



**UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

Newark, New Jersey

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 17, 2017**

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**Transformation at University Hospital Continues with  
Unveiling of New Patient Lobby**

*Assemblywoman Muñoz Joins Hospital, Medical School Leaders for Ceremony;  
New Facilities Modernize Patient Experience*

**Newark, NJ** — A state-of-the-art patient lobby was formally unveiled today at University Hospital in Newark, marking the latest step in the hospital's emergence as the premier academic medical center in northern New Jersey. The ceremony was led by University Hospital President and CEO John N. Kastanis MBA, FACHE, joined by Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Dean Robert L. Johnson, MD, FAAP, who both welcomed Assemblywoman Nancy Muñoz (R-Union) as an honored guest.

"Our new lobby dramatically underscores the incredible changes underway at University Hospital," said Kastanis. "The new lobby is a bold expression of our future, combining innovative design and modern convenience."

The new lobby features improvements to visitor flow, hotel-style furnishings, and connections for mobile devices. The lobby boasts a new Hospital Guest Relations center to assist with travel arrangements, hotel and restaurant recommendations, and provide business center amenities. The lobby is also staffed by members of the Hospital's innovative "At Your Service" program, a unique initiative that brings college students majoring in public health studies to University Hospital to assist patients and their families during their visit.

"Today marks another milestone in the renaissance of University Hospital," said Assemblywoman Muñoz, a former clinical nurse whose late husband Assemblyman Eric Muñoz, M.D. was a trauma surgeon and administrator at University Hospital. "Newark deserves an excellent healthcare center, and University Hospital and Rutgers are delivering medical innovation every day. Eric would be especially proud of the attention to detail and care that was put into making the new lobby amenable and comfortable for University Hospital's patients and visitors. My family and I have always considered University Hospital a special place for healing, and the incredible changes unveiled today make me confident that first-class services now accompany first-class healthcare at University Hospital."

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“As University Hospital’s academic partner, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School is excited about the new energy and commitment to quality medical care we find throughout the hospital,” said Johnson. “We depend on University Hospital to help train and motivate our students to succeed in tomorrow’s healthcare world. The hospital is moving aggressively to become northern New Jersey’s premier academic medical center and a proud contributor to Newark’s renaissance.”

“The changes at University Hospital are so much more than cosmetic,” Kastanis noted. “We are changing the way Newark views healthcare and providing both the medical quality and personal experience that our visitors deserve.”

**University Hospital** is one of the nation’s leading academic medical centers, and is the Level 1 Trauma Center for Northern New Jersey. Located at University Heights in Newark, University Hospital is a principal teaching hospital of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and a regional resource for advanced services across many medical specialties. For more information about University Hospital, please visit [www.uhnj.org](http://www.uhnj.org).

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