Endowment: The Henson School of Science and Technology was endowed in 1988 with a multimillion dollar gift by aviation pioneer and community philanthropist Richard A. Henson.

**THE HENSON SCHOOL** has been at the forefront of the University’s commitment to undergraduate research. Holding its own annual Undergraduate Research Symposium since 1994, Henson faculty and students combined efforts with members of the three other schools to hold the first campuswide Undergraduate Research Conference.

The school routinely sends students to the nation’s finest graduate and professional schools. In addition the school has collaborative relationships with schools of engineering, podiatry, optometry, dentistry, osteopathic medicine and veterinary medicine.

Henson School students receive a solid foundation in learning through innovative course and labs that support the University’s General Education mission. The Standards Based Teacher Education Project (STEP), a collaborative program between the Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies and the Henson School, is a statewide model for preparing students to teach science at elementary and secondary schools.

Enrollment in science majors during the last decade grew at a staggering rate at SU, making current class and laboratory space inadequate. Thanks to the efforts of Governor Parris Glendening and Eastern Shore legislators, ground was broken in fall 2000 on a $37 million science building, due to open in fall 2002.

Dean: Dr. Thomas W. Jones
New Science Building
Ground was broken on a 145,500 square foot, $37 million science building to open in the fall of 2002. The state-of-the-art facility will include lab space, classrooms and office space.

Undergraduate Research Reaches New Heights
Undergraduate research in the Henson School was at an all-time high this past year. Many Henson students presented their work at local, regional and national scientific conferences, at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) and at the first campuswide Undergraduate Research Conference. In addition, two Henson student research projects were selected by the Council on Undergraduate Research (SU being one of 60 universities selected nationwide) to be included in the prestigious “Posters on the Hill” conference held in Washington, D.C.

Great Graduates
Ten Henson graduates were accepted into medical or other professional schools this year. The acceptance rate of Henson graduates into graduate schools continued to increase. The pass rates this year on the national certification exams for medical technology and respiratory therapy majors were 100 percent and for nursing majors was over 90 percent.

Faculty Research
Henson faculty had 36 scientific papers published in refereed journals and made 94 presentations at regional, national and international scientific meetings and workshops.

Garnering Grants
Funding from external grants for research increased from $434,602 (1999-2000) to $528,541 (2000-2001)—a 30 percent increase.

Web-based Teaching
Henson faculty were active in developing Web-based technologies and distance learning. One computer science faculty member, Mary Beth Flagg, and two nursing faculty members, Drs. Dorothea McDowell and Elizabeth Rankin, were selected to participate in the Faculty Development Mentors Program leading to Web-based courses. Dr. Steven Hetzler, Math Department, offered a Web-based course for the first time.

Retaining Students
The Henson School received two University System of Maryland grants to help recruit and retain under-represented students in the sciences. One grant was specifically targeted at students interested in physics and engineering, and the other was for all science disciplines.

Gear-ing Up
The Maryland Higher Education Commission awarded a second grant ($60,000) to the school to be the university partner for Somerset County’s Gear Up (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). Students and faculty from across the University work with middle school faculty, students and parents to show them what a college education offers and how to prepare for it.

Innovative Curriculum
The Henson School engaged in developing a standards-based curriculum. To that end, faculty created two initiatives: Standards-based Teacher Education Programs (STEP) and Quality in Undergraduate Education (QUE). STEP focuses on pre-service teachers and creates partnerships between the public schools, Wor-Wic Community College, Chesapeake College and SU. QUE creates a partnership among the biology, history and mathematics disciplines of the three schools to unify the undergraduate program. Faculty from these disciplines are developing standards to further student learning and to foster a seamless transfer of community college students to the University.

Engineering Boost
The school received two endowments for its electrical engineering program: $205,000 from K&L Microwave Inc. for engineering scholarships and equipment, and $275,000 from the sale of the Fishing Island property donated to SU by a local businessman.