



RUTGERS

THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY

Robert L. Barchi, President

April 18, 2014

Mr. Kenneth Swalagin
University Senate
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
ASB III, Suite 110
Cook/Douglass Campus

Dear Mr. Swalagin:

I am writing in response to the Report and Resolution on the Proposed Merger of the Rutgers College of Nursing – Newark and New Brunswick, and the Rutgers School of Nursing - Newark, as presented by the Senate's Executive Committee and adopted by the University Senate on March 28, 2014. I thank the members of the Executive Committee for bringing this item forward for Senate consideration, and thank all the members of the Senate for reviewing the proposal in such a constrained timeframe.

My administration appreciates the Senate's fundamental support of the Proposed Nursing School Merger. The proposal was approved by the Rutgers Board of Governors on April 1, 2014, and will be effective July 1, 2014. I understand that the Senate has remaining questions and concerns to be addressed as the merger proceeds. Chancellor Brian Strom has indicated his willingness to provide the Senate with updates regarding these issues as the merger progresses. I am asking Dr. Strom to work with Senate Chairperson Ann Gould to develop an appropriate schedule and structure for such reports.

With respect to the Senate floor amendment to the resolution adding a provision that faculty and staff job security be extended through July 1, 2015, I can only echo what Chancellor Strom explained at your meeting, i.e., that there are no explicit plans for layoffs at this time, but that we cannot limit the flexibility of the Deans implementing this restructuring by guaranteeing job security for all nursing school faculty and staff through such an extended period of time.

Sincerely,

Robert Barchi

c: Richard L. Edwards, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Brian Strom, Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences