



March 31, 2016

Dear Colleagues/Friends:

NJASCU's "Press Clippings" communications has evolved into a more comprehensive E-newsletter, called NJASCU News and Notes. The communication includes not only the compilation of media clips, but also a selection of feature stories highlighting NJASCU-member initiatives, alumni, and state legislative priorities.

Please check [www.njascu.org](http://www.njascu.org) for the most up-to-date information about the New Jersey public colleges and universities, as well as the AASCU "Daily Headlines" service for the national higher education news.

## News and Notes

### **Op-Ed: Education Infrastructure in New Jersey - If We Build It, They Will Stay**

NJ Spotlight - Michael Klein  
February 26, 2016

*We're retaining about as many college students as we can accommodate; the out-migration issue is really an underinvestment problem.*

Lost in the debate over New Jersey's outmigration issue - described in a recent [report](#) by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA) and highlighted by Governor Chris Christie in his budget address on February 16 - is the fact that New Jersey is doing an excellent job of retaining just about as many of its college students for whom we have capacity. A [study by the College Board](#) indicates that 93 percent of first-time students at public four-year colleges in New Jersey were residents of New Jersey - one percentage point behind Texas for best state in the country at enrolling home-state residents.

## State College/University Alumni Profiles

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

Two of our most recent Alumni Profiles are:



**Danielle Kovach, New Jersey City University, Class of 2010**



**Patricia Howell, William Paterson University, Class of 1973**



**Lamont Repollet, The College of New Jersey, Class of 1994  
and Kean University, Class of 2000**

## News Clippings

**Kean University Hosts International Business Plan Competition** NJ Advance Media for NJ.com  
March 31, 2016

Student entrepreneurs will pitch their business plans and compete for prizes in the third annual Kean University International Business Plan Competition on April 5, 2016 at 10 a.m. in the Miron Student Center's Little Theatre. The event was created to foster an interest in small business ownership within the Kean community. Open to all Kean undergraduates, as well as area high school students through NJ DECA, the completion offers \$6,000 in combined prizes.

**JetBlue Foundation Provides Grants to Help Six Aviation Programs Take Flight**  
Businesswire.com  
March 31, 2016

The Jet Blue Foundation today announced the third round of grants and Thomas Edison State University was among the grant recipients. The JetBlue Foundation, an education-focused entity which furthers the airline's effort to place aviation top-of-mind as a career choice for students, awarded \$150,000 in grants to help encourage aviation programs that support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives. TESU will use this grant to develop a bachelor's degree program in Aviation Management. This program will be available to all students enrolled in the College's School of Applied Science and Technology (AST) and will specifically reach veterans, women and under-represented ethnic groups.

### **Healthcare Costs for Retired Public Workers Edge into the Political Crosshairs**

NJ Spotlight  
March 31, 2016

Public-employee pension payments have been the high-profile target, but rising cost of retiree healthcare coverage could make it a bigger problem - and potentially affect the budget appropriations for the state schools.

The future of New Jersey's grossly underfunded public-employee pension system has been the subject of a high-profile feud between Governor Chris Christie and Democratic legislative leaders for well over a year.

But the growing cost of providing healthcare coverage to the state's retired public workers, another one of the state's big fiscal challenges, has received far less attention. A new report issued today by the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank based in New York, lists New Jersey among the states with the highest per-capita retiree healthcare costs in the entire country. The report - which seeks to draw more attention to the broader issue of unfunded retiree healthcare obligations - makes the case that states like New Jersey should give getting that problem under control a higher priority than reforming their pension systems.

### **Graduates Need More Experience, According to Poll**

The Press of Atlantic City  
March 31, 2016

Recent college graduates in New Jersey think colleges should do more to tie academic and practical learning, according to a new Stockton University poll. The poll found that 30 percent of graduates believe the most important outcome of going to college is to get a better job. However, only 35 percent of those graduates believe colleges are doing "extremely well" in preparing them for the job. "Colleges in New Jersey aspire to meet students' college outcome expectations," said Darryl Greer, author of "Measuring College Outcomes." "By gaining further understanding of student opinion on these issues, we can facilitate a more informed direction on change needed to help students succeed."

### **Colleges Spending Millions to Deal with Sexual Misconduct Complaints**

New York Times  
March 30, 2016

Mia Karvonides is Harvard's first Title IX officer, leading a new bureaucracy that oversees how the institution responds to complaints of sexual violence under Title IX, the federal law that governs gender equity in education. She is one of a rapidly growing number of Title IX employees on campuses nationwide, as colleges spend millions to hire lawyers, investigators, case workers, survivor

advocates, peer counselors, workshop leaders and other officials to deal with increasing numbers of these complaints.

### **Racial Gap in College Grad Rates Grows Nationwide**

Philly.com

March 29, 2016

College graduation rates are generally rising across the country. That's the good news. Less positive: Gaps remain between the graduation rates of black students and white students, and in some cases those gaps have increased, according to a new report. Some local schools have done well, with Rutgers University's New Brunswick and Newark campuses both shrinking the black/white gap in graduation rates. But, the report found, Rowan University and Kean University saw black graduation rates decrease as white graduation rates rose.

### **NJ Colleges Grant More Degrees Than Ever**

Philly.com

March 28, 2016

New Jersey colleges and universities have granted more bachelor's degrees every year for the past two decades, according to new data compiled by the state.

In the 2014-2015 school year, colleges in the state gave out 43,311 bachelor's degrees, up 32.9 percent from a decade prior.

### **Wayne Educator Named One of NJ's Most Powerful Women**

Patch.com

March 27, 2016

Kathleen Waldron, president of William Paterson University, was named one of the most powerful women in the state by NJBIZ magazine recently. Waldron was one of 17 women named to the list. It is her sixth year at the helm of one of New Jersey's largest public universities. More than 11,500 attend the school. NJBIZ had this to say about Waldron: "Under her leadership, the university has increased the number of full-time faculty, improved retention and graduation rates, revitalized student support, completed a strategic plan and developed several zone master facility plans to renovate and construct new facilities. While keeping education affordable with historically low increases in tuition, she has led strategic investment in student/faculty research, increased alumni relations and philanthropy and enhanced outside support for the institution."

### **Rowan President Looks to Help Students Get State Tuition Aid Grants**

The Press of Atlantic City

March 27, 2016

The president of Rowan University wants to help more New Jersey college students get state Tuition Aid Grants that provide thousands of dollars a year to help pay for college. But to do that, Ali Houshmand says the state must change the way it funds the program, which now gives students who attend private colleges more money than students who attend public colleges, a system he calls unfair. Under the current system, the amount of the grant fluctuates based on the

cost of the college. So a student eligible for the maximum award would receive about \$8,000 a year to attend Rowan, but more than \$12,000 if they chose a private college like Rider, Princeton, or Monmouth University.

### **Upward Bound for 20 Years at Ramapo College**

NorthJersey.com

March 26, 2016

The Upward Bound Math-Science Program (UBMS) at Ramapo College of New Jersey, a federally-funded TRIO program for low-income high school students with the potential to be first-generation college attendees, recently celebrated 20 years of success with a gathering of faculty, staff and students who participated in the program.

### **NJCU Honors Corporate Partners, Friends During "Blueprint for Tomorrow" Event**

NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

March 26, 2016

New Jersey City University honored business leaders and longtime friends of the university on March 25, 2016 during its "Blueprint for Tomorrow" gala. The event, held at the Hyatt Regency in Jersey City, honored the school's corporate partners, Mack-Cali, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation and Wyndham Worldwide. Mack-Cali, the New Jersey-based real estate company, received the NJCU Corporate Partnership in Business Award. Mack-Cali helped in the relocation of the NJCU School of Business to Harborside Plaza 2, in the heart of Jersey City's business district.

### **Gerald Clemens' Bequest Creates New Stockton Scholarship**

The Press of Atlantic City

March 26, 2016

Stockton University will receive more than \$300,000 from the estate of an Atlantic County man to provide scholarships for students studying in a science field. Gerald "Jerry" Clemens died in December 2014 at age 81. He was born in Atlantic City, and was a 1951 graduate of Pleasantville High School. He attended Wake Forest University in North Carolina and worked as a manager in the State of New Jersey Employment Office in Atlantic City for decades. His sister, Norma Clemens Caputo, said Clemens attended many classes and seminars in South Jersey and bought a computer at age 70, becoming adept at using it, according to a press release from Stockton, which announced the gift.

### **Rowan University and Inspira Health Network Reach Revised Land Deal**

PhillyVoice.com

March 24, 2016

### **Revised Hospital Deal Reached Between Rowan University and Inspira**

Philadelphia CBS Local

March 24, 2016

A revised deal between Rowan and Inspira Health Network has been reached

regarding 100 acres of university land near Route 55 just outside Glassboro, New Jersey. The price for the 100 acres of land in Gloucester County jumped from \$9.5 million to \$11.5 million. Rowan trustees wanted additional money after a new appraisal was done and to address competition concerns involving Kennedy Health System, which has an existing educational partnership with the college. The deal involves the building of a new hospital and an education partnership between Inspira and Rowan University. Under the deal, \$1 million will be set aside for internships for Rowan's health sciences students, Rowan spokesman Joe Cardona told KYW News Radio.

### **Atlantic City Faces Financial Collapse; Cringes at State Takeover**

NPR

March 24, 2016

"The big problem is the continuing decline in the casino industry," says Oliver Cooke, associate professor of economics at Stockton University. "Now I think that has spiraled into a housing crisis, and, of course, the fiscal crisis that the actual city of Atlantic City currently faces."

### **Rowan-Inspira Seal the Deal**

Courier Post

March 23, 2016

A university trustees vote finalized the sale of 100 acres of Rowan University land in Harrison Township to Inspira Health Network for its proposed hospital. Rowan University Board of Trustees authorized the \$11.5 million land sale - the appraised value of the property - at a special meeting Tuesday, according to university spokesman Joe Cardona.

### **Comedian Sunda Croonquist to Appear at Montclair State's 2016 Autism New Jersey Benefit**

BroadwayWorld.com

March 23, 2016

Actress, comedian & talk show host **Sunda Croonquist** returns to her home state for the fifth annual Autism New Jersey benefit scheduled to take place on Monday, April 11, 2016 at the Memorial Auditorium of Montclair State University (MSU) located at 1 Normal Avenue in Montclair, NJ. The "Performers for a Purpose" benefit - presented in partnership with the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter of MSU - is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$15 for general admission, \$25 VIP, can be purchased in advance online at [www.autismnj.org/fundraising\\_events](http://www.autismnj.org/fundraising_events).

### **William Paterson Coaches Rescue Pair from Burning Car, Report Says**

NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

March 22, 2016

Two New Jersey college baseball coaches **rescued a pair of people** from a burning car in Florida, according to a report.

While on a trip with their team last week, William Paterson University's baseball head coach Mike Lauterhahn and assistant coach Mark Palestina leapt into action when they heard a head-on car crash outside their hotel, ABC reports.

The heroic duo took off across the street, scaled a 6-foot wall, and pulled a man and woman from the fiery crash site getting the pair to safety, the report says.

### **Launch of 7-week Long Meditation Program at Montclair State University a Welcome Step: Hindu Community**

Merinews.com  
March 22, 2016

Hindus are commending launch of seven-week long "Mind, Body, Being" program at Montclair State University. They are calling it a step in the right direction. It combines yoga and meditation with the goal of developing a more compassionate interaction with their fellow students and colleagues.

### **Lincoln Park Professor Nets \$450K Grant for Biofuel Research**

Daily Record  
March 22, 2016

A Montclair State University faculty member has been awarded a \$450,000 grant to help fund continued research into the development of biofuel alternatives in certain regions of the United States. Montclair State University announced Tuesday that Pankaj Lal, an assistant professor of earth and environmental studies, recently was awarded a five-year, \$450,000 Faculty Early Career Development grant from the National Science Foundation to explore sustainable bioenergy solutions in the Midwest and southern United States. Lal's project will focus on place-based policy solutions that develop forest- and agriculture-based bioenergy as a fossil fuel alternative. His solutions will be based on analysis of factors such as location suitability, socioeconomic uncertainty and environmental impact.

### **Terrorism Expert Warns of Possible Future Attack on Eve of Brussels Attacks**

Patch.com (also a **QuickTake** feature)  
March 22, 2016

"We are going to be hit again," Brian Levin, a nationally known expert on hate crimes and terrorism from California State University at San Bernardino, told an audience at Stockton University in a speech Monday night, hours before ISIS claimed responsibility for attacks at an airport and a subway station in Brussels that left 34 people dead and at least 170 more injured.

### **500K - and counting - Have Had Mental Health "First Aid" Training**

NJ Advance Media for NJ.com  
March 22, 2016

The Mental Health First Aid course launched in 2008 uses role playing and demonstrations to introduce ways of assessing and responding to the risk of suicide or harm among mental health problems.

The course is offered to a wide range of audiences, including hospital staff, business employees, members of faith communities and law enforcement groups. Instructors come from the ranks of the New Jersey State Police, the Department

of Human Services' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and The College of New Jersey, among other sources.

### **Strategy for UC Economic Development is Approved**

Union News Daily  
March 21, 2016

The U.S. Economic Development Authority has approved an economic development strategy that will support economic development and job creation in 19 municipalities throughout seven counties in northern central New Jersey, including Elizabeth, Plainfield, and Roselle in Union County. The Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State University coordinated the plan, which is a unique collaborative strategy that includes several projects in a collection of municipalities. The EDA has approved the plans for these projects, which include future grants to fund them.

### **Christie Proposes Two-Year Moratorium on Hospital Property Tax Plan**

NJ Spotlight  
March 21, 2016

While lawmakers favored establishing a new fee for the hospitals, Christie's proposed remedy would sidestep that issue altogether by maintaining the status quo for two more years.

That, he said, would give a special study commission time to take a long look at whether the state's decades-old property tax exemption law still meshes with the way nonprofit hospitals operate in the 21st century, and hold off lawsuits addressing the same idea.

### **College Officials Say Fairness Still Issue in State Aid**

Press of Atlantic City  
March 19, 2016

Stockton University will get about \$2,300 per student in state aid next year. The College of New Jersey will get almost \$4,000 per student, according to state budget figures. Two state reports over the past five years have concluded the current funding system is outdated and unfair and must be changed. According to state reports, no one can even remember how aid is determined for each college. But so far nothing has changed. As they prepare for a major expansion to Atlantic City, Stockton University officials are making their voices heard this year in the hopes of getting the process started.

### **Blackwell Controversy at Kean Heats Up**

Union News Daily  
March 18, 2016

On Friday, March 4th, state Senate President Stephen Sweeney and state Senator Sandra Cunningham (D-Hudson), the Senate Majority Whip from Hudson, suggested that Kean University remove a minister whom the school has hired for an internal investigation and replace him with an outside investigator.

The controversy has continued since November, when Sweeney called a meeting in response to allegations of structural racism and discriminatory hiring made against the university by a coalition of black ministers.

### **New Play from Moorestown Man Set to Open in New Orleans**

Patch.com

March 10, 2016

Thomas Edison State University Trustee Fred Abbate, a 46-year resident of Moorestown, has written a new play about life, the politics of death and the role of God in human affairs that is set to make its debut this month at the Shakespeare Association of America's annual conference in New Orleans.

### **The Baristanet Interview: Dr. Susan Cole, MSU President**

Baristanet.com

March 9, 2016

Dr. Susan A. Cole came to Montclair State University almost 18 years ago with a vision for transforming what was once a teacher's college into a robust, high-quality academic institution. Since then, enrollment has increased by nearly 50 percent, and she has spearheaded a \$650 million campus master plan that began in 2010, with the University completing over \$100 million in capital projects in 2015 alone. Underlying this vision, Dr. Cole told Baristanet in a recent interview, it is her mission to make higher education accessible to everyone. What follows are excerpts from our conversation with Dr. Cole, which ranged from her upbringing in Brooklyn Heights to the often unrecognized quality of state schools to how Montclair and its surrounding communities can benefit from the school's many resources.

## **Collegiate Sponsor Spotlight**

### **Spencer Savings Bank**

#### **[Learn More About Spencer Savings Bank's Community Involvement](#)**

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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