

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on March 23, 2016

Location: College of Engineering and Computer Science and for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Construction Lab Site

Remarks: Chancellor's Remarks at the College of Engineering and Computer Science's New Construction Engineering Lab Dedication

*The Chancellor was introduced by Teresa Dahlberg,
Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science.*

Thank you, Dean Dahlberg. What a great day for Syracuse University and the College of Engineering and Computer Science and for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. This University is fortunate to have as its engineering dean, Teresa Dahlberg. I am delighted to be here and to be a part of this dedication program.

And thanks to all the staff who worked so hard to plan this event, especially:

- Karen Trendell, assistant director for donor relations for the University
- Alicia Lewis, associate director in the Office of Special Events
- Bruce Carlson, facilities manager for the College of Engineering and Computer Science
- And the development office and staff of the college
- Thanks to the Advancement staff and especially Jim O'Connor.

Most of all, I thank our supporters - the donors and alumni leaders whose generosity made this day possible. So many folks supported this effort.

I would especially like to recognize Abdallah Yabroudi, Mike Venutolo, and Walter Rogers, who traveled halfway around the world from the Middle East to be here.

You will hear more about them shortly and about others who played a key role in making this lab a reality.

We would not be here today if not for vision and for all those who helped support this project. Today is a testament to what is possible when our donors, students, faculty, and staff come together to support world-class learning and scholarship.

Syracuse University is a great, engaged, thriving, diverse, international research university.

Thanks to Abdallah and Sam Clemence and Jim O'Connor, I saw a lab like this in action in Dubai at Abdallah's office. I saw what our students could be learning and doing in such a facility. I heard about the great vision to make this possible in Syracuse for our engineering students.

We have so much great momentum to build on now. In just the last month, Syracuse had a hand in the historic discovery of gravitational waves. And it has had its research classification boosted into the top tier in the nation.

But cutting-edge scholarship and hands-on learning require the right kind of flexible spaces and facilities to support them.

That is why campus buildings and spaces are the focal point of the University's Campus Framework initiative. It is important to ensure that all our buildings and instructional spaces are equipped to fully meet the evolving needs of our students.

This lab is such a space. It is an investment in the next generation of great engineers, scientists, builders, and scholars.

This lab further affirms Syracuse University as a place where excellence in teaching, learning, and research flourish.

Thank you all for making this happen!

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