On September 4, President Janet Dudley-Eshbach, along with distinguished guests, cut the ribbon officially opening Salisbury University’s Teacher Education and Technology Center (TETC). The TETC and soon-to-be-constructed Franklin P. Perdue School of Business will be two of the most technologically advanced academic buildings not only on the Eastern Shore but also in the Mid-Atlantic region. Both buildings will have state-of-the-art classrooms, computer labs, cafes and offices allowing SU students to have the cutting-edge equipment they need to be prepared for the workplace.

The TETC is the new home for the Samuel W. and Marilyn C. Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies, parts of the Fulton School of Liberal Arts, the Integrated Media Center and several members of the Information Technology Office. The education program has long been the cornerstone of the University, dating back to its inception as the Maryland State Teachers College. Therefore, it is fitting that the TETC has been constructed on the corner of Route 13 and College Avenue, marking a very prominent location on campus.

Seidel School Dean Dennis Pataniczek shared his thoughts on the new TETC: “The technology available for SU students and faculty holds the promise for first-rate teaching and research, and this is so critical for this generation of learners who have grown up with technology. I can’t wait for our students to arrive in their new home on the SU campus and to enjoy its spaciousness and all the features it has to offer.”

The TETC consists of many different types of learning environments. For instance, the TETC has a 120-station, mega-computer laboratory, multi-media art exhibition studio, teaching methods labs, distance learning classrooms and an Integrated Media Center (IMC). The IMC brings together faculty from various departments with the goal of spreading the use of technology across campus.

Ground will soon be broken on campus for the new Perdue School of Business building as well. The Perdue School, named for the legendary Delmarva entrepreneur Franklin P. Perdue, who helped transform the poultry industry, ranks among the top 20 percent of business schools in the nation. With an $8 million gift from the Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, the Perdue School of Business will soon have its own building dedicated to teaching business and conducting ongoing research in management and administration. The building's design will be highly flexible, featuring interactive classrooms offering high-performance technologies to enhance student learning.

Interim Perdue School Dean Richard Hoffman gave his perspective on the new home for the business school: “Overall, the facility will enhance the lives of the Perdue students, faculty and staff as well as provide venues for other campus activities. The new Perdue School of Business building is truly a dream come true for our school, and we thank the Perdue family and President Dudley-Eshbach for making this a reality!”

When the Perdue School of Business building opens its doors, it will truly be one of the most advanced business schools in the region. The Perdue School will house faculty offices, an Internet cafe, tiered auditorium, and computer, investment, market research, advanced information technology and enterprise labs. With this new building SU students will be learning the newest trends from the best professors using the most cutting-edge technology.

Creation of the Teacher Education and Technology Center and the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business building has benefitted from state funds reflecting Maryland’s commitment to higher education. The University now needs to supplement these sources with additional philanthropic efforts. There are numerous naming opportunities in both of these one-of-a-kind, state-of-the-art buildings that are in need of your support. The enhancement of these important teacher and business education resources provides a perfect opportunity to make an investment in Salisbury University’s future.

If you are interested in naming opportunities for either the Teacher Education and Technology Center or the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business please contact me at jeblock@salisbury.edu or 410-677-0292.