



New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities

The leading voice for public higher education in New Jersey.



September 2016

Dear Colleagues/Friends:

Welcome to our 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 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.

State College/University Alumni Profiles

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

Our most recent Alumni Profile:

NJCU Alumni Jazz Big Band

The New Jersey City University Alumni Jazz Big Band, conducted by NJCU Professor Richard Lowenthal, performed a "Tribute to Lew Soloff" on September 16, 2016. The concert was the fourth annual collaboration between NJCU and the City of Jersey City and marked the start of NJCU's arts programming, bringing together a number of musicians who had known, performed with, or studied with Mr. Soloff. He performed at NJCU several times as a guest artist with the NJCU Jazz Band.



Events/Activities

**"The Power of Lifting Up Others"
Speaker Broadcast with Leigh Anne Tuohy
October 18, 2016
7 p.m.
Skyline Room at NJCU School of Business**

The New Jersey City University (NJCU) Center for the Arts and the National Society of Leadership and Success invite the community to a live speaker broadcast on Tuesday, October 18 with Leigh Anne Tuohy, the inspiration behind the *New York Times* number one best-seller and Academy Award nominated film, *The Blind Side*.

Ms. Tuohy's lecture on "The Power of Lifting Up Others" will be held at 7 p.m. in The Skyline Room at the NJCU School of Business, which is located in Harborside 2 at 200 Hudson Street in Jersey City.

[Register here.](#)

**"A Time for Change" Exhibition
October 4 through December 15
Stockton University**

Stockton University's acclaimed exhibition on the role South Jersey has played in the civil rights struggle, "A Time for Change," is moving to the Galloway campus.

South Jersey played an important part in the struggle for African-American equality. Its citizens fought for racial justice and against segregation in the south, marched on Washington with Martin Luther King, Jr., protested on the Atlantic City boardwalk with the Mississippi Freedom Democrats, and showcased the first Miss Black America contest. The exhibition, which was previously at the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey in the Arts Garage in Atlantic City, is sponsored by Stockton University and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

"A Time for Change," will open to the public beginning October 4 through December 15 on the first floor of the Bjork Library. The library is open Monday - Thursday from 8 a.m. to midnight; Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday; and Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to midnight.

**WPU Symphony Performs a Star Wars Extravaganza Concert
Saturday, October 15, 2016
8 p.m.**

The William Paterson University Symphony will perform the entire original John Williams film score to *Star Wars*. Characters from the pop culture phenomenon will also make an appearance for the "out of this world" evening of music. The symphony will be conducted by Sandra Dackow, a faculty member of the William Paterson University music department. Dackow has conducted symphonies around the world, including the All-Queensland Honors Orchestra in Brisbane, Australia, the Kharkov Philharmonic in Ukraine and the Spartanburg Philharmonic in South Carolina. She has also written more than 70 published works for orchestra and is an author of the Orchestra Expressions curriculum.

For additional information and tickets, please call the University's Shea Center Box Office at 973-720-2371 or visit wp-presents.org.

News and Notes

Montclair State University Assists County College Students in Getting Four-Year Degrees

www.TAPinto.net

October 1, 2016

Montclair State University and the County College of Morris (CCM) teamed up on September 29 to create an automatic transfer initiative that would allow associate degree candidates at CCM to seamlessly transfer to the four-year university to pursue bachelor's degrees in selected programs.

The program formalizes a two-plus-two model designed to promote student success and ensures a guaranteed four-year path to an undergraduate degree.

"Access to high-quality, affordable higher education should be available to anyone with the desire to pursue and the capacity to benefit by it, and this agreement will provide that opportunity for many students," said Montclair State University President Susan A. Cole. "This partnership expands on a long and successful transfer relationship between the two institutions."

NJASCU Statement on Final Report of College Affordability Study Commission

September 29, 2016

Mike Klein, CEO and executive director of NJASCU, sent the following statement to the press about the

The College Affordability Study Commission rightly pointed out the critical connection between state funding to the public four-year colleges and universities and the tuition and fees at those institutions. The key to keeping a college education affordable for all students at the public four-year institutions of higher education in New Jersey is sufficient, predictable, and sustained state investment in those institutions.

The College Affordability Study Commission also correctly noted the important role the institutions themselves play in constraining costs and presenting options to students to obtain their degree in the most affordable way possible. Many of our institutions have already implemented several of the recommendations in the report, including strengthening partnerships with county colleges and establishing dual-enrollment programs with local high schools.

We strongly agree with the commission's focus to reduce the time it takes students to cross the finish line with their degree. New Jersey's public four-year colleges and universities are already among the nation's leaders in graduations rates, ranking [sixth-](#)

[highest](#) in four-year and six-year graduation rates, and there is still more that can be done to accelerate students' time to their degree.

The report is comprehensive and well written, and we congratulate the members of the commission and their staff on the final report. The leaders of our institutions look forward to continuing to review and consider the recommendations in the report.

Moreover, we will continue to seek solutions beyond funding and campus-based initiatives to address college affordability. For example, the State can help the state colleges and universities reduce the cost of their operations by updating 30-year-old laws and regulations over procurement and construction at our institutions to allow for more flexibility and cost savings.

William Paterson University Has Civic Engagement In Its DNA

QuickTakes

October 6, 2016

William Paterson University in Wayne, a commitment to civic engagement sits at the heart of the institution, with students, faculty and staff throughout the campus active participants in a wide array of programs and opportunities.

Senate President Stephen Sweeney Holds Press Event on College Affordability and Success of Stockton's Dual Enrollment Program

News on Campus

September 30, 2016

On September 29, 2016, Senate President Steve Sweeney, D-3rd, held an open press roundtable event recognizing Stockton University's leading role in a dual enrollment program with high schools, one of the key recommendations of the recently released NJ State Legislature's College Affordability Study Commission. The program offers students the opportunity to earn college credit while also earning high school credit at a significant cost savings, reducing the cost of higher education. Participants in the event include: New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney; Stockton University President Harvey Kesselman; Executive Vice President Susan Davenport; Daniel MacPhee, assistant superintendent, and Steven Schaffer, educator, both of Southern Regional School District; Stockton's Steven Marcus, an adjunct professor in the School of General Studies, and Arnaldo Cordero-Roman, associate professor of Spanish; Liz Klem, educator from Atlantic County Institute of Technology; Linda Mulvihill, educator, Holy Spirit High School; Mercedes Noble, former dual enrollment student now employed by the School of Arts and Humanities; and current students.

Keeping College Within Reach for Middle- and Working-Class Families

NJSpotlight.com

September 29, 2016

With state investment in higher education continuing to decline, a new blueprint suggests ways to alleviate the burden on students and their families.

A commission that studied the rising cost of higher education in New Jersey released its final report yesterday, calling for an expansion of certain student assistance programs and improved partnerships between community and four-year colleges. It also detailed ways to increase the financial literacy of students taking on school debt.

The [long-awaited report](#) comes at a time when the state has been under fire for dramatically underfunding its institutions of higher education.

NJ Democrats Unveil College Affordability Package

BurlingtonCountyTimes.com

September 28, 2016

Rowan College at Burlington County's innovative 3+1 program could be copied by community

colleges across New Jersey as part of a legislative package intended to make the state's colleges and universities more affordable.

The 3+1 program, which starts this year, allows Rowan College students to earn bachelor's degrees by completing three years of coursework at the Burlington County college before transferring to Rowan University for their final year.

Legislation to encourage and provide state guidance to facilitate the creation of additional programs and partnerships between New Jersey's county colleges and four-year schools is one of 11 bills Democrats in the Senate are expected to introduce Thursday.

NJ Lawmakers Unveil Plan to Cut Costs of College in New Jersey

NorthJersey.com

September 28, 2016

Legislation aimed at making college more affordable - through increased tuition grants, streamlined loan programs and a great reliance on community colleges - will be introduced on Thursday, lawmakers said. An 11-bill package - based on recommendations made by a study commission and released this week - was announced Wednesday at a press conference in Trenton. Tuition and fees at New Jersey's public four-year colleges and universities are among the highest in the nation, at an average of more than \$13,000. "We're going to show people we can reduce the cost (of a degree)," said State Senate President Stephen Sweeney, D-Gloucester. Reducing the time spent getting a degree - a major factor in increased costs - is the thrust of many of the initiatives, said state Senator Sandra Cunningham, D-Jersey City, who chairs the higher education committee in the Senate. Toward that end, there is a bill that would encourage more high schools to offer college-level courses so seniors can amass college credits before graduation. Another allows for so called "reverse transfer" policies whereby credits earned at a four-year school could be used to get an associate degree from a community college. And a third provides the framework for a three-year degree.

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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