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JSNN minority contracting high

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Gateway University Research Park and the Joint School for Nanoscience and Nanoengineering set some pretty high goals for minority contractor participation in the \$56 million construction project of the JSNN, and they say they're beating those goals.

In an announcement from Gateway today, Executive Director **John Merrill** said the construction managers on the project report 27.6 percent minority participation in available contracts, above the 25 percent goal set at the outset of the project and far above the 10 percent standard minimum for the state.

Of those, about 10.5 percent are woman-owned businesses, 13.5 percent are African-American-owned, and 2.9 percent are Hispanic-owned, Merrill said.

"I'm excited that our team has surpassed our goal for minority participation," Merrill said. "As a collaborative project of **N.C. A&T State University** and The **University of North Carolina at Greensboro**, Gateway was established to promote economic development in the region and continued success in achieving significant minority participation on our projects is just one example of how we can achieve that goal."

Merrill noted that as many as 450 workers have been on site building the JSNN building, and more than 95 percent of the contract firms, 45 in total, are from the Triad area.

The construction project is being managed by a joint venture including Barton Malow Co., Samet Corp. and SRS Inc. The building should be ready for occupancy in December.

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