

Macomb-Oakland University Incubator Grand Opening
July 20, 2009
President Gary D. Russi

- Thank you very much, and good morning.
- This is a great day, indeed.
- Today, we are celebrating the culmination of an effort that will provide Macomb County businesses with an unprecedented level of support.
- As you know, Oakland has already played an integral role in the county by closely aligning higher education with emerging employment needs.
- At Oakland, we are forming partnerships – much like this one – with business and industry, government entities, area schools, hospitals and healthcare organizations.
- Through our efforts, we will foster new investment and create jobs throughout the county, particularly in the growing business sectors of defense and homeland security and alternative energy.
- It is a fundamental role of any university to engage with the community and to assist in finding solutions to current challenges.
- This incubator will help entrepreneurs transform ideas into new business ventures, develop patents and see their original ideas make their way into commercial markets, thus creating jobs.
- Time does not permit me to thank all of the people here today who were instrumental in making the Macomb-Oakland University Incubator a reality.
- I will say, however, that the business leaders and government officials who worked so hard to bring the incubator to Macomb County deserve our profound gratitude.
- I would like to commend David Spencer for his outstanding leadership in helping to bring this incubator to Macomb County.
- And thank you all for joining us here today for this very important announcement.