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Joel S. Bloom
President

April 17, 2018

Mr. Frank Haines
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer
State House Annex, First Floor, Room 140
PO Box 068
Trenton, NJ 08625-0068

Dear Mr. Haines:

As requested, attached please find fifteen copies of NJIT's responses to the FY19 Legislature's review questions 9, 10 and 11. In addition, electronic copies have been sent to the following email addresses for committee member's review: fhaines@njleg.org and sbirch@njleg.org.

If you have any questions regarding the attached, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel S. Bloom", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Joel S. Bloom
President

Attachment

Discussion Points

Public Institutions of Higher Education

9. P.L.2013, c.170 (C.18A:62-4.4) provided that a person without lawful immigration status who meets other criteria may qualify to pay the in-State tuition rate at a public institution of higher education.

- **Question: In the current academic year, how many students at each institution are paying the in-State tuition rate pursuant to this law?**

Question #9 Response:

36 students are receiving this in-state tuition benefit within this current academic year, consistent with the NJ Dream Act requirements.

10. The "Madison Holleran Suicide Prevention Act"; P.L.2016, c.18 (C.18A:3B-72 et seq.) requires that each institution of higher education have individuals with training and experience in mental health issues who focus on reducing student suicides and attempted suicides available on campus or remotely for students 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Question: Please describe the efforts made by your institution to comply with this requirement. How has your institution publicized these services to its students? How many individuals are employed by the institution for the purpose of complying with this law?**

- Question #10 Response:

The Dean of Students sends a *Suicide Prevention* letter ⁽¹⁾ to ALL students within the first 15 days of the start of each semester. In addition, the employees of NJIT's Center for Psychological Services (C-CAPS) provide additional support and resources for student suicide prevention.

Currently, there are two licensed psychologists and one licensed social worker with training and experience in mental health issues employed in C-CAPS. In addition, the University contracts with a psychiatrist who is available to meet with students and is able to prescribe appropriate treatment. If a student is in crisis and immediate action is needed, they are transported to Rutgers New Jersey Medical School's Behavioral Health unit, which is located in close proximity to NJIT. Moving forward, the FY19 preliminary operating budget includes an additional full-time licensed psychologist to supplement existing resources.

(1) See appendix (Letter A) for "OLS Q10 Annual Information regarding Suicide Prevention" letter

Discussion Points (Cont'd)

11. According to the 2016 report of the College Affordability Study Commission, which was established pursuant to P.L.2015, c.4, the increasing cost of higher education is posing a significant barrier to students hoping to pursue postsecondary education. Nationally, after adjusting for inflation, the tuition and fees at public four-year institutions of higher education have increased over 40 percent between the 2005-2006 and 2015-2016 academic years, while increasing by 29 percent at two-year public institutions.

- **Question: Please discuss initiatives that the institutions have taken in recent years to minimize increases in tuition and fees or to provide institutional support to their students.**

Question #11 Response:

NJIT is a research intensive polytechnic university offering more than 50 Bachelor, 46 Master, 19 PHD and 23 certification programs focusing on STEM disciplines; traditionally the most expensive programs to offer. Small class sizes (averaging less than 26 per section) and specialized educational and laboratory supplies and equipment have become recurring budget challenges. Further, negotiated bargaining unit agreements, debt service, and non-personnel inflation apply additional fixed costs to the operating budget.

NJIT recognizes the financial constraints tuition and fees pose on students and their families and we strive to keep annual rate increases to a minimum while not affecting program quality.

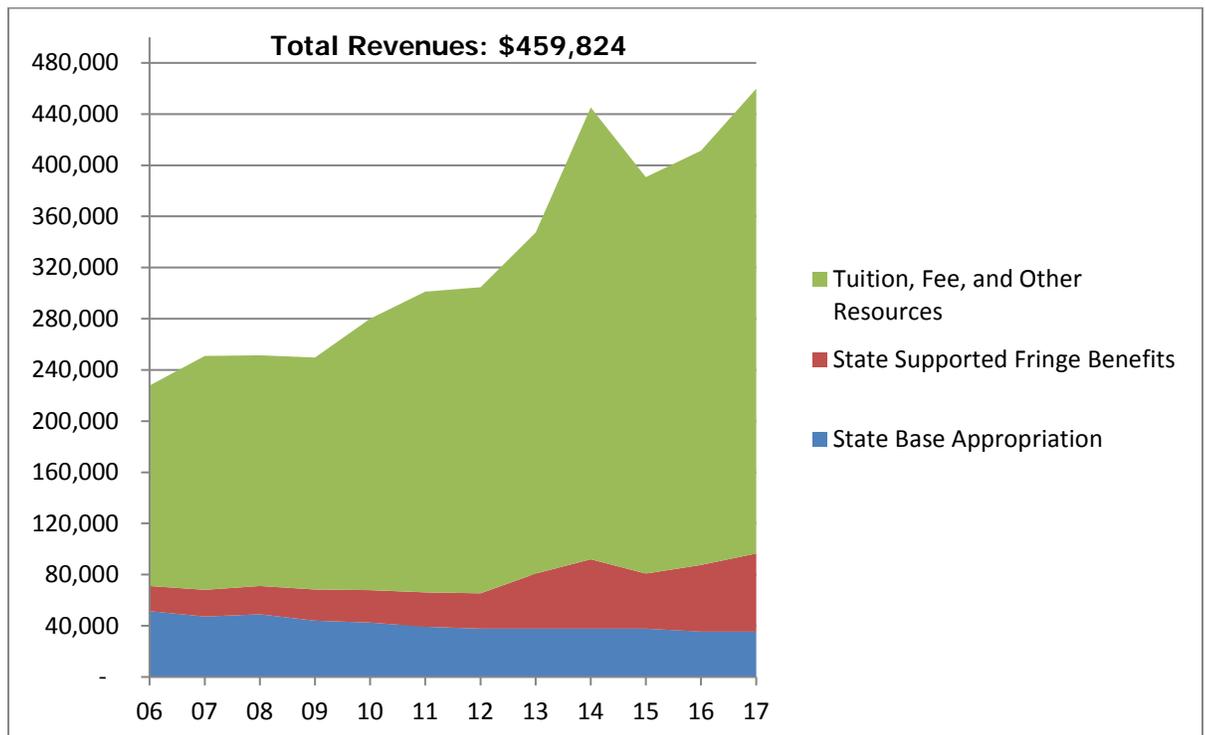
Between FY06 and FY17, direct State support has decreased by 31% while tuition and fee rates have increased by approximately 64%. However, over this period, student financial aid has increased by 150%.

As you can see in the chart on the next page, in FY06, base State Appropriation supported approximately 23% of total NJIT operations while in FY17, the percentage dropped to 8%.

Discussion Points (Cont'd)

**NJIT TOTAL OPERATING RESOURCES VS STATE APPROPRIATIONS
FY2004- FY2017
(\$000's)**

<u>FY</u>	<u>State Base Appropriation</u>	<u>State Supported Fringe Benefits</u>	<u>Tuition, Fee, and Other Resources</u>	<u>Total NJIT Resources</u>	<u>% State Support</u>
06	51,512	19,578	156,800	227,890	23%
07	47,182	21,071	182,630	250,883	19%
08	49,097	22,020	180,198	251,315	20%
09	43,958	24,519	181,132	249,609	18%
10	42,481	25,432	212,061	279,974	15%
11	39,191	26,905	235,145	301,241	13%
12	37,697	27,685	239,191	304,573	12%
13	37,696	43,099	266,580	347,375	11%
14	37,696	54,390	353,166	445,252	8%
15	37,696	43,194	309,711	390,601	10%
16	35,440	52,092	323,767	411,299	9%
17	35,440	61,089	363,295	459,824	8%



Discussion Points (Cont'd)

Budget planning always encourages new and unique business opportunities and efficiencies. Examples include:

- Outsourcing
 - Information Systems and Technology (IST) -- Help Desk (3 FTE's)
 - Moving the IST Data Center to the cloud (3 FTE's)
 - Bursar's Office - selected student collections (2 FTE's)
 - Student Health Center (3 FTE's)
 - Internal Audit function (1 FTE)
 - Exploring selected payroll services
 - Other support services are being explored

- Restructured Academic Support Services into the Provost's Area improving communications and academic planning
- Monetized NJII services and created for-profit Healthcare Innovation Systems, Inc.
- Completed Faculty Separation Incentive Program – 21 tenured faculty retirements
- Improved cash management:
 - Adjusted investment distributions thus improving rates of return
 - Analyzed and reduced grant account receivables from 90 days to 60 days
 - Re-negotiating vendor payment terms and conditions maximizing spending power
- Revising the Enterprise Development Center business model
- Re-purposing existing staff to establish college level business offices to support faculty, administrators, and students. The new initiative will expand "shared services" and provide administrative staff efficiencies
- Implementing a P2P system that automates the procurement and payment processes

NJIT continues its commitment to provide our students with an affordable education necessary to become future STEM leaders within Essex County, the State, and the World.

Appendix

Letter A - OLS Q10 Annual Information regarding Suicide Prevention

Dear Students,

Welcome to the 2018 Spring semester. NJIT administrators, faculty and staff anticipate that your student experience will be positive and healthy, however we also recognize that at some point, you or a friend might be struggling with difficulties related to classes, family concerns, relationships, alcohol and drugs, mental health/emotional concerns or other issues. These sort of struggles might leave you feeling helpless, anxious, worried or stressed. We want you to know that NJIT strives to provide an environment that is both academically and socially conducive to student success and well-being and there are a variety of resources and support services available.

If you or someone you know is in a crisis situation and having thoughts of self-harm, death, dying or suicide, please contact the following resources immediately. They operate **24 hours a day and 7 days a week**.

- **NJ HopeLine: 1-855-654-6735**
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255**
- **Acute Psychiatric Services (University Hospital): 973- 623-2323**
- **Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741**
- **NJIT Public Safety (Emergency): 9-1-1- (if at NJIT say “NJIT” and indicate your location on-campus)**
- **NJIT Public Safety (Non-emergency): 973-596-3120**

In addition, NJIT counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for psychological emergencies by contacting Public Safety at **9-1-1**

For help and support in a non-crisis situation, NJIT has on-campus resources and services.

- Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS)
 - Phone: **(973) 596-3414**.
 - Campbell Hall, Room 205
 - Web: www.njit.edu/counseling/
- Residence Life
 - Director of Residence Life: **(973) 596-3039**
 - E-Mail: reslife@njit.edu
 - Web: www.njit.edu/reslife
- Office of the Dean of Students and Campus Life
 - Phone: **(973) 596-3466**
 - E-Mail: dos@njit.edu
- Center for Student Success (includes Advising Success Center, Disability Support Services, and The Learning Center)
 - Phone: **(973) 596-5598**
 - Fenster Hall, Room 260
 - Web: www.njit.edu/studentsuccess/
- Student Health Services
 - Phone: **(973) 596-3621**
 - E-Mail: healthservices@njit.edu

As a community that cares, all of us can play a role in ensuring one another’s well-being and safety at NJIT. Let us join hands to support our community and make NJIT the best place it can be for one another.

Best wishes for a successful semester.

In health,

Dr. Marybeth Boger

Dr. Marybeth Boger,
Dean of Students and Campus Life