

# UNIVERSITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE

October 15, 2003

To: Review, Planning and Implementation Steering Committee

From: Dr. Harold L. Paz, Dean, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Dr. Joseph J. Seneca, University Professor Rutgers University

We are pleased to submit the Report of the University Central Committee. The Committee has enthusiastically and unanimously endorsed the creation of a single institution of significant current, and enormous future, academic and clinical strength in New Brunswick. In response to the charge to the Committee this report recommends the structure and name of a comprehensive university that will increase the academic output, research capacity, and national distinction of the health and life sciences in support of the education and economic needs of New Jersey and the nation. It will foster the interaction with the biomedical, information technology, and telecommunication industries in support of economic development. It will create major new opportunities for educational programs and research collaborations among the many disciplines and schools. The proposed structure will achieve national excellence across its comprehensive arts and sciences undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs and will be better able to attract the very best students from across New Jersey and nation. It will become a national center for the training of health care professionals and in the delivery of health care services. The new university will also be better positioned to fulfill its 21st century land-grant mission of bringing expertise and assistance to all the communities and people of New Jersey. It will ensure that New Jersey is able to compete successfully in a world ever more dependent on a highly skilled and well-trained workforce in an economy driven by the engines of knowledge and discovery.

The Committee enthusiastically embraces the promise of these powerful outcomes and is convinced that substantial benefits will result for the students, families, economy, and social well-being of New Jersey. The Committee notes, however, that providing the necessary resources, both operating and capital, is a necessary pre-requisite in order for the vision embodied in our report to be successful. It urges that the process that follows ensure that new, substantial, and permanent resources be provided to bring the vision of an nationally preeminent research university system to fruition.

We are grateful to the Steering Committee for providing us with the opportunity to serve this exciting process and we extend our deep appreciation to the members of the University Central Committee for their generous commitment of expertise and effort in the development of this report. We also wish to especially thank our staff working group that has been so important to the success of the Committee. The deliberations of our Committee have been constructive and collegial throughout this process and we look forward to the next steps as this process proceeds.

Attachment