



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

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Transition Report – Science and Technology

February 15, 2018

In the **Technology Transition Report** just presented to Governor Murphy: [NJ Technology Transition Report to Governor Murphy](#), there are elements relating to higher education:

- Priority: Strengthen links between our universities and innovative sectors
 - Publicize our universities' intellectual property assets and assist with their commercial distribution.
 - Create an innovation competition for faculty and students to generate solutions to statewide problems.

- Priority: Attract and retain high-tech talent and investment in New Jersey
 - Create a fellowship program to boost New Jersey's government technology and attract talented professionals to work in state government.
 - Establish a STEM-specific student-loan forgiveness program.
 - Encourage all public schools to expand computer science programs.

NJASCU Response:

The senior four-year public schools that NJASCU represents have been focused on the priorities of the Technology Transition report for a number of years and look forward to working with the governor and the legislature to enhance those efforts. Many of our schools used the Building Our Future higher education bond money to build much needed state-of-the-art STEM facilities. But the 2012 bond program was the first one for higher education in 25 years. And successful STEM programs require operating support as well – and, the operating support to public institutions have decreased significantly over the past 25 years (40 percent decrease per FTE). In order to continue to offer cutting-edge STEM initiatives, public higher education institutions need consistent operational and capital funding support – and that requires a rational and comprehensive approach to appropriations.

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