Letter from the Chair

Since 1994, the New Jersey Presidents' Council has been the forum for the state’s public and independent college and university presidents to address the challenges facing New Jersey’s higher education community. Working collaboratively, the Council’s goal is to expand the capacity of the state’s institutions to provide high quality educational opportunities to students, to engage in the research, scholarly, and knowledge transfer activities that support innovation and prosperity, and to provide important services to the businesses, schools, and communities of the state.

This Report provides a summary of the Council’s accomplishment for this past year. Foremost among them, with the support of the Governor and the Legislature, the Council successfully advocated for the Building Our Future Bond Act, which will provide urgently needed facilities across the campuses of New Jersey. Together, the colleges and universities of the state provided many services to support the needs of communities impacted by Super Storm Sandy and worked with state government to provide technical support during that emergency. Through its affiliate, NJED.ge.Net, the Council has continued to assure the development of an expanded and innovative technology backbone for New Jersey. Working with the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security, the Council’s Campus Safety and Security Committee continued its work on a comprehensive set of higher education security best practices to ensure safe campuses across the state. Through the work of the Council’s Task Force on Alignment of Higher Education Programs and Workforce Development, the Council began a collaborative effort to increase information available to the business community, students, educational institutions and government about the intersection between the needs of the workforce and the programs that prepare students to enter that workforce. The work of the Task Force will support a continued partnership between the higher education community and business and government to assure that the state’s workforce is among the nation’s strongest in terms of personal income, educational attainment, and job-related skills.

In addition to a summary of the collaborative work of the Council, the Report also provides brief snapshots of some of the accomplishments of each individual college and university in the state. I invite readers to explore the rich array of New Jersey institutions by visiting the websites of the various colleges and universities.

New Jersey’s institutions of higher education are committed to a vision of excellence for the future. We work to provide a system of education that gives New Jersey residents maximum opportunity for a first rate education, in any discipline, regardless of their background or economic status. With ongoing support from the Governor, Secretary of Higher Education, and Legislature, the higher education community will continue to make major contributions to our State in the years ahead.

As Chair of the Presidents’ Council, I want to thank my presidential colleagues for their extraordinary level of support and cooperation during the past year. Working together, we have accomplished much and we are optimistic about our ability to continue to serve the needs of our state and its citizens with distinction.

On behalf of my colleagues, I am pleased to present this Report.

Susan A. Cole
Chair, New Jersey Presidents’ Council
New Jersey Presidents' Council

2012 - 2013 Annual Report

A Brief Overview

The New Jersey Presidents' Council (the lists of Officers and Membership of the Council are attached to this Report) represents the state's institutions of higher education at the presidential level. The organization was created by the 1994 Higher Education Restructuring Act. The 52 member council is made up of the presidents of New Jersey's colleges and universities that receive state aid, the presidents of proprietary schools, and the presidents of the state's two largest religious institutions. The Council's charge is to make recommendations on new programs, regional alliances, budget and student aid levels, licensure, and the state's higher education master plan.

Liaison between all sectors of higher education and the Executive Branch of government is fulfilled by the Secretary of Higher Education, Rochelle Hendricks. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 52, the Secretary is supported by the Governor's Higher Education Council.

Maintaining A Tradition Of Excellence

Over the past year, New Jersey's colleges and universities worked together to make a difference for students and for the state and to maintain the highest levels of academic excellence in a time of continuing financial hardship.

New Jersey institutions of higher education enrolled more than half a million students, approximately 80 percent of whom were enrolled for credit to an academic degree, and continued to serve a diverse population. About one-third (33.2%) of students were African-American, Hispanic, Asian and American Indian. Significantly, almost 40% of first-year students were minority.

Across the board, New Jersey's institutions of higher learning continued to serve the educational needs of the state with distinction and to maintain their standing among the very best programs in the nation. Colleges and universities worked together to manage their institutions ever more efficiently and safely, while providing highest quality academic programming at a time of continuing financial strain at the state level.

To quantify more completely the above impacts, last year the Presidents' Council commissioned its second biennial study by the data analysis firm Appleseed. In addition to the obvious financial benefits to the state and the graduates from these institutions, the Report found that the benefits of higher education went well beyond its impact on the incomes of those who earn degrees. For example:
Higher education has significant spillover effects. Research first published by the New York Federal Reserve Bank in 2008 found that with each one percent increase in a metropolitan area’s population with a college degree there is a 2.3 percent increase in the region’s per capita gross domestic product. Non-college-educated workers also benefit from this effect: other research has shown that with each 1 percent increase in the percentage of workers with college degrees there is a 1.6 percent increase in the earnings of workers who only have high school diplomas.

Higher education also affects participation in civic and community affairs. Education, for example, is the single most powerful predictor of whether Americans vote; in the 2008 surveys conducted by the Census Bureau, 77 percent of all voting-age citizens with a four-year college degrees, and 83 percent of those with advanced degrees, voted in the 2008 presidential election but only 55 percent of those with only a high school education and 39 percent with less than a high school diploma voted. Moreover surveys on volunteer activity conducted annually by the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that Americans with four-year college degrees are more than twice as likely to do volunteer work, and to participate in other forms of community activity, as those who have not attended college.

Parents’ education also affects the well-being of their children. The children of college-educated parents are less likely to suffer from low birth weight, and more likely to perform better in school.

Copies of the Appleseed Report are available from the Presidents’ Council upon request.

Here is just a sampling of some current developments as reported by New Jersey’s higher education community in their respective sectors and institutions:

- New Jersey and the nation continue to benefit from New Jersey’s superb research and educational programs. The state’s research institutions are among the best university research and teaching centers in the nation. Developments at these universities cover a vast breadth of science and technology and are helping the nation to meet daunting challenges in areas such as health care, national security, climate change, and energy alternatives. Investing in the infrastructure of research and innovation right here in New Jersey will continue to yield powerful results in workforce development and job creation, in building partnerships with business and industry, and in garnering greater federal and private support for initiatives that enhance the catalytic role that research universities play in supporting economic growth.

- New Jersey’s state colleges and universities provide a comprehensive range of high quality undergraduate and graduate programs to over 110,000 students and make significant contributions to research and scholarship. Program and facilities investments at these institutions have greatly strengthened the state’s capacity in science, technology, health, the environment, business, and many applied social science disciplines important to New Jersey’s economy and communities. A report prepared by
the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, showed that New Jersey’s eight **state colleges and universities** were among the most productive in the nation as were the state’s research universities. In its "National Report Card on Higher Education," the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education said New Jersey was among the leading states in overall performance in higher education.

- **New Jersey’s independent colleges and universities** continue to play an important role in the higher education community. These institutions include traditional liberal arts colleges, major research universities, church and faith-related colleges and a women’s college. This variety offers students a choice of educational experience that will serve their interests, needs, and aspirations. Independents traditionally enroll 25% of all students attending four-year colleges in the state. 30% of their students are African-American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American, up from 24% in just two years. They award a quarter of all baccalaureate degrees and 40 percent of all advanced degrees. More than three out of four undergraduates enrolled in New Jersey’s independent colleges come from the Garden State.

- **New Jersey’s 19 community colleges** established the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development in 2004. The Workforce Consortium is a central one-stop contact that develops and delivers education and training programs to New Jersey businesses, agencies and organizations. Since its inception, the Workforce Consortium has trained nearly 50,000 employees at over 2,100 New Jersey businesses. Because of the broader role they play in educating adults, county colleges’ contribution to New Jersey’s human capital cannot be measured solely in terms of the number of people who earn degrees. At last count more than 341,000 students had earned at least 12 credits from one of the state’s county colleges without completing a degree or certificate at that college. The overwhelming majority of these students remain as residents of New Jersey.

- **Proprietary colleges** provide significant economic benefits to New Jersey. As taxpaying institutions that receive no direct state financial assistance, these colleges invest millions of dollars annually in capital improvements, employ thousands of New Jersey residents and account for millions of dollars in economic impact in their communities. They also provide millions of dollars in annual scholarships. Proprietary Colleges offer flexible scheduling: day, evening/weekend, and online classes; valuable, real-world experience through program-related, faculty-monitored internships or job-related assignments; and extensive employer connections with leading firms and organizations.
The individual institutions have a long list of accomplishments over the last year, for example they report:

- **Atlantic Cape Community College** adopted a comprehensive student success initiative and joined the Achieving the Dream cohort of schools engaged in the national student success movement. We were excited to host the official ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Rutgers University Degree Completion Center at our Mays Landing Campus; proving students in our two-county region and throughout Southern New Jersey even greater access to the state university. We held official groundbreaking ceremonies for our much anticipated Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) facility at our Mays Landing Campus and the Caesars Entertainment Wing for Hospitality and Gaming Studies at our Atlantic City Campus. The $16 million STEM project is funded through federal, state, county, College and philanthropic sources provided through the Atlantic Cape Foundation and our major gifts campaign, Create Opportunity. The $10 Hospitality and Gaming Studies project was funded through a $5 million allocation of Caesars Entertainment’s Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) credits and a $5 million match from the County of Atlantic. This past year, we were proud to host an array of exciting events celebrating the 30th anniversary of our world-class culinary program, the Academy of Culinary Arts. We signed an innovative reverse transfer articulation agreement with Stockton College that will provide a seamless pathway for our students to transfer to one of the state’s premier undergraduate institutions, while still being able to complete their associate degree at Atlantic Cape. We were also pleased to obtain official approvals for new aviation degree programs.

- For **Bergen Community College**, the past year featured an institutional commitment to building a strong foundation – a “Framework for the Future.” As the guiding principle of the college’s 2013-18 strategic plan, Bergen will engage four strategic themes: student success and excellence; faculty and staff success and excellence; the commitment to Bergen County; and institution building. Supported by projects such as a $15.8 million, 23,000 square-foot academic center for the college’s renowned Division of Health Professions; a $3.8 million U.S. Department of Education grant to enhance STEM offerings and student success pathways; and the Emil Buehler Trust Aviation Education Center, which has enabled new degree programs in aviation and aeronautics, the success of Bergen’s future goals remains rooted in the recent dedication to identifying and securing essential resources for students, faculty, staff and the community at large.

- **Berkeley College**, a four-year college regionally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education was founded in 1931. Berkeley enrolls nearly 8,000 students system-wide in New Jersey, New York and online in its bachelor’s and associate’s degree programs. Berkeley College serves a very diverse student population. In the fall of 2011, the New Jersey student body of 2,300 students was comprised of 36 percent Hispanic/Latino, 24 percent African American, 21 percent White, 16 percent Other/Unknown, and 3 percent Asian. Berkeley College empowers students to achieve personal and professional success in dynamic careers through academic and support programs. The College’s learning communities place students in a network of peers and
professors who will help them successfully begin their college career. A no-cost pre-college program, Bridge to Success, supports students in honing their math, study, critical-thinking, and problem-solving skills and also provides an early introduction to the expectations and culture of college life before they matriculate into a degree program. In addition, the Jumpstart program offers students who have already been accepted to Berkeley College, no cost courses that will aid them in developing their reading, writing, and math skills. Berkeley’s Honors Program is a selective, interdisciplinary program that provides a learning community of academically talented students with an opportunity to study a challenging theme-based topic related to all majors in the College. Understanding that students need help with their finances, the College’s financial literacy department provides students with information related to effective student loan repayment management and personal finance. Berkeley College was awarded Best Places to Work in New Jersey from NJBIZ and Military Friendly School from G.I. Jobs magazine.

- **Beth Medrash Govoha** has 6,600 students, including 2,700 undergraduate students. BMG is now the largest institution in the world devoted to Talmudic and Judaic studies, helping turn N.J. into the magnet state in the nation for these fields. BMG’s robust enrollment is outpacing current facilities, with enrollment projected to grow 5% annually into the next decade. BMG has therefore adopted a long-range facilities plan to construct new academic, library and student housing space and to expand and renovate existing facilities for optimal use and increased capacity. In the past 2 years, BMG completed and opened a new 203,000 square-foot student housing complex and a centrally located dormitory, and it broke ground on a major new academic center on its campus core, which is scheduled to open in 2014. BMG’s graduates excel in business, education, finance, law, technology, social work, and more, and they have a strong record in establishing and expanding businesses that create jobs and contribute to New Jersey’s economy. Enterprises founded by alumni of BMG span industries as diverse as food manufacturing, retailing, green technologies, import-export, transportation, logistics, information technologies and services, health care, education and academia, the arts, real estate, social service organizations and other forms of public service. Now in its 71st year, BMG is an academic center of excellence within the state. Locally, BMG is the central enterprise of Lakewood, N.J., helping turn a once struggling resort town into a thriving, vibrant community that is a center of entrepreneurship, education, business, and industry of all forms, generating valuable economic and demographic benefits to New Jersey. An Appleseed Economic Impact Study for 2010 concluded that in that year Beth Medrash Govoha generated $145.1 million in local economic output and 1,445 full-time New Jersey jobs. Facing the challenges of growth, BMG has invested significantly in green technologies throughout its campuses. As a community oriented institution, BMG also contributes economic and human capital to the expansion of social services and health care for the region.

- **Bloomfield College** commenced construction of a new 234 bed residence which is a key project in improving life on campus and in revitalizing downtown Bloomfield. The Trustees approved a new facilities master plan that calls for the construction of a new Center for Technology, new nursing labs and continued renovation of the science labs. The College has also performed a complete revision of all academic foundation
preparatory programs, integrating individual tutoring and coaching for students needing extra assistance to reach college level work, directly in integrated classes rather than through a separate remedial program.

- **Brookdale Community College**, under the leadership of new its new President, Dr. Maureen Murphy, awarded a record 2,115 associate degrees and certificates in 2012, more than any other community college in the state. The college enrolled 15,131 full- and part-time students in Fall 2012 and 13, 617 full- and part-time students in Spring 2013. Despite the challenges associated with Hurricane Sandy, the college retained 84.9 percent of its first-time, full-time degree-seeking students between the fall and spring semesters. In response to the crisis faced by many students and their families after the storm, the Brookdale Foundation spearheaded a drive to raise disaster relief funds to provide students with emergency scholarships for books, meal plans, and financial aid. The N.J. Small Business Development Center at the college partnered with SBA Business Disaster Recovery Assistance Program to provide one-to-one help to business owners and homeowners seeking assistance for losses caused by the storm. The college is working on plans for a 40,000 square foot academic center at the Wall campus. The final project will include multi-purpose classroom and lab space, a library and a student success area. The new building is expected to accommodate approximately 5,000 students at capacity, and will enable Brookdale to expand programming for the college and its partner institutions. The men's basketball team won its first NJCAA Division III national championship, and legendary Brookdale head softball coach Bo Scannapieco was inducted into the Jersey Shore Sports Hall of Fame.

- **Burlington County College** welcomed its fourth president, David C. Hespe, in August 2012. With experience in top-level positions in K-12 education, higher education and the highest educational post in the State of New Jersey, he ushered in a new era of leadership. Hespe announced a new organizational structure to better support student success, teaching, learning, and improve overall operational effectiveness and efficiency. This year also saw an enhancement to the College’s long-standing commitment to the military population with in-county tuition rates for credit courses for all members of the military, national guard and reserve, veterans and their dependents, and a scholarship program to benefit civilian spouses and domestic partners of active duty military and activated national guard and reserve members. In an effort to change the developmental education landscape, BCC created and began enrolling students in the First Year Initiative for the fall 2013 semester. The initiative is designed to better prepare students for the rigors of college-level work and keep them on track to degree completion or transfer to a baccalaureate program. In April 2013, BCC learned that it had been approved for more than $4.5 million from the State of New Jersey for its proposed capital and equipment projects. The projects will greatly benefit students through a more robust technology infrastructure, digital classroom technology, equipment upgrades, and a dedicated space for collaborative learning, workforce development, and BCC’s growing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs.
• **Caldwell College** took sole ownership of its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program after dissolving its partnership with Mountainside Hospital in May 2012. The program, only in its third year, was accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in 2012 and has enrollments of more than 150 fulltime students with the college planning to expand this number to 200 in fall 2013. Caldwell College will offer an online RN to BSN completion program beginning in fall 2013, and plans are underway to develop and offer a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) in the near future. To accommodate this program growth, the first floor of the Science building is being renovated to house a large multi-purpose classroom, a state-of-the-art nursing simulation laboratory, a health assessment laboratory and a nursing main skills laboratory that replicates a hospital wing setting. The college also identified existing space on campus to renovate for faculty and staff offices in the Department of Nursing.

• **Camden County College** neared completion of the Blackwood Campus transformation with the opening of a $30 million science building. The Division of Math, Science and Heath Careers split into a Division of Math and Science and a Division of Nursing, Health Sciences and Human Services. New programs included associate degrees in business administration and fire science administration and certificates in electronic health records consulting and international healthcare. Agreements were signed with China’s Nanyang Medical College to educate NMC nursing graduates in Blackwood; Temple University to facilitate transfer into a health information management baccalaureate program; the Rutgers University College of Nursing, Newark and New Brunswick, to offer a nursing baccalaureate program in Blackwood; Immaculata University for a nursing baccalaureate program for CCC students at Our Lady of Lourdes School of Nursing; and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey to offer an associate degree in occupational therapy assisting. Other developments included opening reading/writing skills labs in Blackwood and Camden; establishing a certificate of postsecondary studies for students with intellectual disabilities; and launching the Transition to College Program for Camden County high school dropouts. The federal Department of Labor awarded a grant to train Trade Adjustment Assistance-eligible students in advanced manufacturing; transportation, logistics and distribution; and utilities, and CCC was the leader in offering free basic skills classes through the New Jersey Business and Industry Association. The College also began overseeing the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission and began its 45th anniversary observation with an art exhibition by 17 former students.

• **Centenary College** launched its new Strategic Plan, “Celebrating Our History; Forging Our Future,” with the aim of maintaining Centenary’s position as a “Beacon to the Region” of Northwest New Jersey. A significant part of that plan emphasizes the need for strategic partnerships. To that end, in coordination with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Division of Fish and Wildlife, Centenary opened a new science center at the Charles Hayford Fish Hatchery. This new center will strengthen Centenary’s growing environmental science program and provide students with a multitude of experiential learning opportunities. Centenary was also awarded $2.2 Million from the Higher Education Capital Financing Grant Program. These funds will finance science lab renovations and an elevator in one of Centenary’s historic building to increase accessibility. Finally on the local front, the college was awarded $800,000
from the New Jersey Department of Transportation to fund improvements to downtown Hackettstown with goal of increasing commerce, encouraging green alternatives, and increasing the student presence in downtown Hackettstown while encouraging residents to visit the campus.

- **County College of Morris** (CCM) launched several new academic programs and celebrated the opening and acquisition of two new facilities to meet growing classroom needs. CCM is now offering an Associate in Science in Computer Science based on the standards set by the Association of Computing Machinery. The new program makes it easier for students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities to earn their bachelor’s degrees or higher. In addition, CCM is now offering an Associate in Applied Science in Culinary Arts and Science so more individuals can take advantage of this growing field. In conjunction with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, the college also has established an Associate in Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant program so students can find employment in the field of occupational therapy, one of the nation’s 150 best recession-proof careers. As part of a consortium effort initiated by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association and the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development, the CCM Center for Business and Technology delivered training courses to more than 124 Morris County area companies to support the professional development of 1042 employees. In November 2012, CCM celebrated the opening of its new 7,200-square-foot Landscape and Horticulture Technology building whose many sustainability features are expected to earn it LEED Gold certification. Earlier in 2012, CCM purchased a 15,500-square-foot building on Route 10 in Randolph. Its first major expansion in nearly four decades, the building initially will be used to house the library while the college’s Learning Resource Center is renovated and updated. Once that project is complete, the Route 10 building will be used to address the need for additional academic space. As a result of the passage of the Building Our Future Bond Act, CCM also is preparing to upgrade six of its mechanical- and electrical-engineering labs and expand its performing arts center.

- **Cumberland County College** began implementing its new Strategic Plan 2012-2017 with emphasis on three strategic directions: 1) Student Engagement and Completion; 2) Leadership and Service Learning; and 3) Economic and Workforce Development. These three directions are supported by 10 strategic goals, each of which is led by a strategic goal team. A strategic dashboard is being designed to present the outcomes of each of the strategic goals. The College is also continuing its focus on student success through its work with Achieving the Dream by setting three priorities for this academic year: improving placement of students in college courses by using multiple measures and decision zones in order to decrease the number of students needing remediation; increasing the success of students who need remediation by developing Academic Success Plans; increasing student success in “Gateway” courses in English and Mathematics through setting aside lab space and one on one assistance for students in English 101 and college-level math. The College has also completed a seven year Facilities Master Plan which details expansion of the Library, renovations in several current buildings to increase space for student collaboration and group study, relocation of all media and computer technology to one location, expansion of the science
building, construction of a “Black Box” theatre, relocation of the bookstore and cafeteria to allow for increased student services space. The College is in the third year of its five-year Title III grant for Strengthening Institutions and has completed the major portion of its new Enterprise Resource Planning system, using Ellucian’s Colleague software to provide improved online registration, financial aid notification, Bursar’s office operations, Human Resources applications and reporting. Most important, the new system allows the College to implement an Early Warning System and a Retention Alert to reach out to students in a pro-active manner to provide assistance before students encounter problems with satisfactory academic progress.

- **DeVry University** provides career-focused associate, baccalaureate and master’s degree programs in technology, business and healthcare to a diverse student body at its North Brunswick, Paramus and Cherry Hill campus locations. DeVry University’s main campus in North Brunswick was one of only two private-sector institutions of higher education nationwide to rank in the Top 100 list of PayScale, Inc.’s annual College Return on Investment Report. DeVry University in New Jersey also earned multiple rankings by the publication Diverse Issues in Higher Education's Top 100 report for conferring baccalaureate degrees in the Engineering Technologies and Computer and Information Sciences fields. DeVry is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and in 2013, DeVry University’s business and accounting programs received initial accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). Bachelor’s degree candidates at DeVry complete an innovative capstone project in their senior year. Students form teams and develop a solution to an actual business problem for a sponsoring organization, typically a small business or a not-for-profit entity. Each year senior project teams create integrated branding campaigns, functional websites, information technology networks and security systems for numerous local organizations. Students have further opportunities for service learning through DeVry’s founding membership in New Jersey Campus Compact, a national coalition of almost 1,200 college and university presidents—representing some 6 million students—who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education.

- **Drew University** received a Governor’s Environmental Award in 2013 for ecological restoration work on its 186-acre Madison campus. A commitment to sustainability was also reflected in Drew becoming only the second college in the country to sign on to the Real Food Challenge (a pledge to increase the amount of organic, locally grown, fair trade and humane food served on campus), and in the environmentally friendly design of its newly renovated Ehinger Center. In 2012/13, the university celebrated the 50th anniversary of its Semester on the United Nations, the oldest program of its kind in the country, while the school’s Center for Religion, Culture and Conflict hosted visiting lecturers Reza Aslan and Jessica Jackley. Aslan is the author of Zealot-The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth. Jackley, his wife, is the entrepreneur behind the microlending site kiva.org. Drew’s state-of-the-art concert hall played host to the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, which competed its seventh year in residence in 2012/13. That venue also hosted public lectures by Arianna Huffington, Andy Borowitz and Nicholas Kristof, while Gov. Tom Kean, Pervez Musharraf, Robert Gates, Tom Brokaw, and Condoleezza Rice spoke in the school’s Simon Forum.
Drew’s Hall of Sciences will undergo renovation, thanks to a $6.8 million grant from the State of New Jersey. The building is the site of the New Jersey Governor’s School in the Sciences, which celebrated its 30th year in 2013. Founded in 1984, the program has served 2,766 of the state’s top science students and has graduated winners of many prestigious awards, including the Nobel Prize and the MacArthur Genius Grant. Also in 2013, the university’s Master of Arts in Teaching program saw one of its students go on to win the New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Award. This is the third year in a row a student in the program has been so honored.

- **Eastern International College (EIC)** is committed to the educational and professional enrichment of each student. The curriculum and environment provide an atmosphere in which students can develop, excel, and form a positive self-image. The college takes pride in enhancing basic science, clinical, leadership, management and technical skills in addition to preparing students for the workplace. EIC offers Associate Degree programs in Nursing, leading to RN upon passing NCLEX, Dental Hygiene, Cardiovascular Technology, and Medical Assisting. EIC recently received approval from NJHE for our first Bachelor of Science degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. EIC campuses are located in Jersey City and Belleville. EIC's new Jersey City campus at 684 Newark Avenue, located one block from the former facility, recently opened for the Fall 2013 semester.

- **Eastwick College** underwent successful relicensure with the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education and reaccreditation with the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools. The institution has seen a significant increase in enrollment since it was licensed to offer associate degrees in June 2008. Campus additions included the expansion of the Josephine Huisking Memorial Library, the construction of the Gallopo Hall of Science and the acquisition and renovation of Cucci Hall, and administrative building. The relicensure process also included the approval of a 55,000-square-foot branch campus in Hackensack. Two programs were approved in 2012: AAS in Business and Entrepreneurship and AAS in Occupational Therapy Assistant—the latter was granted Program Developing Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. In 2013, Eastwick College will continue to explore relevant programs, strengthen its ties to the community and apply for candidacy for accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

- **Essex County College** has a new President, Dr. Gale E. Gibson, who was appointed the institution’s seventh president by the Board of Trustees on October 15, 2013. A longtime advocate for implementing and integrating data-driven and evidence-based decision-making into an institution’s infrastructure, Dr. Gibson led the charge to bring the College into compliance with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education’s Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). The Commission reaffirmed the College’s accreditation in March 2013. Dr. Gibson implemented a vision for Essex County College’s future: to provide access to a quality education and to promote excellence in lifelong learning focused on overall student success. As part of this guiding principle, the College will maintain a wide spectrum of programs and services with a special emphasis on supporting students in their pursuit of academic excellence and the timely completion of their associate degree and/or certificate program.
Recently awarded $19M for five capital projects by the New Jersey Higher Education Capital Facilities Program, the College expects to undergo significant growth over the next three years. The award is the largest amount granted to any county college in the state. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation reported that Essex County College is the only community college in the country with three recipients in two consecutive years. The 2013 student honorees (3) follow a trio of 2012 ECC graduates who also received the prestigious scholarship and currently attend Ivy League colleges including Columbia University, Brown University and the University of Pennsylvania. The College initiated its first solely online course in Spring 2013. In addition to Essex County College’s academic strengths, its Athletics program continues to flourish. For example, eleven former and current students competed in the 2012 Olympic games in London; Essex athletes won the men’s and women’s 4x400 meter relay at the 119th Annual Penn Relays’ Collegiate Division at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

**Fairleigh Dickinson University** named Sheldon Drucker the 7th president in 2013. Drucker, who was serving as interim president, was the chief operating officer under former president J. Michael Adams and has been credited with engineering a strong financial turnaround and continued financial growth of the institution. He played a key role in numerous initiatives that have forwarded the University’s global mission, including the establishment of FDU’s campus in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. In the 2012-13 academic year, FDU introduced its brand new School of Pharmacy, which welcomed an inaugural class of approximately 85 students. The school, which is New Jersey’s first pharmacy school affiliated with an independent university, addresses the growing need for licensed pharmacists and features an innovative curriculum with multiple master’s degree options. The University also recently opened the doors of the John and Joan Moenninger Center for Learning and Research, which features different types of learning spaces with state-of-the-art technology, research facilities, new reference and circulation rooms, classrooms, seminar rooms and a lecture hall. FDU celebrated the fifth anniversary of the opening of its acclaimed international campus in Vancouver. Starting with just 18 students, enrollment has now grown to nearly 600 students. At the same time, program offerings have increased, as have the extracurricular activities, and the space was expanded in the campus building. The University recently marked the 10th anniversary of its United Nations Pathways program, which has brought more than 150 ambassadors, diplomats and international officials to campus in its first 10 years. FDU also has been repeatedly recognized as a “Military Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs magazine.

**Felician College** has a new President, Dr. Anne M. Prisco, the fifth president in the college’s 71-year history and the first layperson to hold the position in the Felician Franciscan school. Following a 14-year extensive restoration project, Felician opened the Castle on the Rutherford campus. The structure, originally built in 1869, houses a student café and lounge area, the campus chapel and the offices of admissions, institutional advancement and alumni relations. In Spring 2013, the Castle received the Bergen County Historic preservation Award in the category of Preservation Leadership and received the New Jersey Historic Preservation award for interior renovation and adaptive use. Plans are underway to renovate the abandoned library on the Rutherford
campus. The building will be an Education Commons, and will include state-of-the-art classrooms and labs, a hi-tech eLibrary and a nursing resource and simulation center. Also on the Rutherford campus, the multi-purpose room is undergoing a makeover and Milton Dorm is in the final stages of renovation. Felician College launched a Doctor of Nursing Practice and is preparing to add a Doctor of Business Administration for the Fall 2014 academic year. Felician is one of fewer than 30 colleges in the world to hold NGO status in the United Nations, and was named for the second consecutive year by G.I. Jobs magazine as a Military Friendly School for its commitment to providing a support environment for armed forces veterans and their families.

- **Georgian Court University** announced in May 2012 its year-long transition to becoming a fully coeducational university, and by Fall 2013, GCU’s addition of five men’s sports: basketball, cross-country, indoor and outdoor track & field, and soccer. GCU signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, reinforcing the university’s commitment to environmental stewardship. Georgian Court was honored with the NCAA Division II Presidents’ Award for Academic Excellence, which recognizes the university as one of the top 24 Division II schools in the country for academic success. In addition, Georgian Court was named to the 2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll based on the volunteer work of GCU students who invested more than 3,400 hours in service projects. GCU’s graduate school psychology program is now one of only three such specialist-level programs in New Jersey with full approval from the National Association of School Psychologists and the university’s four-year B.S.N. program—the GCU-Meridian Health School of Nursing—was accredited by the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. GCU received its largest non-alumni gift ever for the Global Transformation Initiative to enhance the university’s international footprint and help students become global citizens, and the College Board Advocacy & Policy Center awarded GCU $5,000 to expand its “Getting Through” program, one of 16 national winners selected for increasing the percentage of low-income students who get ready for, get into, or successfully complete college.

- **Gloucester County College** celebrated a year of growth and change during 2012 with the construction of a new building and soon-to-be opened science wing, dual-admission partnerships with five area universities, the inauguration of a college president, and national recognitions. Before the start of the fall semester, the College opened the doors to its state-of-the-art 25,000 square-foot, $6.5 million University Center with 18 “smart” classrooms. This spring brings the excitement of ribbon cutting the 18,270 square-foot addition to Scott Hall that will provide lab space for physics, chemistry and biology classes. In September, the College launched its Dual Advantage program, an initiative admitting students at both Gloucester County College and one of the four-year partners, providing students with a seamless transition into a bachelor’s degree course of study. Frederick Keating officially became Gloucester County College’s seventh president on Oct. 16, beginning a new chapter in the College’s history. The Roadrunners were named the best Two-Year Athletic Program in the country by the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) for a third consecutive year. For the fourth straight time, Gloucester County College was honored as one of the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide to make G.I. Jobs
magazine’s 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools.

- **Hudson County Community College** President Dr. Glen Gabert observed his 20th anniversary at the College in the fall of 2012 and most recently received accolades for his leadership from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Hudson County and the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce. The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) has announced that he will receive the 2013 Northeast Regional Chief Executive Officer Award at the ACCT Awards Gala in October. Hudson County Community College received the Charles Kennedy Equity Award for the Northeast Region, and the Professional Board Staff Member Award for the Northeast Region to Jennifer Oakley at the Association of Community College Trustees’ (ACCT) 2012 ACCT Leadership Congress. The College was one of just 25 community colleges from across the United States to be named as a finalist (Student Success category) in The Awards of Excellence, sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) named HCCC as one of just 842 libraries and state humanities councils throughout the United States and its possessions to be awarded the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf, a collection of books, films and other resources, is intended to better acquaint the American public with the history and culture of Muslims in the U.S. and around the world. On April 2, 2013, HCCC observed a marked the “Topping Out” of its new Library & Academic Building. The Library & Academic Building will house a 33,000 square-foot Library on the first two floors; classrooms on floors three through five; and rooftop terrace, large lobby/exhibition area and three flexible-size classrooms on the top floor. Over the past seven years, the Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Foundation Art Collection has grown to include more than 500 works of art by renowned American and New Jersey artists. HCCC, in conjunction with the Hudson County Executive and the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders will award scholarships to deserving students pursuing their college degree at the College on a full-time basis through the Hudson County Government Scholarship program.

- **Kean University** became one of that nation’s first, and New Jersey’s only, university to launch a full-scale university in China in 2012, welcoming 200 freshmen to the Wenzhou-based campus as part of a unique international initiative that truly is globalizing public higher education. Closer to home, Kean continues to embrace its diversity and programmatic leadership, earning its place President Obama’s National Honor Roll for Service for the fourth year in row and remaining among DiversityInc.’s top five ranked universities in the nation for diversity. In fall 2013, Kean celebrates the next phase of its strategic partnership with Ocean County College with the opening of the Kean Ocean Gateway Building on the Toms River campus, a new facility dedicated to the program. The university also continues to leverage key partnerships with universities in and around New Jersey, offering joint BS/MS programs with the New Jersey Institute of Technology in engineering and a route to an medical degree through a unique partnership with Drexel Medical School and St. Peter’s Hospital providing accepted candidates at Kean with direct admittance to medical school at Drexel and residencies at St. Peter’s. Kean’s future also received a great boost this year from the Building our Future Bond Act. Kean University secured more than $53 million in state funding for four strategic initiatives, all designed to support our academic
programming. This funding moves key components of our Vision 2020 plan forward, and provides the academic space needed to grow existing programs and launch new ones.

- **Mercer County Community College**'s Board of Trustees approved a comprehensive 10-year Education Master Plan in April, with goals and expected outcomes in direct response to the nationwide effort to double the number of college graduates by the year 2020. The Education Master Plan is concurrent with the Facilities Master Plan, with substantial progress being made toward the FMP's implementation over the past year. This includes the grand opening of Trenton Hall on the Trenton Campus, a newly-acquired and renovated building that houses a Fashion Design laboratory and modern facilities for art students, including studio, gallery, and storefront display space. Renovations at the existing building on the Trenton Campus include a new Student Commons, a one-stop center for career advisement and enrollment, the Career Center, two new science labs, a multi-use classroom utilizing “smart technology,” the Student Activities office, and a dedicated lab for Certified Nurse Assistant training. On the West Windsor Campus, three science labs and two prep rooms were renovated. MCCC launched a new Fashion Merchandising degree program in September to complement the Fashion/Apparel Design program, and also added new degree programs for Occupational Therapy Assistant and Sustainability.

- **Middlesex County College** opened a new building in January 2011: a two-story, 36,000-square-foot structure that holds 13 classrooms, four computer labs, two conference rooms, three meeting rooms, a student lounge, and a demonstration kitchen with a projection system so students can see up close what the instructor is cooking. The building was named for David B. Crabel, the longtime Middlesex County freeholder director. Crabel Hall is environmentally friendly with numerous features designed to save energy and conserve resources. The College anticipates it will receive a silver LEED rating from the U.S. Green Building Council. In addition, a new state-of-the-art biotechnology lab opened; the CARE Center, a program to assist returning adult students, was created; a new Student Government Association was initiated; and the MCC nursing program signed a transfer agreement with Kean University. New academic programs were developed in Earth Science, Allied Health Pre-Professional, and Surveying.

- **Monmouth University** is developing and seeking accreditation for a Master of Science in Physician Assistant program; it will be one of only three PA programs in New Jersey. The program will begin in Fall 2014. Monmouth signed a new articulation agreement with the American University of Antigua (AUA) College of Medicine in December to allow qualified Monmouth graduates to enter AUA’s medical program. In addition, Monmouth signed an articulation agreement with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – School of Health Related Professions (UMDNJ-SHRP) to allow eligible Monmouth students to enter the Master’s program in Clinical Trial Sciences at UMDNJ-SHRP. Joan and Robert Rechnitz Hall opened in January 2013. The new 20,340-square-foot facility is the new home to the Department of Art and Design and Principal Art Gallery, and includes a two-story gallery, a reception area, three state-of-the-art Mac labs, an animation and editing studio, classrooms, faculty
offices, and a student lounge. The Princeton Review named Monmouth one of the “Best Colleges” in the nation for the eighth consecutive year and a “Green College” for being one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the United States and Canada for the second consecutive year. Additionally, Monmouth was named to the list of “Best Colleges for Vets” by Military Times and to the 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools by G.I. Jobs magazine. Monmouth has accepted the invitation of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) to join the conference, effective July 1, 2013. Monmouth, which fields 21 NCAA Division I athletic teams, will begin competition in the MAAC during the 2013-14 academic year. With the rest of Monmouth’s Division I programs joining the MAAC (which does not sponsor football), Monmouth University accepted an invitation to the Big South Conference in the sport of football, effective for the start of the 2014 season.

- **Montclair State University**, as New Jersey’s second largest university, continues to grow and build upon its more than century-long record of educational excellence and innovation. 19,500 students enrolled at Montclair State in the fall of 2013 and further enrollment increases are anticipated in the years to come. To meet this growing demand by New Jersey residents for advanced educational opportunities, the State of New Jersey awarded the University nearly $94 million in Building Our Future Bond Act funds for capital improvements on the campus. Leveraging those funds, construction of a state-of-the-art Center for Environmental and Life Sciences and a new home for the School of Business will be completed by the summer of 2015. More than 5,000 students lived this past year on the Montclair State campus, and many of them resided in The Heights—the largest student residential facility ever built in New Jersey. The New Jersey Alliance for Action in 2012 named The Heights the state’s Leading Public Private Partnership for its contribution to the state’s economic recovery. The University completed another major public-private partnership in 2013, construction of a $90 million environmentally-friendly system for heating, cooling and powering the campus. This past year, the the University inaugurated the new School of Communication and Media, providing a wide array of programs in these rapidly changing fields. Keeping pace with the needs of New Jersey employers, the School of Business recently launched the Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship to prepare students for success in a global economy; an undergraduate concentration in sports, events and tourism; and a new weekend MBA program. The University also created two fully online graduate degrees in educational leadership and child advocacy; undergraduate and graduate degrees in sustainability studies; and a new PhD program in family and child studies.

- **New Jersey City University** named Dr. Sue Henderson, a mathematician and educator, its twelfth president on August 6, 2012, following a national search. The first woman to hold the presidential title at NJCU, Dr. Henderson previously served Queens College as chief operating officer and vice president of institutional advancement. The future NJCU West Campus moved another step closer to reality with the second and final phase of remediation to be completed in March 2014. An academic building and residence hall will be the first facilities to be constructed on the West Campus, which will ultimately be a fully integrated, pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use development. To further the improvements to the physical space, NJCU received $34.6 million in capital
funding for the expansion and renovation of its science facilities and the improvement of instructional technology and infrastructure. Concurrent with these changes to the facilities, NJCU was awarded almost $12 million from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education to enhance science, technology, and math education (STEM). Support for other academic areas of the institution came with a $1-million gift in June from Congressman Frank J. Guarini (Ret.) to fund endowed scholarships in music and the performing arts and establish the Peter G. Mangin Institute for Real Estate to support the study of real estate, development, construction, and finance. Building on institutional strengths and regional needs, NJCU accepted its first cohort of doctoral students for the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) Program in Civil Security Leadership, Management and Policy, the first of its kind to be offered in New Jersey. In addition, NJCU became the first institution of higher education in New Jersey to offer a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) Degree in Educational Technology Leadership and is one of only a few dozen throughout the United States that is recognized by the International Society for Technology in Education. NJCU also established a School of Business comprised of four independent Departments—Accounting, Finance, Management, and Marketing.

- New Jersey Institute of Technology is highly focused on responding to increasing demand for its programs in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) which are critical to job creation and economic development in the State. According to the 2013 PayScale college and university rankings for the earnings potential of graduates, NJIT ranks 6th among 437 leading public universities and 27th among 1,511 public and private public and private institutions in the U.S. These statistics reflect persistent industry demand for students who have attained an NJIT degree. New construction plans to accommodate increases in NJIT’s enrollment include the STEM Hub and Integrative Life Science and Engineering Laboratory (to be funded by a nearly $100 million allocation from Building our Futures Bond Act and associated sources). These projects will provide facilities and technology designed to maximize student retention and graduation rates in the rigorous STEM fields of study, thus contributing to the high-tech needs of New Jersey’s economy of the future. An important indicator of NJIT’s growing reputation is its ranking as a Top National University by U.S News and World Report while being ranked among the Top 100 Producers of Minority Degrees by Diverse Issues in Higher Education. NJIT’s responsiveness to State needs also includes an annual research budget exceeding $100 million largely oriented to business-related applications, many in the life and medical sciences. An additional example of NJIT’s applied industry focus is its Enterprise Development Center (EDC), New Jersey’s largest technology business incubator, one of the largest in the nation. Finally, the September 18th ribbon cutting marking the opening of NJIT’s Warren Street Village, signals the completion of the first phase of the one billion dollar-plus NJIT-sponsored Gateway Project. The new village, constituting a 3-acre mixed-use residential complex, will add 600 beds to NJIT’s existing inventory of residential housing, thus bringing the university’s number of Newark-located housing capacity to 2,200 beds, an increase of 35 percent.
• **Ocean County College** is opening, in SP 2013, the $30 million Gateway Building on its upper campus, housing classrooms, labs, and offices and built in conjunction with its university partner, Kean University. The building gives a permanent home to Kean on the Ocean campus, housing the Kean at Ocean program whereby almost 1700 Ocean graduates are completing bachelors and masters degrees. This partnership offers Ocean County residents the only public higher education baccalaureate and masters degree access in the county. Ocean also recently approved plans for a new $20 million Student Center to replace the current facility by 2014. Under the leadership of the new Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Jianping Wang, Ocean is developing three new degree programs and two certificate programs in Health Sciences with UMDNJ and investigating the development of a cyber security curriculum at the service technician level. The college has already added several new programs with career emphases under Dr. Wang’s leadership, such as Paralegal Studies, Dental Hygiene, Business and Web-based Technology, and added Performing Arts options. The Ocean County College Foundation applied for and was the recipient of a $200,000 grant from the Robin Hood Foundation for assistance with Super-Storm Sandy victims, both OCC students and employees. The college has just concluded a consult visit from the Hay Group in order to assist with review and revision of all position descriptions to assure continuity and cost effectiveness. The college also recently signed an articulation agreement with Southern New Hampshire University to further enhance Ocean’s rapidly expanding eLearning School which currently offers 130 courses, five full degree programs, in 451 sections, generating almost 30,000 credits for OCC. Ocean continues to enroll the largest number of NJSTARS students in the state, enrolls almost 300 members in its “gold” chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, as well as sponsoring a variety of championship-level athletic teams (cross-country, women’s basketball, the sailing team, women’s soccer, and participation in the Pan American Intercollegiate Chess Championship at Princeton University, to name a few). Ocean was ranked 3d by college athletic administrators from the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletics.

• **Passaic County Community College** again set records for enrollment, graduation, and fundraising for the 2012-2013 Academic Year. Through participation in the Achieving the Dream initiative the College intensified its commitment to student success through the complete revision of Developmental and English as a Second Language Curriculums. Writing intensive courses were added as a graduation requirement and new programs were developed in Homeland Security and Sports Management. Ground was broken for a major expansion of the Wanaque Campus and Memorial Hall opened on the Paterson Campus providing new state of the art classrooms and housing the Passaic County One Stop Career Center. The College was awarded new multi-million dollar federal grants for furtherance of STEM and Collaborative Education initiatives.

• **Princeton University.** In December of 2012, Princeton University received local approval to begin construction of the largest capital project ever undertaken by the University. The Arts and Transit project will transform 21+ acres of the campus into a vibrant park-like setting for the creative and performing arts, anchored by three new University arts buildings associated with the Lewis Center for the Arts and the Department of Music. The buildings will support academic programs in theater, dance, visual arts, and music with new teaching, rehearsal, and administrative spaces.
Performance venues will include a black box theater, a dance theater, and a large music rehearsal room. New landscaped plazas, pathways, streetscapes, and green spaces — including Tilghman Walk, a new walkway connecting the University science neighborhood with the new arts complex, in recognition of the vision and commitment to the arts of retiring Princeton president Shirley M. Tilghman — will enhance this area of campus and provide a connection with the McCarter Theatre Center. The project includes a new multi-modal transit plaza, bus and railroad station, Wawa, a new restaurant and café (created by renovating the existing train station buildings), improved pedestrian and vehicular traffic circulation, a new traffic roundabout at the intersection of Alexander Street and University Place, and a new multi-use parking lot adjacent to Princeton train station.

**Ramapo College**'s ongoing commitment to providing its students with a superior undergraduate experience was reinforced this year by the College’s adoption of two pivotal plans. Ramapo’s new Strategic Plan and Campus Facilities Master Plan, together, reflect a comprehensive, thoughtful, and aggressive blueprint for the College’s success over the coming years. In keeping with the plans’ commitments to academic excellence, the College launched several major capital projects this year, including but not limited to the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence, a 25,000-square-foot home for Ramapo’s highly-acclaimed nursing programs; and comprehensive renovations of the schools of Social Science and Human Services, Theoretical and Applied Science, and the Salameno School of American and International Studies. Further, Ramapo continues to be recognized nationally as a valuable and competitive public institution. The College was ranked by U.S. News & World Report as sixth in the “Best Regional Universities North” category for public institutions. Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine also named Ramapo on its list of “100 Best Values in Public Colleges.” The Princeton Review again selected Ramapo as one of the 220 institutions it recommends in its “Best in the Northeast” section. And, finally, the John Templeton Foundation named Ramapo College to its “Honor Roll for Character-Building Colleges,” which recognizes institutions that emphasize character development as an integral aspect of the undergraduate experience.

**Raritan Valley Community College** has received the largest grant in the College’s history—$4.6 million from the U.S. Department of Labor—to partner with local businesses to train workers in new career paths. RVCC was the only community college in New Jersey to receive a Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant out of the nearly $500 million in grants awarded to U.S. community colleges for targeted training and workforce development. RVCC is currently in the process of implementing 10 innovative workforce programs including Automotive Technology, Cosmetology and Medical Assisting. A new economic impact study, prepared by Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. (EMSI), found that an RVCC education is a sound investment that enriches the lives of its students, increases students’ lifetime income, generates government revenue, reduces the demand on the community for social services and contributes to the growth of the economy. RVCC has broken ground on the Ray Bateman Center for Student Life and Leadership. The $5.8 million structure, funded by a public-private partnership, is scheduled to be completed in fall 2013. The three-story Bateman Center will offer approximately 23,500 square feet of
flexible learning spaces where students can participate in collaborative learning, information sharing and leadership activities. For six years in a row, the College’s service learning program has been nationally recognized by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Department of Education. In 2012 RVCC was an Honor Roll Finalist for the Presidential Award -- the only community college in the country to be named among the 14 finalists for the Presidential Award. RVCC is the only New Jersey college to receive the first Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. RVCC is one of only five community colleges nationally to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Green Power Partnership and currently uses green power to meet 10 percent of its annual electricity use.

- **Rider University** continued its progress in the areas of capital improvements, academic advancements and global partnerships. Since 2004, the University has invested over $125 million in facilities enhancements, including renovations to all campus dining facilities, a new academic building, upgrades to theater and science facilities and improvements to residential halls. In September 2013, Rider completed the process of renovating its oldest academic building in Lawrenceville, Memorial Hall, and began construction of a new, 11,790-square-foot academic building on its Princeton campus. Academic advancements include a new online Bachelor of Science in Nursing, an online Master of Accountancy (MAcc.) a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. The School of Education its centennial anniversary and was granted full reaccreditation from the National Council for (the) Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) until 2019. The Westminster Symphonic Choir earned high praise from The New York Times for its performances of Verdi’s Requiem with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Berg’s Wozzeck with the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Bristol-Myers Squibb Center was honored on its 10th anniversary for its work to enhance K-16 science and math education in the region. Lastly, Rider continued to grow as a global University. The College of Business Administration launched a new MBA partnership with the Centre d’Études Franco-Américain de Management in Lyon, France and the first cohort enrolled in fall 2014 and developed a Master of International Business degree in collaboration with Shanghai’s Sanda University (a Sanda degree with coursework offered at Rider) has begun.

- **Rowan University** welcomed its inaugural class of 50 students to the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in August 2012. The home of the medical school is a $139 million, six-story Gold LEED certified building in the heart of downtown Camden. The medical school has received more than $4 million in pledges and donations since the announcement of its formation in 2009. The University spent a good portion of the balance of the year preparing for the enactment of the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act on July 1, 2013. The Restructuring Act: 1) Designates Rowan as the State’s second comprehensive public research university, enabling the university to offer the critical Ph.D. programs needed to create, support and attract business to and throughout the region; 2) Transfers the Stratford-based School of Osteopathic Medicine to the University, making Rowan only the second institution in the nation to offer M.D. and D.O. medical degree programs; 3) Calls for Rowan to partner with Rutgers-Camden to develop a College of Health Sciences. Rowan will use
its new designation as a research university to develop and offer graduate and professional degree programs primarily in the fields of science, technology, engineering, medicine and business, which will support the translation of technology to commercial enterprise. It developed several new academic programs, including a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology and master's degrees in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Bioinformatics and Nursing. Rowan also received notice that it will receive more than $117 million in Building Our Future Bond Act Funds for the construction of new facilities for its Colleges of Business and Engineering, among other things.

- **Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**, under new president Robert L. Barchi, worked closely with colleagues at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey to prepare for integrating most units of UMDNJ into Rutgers on July 1, 2013, in accordance with the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act. The university won approval for nearly $400 million in state funding to support major construction projects on all campuses following New Jersey voters’ passage of a bond act for higher education in November 2012. Rutgers accepted invitations to join the Big Ten athletic conference and a related academic consortium, the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, which will place Rutgers among comprehensive research universities such as Michigan, Penn State, Indiana, and Ohio State. President Barchi launched a university wide strategic planning process that has involved thousands of faculty, student, staff and alumni; the final plan is expected in February 2014. A record number of Rutgers students—29—were offered Fulbright Scholarships, and the university raised more than $120 million in private giving, led by a $12.5 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest the philanthropy has ever given to Rutgers.

- **Saint Peter's University** received approval from the State of New Jersey for university status and was officially incorporated as a university in August 2012. The capital campaign, Students at the Center: The Campaign for Saint Peter’s University, reached $58 million toward its goal of $62 million. The campaign supported the March 2013 opening of the Mac Mahon Student Center, a six-story state-of-the-art building for dining, fitness, learning and socializing. Several new academic programs were launched: the Ed.D. in Higher Education, five-year degree programs in Criminal Justice and Accountancy, and an undergraduate major in Sports Management. The fall term saw the second highest graduate enrollment in the institution’s history. As part of its commitment to sustainability, the University opened the Green Energy Command Center, a component of the $6.3 million green initiative which features solar arrays and a cogeneration plant that produces both low carbon heat and electricity for campus buildings. The Command Center tracks the amount and type of energy being used on campus, the total amount of energy savings and data on the carbon saving benefits. In June Saint Peter's University received its ten-year re-accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

- **Salem Community College** continues to increase its array of academic programs in STEM areas that lead to high-paying jobs. In the 2012-2013 academic year, Salem introduced a new Associate in Science program in Game Design and Development which leads to careers with an average annual income of over $58,000. Sixty-four
percent of students enrolled at Salem Community College are in STEM programs and in 2012, 73% of SCC graduates were from STEM programs. Three-quarters of the graduates of the Nuclear Energy Technology Associate in Applied Science program earn the certification of the Institute for Nuclear Power Operations, which allows them to work in any nuclear facility in the country. In addition, 100% of the graduates of Salem’s unique Scientific Glass Technology Associate in Applied Science Program continue to find employment in the field within four months of graduation.

- **Seton Hall University** enrolled its largest freshman class in 32 years in Fall 2012 — more than 1,450 students with average SAT scores that exceeded the previous year’s by more than 25 points. This success is due in part to the new Public Tuition Rate program launched a year earlier offering high-achieving high school seniors the opportunity to attend Seton Hall for the same cost as a public university, with a savings of more than 68 percent per year. Rachel Rosenstock ‘12 became the 10th Seton Hall student in recent years to win a Fulbright Scholarship, while junior Karina Kainth was named a finalist for a Truman Scholarship and Ines Angeli Murzaku, professor of religious studies and chair of the Department of Catholic Studies, was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Award. *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Seton Hall No. 5 in the nation in its first “Most Connected Colleges” list, recognizing the university for equipping students with advanced and emerging technologies for academic use. Partnerships with Microsoft, Samsung, Nokia and AT&T enabled Seton Hall to provide students with the latest in mobile technology and participate in Microsoft’s Windows 8 “First Wave” program as the first university worldwide to pilot the software. In March, PBS’ Global Learning Series will feature the university’s technology accomplishments. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the Stillman School of Business as a top program for students pursuing a part-time M.B.A., and for the sixth year, *The Princeton Review* featured Stillman in its listing of “The Best Business Schools.”

- **Stevens Institute of Technology**, under the leadership of President Nariman Farvardin, has begun the implementation of a 10-year strategic plan which charts the course for an institution that will grow its undergraduate and graduate student bodies by 60% and 30%, respectively, increase selectivity and diversity among the student population, and focus its research in five broad interdisciplinary areas critical to solving complex, 21st century challenges for which technology will play a catalytic role: healthcare and medicine; energy; financial systems; defense and security; and STEM education. Alumnus and serial entrepreneur Greg Gianforte ‘83 provided the lead gift of $10 million—the largest in university history—toward a new academic building to house research laboratories, collaborative spaces, and classrooms. A $3 million gift from the American Bureau of Shipping will expand the historic Davidson Laboratory for the construction of an interdisciplinary civil, mechanical and naval engineering laboratory complex. The national research Centers of Excellence, awarded through a competitive process, provide the capabilities in systems engineering research, secure and resilient maritime commerce, and design and control of small ships. Two new centers, a Center for Healthcare Innovation and a Center for Complex Systems, position Stevens to pursue large-scale research grants in these dynamic, interdisciplinary domains. The university launched the President’s Distinguished Lecture Series, with speakers Norman Augustine, retired chairman of Lockheed Martin, and Dr. John Holdren, director of the
White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the president’s chief science and technology advisor. Stevens rose 13 spots in the 2013 U.S. News & World Report ranking of national universities, the largest increase among all universities ranked.

- **Strayer College** was founded in 1892 to meet the demand for educated workers in America’s rapidly expanding industrial economy and to provide students with the practical training and foundational skills needed to succeed in their careers. In 2013, Strayer University’s mission remains true to its origins: to make high quality, post-secondary education accessible to adults of diverse backgrounds and to foster their intellectual growth and professional success. Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education since 1981, the University has regulatory approval to offer academic programs at campuses in 25 states, as well as all necessary approvals to offer online courses in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Through its online programs and campuses, Strayer currently enrolls more than 40,000 adult learners annually in undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The University’s signature executive education program in business, the Jack Welch Management Institute, meets the educational needs of tomorrow’s business leaders through personal interaction with Jack Welch and other distinguished corporate pioneers. Strayer currently serves New Jersey students at its campuses in Piscataway, Lawrenceville, Cherry Hill, and Willingboro with license to offer bachelor’s degrees in business administration, accounting, information systems, and criminal justice, and the master degree in business administration. In 2012, a total of 647 New Jersey students enrolled in undergraduate programs and 209 students enrolled in the masters of business administration. Strayer University aspires to provide a positive teaching and learning environment and outstanding student support services resulting in graduates who have a solid education foundation conducive to lifelong success. The validity of this philosophy has been substantiated through the success of Strayer University graduates and the prestige enjoyed by the institution over the years.

- **Sussex County Community College** is forging ahead in its efforts to meet the needs of the people in its service area. The College has implemented a Veterans Taskforce to help ease veteran students into their college surroundings; and we created a Veterans’ Foundations for Success course designed to transition new veteran students into college life. In our Health Science Division, the Medical Office Administration program reported a one hundred percent passing rate on the national exam for the 2012 summer term. One hundred percent of the previous Medical Office Administration class also passed the national exam. Seton Hall and SCCC are continuing to offer an accelerated Master’s Degree in Education Leadership, allowing students to become eligible for certification as school principals or supervisors in just two years. SCCC’s Basic Skills Workforce Training Program continues to grow, helping employees improve basic computer and language skills. The Basic Skills program continues to enhance employee skills at no charge to employers. Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are covered on all levels and this past year, Spanish in the Workplace was added as another course to help Sussex County employees achieve greater success in their place of work.
• **The College of New Jersey** was ranked by The Princeton Review as one of the nation’s 50 “Best Value” public colleges and universities in 2013 and ranked again by Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges as one of the “Most Competitive” schools in the nation for 2011, one of the few state-supported institutions on the list. It was also named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. For the fall 2012 semester, the College opened a new building for the School of Education. The three-story, 70,000-square-foot facility houses instructional space for counselor education, educational administration and secondary education, elementary and early childhood education, and special education learning and literacy. Utilizing the public-private partnership provision contained in the New Jersey Economic Stimulus Act, TCNJ has laid the groundwork for a Campus Town project will include the development of 14 acres of property adjacent to campus along Pennington Road. The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) also is entering a long-term partnership with Sodexo Campus Services that will enhance TCNJ’s dining options and bring about a significant renovation of the College’s Brower Student Center. Additionally, TCNJ was named as a primary host site for the 2014 Special Olympics national games.

• **The College of Saint Elizabeth** continued improvements to science laboratories in 2013, with completion of a $1.2 million biology lab upgrade, following chemistry lab renovations in 2011. Phase II of improvements to the remaining biology and chemistry laboratories, expected to take an additional 12 months, will begin in late 2013, thanks to funding from the New Jersey Higher Education Capital Facilities Program. The NoVo Foundation, founded by Jennifer and Peter Buffett, awarded the College a $250,000 grant to develop an online Social-Emotional Learning training and credentialing program for school district administrators and educators as a strategy to improve school culture and climate to achieve improved academic outcomes. A new lacrosse/soccer field was built on the lower end of campus, a project that will bring home crowds to campus for formerly off-site games. On the academic front, a new doctoral program in counseling psychology, Psy.D., will be offered in fall 2013 in addition to the established Ed.D. Program. And, College leadership will change hands when Dr. Helen Streubert is installed in July, 2013, as the 7th president to lead the College.

• **The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey** opened three new instructional sites, the first in Manahawkin, then Hammonton and most recently Woodbine. The Manahawkin Instructional Site, a 3,200-square-foot facility located at 712 East Bay Avenue, opened in September 2012 and offers academic courses and continuing and professional education opportunities. After Superstorm Sandy, the Manahawkin site served as a resource for residents offering use of its computers and electricity to recharge devices. A significant leadership gift from Charles and Lynn Kramer allowed the College to open a Hammonton Instructional Site, named Kramer Hall, in honor of the Kramer’s longtime support of Stockton, at the start of the spring 2013 semester. Michael Azeez, founder of The Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage, made a generous $5 million donation to the College, the largest gift to-date, as well as the Museum itself, in December 2012. After an addition, the Museum now houses the College’s Woodbine Instructional Site, which began offering workshops and continuing education in spring
2013 and academic courses in summer 2013. The College established the Stockton Polling Institute that conducts independent public opinion polling research. Ambassador William J. Hughes dedicated his personal memorabilia, including awards, correspondence and photographs chronicling his years of public service in the U.S. House of Representatives and as the United States Ambassador to Panama, to the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, located on the main Galloway campus. At the College’s 2012 scholarship gala, President Herman J. Saatkamp announced that the “You Make the Difference” comprehensive giving campaign exceeded its $20 million goal two years ahead of schedule. The College’s accreditation was reaffirmed with two commendations by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

- **Thomas Edison State College**’s applications for $16.6 million in campus-based capital projects in downtown Trenton that support a new nursing education center on the site of the abandoned Glen Cairn Arms complex, technology equipment for a nursing simulation laboratory in the new center, renovation of the landmark Kelsey Building and Townhouse complex and renovation of 102-104 West State Street were recommended for funding in 2013. The College also formed two new partnerships in 2013, including an agreement with the city of Trenton to acquire and remediate the blighted Glen Cairn Arms site and collaboration with the Saylor Foundation to create competency-based degree programs that leverage Saylor’s open courses and the College’s assessment programs. Also in 2013, the New Jersey Board of Nursing reported that the first graduates of the College’s accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, a program launched in 2011, achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), based on graduates who took the exam in 2012. The College had an exciting 2012 in the area of academic expansion and achievement. This included the launch of a Master of Business Administration, a Master of Public Service Leadership and a Master of Arts in Educational Technology and Online Learning. Also in 2012, the College’s bachelor’s degree program in Nuclear Energy Engineering Technology was accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET, the College’s associate degree program in Polysomnography was accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs and the College celebrated its 40th Commencement with the largest graduating class in the institution’s history.

- **Union County College** introduced a number of key initiatives to increase graduation rates and student retention over the past year. The College’s academic and student services departments developed and implemented a Student Success Plan that featured improvements to four key service areas: teaching and learning, student support, athletics and clubs, and facilities and environment. Included in these areas was the creation on the Cranford Campus of the College’s first Math Success Center, which is staffed by tutors who provide students with personal and group instruction. The College opened a second Math Success Center on the Elizabeth campus during the start of the Spring 2013 semester. Similarly, a major initiative that involved College-wide collaboration was the development and implementation of the Academic Master Plan 2012-15. In addition to these initiatives, the College also launched “Operation Graduation,” a campaign to encourage students to complete their degree. As a result of this effort, 1,065 students graduated in 2012, the most in the College’s 79-year history. To boost
student services over the past year, the College added women’s soccer and softball, men’s and women’s track, and men’s lacrosse. Finally, in support of the County’s initiative to boost economic development, the College opened the Career Services Center. Located on the Elizabeth Campus, the Center provides support for County residents through innovative effective job-development services.

- **The University of Phoenix**, owned by the Apollo Group, Inc., is one of the largest university systems in the world, with over 100 locations in the majority of states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. At our Jersey City campus, students are able to complete bachelor’s degrees in a variety of disciplines. In 2012-2013, more than 750 students were enrolled at the Jersey City campus of the University of Phoenix. The Jersey City campus of University of Phoenix was among the first institutions to rebuild after Hurricane Sandy destroyed our Student Resource Center in 2012. University of Phoenix—in New Jersey and throughout the U.S.—is constantly innovating to help working adults move efficiently from education to careers in a rapidly changing world. The University is working with more than 2,100 companies to help create opportunities through jobs and industry-aligned curricula. The University's education partnerships with employers provide relevant education pathways through degree programs and professional development courses aligned to industry-recognized competencies and skills. These pathways can foster innovation, minimize the skills gap, and attract a new generation of highly-qualified workers into the U.S. labor market. While widely available, not all programs or courses are offered at all locations or in both on-campus and online formats. Flexible schedules, relevant and engaging courses, and interactive learning can help students more effectively pursue career and personal aspirations while balancing their busy lives. University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, more than 2/3 of whom is female, and comprised of a majority of students over 30 years old. The University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. For more information, visit phoenix.edu.

- **Warren County Community College** continues to be a leader in developing new and innovative academic and technical skills programs. Since 2009, the College has added or modified dozens of courses to meet changing discipline needs as well as to exceed changes in New Jersey and nationally recognized accreditation standards. The College has also established six new degree and certificate programs in the last five years, while still others are in consideration based on community needs, bringing to total thirty-nine (39) actively enrolled academic and certificate programs at the College. The College has increased the number of dual enrollment course options and partnerships, allowing Warren County high school students to earn college credits while taking their regular courses at their high school’s Academic Programs for Mutual Growth. Beginning in the Fall of 2013, the College will begin a new joint-venture with the creation of the Culinary Arts degree program with Warren County Technical School, sharing both space and teaching resources. Students will study on campus and will earn credits towards their Associates Degree while working in a real kitchen and dining room, learning techniques for both food preparation and the management of restaurants. WCCC has a number of articulation agreements with four-year public and private institutions in the state of New Jersey, with regionally accredited colleges and universities. WCCC continuously maintains agreements with colleges and universities,
expanding the reach of the institution and ensuring that students who wish to continue their education will have the access necessary to choose other institutions and grow academically to remain life-long learners and to qualify for current jobs and the jobs of the future. In 2012, our newest and most innovative program at the College, Veterans in Pursuit of Education Readiness (VIPER), allows active duty and retired U.S. Military personnel living anywhere in the world an opportunity to have their formal military training evaluated for college credit. The VIPER program is the first of its kind in the nation and is a partnership with Thomas Edison State College.

- **William Paterson University**, which is committed to sustainability, was one of 20 colleges and universities nationwide, and the only college from New Jersey, named as finalists in the 2012 Second Nature Climate Leadership Awards, and is currently adding to its solar panel installation project, one of the largest on a college campus in the nation. President Waldron also accepted a 2013 Garden State Green Award in recognition of the University’s commitment to protecting and sustaining the environment. A new degree in environmental sustainability is among five new degree programs. Three faculty received Fulbright Scholar awards, bringing to 41 the number of Fulbright recipients on the faculty. The College of Education, which continues to serve as a leader in urban education, has been selected to participate in the prestigious new Woodrow Wilson New Jersey Teaching Fellowship Program, which will recruit top science, technology, engineering, and math college graduates and career changers to prepare them to teach in high-need schools. The National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Education, among others, awarded the University nearly $11 million to support research and other academic initiatives. The Cotsakos College of Business was included in Princeton Review’s Best 296 Business Schools for the fifth consecutive year, and was named one of 25 great schools for future financial planners in U.S. by Financial Planning Magazine. The campus radio station was named Best College/University Station (with more than 10,000 enrollment) for the second year in a row by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. A founding member of New Jersey state affiliate of Campus Compact, the University is integrally involved in the community, including the development of programming for the newly designated Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park.

**The New Jersey Presidents’ Council Business**

During the 2012 – 2013 Academic year the Presidents’ Council worked collaboratively and with the assistance of outside campaign counsel for the successful passage of the Building Our Future Bond Act. Proceeds from the Act will provide funding, together with institutional matching funds, for the construction of academic and associated administrative support buildings throughout the state.

The Council also fulfilled its responsibility to review new programs being offered by its members. During the 2012 – 2013 the Council, upon recommendation of its Academic Issues Committee, approved 46 new programs and also took 40 other actions regarding program review and approved 8 licensure and relicensure applications.
In addition, the Council, through its Campus Safety and Security Committee, continued to play an important role in safeguarding the personal safety of members of the academic communities represented by it. It adopted a comprehensive and statewide best practices-based assessment program for annual evaluation of campus safety plans. The participating colleges enroll 99% of all students attending higher education institutions in New Jersey. The assessment will include formal site visits to each college by a team of peer experts to review each campus’s plan. Participating institutions will become credentialed to work directly with law enforcement personnel during campus emergencies permitting close cooperation among campus, municipal and state emergency personnel.

Pertaining directly to the future economic vitality of the state, the Council empanelled a committee to develop a comprehensive report on the alignment of higher education curricula to meet the future workforce needs of the state. Among the expected recommendations is the creation and maintenance of an updatable compendium that can be used by the state’s Colleges and Universities as a guide in their future program development.

Under the aegis of the Presidents’ Council and NJEDge.Net, higher education also played an important role in responding to one of New Jersey’s greatest natural disasters, Hurricane Sandy. Through its deployment of advanced Internet technologies, NJEDge.Net delivers state-of-the-art capabilities to its partners in academia, government and industry for collaboration, scholarship and research.

During Hurricane Sandy, NJEDge Video conferencing services provided a vital service to the NJ Office of Homeland Security. The days leading up to the storm were very busy. Meetings with Federal, State, and County Offices of Emergency Management personnel were held every few hours to discuss evacuation of residents, opening of shelters, and the projected storm track. One particular meeting that the state participated in was with Homeland Security Director Janet Napolitano, FEMA Director Craig Fugate and President Barack Obama. During this meeting, State Police representatives briefed the President on the conditions in NJ and how the state was preparing for the direct impact of the storm. Once Sandy made landfall NJEDge video conferencing was used to provide live video feeds from state police helicopters and responders who were deployed to the devastated areas to the Governor, his cabinet members and the state police headquarters in Trenton.

**Summary:**

The Presidents’ Council and its member institutions completed another very busy and productive year. Despite severe budgetary constraints and aging facilities, the member institutions performed innovative, high-quality and critically needed services throughout the state. We are proud of the service we are able to provide to the state and its citizens and proud of the missions of access and excellence that are achieved by our many programs, services and types of institutions. With the passage of the first major bond act for higher education since 1988, the many activities undertaken as described in this report, and the continued collaboration among public, private and governmental institutions, even greater service to the state and nation is our goal and expectation.
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