



July 19, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

I am delighted to welcome you to Rowan University. The Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering is proud to be the host of the 10th Annual First-Year Engineering Experience Conference. We hope you will enjoy this time on our campus and that you will have some to explore everything that this area has to offer.

Rowan University has evolved from its humble beginning in 1923 as a normal school with just 236 students and a mission to train teachers for South Jersey classrooms to a comprehensive public research university with a strong regional reputation and over 18,000 students.

In 1992, after several decades of growth that transformed the Glassboro Normal School to Glassboro State College, a multipurpose institution, industrialist Henry M. Rowan and his wife Betty donated \$100 million to the school. That gift was, at the time, the largest ever to a public college or university. Later that year, the school changed its name to Rowan College of New Jersey to recognize its benefactors' generosity. The Rowans' only request was that a College of Engineering be created with a curriculum that would address the shortcomings of engineering education. The college achieved University status in 1997 and changed its name to Rowan University. The College of Engineering quickly earned national accolades for its successful new curriculum and hands-on, minds-on approach to engineering education.

The Experiential Engineering Education Department (ExEEEd) was launched as a new Department in 2016 to reinforce the translation of educational innovations into the classroom, foster a collaborative environment for engineering education research, and to lead the College's undergraduate engineering educational mission in the freshman and sophomore years. We are very excited to host FYEE 2018 and to have this opportunity to share ideas and promising practices for first-year engineering education.

We are delighted to have the honor to host two exceptional keynote speakers this year. Jennifer Turns, Professor of Human Centered Design & Engineering in the College of Engineering at the University of Washington will deliver the opening keynote on Reflection and the First-Year Experience. Her talk will be at 9:00 AM on Wednesday in the Enyon Ballroom in the Chamberlain Student Center (CSC). On Wednesday evening, we welcome Maria-Isabel Carnasciali as our dinner keynote speaker. Maria-Isabel is the Chair of the Department of Engineering & Applied Sciences Education at the Tagliatela College of Engineering, University of New Haven, CT. Her talk, Is the first-year in Engineering the right time for Entrepreneurial Thinking?, is at 6:00 PM, also in the Enyon Ballroom in the Chamberlain Student Center (CSC).

I wish you a productive and successful conference!

Sincerely,

Anthony M. Lowman, PhD
Dean, Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering



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