



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint School On Track for 2011 Opening at Gateway University Research Park

September 7, 2010 (Greensboro, NC) – Gateway University Research Park is celebrating the topping out of the building that will house the Joint School for Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JSNN). Gateway marked the completion of the steel framework of the building in early August and is planning for a fall 2011 opening of the JSNN.

The JSNN project represents an economic boon for Greensboro and the surrounding area. To date, as many as 450 construction workers have been on site, managed by the joint venture firm Barton Malow-Samet-SRS (BMSS). 96% of those workers were from North Carolina and the project has excellent participation from local and regional Minority and Women Owned businesses. The project has also provided significant impact to the local community – 45 of the firms subcontracted for the job are from the Triad region.

Faculty are currently being recruited both nationally and internationally who will work with Nanoscience masters and doctoral students. The start of the 2010-2011 school year marks the first class of students at the JSNN with 18 new students.

BMSS also commemorated the last piece of steel being placed on top of the building by hosting a Topping Out party. This traditional celebration honors the many hours of hard work put in by the construction team and ushers the project into its next phases.

"It is really exciting to see this state-of-the-art facility taking shape at Gateway's south campus," commented Gateway University Research Park Executive Director, John Merrill. "Over the last several months we have been installing advanced equipment within our existing building in preparation for the incoming class of students. Those tools and equipment will eventually move to the new JSNN facility. When the facility opens, partner companies will also be drawn to the JSNN to access equipment and expertise that can be found in few other places in the U.S."

Dan Lynch, President of the Greensboro Economic Development Alliance, commented, "The opening of the Joint School is a game changer for Greensboro, truly transformational in every aspect. This institution and the advanced research being conducted will attract the best and brightest faculty and students to our community."

The economic and educational impact will be felt for decades and position our region as a major player in the nanoscience and nanoengineering arena.”

The JSNN’s building will be 105,000 square feet of laboratories, cleanroom, computing facilities, classrooms and office space. It will be located at Gateway University Research Park’s South Campus on East Lee Street in Greensboro, NC.

The JSNN is led by founding dean, Dr. James Ryan. Ryan said “The “Topping Out” is an important milestone in the construction timeline. The JSNN faculty, staff and students are eagerly looking forward to working in this cutting-edge facility. We feel privileged to have access to a facility designed to enable our nanoscience and nanoengineering, education, research and outreach programs.”

Gateway University Research Park is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit entity created to manage and develop the joint collaboration between North Carolina A&T State University and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Gateway is a catalyst for university research, innovation, and economic development. It’s also an excellent opportunity for the universities to partner with high-technology companies on science and engineering issues that have game changing potential.

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