

News Links[What's On](#)[Calendar](#)[Who's Who](#)[Contact Us](#)[Jobs](#)[Polls](#)[DTV Info](#)[Broadcast Info](#)[Behind The Lege..](#)[Call 12](#)[Weather Alerts](#)**News****New College Complex Dedicated***October 9, 2006, 3:51 pm*

Penn State Erie's new \$30 million Research and Economic Development Center was formally dedicated today. The unique 160,000 square foot complex houses both the business and engineering schools under one roof. The idea is to encourage students in business and engineering to understand each other, and work together on projects to create jobs. Former Governor Tom Ridge who released the money for the complex while he was in office spoke at today's ceremony. Ridge said, "I think in order for us to compete against China and India, in a very competitive global marketplace, this blending of academia with business opportunities is something that is long overdue. It is a unique collaboration." The new complex is the latest example of growth on the campus. Since 1981, Penn State Erie has added eight new academic buildings, nine apartment buildings, six traditional residence halls plus the Junker Athletic center, the Lilley Library and the Knowledge Park business complex. The President of Penn State, Graham Spanier said, "I think we will continue to see modest growth. I do not think so much in student enrollment as it will in the scope of the research we do and our connection to business and economic development in the area."

[Paul Wagner](#)**Current Weather Conditions**

- Temperature: **44.0F**
- Winds: **NW 3.0 mph**
- Pressure: **29.610 Steady**
- Rain Today: **0.17"**

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