



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Directors' Meeting

Friday, April 17, 2026

Rowan University

Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University

1000 Gilbreth Parkway, Harrison Township, NJ 08062

[LOCATION DIRECTIONS/MAP](#)

MINUTES

8:30am Networking Breakfast

9:00am - Noon Meeting

Optional Post-Meeting Tour

ATTENDEES: Aaron Balog (BMS), Gary Barber (U.S. Army), Najwa Borkadi (proxy for Kathy Scotto of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences), Keith Bostian-virtual (Kean University), Stefanie Brachfeld (Montclair State University), Rubi Burlage (Merck), Jeffrey Cartmell (MTF Biologics), Ian Davies-virtual (Vice-Chair /Princeton University), Atam Dhawan-virtual (NJIT), Sandra Elliott (Hackensack Meridian Health), Virginie Maillard (Chair/Siemens), Brian McArdle (NJEDA), Susan Miller (Nokia Bell Labs), Eusebio Pires (Deb Perez Fernandez proxy for Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey), Kristina Reintamm (Paul Hoffman proxy for Liberty Science Center), Mallie Romanowski (Coriell Institute for Medical Research), Judith Sheft (NJCSIT), Steve Socolof-virtual (Tech Council Ventures), Manoshi Stoker (proxy for Dan Rosenthal for Stryker), Jeff Stokes (Treasurer/PSEG), Sujata Vaidyanathan-virtual (Novartis), Mei Wei (Rowan University), and David Zimmerman (PPPL). RD Council Executive Director Kim Case, RD Council Program Manager Shirley Mautone, and GSS Director Alise Roderer were all present. Special guest New Jersey Senator John Burzichelli, his Chief of Staff Leana Crowther, and Jim Kehoe of Tonio Burgos and Associates were in attendance. Chancellor Anthony Lowman, Dave Weinstein, Phil Barnes and Jessica Porch of Rowan University were also present.

AGENDA ITEM	LEAD/ACTION	TIME
WELCOME	<i>Virginie Maillard</i> Siemens Council Chair	9:04-9:10am
APPROVAL OF JANUARY 23, 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES	<i>Chair Maillard</i> - Minutes - No amendments. <i>Motion to approve by Keith Bostian.</i> <i>Seconded by Mei Wei.</i> <i>Approved unanimously.</i>	9:12-9:13am
CHAIR'S REPORT - Membership representative update 2026 Elections - Dues' payments	<i>Chair Maillard</i>	9:13-9:16am
GUEST SPEAKER	<i>The Honorable John J. Burzichelli</i> New Jersey State Senator, District 3	9:16-10:00am

HOST PRESENTATION: Rowan University	<i>Mei Wei, Ph.D.</i> Vice President of Research Rowan University <i>Anthony Lowman, Ph.D.</i> Chancellor Rowan University	10:00-11:00am
<i>Council Board members had a discussion on workforce development gaps and the need to collect industry member data on this topic to share and compare with higher education members.</i>		
BREAK 11:00-11:15am		
DISCUSSION ITEMS ● 47th Edison Patent Awards ○ Budget Approval ○ Patent Awards Nominations ○ Individual Awards ● Strategic Plan Update	<i>Kim Case/Alise Roderer</i> <i>Motion to approve the 47th Edison Patent Awards 2026 Budget made by Judith Sheft. Seconded by Mei Wei. Approved unanimously.</i>	11:15-11:45am
STEM PROGRAMS ● New Jersey STEM Month ● Governor's STEM Scholars	<i>Alise Roderer/Shirley Mautone</i>	11:45-11:49am
FINANCIALS ● Audit ● Current Financials ● 2027 FY State Budget	<i>Kim Case</i>	Noon-12:05pm
ADJOURN 12:06 <i>The Board unanimously approved a motion to adjourn.</i>		
OPTIONAL VETERINARY SCHOOL TOUR Noon-12:45pm		

Additional Meeting Information

[April 17, 2026 Board Meeting Deck](#)

[January 23, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes](#)

[Brian McArdle NJEDA Representative Bio](#)

[Mallie Romanowski Coriell Representative Bio](#)

[2026 Edison Patent Awards Proposed Budget](#)

[Edison Patent Awards Nomination Flier](#)

[2026 Edison Patent Awards Individual Award Nominations](#)

[List of Individual Award Winners from 2009-2025](#)

[NJ STEM Month 2026 Launches with Call to Engage 60,000 Learners](#)

[NJ STEM Month Gubernatorial Proclamation & Senate Ceremonial Resolution](#)

[NJ Biz: Former Gov. Christine Todd Whitman Discusses Innovation and Leadership with RD Council](#)

[WSJ: What the Legendary Bell Labs Can Teach Us About Innovation](#)