



August 8, 2017

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 send to us for inclusion in our distribution.*

State College/University Alumni Profiles

Each month NJASCU features an Alumni Profile (<http://www.njascu.org/alumni-profiles.html>).

Our most recent Alumni Profile is:

Alison Banks-Moore, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Class of 1977



Events/Activities

Save the Date
Thursday, October 19, 2017
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

NJASCU

The Paul Shelly Legacy Symposium on Higher Education

The Lifelong Value of a Bachelor's Degree**Keynote Speaker:**

The Honorable James Florio, Former Governor of NJ

Panel Discussions:**Panelists:** Leaders from the state colleges and universities, business community, and NJ Legislature**Topics:***The Importance of Bachelor's Degrees to New Jersey's Economy;*
Institutional Strategies to Contain Costs, including Public-Private Partnerships

Thursday, October 19, 2017
8:30 am - 12:30
Trenton War Memorial

Campus Specific News**Ramapo College Recognized as a Public College of Distinction**www.Ramapo.edu/news

August 3, 2017

Ramapo College has been recognized as a *2017-2018 College of Distinction* in the organization's recent report. *Colleges of Distinction* is a college guide that assesses state colleges and universities in several categories, including student engagement, faculty competencies, vibrant campus and community activities and successful outcomes. Other criteria for recognition include a wider course selection, innovating curricula, individualized attention in the classroom and affordability.

Forbes Ranks America's Top Colleges: NJ Schools Break Top 5NJBiz.com

August 2, 2017

Forbes released its list of America's Top Colleges on Tuesday, with Harvard University in Massachusetts claiming the top spot and Stanford University and Yale University listed as second and third, respectively. Princeton University ranked high, coming in at **No. 4** on the list. It was the only Garden State school to break the Top 150. The numbers represent each school's ranking out of 650 total colleges on the list. This is Forbes' 10th year creating the list. The list is determined by variables such as alumni salary, graduation rate and student satisfaction. (As stated multiple times in the past, NJASCU finds fault with the ranking which ignores completion rates and only considers the very restrictive graduation rates.)

The second-highest ranked New Jersey school on the list was The College of New Jersey at **No. 156**. The rest of the New Jersey schools to make the rankings:

- 158. Rutgers University
- 180. Stevens Institute of Technology
- 281. Seton Hall University
- 299. New Jersey Institute of Technology
- 301. Drew University
- 365. Rowan University
- 399. Montclair State University
- 429. Stockton University
- 444. Rider University
- 494. Fairleigh Dickinson University

Thomas Edison State University Awarded Accreditation of its Business Programs

NJBMagazine.com

July 27, 2017

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners has awarded Thomas Edison State University in Trenton, accreditation to its business programs.

Established in 1988, ACBSP is the only organization offering specialized business accreditation for all degree levels, from associate to baccalaureate to doctoral degree programs. ACBSP accreditation certifies that the teaching and learning processes within the graduate and undergraduate business programs offered through the School of Business and Management meet the rigorous educational experience and demonstrate continuous quality improvement.

Montclair State University Now Designated a Public Research University

NorthJersey.com

July 26, 2017

Governor Chris Christie signed legislation on July 21, 2017 that designates MSU as a public research university. The legislation was sponsored in both the state Senate and Assembly in June by several officials, including those representing Montclair such as state Sen. Nia Gill and state Assembly members Sheila Oliver and Thomas Giblin. This designation reflects that Montclair has received classification as a research doctoral institution by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, and classification by the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education's Office as a doctoral degree-granting institution.

[Read NJASCU's statement.](#)

NJASCU Statement on Senate Bill No. 3281/Assembly Bill No. 4969 Establishes Montclair State University as a Public Research University

We congratulate Montclair State University on the enactment today of the legislation designating the institution as a public research university.

Montclair has a long history of distinguished contributions to the students and residents of New Jersey, and its evolution from a teachers' college to a public research university reflects how its mission has kept pace with the needs of the state.

Key provisions in the Montclair State legislation remove the institution from restrictions under the State College Contracts Law for procurement and construction. The State College Contracts Law is 31 years old and constrains the operation of the remaining state colleges and universities. The New Jersey Higher Education Task Force, in its December 2010 report, stated that the State College Contracts Law restricts the ability of these institutions to enter long-range contracts, slows the pace of construction, and increases procurement and construction costs.

The New Jersey Higher Education Task Force, chaired by former Governor Tom Kean, endorsed a recommendation from the New Jersey Presidents' Council to revise many provisions of the State College Contracts Law. The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities looks forward to working with the legislators to cut red tape in the New Jersey's laws to enable all the state colleges and universities to serve New Jersey's residents more effectively and efficiently.

State Wants Tuition Reimbursement Program to Lure Psychiatrists to Shortage Areas

PressofAtlanticCity.com

July 24, 2017

Gov. Chris Christie, concerned about the availability of mental health providers, approved a statewide tuition-reimbursement program that would pay for a portion of medical school tuition for psychiatrists who agree to provide full-time mental health services in designated shortage areas for one to four years. The shortage has not been for a lack of trying, he said.

Hospitals, nonprofits and other providers have developed mental health education and support programs, temporary treatment services, tapped into telepsychiatry and formed relationships with medical programs at Stockton University, Rutgers University and Rowan University to bring people in.

Helping Area Youth to "Think Like an Entrepreneur"

SNJToday.com

July 21, 2017

Some local high school students got the chance to put their entrepreneurial skills to the test and come up with products that we may see hit store shelves someday.

Rowan University's Rohrer College of Business, with the help of a \$7,500 grant from TD Bank, partnered with the Camden Academy Charter High School to give kids a crash course in business while earning college-level credits.

Students Get a Head Start on College with State EOF Grants

PressofAtlanticCity.com

July 20, 2017

Eighty-five incoming freshmen for five weeks over the summer are at Stockton University getting a head start on campus life. The first-year students, who are all receiving aid through the state-sponsored Education Opportunity Fund (EOF), are participating in the university's Summer Academy, where they take classes, study and socialize with other EOF students. The program offers financial and academic assistance for low-income students who are residents of New Jersey.

"It's a program designed to provide access to institution to individuals who, due to financial or academic unpreparedness, may not get to seek higher education," said Maralyn Mason, director of EOF at Stockton.

Each year, about 13,000 New Jersey students participate in the EOF program, according to the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education.

Shark Teeth Help Track Oceanic Changes

NJTVOnline.org

July 20, 2017

William Paterson University Researcher Marty Becker went searching for shark teeth 70 feet underwater in Alabama.

The researchers are collecting both modern and fossil shark teeth in order to understand the history of sea level rise.

Mr. Becker says that the creek in Alabama where he found the shark teeth is "sawing away at the regional geology and it's unearthing layer after layer the history of the earth. So, the deeper we go, the further back in time we're heading."

One of the shark teeth fossils is around 200 million years old. According to Marty Becker, his discoveries in Alabama apply to the shoreline here in New Jersey.

William Paterson University to Host a Gubernatorial Debate

[NJ.com](#)

July 19, 2017

Democratic nominee [Phil Murphy](#) and Republican nominee [Kim Guadagno](#) will square off in two televised debates in [this year's race](#) to succeed Chris Christie as New Jersey governor. One debate will be hosted by William Paterson University in Wayne and the other by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, according to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission, which organizes the events and picks the hosts and sponsors.

Montclair State University will host a separate debate between Murphy's and Guadagno's lieutenant governor candidates.

A Little Research Reveals a Lot of Research at NJASCU Schools

[NJASCU QuickTakes](#)

July 17, 2017

The New Jersey Association of State College and Universities asked its members to provide one example of a significant research initiative taking place on their respective campuses. Even though some schools just provided one example, other schools provided several. One administrator said, "we couldn't decide which project was more important." All the projects are significant and impressive and illustrative of the fact that the NJASCU schools have extensive research portfolios. Read more [here](#).

Benefits of Title IX Pass Down Through Generations

[NorthJersey.com](#)

July 15, 2017

Three part series on Title IX - "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance" - features The College of New Jersey alumna Jill Cosse, formerly the first women's lacrosse coach at Kean University.

Liberty Hall Researchers Unearth a 221-year-old Madeira Wine

[News.Kean.edu](#)

July 10, 2017

Staff at Kean University's Liberty Hall Museum were working to restore the museum's wine cellar when they found almost three cases of Madeira wine from 1796 and about 42 demijohns from the 1820s. The story appeared on [NYPost.com](#), [Food and Wine](#), [NJ.com](#), [ABC News](#) and [CNN](#).

NJCU President Henderson Publishes Article on Making the Most of Diversity

[NJCU.edu](#)

July 9, 2017

NJCU President Sue Henderson, PhD, recently published an article in the online journal *Higher Ed Jobs*. Titled "[Making the Most of Our Diversity](#)," the story asserts the philosophical and practical benefits of a diverse college campus. A diverse classroom, Henderson notes, offers students access to and an understanding of different points of view. This, in turn, encourages respectful debate and more sophisticated critical thinking skills - attributes highly sought after in both the classroom and the job market. NJCU certainly practices what Henderson preaches.

TCNJ's Barbara Gitenstein Will Retire in June 2018

NJASCU QuickTakes

July 11, 2017

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) President R. Barbara Gitenstein, the first woman to serve as the school's president, announced at the July 11 meeting of the college's board of trustees that she will retire in June 2018 at the conclusion of the coming academic year. It will mark the end of a nearly 20-year tenure, the third longest in the college's 162-year history. She is the first woman to serve as president.

"This was not a decision I arrived at easily, but the timing is right for the institution, for my family and for me," said Dr. Gitenstein, who assumed office on January 1, 1999. "It has been the highlight of my professional career to have served as president of this extraordinary institution."

"With deep respect and admiration, the board of trustees has accepted President Gitenstein's intention to retire," said Jorge Caballero, chair of the board. "Under Dr. Gitenstein's leadership, the college has continued to pursue a path of excellence"



New Jersey News

Candidates for Governor Name Their Running Mates But Does It Matter?

[NJSpotlight.com](#)

July 27, 2017

Pollsters say people tend to vote the top of the ticket. Besides, a lieutenant governor can be low profile to the point of invisibility. Democrat Phil Murphy announced his pick of Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver of East Orange on Wednesday, July 26, while current Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, the Republican nominee, announced her choice of Woodcliff Lake Mayor Carlos Rendo on Thursday, July 27th. This was big news in New Jersey political spheres, but will anyone else care?

State's New Ways to Pay Into Public-Pension System "Huge Step in Right Direction"

[NJSpotlight.com](#)

July 28, 2017

Starting this month, New Jersey's chronically underfunded public pensions are going to benefit from Lottery funds as well as from more regular payments by the state. The New Jersey public-employee pension system traditionally has received cash contributions from the state in one lump sum - and only if the annual budget has been healthy enough at the close of each fiscal year to provide the full amount set aside by lawmakers. But thanks to two recent policy changes that took effect earlier this month with the state of a new fiscal year, the pension system is going to receive more regular cash infusions from the state, and from two different revenue sources. Monthly contributions will come in [from the state Lottery](#) under a complicated new law that was enacted earlier this month by Gov. Chris Christie and lawmakers that effectively transferred the Lottery enterprise into the pension system for a period of 30 years. The pension system is also expecting to receive quarterly contributions of \$377 million [directly from the state budget](#) under the FY 2018 spending plan that Christie signed into law earlier this month. That comes after Christie and lawmakers approved [legislation](#) last year that established a new quarterly contribution schedule to replace the lump-sum tradition that's been followed for years.

NJ State Senator O'Toole, Who Resigned July 1, Will Be Replaced by Kristin CorradoNorthJersey.com

July 28, 2017

Republicans in the 40th District on Wednesday selected Kristin Corrado to finish the unexpired Senate term of Kevin O'Toole, who resigned on July 1. Ms. Corrado, the Passaic County clerk, was the logical choice when county committee representatives from 40th District towns in Bergen, Passaic, Essex and Morris met at the Barnyard Restaurant on Wednesday night. Ms. Corrado was already running for the seat, having trounced Paul DiGaetano of Franklin Lakes and Edward Buttimore of Cedar Grove in the June primary.

Opinion (from Carl Golden): Senate President Sweeney - Poised on the Cusp of PowerNJSpotlight.com

July 26, 2017

Having locked down another term as state Senate President, Senator Steve Sweeney (D-Gloucester) has turned his focus to an issue that has bedeviled governors and legislators for nearly 40 years - devising a fair, equitable, affordable, and constitutionally bulletproof formula for distributing state aid to local school districts and, in the longer term, providing a degree of property tax relief Not surprisingly, he again drew the wrath of the New Jersey Education Association He'll have Murphy's ear and a unified Democratic caucus behind him. He'll be able to remind Murphy if need be that he went toe to toe with the NJEA, heretofore the major player in education matters., and bested it. His ability to influence the agenda and advance the administration's goals will be enormous Sen. Sweeney stands on the cusp of becoming the most dominant Senate president since Somerset County Republican Ray Bateman in the 1970s.

Carl Golden served as press secretary for Republican Governor Thomas Kean for eight years and as a communication director for Republican Gov. Christie Whitman for three years. He is currently a senior contributing analyst with the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University.

One for the Books: \$125M Library Bond Issue on November BallotNJSpotlight.com

July 26, 2017

The goal of putting the library bond issue before voters won widespread support from state lawmakers, and Gov. Chris Christie took action late last week to ensure it would go on the ballot in November, which is also when voters will be asked to choose the state's next governor. If the bond sale does win support at the ballot box this year, it would create the first significant pot of money for New Jersey library projects since lawmakers signed off on a \$45 million grant program nearly 20 years ago. In all, New Jersey voters have been asked to weigh in on proposed state borrowing issues on three different occasions over the past 10 years, including in 2012, when they approved borrowing \$750 million to pay for facility improvements at colleges and universities across the state. Lawmakers just signed off on the final batch of projects to be funded through that bond earlier this year.

Legislators Go Only Part Way to Help Those Struggling with Student LoansNJSpotlight.com

July 26, 2017

A year after holding hearings on questionable practices by the authority that operates New Jersey's student loan program, lawmakers have delivered on only some of their promises to help those struggling to meet their loan obligations. And they appear to have abandoned what the loan program's loudest critics consider the most important of these: a loan rehabilitation program for those in default.

Following a hearing last August by two Senate committees on what some senators termed "predatory" and "loan sharking" practices by the NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), lawmakers introduced and began moving quickly nine bills dealing with student loans and, more broadly, college costs.

To date, four have been signed. Three of those were among dozens Governor Chris Christie signed last Friday before leaving the state. One of those, A-2926, repeals a law that had allowed for the suspension of the professional licenses of attorneys and others for nonpayment of state or federal student loans. Another, A-4088, creates the High School to College Readiness Commission that is charged with helping better prepare students for college, including by recommending ways to educate students and their parents about the costs of college, state, and federal aid programs and issues concerning student loan debt and repayment.

The following Letter to the Editor from NJASCU Executive Director Michael Klein was sent in response to a Star-Ledger editorial: July 24, 2017

Dear Editors:

Your editorial on July 23, 2017 "College Sex Assaults: Right Cause But Wrong Leader," suggests that New Jersey's colleges and universities should be "required to report every sexual assault allegation to the local prosecutor's sex crimes unit." This suggestion overlooks an important right belonging to victims of sexual crimes assaults. The New Jersey Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:61E-1 et seq.) "which has been on the books since 1994" gives victims of sexual assaults the right to be free from pressure from campus personnel "to report crimes if the victim does not wish to do so." This right extends to victims of sexual assaults that occur on the campus of any public or independent college or university in New Jersey and where the victim or alleged perpetrator is a student, or when the victim is a student involved in an off-campus sexual assault.

The New Jersey Task Force on Campus Sexual Assault recently released its [report](#), which included several excellent recommendations. The state colleges and universities join the Task Force in its aim to "enhance the safety of students on campus, assist students affected by sexual violence, and create healthier campus communities built on respect."

Would Reforms to Small-Business Tax, Minimum Wage, Family-Leave Fix NJ Economy?

NJSpotlight.com

July 13, 2017

Despite recent job gains and an improving unemployment rate, a new report on New Jersey's economy suggests there's still room for additional growth if state leaders are willing to do more in several key areas to help more people find good-paying jobs.

The report released yesterday by the Fund for New Jersey, a philanthropic organization that encourages informed policymaking (and a funder of NJ Spotlight), makes a number of recommendations that leaders could follow to help the state economy reach its full potential. They include reorienting state tax incentive programs to benefit small businesses and increasing New Jersey's minimum wage to bring it more in line with what it takes to survive in a high-cost state like New Jersey. In addition, the report makes a couple of higher education related recommendation, including improving college graduation rates and implementing more remedial education programs.

NJASCU CEO Mike Klein, who communicated with the report's author extensively, clarified a couple of the report's representations/omissions in the "Comments" section for the article on the NJ Spotlight site.

The report recommends increasing college completion rates without acknowledging that New Jersey is already one of the top states in college graduation rates (which measure first-time, full-time students only) and completion rates (which include transfer students and part-time students. New Jersey's 11 senior public colleges and universities have the 6th-highest graduation rate in the country

([http://collegecompletion.chronicle.com/state/#state=nj&or=public four](http://collegecompletion.chronicle.com/state/#state=nj&or=public%20four)), and the 4th-highest completion rate (<https://nscresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/Signature12aTables.xls>).

The recommendation to make "remedial education more available" also fails to acknowledge that every senior public institution already provides remedial education to the students, as reported here:<http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/IP/IP2014/index.shtml#PRU> (under "Characteristics of Undergraduate Students" in each report).

Posted by Mike Klein on July 13 at 9:42 p.m.

Mike's response to NJ Spotlight is on web: <http://www.njascu.org/media-coverage/in-the-news.html>

Now It's Official: Harrington (Finally) Sworn in as Education Commissioner

NJSpotlight.com

July 13, 2017

It got little notice and may not last all that long, but yesterday Kimberley Harrington finally won the full title that has gone with her job for nearly the past year: New Jersey's commissioner of education. Governor Chris Christie announced late in the day that Harrington had been formally sworn in to the job she had held in an "acting" capacity for nine months, following the resignation of former commissioner David Hespe.

State Looks to Private Partners for Help Rebuilding Energy Infrastructure

NJSpotlight.com

July 7, 2017

The state is looking to the private sector to help rebuild and fortify its aging energy infrastructure.

In legislation (A-4508) that advanced in the Assembly prior to the summer recess, lawmakers approved a measure that would encourage public and private partnerships to facilitate energy projects at government buildings.

The impetus behind the bill is that with government coffers drained, the private sector, in partnership with local and state governments, could help design, build, and finance energy projects at a wide range of facilities, including water and wastewater treatment plants, colleges, medical facilities, and municipal buildings.

The legislation, sponsored by Assemblywoman Marlene Caride (D-Bergen), builds on the model of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2009, which allowed higher-education institutions to partner with private developers on projects.

Among the advantages of such public-private partnerships, proponents say the program will allow long-overdue projects to be undertaken without incurring the expense of millions of dollars in public funds.

New Jersey's Economic Outlook for 2018 is So-So, Accountants Say

NJSpotlight.com

July 7, 2017

Despite New Jersey's solid year of job growth in 2016, a recent survey of the state's certified public accountants suggests few of them believe economic conditions will improve much by next year.

The results of the survey by the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants indicated just under 25 percent of those who responded to the organization's member poll predicted economic conditions will get better by 2018.

Instead, the overwhelming majority of the accountants who responded said they believe that conditions here will either stay the same or get worse, the survey found.

National Higher Education News

The Trump Administration Wants to Investigate Colleges for Discriminating Against White Applicants, an Internal Memo Suggests

[NYTimes.com](http://nytimes.com)

August 1, 2017

The Trump administration is preparing to redirect resources of the Justice Department's civil rights division toward investigating and suing universities over affirmative action admissions policies deemed to discriminate against white applicants, according to a document obtained by *The New York Times*.

The document, an internal announcement to the civil rights division, seeks current lawyers interested in working for a new project on "investigations and possible litigation related to intentional race-based discrimination in college and university admissions."

Colleges Pull Back Tuition's Long Rise

[WSJ.com](http://wsj.com)

July 24, 2017

NJASCU Executive Director Michael Klein responded to a recent Wall Street Journal article in the following manner:

In "[Colleges Pull Back Tuition's Long Rise](#)" (July 24), state legislative mandates to reduce tuition are given the credit for the drop in the average cost of attending the University of Washington in Seattle. That is only half the story. Washington State's legislature paired the mandate with \$200 million in state funds over two years to help public institutions make up the lost tuition revenue.

This kind of partnership between policymakers and state college and university leaders is a valuable lesson for other states to learn. Between fiscal years 2008 and 2016, state support per student at public institutions nationally decreased \$1,426, while net tuition revenue per student increased \$1,661, according to the [State Higher Education Executive Officers](#) (SHEEO) association. The connection between state funding for public colleges and universities, and the tuition paid by students at those institutions, is inescapable. The more support that states can provide, the less that students will need to pay.

Losing the White Working Class, Too

[InsideHigherEd.com](http://insidehighered.com)

July 31, 2017

Many professors and college leaders were stunned and concerned by recent data showing that more than half of Republicans say that colleges have a negative impact on the U.S., with wealthier, older and more educated Republicans being least positive.

Now comes a new poll with skepticism about higher education - this time based on a survey of white working-class voters of all political affiliations. The findings indicate attitudes in this group that run directly counter to the views of college educators - that higher education is essential to individual economic advancement. The key findings:

- A majority (57 percent) said a college degree "would result in more debt and little likelihood of landing a good-paying job."
- A large majority (83 percent) said a college degree was "no longer any guarantee of success in America."

Column: Yes, College is a Good Thing for America and Americans

[TBO.com](http://tbo.com)

July 27, 2017

The President of the University of Florida writes an impassioned op-ed about the value of a college/university education.

"...Although a poll shows a majority of Americans overall (55 percent) still think college is a good thing, the fact that a significant and growing part of our population doesn't is alarming. If we as a nation are to regain common ground, I can think of no better place to begin that conversation than higher education. Still a shining example the world over of one of the many things the United States does well, America's colleges and universities remain places where people from virtually every background imaginable come together to meet, share ideas, learn to question authority (something our country's founders were quite good at, I might add), solve problems and better themselves, both intellectually and economically ... Our land-grant universities are especially bright examples of this. Rooted in Abraham Lincoln's notion that higher education should be available to everyone - not just the privileged few - land-grant institutions continue to offer a way up for millions of students every year. I have worked at four of them."

Keeping Up with the Clery Act

InsideHigherEd.com

July 27, 2017

It has been a year since the U.S. Department of Education updated, via the new Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting, its guidance about the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (often referred to as just the Clery Act). But many campus officials charged with reporting campus crimes remain unclear about how to comply with the changes. And *each* inaccuracy or omission can cost an institution tens of thousands of dollars in fines and create the appearance that campus safety is not a priority - consequences that can shake student confidence and hinder recruiting.

How One State's Budget Crisis Has Hamstrung Its Public Universities

Chronicle.com

July 26, 2017

Louisiana spends the least per student on higher education among all the states. Here's a look at how that has affected public universities and colleges on the ground. The cuts have forced universities there to become leaner and more efficient. But they've come with a cost to students. University leaders say their campuses have suffered substantially - tuition increases, declining morale, constricting of academic programs.

House Grapples with Higher Ed Budget, Departs From Trump but Pell May Lose

EducationDive.com

July 20, 2017

The budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year doesn't suggest nearly as many cuts as were proposed by the White House, but the Pell grant program, in particular, may take a cut.

As Paperwork Goes Missing, Private Student Loan Debts May Be Wiped Away

NYTimes.com

July 17, 2017

The National Collegiate Student Loan Trusts has repeatedly failed to prove the current ownership of loans that, in an echo of the subprime mortgage crisis, it initially made through banks and then sold to investors. The troubled loans total at least \$5 billion. Tens of thousands of people who took out private loans to pay for college but have not been able to keep up payments may get their debts wiped away because critical paperwork is missing.

Amid Strained Finances, Higher Ed Rethinks Fundraising

EducationDive.com

July 17, 2017

"There are two parts of the spectrum that are really financially most stressed," John Hennessy, former president of Stanford University and perhaps higher ed's all-time greatest fundraiser, told Education Dive. "Those are our public institutions, where state revenue drops have become significant, and institutions with smaller endowments that clearly are very tuition-dependent. In an era where tuition is limited by the fact that we don't have very high growth rates in family income, both of those are under the most stress.

How We Are Ruining America -The College Admissions Game

[NYTimes.com](http://nytimes.com)

July 13, 2017

Educated parents live in neighborhoods with the best teachers, they top off their local public school budgets and they benefit from legacy admissions rules, from admissions criteria that reward kids who grow up with lots of enriching travel and from unpaid internships that lead to jobs.

It's no wonder that 70 percent of the students in the nation's 200 most competitive schools come from the top quarter of the income distribution. With their admissions criteria, America's elite colleges sit atop gigantic mountains of privilege, and then with their scholarship policies they salve their consciences by offering teeny step ladders for everybody else. (David Brooks column).

President Trump's Support for Apprenticeships Put Them Back into the Spotlight

[EducationDive.com](http://educationdive.com)

July 12, 2017

In recent years, the education industry's business model has become increasingly centered around two key products: college and career readiness. But while educators continue to focus on building the skills that help students get to higher education, employers say that those entering the workforce are still not prepared, particularly for jobs that desperately need to be filled.

It's for this reason that President Trump has recently announced his support for apprenticeship programs, as well as the removal of regulations that prevent businesses from participating in them. It's also partly why generally the apprenticeship model - where students go to school and work part-time - is gaining steam in education circles as the alternative to the standard college degree-to-job approach. Though some critics still say that such programs disrupt higher education enrollment and shortchange a liberal arts curriculum that gives students lifelong "soft" skills they need for success, more and more stakeholders in the industry are deciding to embrace it as they see long-run advantages.

Federal Research Support for Universities Dipped in 2015

[InsideHigherEd.com](http://insidehighered.com)

July 12, 2017

Federal obligations to universities for science and engineering declined by 2 percent in the 2015 fiscal year, new federal data show. The report by the National Science Foundation reveals that obligations from the government - a category of support that includes orders placed, contracts awarded and services received - totaled \$30.5 billion at 1,016 colleges and universities, down from \$31.1 billion in 2014. The bulk of the total - and the bulk of the decline - came in research and development funding, which declined by about \$550 million. Support for fellowships and training grants remained flat, while R&D facilities support declined slightly. The Department of Health and Human Services, which includes the National Institutes of Health, provided more than half (56 percent) of the federal support, followed by the science foundation (17 percent) and the Department of Defense (11 percent).

Deep Partisan Divide on Higher Education

[InsideHigherEd.com](http://insidehighered.com)

July 11, 2017

Republicans have soured on higher education, with more than half now saying that colleges have a negative impact on the United States. An annual survey by the Pew Research Center on Americans' views of national institutions, released this week, found a dramatic attitude shift on

higher education among Republicans and people who lean Republican, with the change occurring across most demographic and ideological groups.

The Hechinger Report/Study Finds That Potential Earnings Not a Factor in Choosing a College

HechingerReport.org

July 11, 2017

Giving high school seniors information about earning potential may have little impact on their choice of a university or major, according to a new report from the Urban Institute.

States Require More Disclosure on Student Loans and Doing So Slows the Rate of Borrowing

WSJ.com

July 11, 2017 (online) July 12, 2017 ([in print](#))

Study after study shows that college students are terrible at keeping track of how much debt they are racking up in school, so states are working to make the cost of higher education crystal clear - and there are signs that the moves are slowing runaway borrowing.

University of Michigan Implementing Free Tuition Program for Some In-State Students

EducationDive.com

July 10, 2017

The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor campus has implemented a free tuition program, called "[Go Blue Guarantee](#)," for in-state students and applicants with families earning up to \$65,000 a year. The University of Michigan's Board of Regents approved the Go Blue Guarantee as part of the 2017-2018 budget with a 7-1 vote and was [publicly announced](#) by Dr. Mark Schlissel, the university's president, on June 15. The program will go into effect on January 3, 2018, when the winter semester commences. In 2015, the median family income for the State of Michigan was \$63,893, according to the U.S. Census. Go Blue is not currently being offered at the university's Dearborn or Flint campuses due to the difference in family income between the various cities.

Back to the Starting Line on Regulating For-Profit Colleges

NPR.org

July 10, 2017

Betsy DeVos has put the brakes on two Obama-era regulations aimed at protecting student borrowers. Beginning with two public hearings during the week of July 10, the Education Department is asking stakeholders to go back to the starting line.

The July 10, all-day hearing marked the beginnings of a "regulatory reset" announced by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos last month on two rules designed to protect borrowers from predatory for-profit colleges:

- The "gainful employment" rule sanctions individual programs at colleges and universities based on how many students are able to pay back their loans.
- The "borrower defense to repayment" rule smooths the way for students to get their loans forgiven if their college is found to engage in fraudulent behavior, a situation that has befallen tens of thousands of students at Corinthian Colleges and ITT Technical Institute, among others, in the last few years.

States Sue Betsy DeVos for Delaying Student-Loan Protection Regulations

Politico.com

July 6, 2017

Eighteen states and the District of Columbia have filed suit against Education Secretary Betsy DeVos over her delay of regulations meant to provide new protections for federal student loan borrowers, particularly those at for-profit colleges.

The lawsuit, led by Massachusetts and joined by 18 other Democratic attorneys general, accuses Secretary DeVos of illegally delaying the regulations, which were finalized by the Obama

administration and had been set to take effect on July 1. The rules made it easier for defrauded student loan borrowers to have their loans forgiven. They also prohibited colleges from requiring students to resolve complaints through arbitration rather than in court.



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Thank you,

Pamela Hersh
 Director, Communications & Marketing
 NJ Association of State Colleges & Universities
 150 West State Street
 Trenton, New Jersey 08608
 609-989-1100 office
 609-256-8256 direct
pjhersh@njascu.org

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