

## Chapter J

### Major Capital Projects

In fiscal year 2007, ground was broken for the construction of the new 132,000 square foot building on the Elizabeth Campus. 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 07 included the following: the addition of sprinklers to MacDonald Hall, storm water outfall improvements on the Cranford Campus, restroom upgrades college-wide, and replacement of the fire pump in the Lessner Building 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. A new intercampus/internet Wide Area Network (WAN) infrastructure was completed in fiscal year 2007. This was a multi-year joint project with the County of Union to interconnect UCC campuses and local county government agencies via high-speed optic fiber for voice, data, video, and internet services. Through a partnership with the County of Union, the College now manages the ongoing physical network as well as the internet connections, and also supplies internet bandwidth to the County. The optic network connects to the Halsey Street Carrier Hotel in Newark, where the College has access to low-cost, high bandwidth internet from a variety of telecommunication carriers.

A web-based, college-wide facilities scheduling system, Ad Astra, was installed and implemented in FY 07. The new system handles both instructional space and event scheduling. Ad Astra coordinates rooms, resources, services, billing, notifications, timetables, exams, curriculum, and course assignments.

A new Architecture Design Computer Lab was opened and a new Computer Game Design computer workstation lab was installed to support academic programs in these areas of study.