

October 13, 2014

To RBHS Faculty, Staff, and Students:

I am excited and honored to present the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) strategic plan. I believe this plan, which will guide us for the next five years, is appropriately bold and ambitious and that we are in an excellent position to achieve our goals.

In the plan, we have selected clinical, research, educational, and service initiatives that will take advantage of the changing health care environment, our strengths, and opportunities for growth. These initiatives are also linked to the integrating themes and strategic priorities identified in the Rutgers strategic plan. They are designed to cut across RBHS schools and programs so that RBHS becomes much stronger and more capable and productive than merely the sum of its parts. This also will enable RBHS to integrate with our three geographic universities, Rutgers-Camden, Rutgers-New Brunswick, and Rutgers-Newark, and best serve the needs of our community and state.

Our plan represents the collective efforts of more than 5,000 RBHS faculty, staff, and students, with input provided by additional faculty and staff university-wide. Twenty-four faculty, staff, and students served as members of the RBHS strategic planning steering committee and more than 500 faculty members participated as members of 32 working groups.

The steering committee and working groups were particularly instrumental in the development of our plan, as the working groups prepared proposals that were reviewed by the steering committee, which, in turn, recommended the strongest and most promising for selection as initiatives to be the focus of the strategic plan. Ultimately, four signature programs, one emerging signature program, four complementary programs, seven educational initiatives, and multiple "enabling structures," designed to provide infrastructure support for the programs and initiatives, were recommended to me, which I was delighted to accept. Separately, a series of clinical initiatives were selected to enhance clinical services and the quality of patient care.

The RBHS strategic plan initiatives will fold into the Rutgers strategic plan and work synergistically with the Rutgers-Camden, Rutgers-New Brunswick, and Rutgers-Newark plans, as appropriate. Together, the three geographically-based universities and RBHS will work with President Barchi to enhance Rutgers' capacity to become one of the finest research universities in the country.

I invite you to review and embrace our strategic plan and I look forward to working with you in the years ahead as we strive to make RBHS what we want it to be.

Sincerely,



Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH  
Chancellor  
Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences