

N.C. A&T, UNCG to Develop Joint Millennial Campus

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro are creating a Joint Millennial Campus that will have two campus locations.

To be called the Greensboro Center for Innovative Development, the project was announced Sept. 23 by chancellors James C. Renick of N.C. A&T and Patricia A. Sullivan of UNCG.

"There will be a north campus and a south campus, and they will focus on the whole picture of economic development for this region," Renick said. "We are very excited about the possibilities."

The two campuses, north and south, will have combined land totaling approximately 150 acres. The north campus is the former School for the Deaf property and is located off Highway 29 North of Greensboro. It will be home to the planned Institute for Training, Research and Development. Initially, it will target the needs of school

systems, business and industry, and various health services and social agencies in the region.

At the south campus, located on East Lee Street near I-40, the universities will develop a "state-of-the-art" science research park. Areas of research will come from key academic areas of both campuses, including the physical and life sciences, engineering, technology, food and nutrition, and other applied sciences. The south campus will be part of the A&T research farm.

Both chancellors have been in discussions since December 2002 over possible use of the deaf school property, but the project has expanded considerably.

"Our brainstorming ignited a much bigger concept in which the power of the universities could come together with businesses in the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors to create an exciting new venture, one that could help shape our future for several decades to come," Sullivan said.

News of the project reached UNC President Molly Broad, who said,



UNCG Provost A. Edward Uprichard, N.C. A&T Provost Carolyn W. Meyers, N.C. A&T Chancellor James C. Renick and UNCG Chancellor Patricia A. Sullivan at the press conference announcing plans to create a Joint Millennial Campus involving A&T and UNCG.

"As envisioned, this joint millennial campus will draw on the complementary research strengths of North Carolina A&T and UNC Greensboro, and it exemplifies the growing spirit of collaboration between these important sister institutions. I am confident that the research advances and public-private partnerships fostered by this initiative will play a significant role in positioning the Triad for a stronger economic future."

Teams from both institutions will begin developing plans for academic and research programs in the areas of economic, workforce and community development. The firm of Hammer, Siler, George and Associates (HSGA), of Silver Spring, Md., and Denver, Col., is being hired as consultant for the planning. ■