southern part of the State and on continuing to grow opportunities within the Rowan system and in collaboration with other colleges and universities in the region, and

WHEREAS, Rowan University has followed the debate on merger or other alternatives involving Rowan and Rutgers-Camden and believes that such collaborations between the two institutions would foster the expansion of higher education opportunities in this part of the State, and

WHEREAS, certain proposed legislation has been introduced into the state legislature which includes many components beneficial to Rowan and to the region, including the designation of Rowan as a Research University and the development of joint programs between Rowan and Rutgers-Camden, particularly in the area of health sciences, and

WHEREAS, such growth opportunities benefit from mechanisms which assist the two universities in moving forward together, and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation does not provide for a merger of the two institutions as currently drafted but does create a joint board to oversee new programs

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Rowan Board of Trustees that it endorses the efforts to create a joint board with authority over new joint initiatives between the two institutions while retaining the individual autonomy of both institutions and their respective governing boards

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, legislation which could affect the autonomy of the Rowan governing structure requires additional analysis as to potential effects on accreditation, existing debt covenants, the impact on campus governance, the development of the Glassboro campus, the effectuation of existing and future donor commitments and other issues and the Board authorizes the Chair of the Board, the University President and counsel to participate in all efforts to finalize pending legislation, consistent with the concepts expressed herein and to report as appropriate to the full Board of Trustees.

6/12/12