“Statewide Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program”

State of New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety  
Dr. Susan Polirstok and Dr. Roxie James, co-PIs  
Dr. Claudia Knezek, Project Director

The State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety, has funded Year 2 of Kean University’s Statewide Comprehensive Traffic Safety program to reduce driver injury crashes on New Jersey roadways. Dr. Susan Polirstok, Dean of the School of Education at Kean University, and Dr. Roxie James, Director of the General Education Program in the Academic Success Department will serve as the Principal Investigators with Dr. Claudia Knezek being designated as the Project Director.

Technical advisors for the project include Dr. Consuelo Bonillas and Dr. Susan MacLaury of the Health Education department and Dr. James Drylie of the Criminal Justice department.

The Kean University program includes all components of the “Three E” Injury Prevention Model adopted by the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety: Enforcement, Education, and Environment. Kean will continue working closely with the traffic safety community to successfully sponsor training, conduct applied research studies, develop educational curricula and parent/teen orientation programs on behalf of the Division. Enforcement activities include promoting the newly established Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) technical service for local municipalities. Crash Investigation training will continue to be cosponsored by Kean, in addition to the development of the first New Jersey based Crash Investigation Program curriculum and course materials.

Educational services have been expanded to include offering statewide parent/teen driver orientation programs and a follow-up study on the outcomes of parental involvement in the Graduated Driver License (GDL) process. Kean University will also continue to expand and implement the K-12 traffic safety learning progression curriculum for the Division. The Environmental component supports a network of Comprehensive Traffic Safety Programs through the distribution of technical assistance services and resources developed at the University. Also, a bi-monthly and annual reporting system will be used to evaluate grant projects based on completion of deliverables, presentations at conferences, and sponsored programs.