



Robert L. Barchi, President

August 28, 2017

Mr. Kenneth Swalagin  
University Senate  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
ASB III, Suite 110  
Cook/Douglass Campus

Dear Mr. Swalagin:

I am writing in response to the University Senate's December 2015 report and recommendations on Charge S-1503, Testing Facilities at Rutgers. I am grateful to the members of the University Senate Instruction, Curricula and Advising Committee for the thoughtful recommendations they have provided to assist the University.

As your report notes, although the issue of facilities for testing is important for all of our campuses and chancellor units, the problems and issues differ, depending upon which campus the student attends. This suggests that space and scheduling issues will be campus-specific, and will be the purview of the chancellors and their faculty and staff. While committees can be helpful in identifying issues that need to be addressed, I believe that committees at the campus level will be knowledgeable about these issues and will be able to make helpful recommendations.

By copy of this letter I am asking the chancellors to continue to work with their faculty and staff to improve the testing experience for both faculty and students on their campuses and report to me on their progress. I note that the testing issues related to fully online courses are unique and special accommodations must be made for those courses. The newly renamed Teaching and Learning with Technology group has addressed some of these issues and has made progress in identifying solutions for others. The chancellors should work with Richard Novak, Vice President for Continuing Studies and Distance Education, when addressing testing issues for online students, especially those participating remotely from across New Jersey and throughout the country.

Sincerely,

Robert Barchi

c: Barbara A. Lee, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Deba Dutta, Chancellor, Rutgers University–New Brunswick  
Brian L. Strom, Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences  
Nancy Cantor, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Newark  
Phoebe A. Haddon, Chancellor, Rutgers University–Camden  
Richard Novak, Vice President for Continuing Studies and Distance Education