



February 19, 2016

Dear Colleagues/Friends:

Below are recent articles with a focus on the Garden State, and higher education from around the country. If your institution has any news that you would like to share, please feel free to send it to us for inclusion in our distribution.

Steep Cost of NJ's Public Colleges Work Against Students, Hurts State

NJ Spotlight

February 19, 2016

Making a college education out-of-reach financially encourages students to attend school elsewhere - and they rarely return. The high cost of college and the staggering burden of student loan debt have spurred a variety of funding initiatives and policy plans at the national and state levels, from lottery-funded merit scholarships to proposed major expansions of federal subsidies.

Christie's Phony Argument on 'Exodus' From Jersey

NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

February 18, 2016

In his budget speech Tuesday, Governor Chris Christie claimed that high taxes have driven 2 million people from the state during the last decade.

"These facts are not debatable," he said.

Well, yes they are. For one, the governor neglected to mention that 2 million people moved into New Jersey over the same period. You can look it up in the very study the governor cited, paid for by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association.

As for blaming high taxes, as opposed to high housing costs or high college costs, the study draws no conclusion, according to its author, Joel Naroff.

"The study did not do a statistical analysis of the reasons people are leaving," he concedes. "People are leaving for a variety of factors."

Christie's Budget Address: Mixed Message to State's Democratic Lawmakers

NJ Spotlight

February 17, 2016

Governor Christie appears to leave room for bipartisan cooperation, but some caveats and warnings are vintage Christie. More money for education and the public-employee pension system. A continuation of an increased tax credit for the state's lowest wage earners. And a call for a "reasonable agreement" on renewing New Jersey's Transportation Fund. Though the tone of Governor Chris Christie's budget message yesterday may have been combative at times, the substance of his proposed \$34.8 billion spending plan lines up well with some of the biggest priorities for Democratic legislative leaders. And it also left some room for bipartisan cooperation going forward. That said, the new budget also continues a series of fiscal policies Democrats have long complained about since Christie took office in early 2010. They include several dedicated-fund diversions and cuts to environmental funding and women's healthcare. For Christie, a second-term Republican, the budget speech marked the first public appearance since he dropped out of the GOP's presidential primary after poor finishes in Iowa and New Hampshire. It also came as Christie has now started his last two years of his final term in office - and as the political jockeying has already begun among those hoping to replace him in advance of the 2017 gubernatorial election.

Rowan Pursues Atlantic City Medical School Campus

Philly.com

February 16, 2016

Rowan University is preparing to take the first steps toward creating a medical school campus in Atlantic City, extending the footprint of its growing medical programs and potentially tapping a new student base there. Rowan trustees are set to vote on a feasibility study to explore an Atlantic City partnership between the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and AtlantiCare. Trustees at an upcoming board meeting were expected to approve awarding a contract to the Pittsburgh-based consulting firm Tripp Umbach to conduct the study to understand the impacts associated with a potential four-year branch campus of a medical school.

Montclair State, Sony Strike a High-Tech Partnership

NorthJersey.com

February 16, 2016

In a move that will bring Hollywood's newest technology to New Jersey, Montclair State University has entered into a strategic alliance with Sony Electronics, one of the world's and state's technology leaders. The agreement puts into place a long-term plan to enable the University's communication and media students to gain real-world experience and get a high-tech preview of their future careers. The University's new School of Communication and Media building, currently under construction on the 252-acre, suburban New Jersey campus, will provide a facility where Sony will offer industry professional training similar to what is offered at its Digital Motion Picture Center (DMPC) on the lot of Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, California.

WPU Jazz Director Shares Grammy Honor with Tony Bennett

NorthJersey.com

February 16, 2016

Now that he's won a Grammy, Bill Charlap is probably looking on the sunny side of life - to quote the title song of his award-winning album "The Silver Lining: The Songs of Jerome Kern." On Monday, that album won a Grammy for best traditional pop vocal album - a first for pianist Charlap, who became jazz studies director at William Paterson University in 2015. Mr. Charlap, coming onstage, got a big hug from his legendary collaborator, singer Tony Bennett, who shared the honors. This is Bennett's 18th Grammy. "He's a musical giant," Mr. Charlap said.

Site Plan Submitted for AC Gateway Project, Stockton Campus

The Press of Atlantic City
February 15, 2016

Architectural and engineering plans for Atlantic City Development Corporation's first project, including a proposed Stockton University satellite campus, have been submitted for land-use approval. A site plan submitted to the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority lays out in detail the components of the campus, a South Jersey Gas corporate headquarters and an 879-space garage proposed to be built on 270,000-square-feet of land in the city's Chelsea section. The authority, regulator of land use in the city's Tourism District, must approve the plan, which will be the subject of a public hearing scheduled for February 25.

New 3D Printing Lab at Montclair State University Offers Students Lessons in Innovation

NorthJersey.com
February 14, 2016

Students use computer design programs to send instructions to printers at a new 3D printing lab at Montclair State University that use a corn-starch based plastic to create fast, cheap three-dimensional models of ideas and products. The technology turns the process of prototyping from a costly one that used to take months, to a relatively inexpensive one that takes just hours. Would-be inventors can get nearly immediate feedback on their products then make adjustments.

For African-American College Students, a New Racial Gap

Philly.com
February 14, 2016

A new racial gap has emerged on college campuses: Too few African-American students are enrolling in majors that lead to high-paying jobs. Instead of pursuing science, business and engineering, the students are studying education and social work, according to a recent analysis of data collected by the US Census Bureau. College administrators and students in interviews recognized the divide and its implications for socio-economic mobility and pay equity. "While they're in the right church, they're kind of in the wrong pews," said Anthony P. Carnevale, the director of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce and lead author on the report, "African Americans: College Majors and Earnings," which was released last week. "While African Americans are going to college in greater and greater numbers, they're in the wrong fields, from an economic point of view."

Rowan Nears Enrollment Target Years Ahead of Schedule

Philadelphia Inquirer
February 13, 2016

Just two years into an ambitious 10-year growth plan that included increasing full-time undergraduate enrollment by nearly 30 percent, Rowan University has nearly met that goal, though it has fallen slightly behind in others. Rowan's president, Ali A. Houshmand, set the goal of having 12,000 full-time undergraduate students in the 2023-2024 school year. That number was to be reached through controlled growth from 9,348 students in fall 2013. Instead, full-time undergraduate enrollment has jumped to 11,710 this year, nearly reaching the final goal.

Rowan University's Vote Could Make or Break Plans for New NJ Hospital

NJ Advanced Media for NJ.com
February 12, 2016

The Rowan University Board of trustees will again consider a measure next week to sell land to Inspira Health Network for construction of a new hospital in Harrison Township. The measure was tabled last month after the head of Kennedy Health objected to the deal. A special Rowan trustees session is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2016 to consider this issue only, according to the agenda. The trustees will hold their regular monthly meeting the next day on Wednesday, February 17, 2016.

Even Reverse Mortgages Can End in Foreclosures, Stockton Report Warns

The Press of Atlantic City
February 12, 2016

On a slew of TV commercials, the reverse mortgage may sound like the ticket to a modest but relatively stress-free retirement. But in real life, these mortgages have been a route to foreclosure for more than 1,200 New Jersey residents over the last decade, a new report from Stockton University's William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy warns.

Thomas Edison State University Receives Grant to Support Mentoring Program

NJ.com
February 11, 2016

The TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, has awarded a \$10,000 grant to Thomas Edison State University as part of the foundation's commitment to giving back to the community. The grant will support a mentoring program based in The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of Thomas Edison State University that helps early childhood teachers become more culturally aware of students from diverse backgrounds.

MSU Hosts 3D Printing Lecture and Other Programs for the Community

NorthJersey.com
February 11, 2016

The Entrepreneurial Mindset and Innovation is a course that teaches students how to strengthen their innovative and creative capacities and how to think like an entrepreneur. The class is offered through the university's Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship. When creating a project, students get to use the university's new MIX Innovation Center, which is a lab with 35 MakerBot 3D printing devices. MakerBot,

a subsidiary of Stratasys, Ltd., was founded in 2009. The company sells 3D desktop printers to engineers, architects, designers, educators and consumers.

Montclair State University Professors Lead STEM Program for Little Falls Elementary School Students

NorthJersey.com

February 11, 2016

Students from School No. 2 recently took part in activities geared to ready them for careers of the future. Through exposure to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) activities set up inside a classroom, they experienced the fun of learning, with the goal of gaining fundamental knowledge for tomorrow's careers. Many education experts have referred to the STEM fields as being pathways to 21st Century workplace skills. The program was developed by Dr. Sumi Hagiwara, faculty member in the department of early childhood, elementary and literacy education at Montclair State University (MSU) for children in grades kindergarten through sixth, in order to develop children's knowledge and understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The program supports student learning through small groups that include project-based instruction. The aim is to foster excitement for learning, persistence with problem solving and creativity to promote exploring the world around them, according to the university's website.

Proposal Tying Graduation to PARCC Exams Met with Skepticism, Hesitancy

NJ Spotlight

February 11, 2016

Many testifying before State Board of Education urge caution in adopting new standard, while others assail test itself. What should New Jersey's high school graduates be required to know and be able to do? Yesterday, close to 50 people testified before the State Board of Education about a Christie administration proposal to require passing grades on parts of the online PARCC exams in order to earn a diploma.

What Will Chris Christie Do with Remainder of His Term in Trenton?

NJ Spotlight

February 11, 2016

Gov. Chris Christie came home from New Hampshire yesterday, after placing sixth in the GOP presidential primary, well behind winner Donald Trump and the other so-called establishment candidates, John Kasich, Jeb Bush, and Marco Rubio. Coupled with his poor performance in Iowa, Christie decided to suspend his campaign. He now returns to Trenton with nearly two full years left in his second and final term as governor, with a slate of issues waiting to be addressed.

Free Clinics for Those Suffering from Aphasia Offered by Stockton University and Adler Aphasia Center

Stockton.edu

February 11, 2016

The Stockton University Masters of Science in Communication Disorders Program has aligned with Adler Aphasia Center of West Orange and Maywood, N.J. to offer twice-monthly free clinics for those suffering from aphasia, a speech and language disorder. Aphasia results from damage to the parts of the brain that contain language

(typically in the left half of the brain). Close to two million individuals within the U.S. suffer from this type of communication disorder.

Ramapo Chorale Sings with National Chorale of Cuba

Ramapo News

February 10, 2016

During winter break the Ramapo College Chorale embarked on a weeklong cruise tour of Cuba, performing on the ship and participating in a performance with the Cuban national Choir in Havana, as well as in Cienfuegos. The tour was put together and run by Dr. Lisa Lutter, the director of the Ramapo College Chorale and an associate professor of vocal music performance at Ramapo College. "Ramapo Chorale always look for international performing opportunities that have relevance to current events or serve a special cause," Lutter said. "Our performance tour to Cuba provided a very rare opportunity - the chance to experience Cuba at this historic time, just after President Obama has begun to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba after more than half a century. We were able to be pioneers - as far as we know, the first New Jersey choir to sing in Cuba."

NJ Senate Seeks Ways to Slow Student Debt, Brain Drain - Opinion

NJ.com

February 10, 2016

NJ Senate President Steve Sweeney and NJ Senate Chair of the Higher Education Committee Sandra Cunningham wrote this opinion piece on supporting higher education in New Jersey. For years, New Jersey college presidents have called for action in three areas to improve our state's higher education system. We needed to invest in new academic facilities and student housing in an increasingly competitive higher education market, make college affordable so that students would not be saddled with such heavy debt, and get more of our high school students to stay in New Jersey for college - adding their skills to our economy and not taking jobs in other states after graduation.

We took a major step in meeting our facility needs with approval in 2012 of a \$750 million higher education bond issue that is producing state-of-the-art research laboratories, new classroom buildings and modern dormitories across the state.

Now, through the state Senate's "New Jersey: Investing in You" initiatives and the New Jersey College Affordability Study Commission, we are working on programs to make college affordable for every high school graduate who dreams of a higher education. The proposed New Jersey Honors Scholars program, an Investing in You initiative, would build upon the successful NJ STARS program that currently provides up to two years of free community college tuition to those graduating in the top 15 percent of their high school class. The honors scholars program, which was discussed at the [January 20th affordability commission meeting](#), would expand eligibility to the top 20 percent of graduating seniors in each school.

Lawrence Inerra Jr. Joins Montclair State University Board of Trustees - Montclair State University

Montclair News

February 10, 2016

Lawrence (Larry) R. Inserra Jr., the chairman, chief executive officer and president of Inserra Supermarkets, Inc., was sworn in as a Montclair State University trustee at the February 5, 2016, meeting of the University's Board of Trustees. "Larry Inserra is a longtime friend and supporter of Montclair State University," said President Susan A. Cole. "As a trustee he will bring his considerable experience in business to the Board, as well as a strong commitment to the University's mission to provide a diverse group of talented students with affordable access to a top-quality education...." Inserra previously endowed the Inserra Chair in Italian and Italian American Studies at Montclair State. The Inserra Chair is affiliated with the University's Italian program and supports a rich array of scholarly and cultural events and activities.

NJIT Names Longtime Administrator Its New SVP, CFO

NJBiz.com

February 10, 2016

New Jersey Institute of Technology(NJIT) has named a new chief financial officer, the Newark university announced Wednesday. Edward J. Bishof Sr. was chosen as senior vice president for finance and CFO following a national search, according to NJIT. Bishof, who has been with NJIT since 1988, had been serving as interim vice president for finance and treasurer. His new position is effective immediately, the college added." Ed Bishof possesses a unique combination of strategic planning, budgeting and financial management abilities that will provide vision and direction to the university's budgeting and financial affairs while addressing current funding issues facing higher education in general and NJIT in particular," President Joel Bloom said in a prepared statement.

Talks Underway to Avoid Tax Battle Between Hospitals, NJ Towns

NorthJersey.com

February 9, 2016

Talks are under way to avert a potentially protracted tax battle between non-profit hospitals and the communities that host them, said the prime sponsor of a bill that tried unsuccessfully last month to work out a solution. Assemblyman John Burzichelli said Tuesday that talks are underway between the New Jersey Hospital Association and the New Jersey League of Municipalities with the aim of helping redraft legislation in the wake of a landmark Tax Court ruling that called into question the property tax exemption of non-profit hospitals. The non-profit higher education community is watching these developments closely.

Agenda: Hearings Set on New Academic Standards, H.S. Graduation Requirements

NJ Spotlight

February 9, 2016

The State Board of Education's monthly meeting will be highlighted by public hearings in the afternoon on two of the hottest topics of the year: the Christie administration's revisions to the Common Core State Standards and new high-school graduation testing requirements scheduled to take effect in 2021. The board will also hear from the leaders of two of its state-run districts, Jersey City and Paterson, and will consider a resolution to loosen at least some of its controls in Paterson. And it will get updates on the release of the latest PARCC scores, as well as new recommendations for revising the state's anti-bullying law.

Top 20 N.J. Colleges with the Highest Paid Grads

NJ.com

February 9, 2016

How much is that college degree worth? New federal data details how much the typical graduate earns a decade after enrolling at a school. Several NJASCU schools placed in the top 20, including William Paterson University, Kean University, Stockton University, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Montclair State University, Rowan University and The College of New Jersey

US Air Force Selects NJIT President Bloom for Civic Leader Program

EurekAlert.org

February 8, 2016

NJIT President Joel S. Bloom has been selected for the Air Force Chief of Staff's civic leader program. President Bloom, who is one of only a few national university presidents ever requested to serve in such a role, joins about 30 business and civic leaders from across the nation.

Rutgers Introduces a Competition to Give New Jersey County College Students a Taste of the Business School Program

PRNewswire.com

February 8, 2016

Rutgers Business School is inviting students from New Jersey's seven largest county colleges to participate in a new case competition on April 1. At Rutgers Business School-Newark, more than 50 percent of students transfer from one of the county colleges. The case competition is designed to strengthen the school's connections with those colleges by providing their students with a memorable learning experience.

Rowan Offers Two-Track Music Industry Degree with Emphasis on Multitasking, Entrepreneurship

Philly.com

February 8, 2016

Launched this school year after two years of development, the music industry program seeks to train students for various technical and business jobs in the industry. All students take core courses, which include principles of marketing, a survey of record production, and two on business of music. It is a response to the changes in the music industry and focuses on preparing students for viable employment. Halfway through the major, students choose either music technology or music business as a specialty. Training on the technology side includes courses such as game audio, mixing and mastering, and recording studio design and maintenance. Music business students take such courses as touring and concert promotion, public relations in the music industry, and entrepreneurship in the music industry.

Montclair State University Reports Domestic and Dating Violence Stats

PATCH.com

February 5, 2016

Under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) amendments to the Clery Act, the university was recently required to report data for alleged domestic and dating violence

- as well as "stalking" incidents - on campus for 2014. According to MSU administrators, there were: 11 reports of domestic violence; 4 reports of dating violence; 3 reports of stalking. How do these numbers compare to other area colleges? According to [The Montclarion](#), an independent student newspaper located on the MSU campus, New Jersey Institute of Technology had three domestic violence reports in 2014, The College of New Jersey had one, and Rowan University had 12. Regarding dating violence, William Paterson University had 17 reported incidents, New Jersey Institute of Technology had one, The College of New Jersey had one, and Rowan had 13.

Ramapo Listed as Top 300 Best College Values

RamapoNews.com
February 4, 2016

Ramapo College has been recognized in Kiplinger's Personal Finance's list of the "Top 300 Best College Values of 2016." This is Ramapo's 10th year being included in Kiplinger's list and it was rated 255 out of the 300 colleges on the list and 91 of 100 in the public colleges category. In addition, Ramapo was also one of only three New Jersey institutions to be included in this year's list. While prospective students spend their time trying to choose which college is best for them, Kiplinger makes narrowing down the search a little easier by compiling crucial details about the school that students and parents may benefit from in the long run. The list features private universities, private liberal arts schools and public schools that essentially combine outstanding academics with affordable cost. Introduced in 1998, Kiplinger's Personal Finance takes many factors into consideration in order to determine which institutions earn such a distinction. According to the editors of the magazine, they start with data from 1,200 public and private four-year schools across the country. Schools who earn rankings between 1 and 300 are considered "best value."

Rutgers Launches Program Aimed at Lowering Cost of Textbooks

NorthJersey.com
February 4, 2016

Rutgers University announced on Wednesday the launching of a pilot program aimed at stanching the high cost of textbooks by encouraging professors to opt for assigning materials that are significantly lower in cost or even free. A \$12,000 competitive grant program will be available to teachers who tap what are known as "open source" materials for their classes, meaning they are available apart from traditional textbook companies whose copyrighted materials can be very costly. Students spend an average of \$1,200 a semester on textbooks nationally and \$1,500 at Rutgers, said Kaitlyn Vitez, a staffer with the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group at Rutgers, a student advocacy group that pushed the university to address the issue.

Statewide High-School Graduation Rate Increases to Nearly 90 Percent

NJSpotlight.org
February 4, 2016

But socio-economic gaps remain and requirement of passing grade on PARCC to earn diploma looms on the horizon. The day after the sobering results of the new PARCC testing were released, the Christie administration had some better news for New Jersey's schools yesterday: Graduation rates are up.

NSF-Funded Project Helps Faculty Build Interactive E-Books

Mike Qaissaunee, chair of the engineering and technology department at Brookdale Community College in New Jersey, is using a National Science Foundation grant to create a new model for e-book creation. Campus Technology reports E-MATE, or E-books and Mobile Apps for Technician Education, project aims to give faculty the tools to create interactive e-books as well as the resources and training materials to master the process, including advice about what to make interactive (not everything, just the most difficult-to-grasp concepts).

Diegnan Bill to Grant College Credit to Students Completing Jersey Boys and Girls State Programs

TapInto.net
February 3, 2016

Bi-partisan legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr. (D-Middlesex) to give students participating in the American Legion Jersey Boys State or the American Legion Auxiliary Jersey Girls State programs college credit for successfully completing the week-long course in government was signed by Governor Christie earlier this month.

State Goes Public with Results of First-Year PARCC Exam Scores

NJSpotlight.com
February 3, 2016

The results of the inaugural PARCC tests last year are finally out for the public to see, with breakdowns for individual schools and districts released by the state on February 2, 2016. But the results raise nearly as many questions as answers, with all kinds of caveats and conditions as to what they will mean going forward. The overall numbers hardly come as a surprise; the state previously released statewide averages that saw a big drop in proficiency levels under PARCC ([Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers](#)) compared with previous state tests. With yesterday's release of last year's PARCC scores, one number stood out: the 193,367 tests that were not given. That's more than 10 percent of all eligible tests in language arts and math, evidence of the big protest movement in many schools that saw scores of families sitting out the new exams. The state is not being more precise, saying it also includes students who were absent or had taken alternative tests in the figures for kids who didn't participate.

Slight Hike in Tax Revenue Adds Up to Projected Surplus for State Coffers

NJSpotlight.org
February 3, 2016

Gov. Chris Christie is scheduled to present his next state budget to lawmakers in less than two weeks. And it looks like he'll be able to deliver that address feeling some confidence about how his spending plan for the current fiscal year is holding up. A NJ Spotlight analysis of revenue figures released by the state Department of Treasury for the first six months of the current fiscal year indicates tax collections were running a modest \$56.3 million ahead of the 3.4 percent growth rate that Christie has projected for the full fiscal year. Though not as impressive as the \$180 million revenue surplus that was measured after the first six months of the previous fiscal year, the cushion does put the state in a much better position than it's been in during some other recent fiscal years, when large revenue shortfalls brought on midyear spending cuts.

Montclair State University Earns Research Doctoral University Designation from Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education

Press Release Rocket

Also covered in [NJASCU QuickTakes](#)

February 2, 2016

The national Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, which is the widely recognized classification of US institutions of higher education, has, for the first time, recognized Montclair State University as a Research Doctoral University. This change recognizes the substantial growth at Montclair State in doctoral-level education and research activity.

AASCU Launches Effort to Redesign the First Year of College

EducationDive.com

February 2, 2016

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities' campaign is aimed at improving outcomes for low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented minority students. Stockton University and New Jersey City University are the two New Jersey schools chosen to participate.

Thomas Edison State University Launches First Doctoral Program

InnovationNJ.net

February 2, 2016

Thomas Edison State University has launched its first doctoral program, a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a specialization in Systems-Level Leadership that is offered completely online. The 36-credit, 18-month program is designed around the needs of working nurses who want to advance to lead health systems and organizations.

Explainer: Tough Anti-Bullying Law Guides Schools in Dealing with Harassment

NJ Spotlight

February 2, 2016

Legislation enacted after Rutgers student's suicide later spurred probe of violent hazing involving Somerville football team. New Jersey's anti-bullying law, one of the toughest in the country, continues to be the subject of intense debate over whether it is too strong -- or not strong enough. A state task force charged with monitoring the law issued its final report this week, offering a series of recommendations, and the State Board of Education is slated this month to take up some changes in the regulations that dictate the law's implementation.

If you have not subscribed to "Daily Headlines" from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (a daily news service) and are interested, you can sign up at <http://www.aascu.org/policy/publications/subscriptionform/>. We have found "Daily Headlines" to be well targeted to the interests and needs of higher education leaders and decision makers. It includes national and state news, so you will see important stories from New Jersey media outlets on a regular basis.

We are now on Facebook and would love for you to follow us:

<https://www.facebook.com/NJASCUorg>

Thank you,

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