

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**North Carolina Research Campus**  
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### **North Carolina Research Campus Groundbreaking Marks Rowan Cabarrus Community College's Response to Evolving Economy**

Kannapolis, NC, May 29, 2009 – The groundbreaking for Rowan Cabarrus Community College building today at the North Carolina Research Campus takes a giant step toward the goal of creating a skilled workforce for jobs at the North Carolina Research Campus and the surrounding region. The workforce will come primarily from the new 62,322 square foot training facility going up within two blocks of the David H. Murdock Core Laboratory, home to the latest scientific instrumentation in the world.

The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in biotechnology research and development offered by the college will prepare students for jobs as laboratory technicians, research assistants and quality control associates in small testing labs, large manufacturers, government laboratories and research universities. The AAS in agricultural biotechnology will build skills needed for laboratory technicians in various fields of biological, chemical and agricultural technology. They will be prepared to work as assistants to biologists and chemists, laboratory and instrumentation technicians and quality control assurance technicians in industry, universities, government, research and development, manufacturing, sales, customer service and the production of bioengineered crops. "Here at the N.C. Research Campus, the collaboration of our community colleges, public and private universities and private industry will fuel innovation and provide a comprehensive approach to the implementation of new discoveries. Business, science and education are coming together at a critical time in our history, and the partnerships forged on this campus will help realize our economic vision for the region and the state," commented Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton.

Rowan Cabarrus Community College is a critical element in recruiting companies to the campus who require varying skill sets. "Although the community college serves students graduating from high school, there are now also a huge number of people who seek new skills, including those with bachelors and master's degrees seeking to change careers and this community college must also serve them" stated David H. Murdock. "In the end, this dream is about enhancing education for all and building our citizens minds with a stairway to success."

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The partnership of Rowan Cabarrus Community College and the NC Research Campus serves as a model for communities around the country trying to find long-term solutions to our transitioning economy. “This campus represents a unique collaboration of private industry, our public and private universities and our community college,” said N.C. Sen. Fletcher Hartsell Jr. This public private partnership will propel innovation and unlock great discoveries that will benefit us all. The \$26 million building which should take fourteen months to complete is considered a critical component of the 350 acre-life science campus located in Kannapolis. Classes are scheduled to begin Fall 2010.

#### About the NC Research Campus

“The NC Research Campus will be a world class research hub where collaborative science will lead the charge for the great discoveries in nutrition, health and biotechnology research which will improve human health, well being and increase the longevity of people throughout the world.

[www.ncresearchcampus.net](http://www.ncresearchcampus.net)

[www.dhmri.org](http://www.dhmri.org)

[www.rowancabarrus.edu](http://www.rowancabarrus.edu)