

Chapter J

Major Capital Projects Underway in Fiscal Year 2008

In fiscal year 2008, construction continued on the new 132,000 square foot building on the Elizabeth Campus with the opening projected for FY 2010. Although it has taken eight years to reach this point, the new Elizabeth I. Kellogg Building will be a welcomed expansion that will relieve some of the overcrowding occurring in the Lessner Building on the Elizabeth Campus. The new 5-story structure will provide a Library/Information Commons, 32 additional classrooms, 7 computer laboratories, faculty offices, and dining facilities. Also, a conference center, and the office of Customized Training (IBI) will be housed there. One floor will be for the Trinitas School of Nursing and another floor will provide space for projected growth in existing UCC programs as well as new academic programs. Over \$48,500,000 in bonds from state and county sources have been secured for the construction of the new Elizabeth building.

Other facilities projects underway or completed in FY 08 included the following: upgrades to the gymnasium lighting and energy controls on the Cranford Campus; replacement of asbestos floor tile on the Cranford Campus; the carpeting was replaced in the Commons Building on the Cranford Campus; Parking Lot 4 on the Cranford Campus was resurfaced; the HVAC roof top unit on the Plainfield Campus was replaced; and the cooling tower is being replaced on the Elizabeth Campus.

Union County College implemented a first of its kind model in the State of New Jersey for collaboration and cost savings in optic fiber data network expansion last year with the County of Union and in FY 2008 managed Union County's internet connection. The new optic fiber data network expansion also has the ability to support data, voice, and video. The first phase of computer/telephony integration was completed this year with all inter-campus telephone calls now being routed over the private optic fiber network. Additional integration of long distance and local telephone services is currently underway.

Other major upgrades to the computer network infrastructure included the replacement of all network electronics on the Elizabeth Campus.

Microsoft Office 2007 software was installed college-wide with over one hundred faculty-staff training classes completed. Upgrading of all faculty/staff PCs continued to enable the conversion to Microsoft Vista in FY 2010.

An emergency communications service, Connect Ed, was implemented college-wide to provide voice and email messages to students, faculty and staff.

A Union County capital appropriation and grant funds enabled the creation of the following facilities: a new 24 channel multi-track audio recording facility to support the recently developed Audio Production program; a newly designed student radio station on the Cranford Campus; seven new technology classrooms; and upgraded technology capability in Biology and computer laboratories.

A new Sirsi Integrated Library System was acquired for the Libraries in FY 2008 that will allow for an enhanced public access module, including active links and book review, and an automated acquisitions system.