A new day for New Jersey

July 1, 2013 was a new day for New Jersey.

That was the day the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act went into effect, and with it came many changes for our State and for Rowan University.

Approved by the State legislature and signed into law by Gov. Chris Christie on Aug. 22, 2012, the Restructuring Act brings exciting opportunities for Rowan, including designation as a state comprehensive research university, the integration of the School of Osteopathic Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in Stratford as part of Rowan, and a partnership with Rutgers-Camden to create a College of Health Sciences in Camden. In the pages that follow, we have outlined those initiatives, which will trigger program, enrollment and research expansion at Rowan.

While each initiative impacts higher education, health care and our University, Rowan remains committed to its longstanding mission as well: to provide an outstanding and affordable undergraduate education. To that end, as Rowan expands its programs, its research and its enrollment, we pledge to always be mindful of our “Four Pillars,” the backbone of our University: Access, Quality, Affordability, and (serving as an) Economic Engine.

Many contributed to the Restructuring Act, including Gov. Chris Christie; State Senate President Steve Sweeney, who co-authored and rallied support for it; state legislators; and our partners at Cooper University Health Care, who advocated for the legislation. We are grateful. Their work has benefitted the future of our University and our State.

Dr. Ali A. Houshmand
President
While Rowan University is no stranger to research, the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act is transformative, awarding Rowan state comprehensive research university status that will enable the University to expand opportunities in the immediate future.

That expansion will focus on:
- Creating new majors, including Ph.D., graduate and other professional degree programs that prepare students for in-demand and highly specialized fields such as bioinformatics and biomedical engineering, with a focus on health, science, engineering and business disciplines.
- Growing research initiatives that lead to developing products that address real-world needs and bringing those products to market.
- Creating and supporting businesses, which in turn will help build the economy of South Jersey.

Rowan is just the second school in New Jersey to obtain state comprehensive research institution status, a designation that opens doors to greater collaborations with other prestigious organizations, supports Rowan’s commitment to applied research and strengthens Rowan’s role in supporting businesses.

**Sponsored Research Funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Funding Goal</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY13 Rowan</td>
<td>$11M</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY13 SOM</td>
<td>$13M</td>
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<td>FY23 New Rowan (goal)</td>
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Gaining a medical school

Two medical schools.

Only two universities in the country boast medical school programs offering both M.D. and D.O. degrees. Rowan is one of them.

The New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act integrated the Stratford, N.J.-based School of Osteopathic Medicine with Rowan effective July 1, 2013. After months of intense collaboration, SOM joined Cooper Medical School of Rowan University as part of the Rowan family.

One of the finest osteopathic medical programs in the nation, SOM ranks in the top three in research dollars. Last year, SOM earned nearly $13 million in external funding from such well-respected organizations as the National Institutes of Health. Rowan and SOM together contracted more than $24 million in research activity in FY13.

Today, just as when SOM was established in 1976 as the only four-year medical school in South Jersey and the only college of osteopathic medicine in the State, it focuses on primary health care and community health services. In addition to a D.O. program, the Stratford campus also enrolls 190 M.S. and Ph.D. students in biomedical science and dual and joint-degree options in law, management, public health and research.

About the School of Osteopathic Medicine

- Nearly 650 medical students
- 182 full-time faculty, 46 part-time faculty and more than 440 volunteer faculty
- High New Jersey representation (81 percent of students), 17 percent from South Jersey
- Ranked number 1 of all U.S. osteopathic medical schools in percentage of underrepresented minority student enrollment (18 percent) and total minority student enrollment (16 percent)
- Half of the more than 2,200 graduates practice in New Jersey
The Restructuring Act is creating new collaborations and new opportunities.

One of the most visible is the College of Health Sciences in the City of Camden, which partners Rowan and Rutgers-Camden to establish this new initiative.

The new College will be part of a growing “eds-meds” corridor in Camden anchored by Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. Together with Cooper University Health Care, Cooper-MD Anderson Cancer Center and Coriell Institute for Medical Research, the College of Health Sciences will address the region’s critical educational and health care needs. The College will educate the health care providers, scientists and researchers of tomorrow, the people who will tackle some of the nation’s greatest health concerns and provide hands-on care for New Jersey’s most important assets: its people.

Still in the early planning stages, Rowan has been outlining potential programs in areas such as nursing, pharmaceutical sciences, and public health and allied health fields and developing a preliminary plan for the building to house the programs.

A Board of Governors, including two appointees from both Rowan and Rutgers and three by the governor, will oversee the College.
While the Restructuring Act brings many opportunities for Rowan, so, too, does the recent Building Our Future Bond Act, a referendum approved by New Jersey voters last fall. The State awarded Rowan $117 million from the Bond Act and other State funds that will enable the University, among other initiatives, to construct new buildings for the Rohrer College of Business and the College of Engineering, upgrade technology, create an estimated 500 construction jobs and contribute more than $180 million to the regional economy.

As Rowan enjoys numerous changes, it maintains its commitment to education, business and the region and will:

- Continue to provide a high-quality, undergraduate education at a reasonable price and create an educated citizenry that will drive the regional economy.
- Partner with local municipalities and businesses on projects that benefit the institution and more, including the public-private $300 million Rowan Boulevard that has brought housing and retail to the Borough of Glassboro.
- Collaborate with regional firms and organizations to address their needs, whether they involve conducting scientific research, developing communication plans or assisting in strategic planning.
About Rowan University

As of July 1, 2013, the highly regarded Rowan University comprises a main campus in Glassboro, N.J.; a branch campus and Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in Camden, N.J.; and the School of Osteopathic Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in Stratford, N.J. Consistently recognized by accrediting organizations and national publications, Rowan offers 13,500 students bachelor's through doctoral programs. The University also is home to Rohrer College of Business and colleges of Communication & Creative Arts, Education, Engineering, Graduate & Continuing Education, Humanities & Social Sciences, Performing Arts, and Science & Mathematics. Rowan is located in southern New Jersey, 30 minutes east of Philadelphia.