



NEW JERSEY

# Association of State Colleges and Universities

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**QuickTakes!**

## **Confucius Institute at New Jersey City University Offers a Myriad of Educational and Cultural Opportunities**

November 16, 2015

*"Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace."*  
Chinese philosopher Confucius (551 BC -479 BC)

If Confucius had attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony at New Jersey City University (NJCU) on November 2, 2015, he would have come up with a wise saying about the value of the new NJCU Confucius Institute. In the absence of Confucius, modern-day Chinese and American dignitaries offered profound and enthusiastic comments about the important role the Confucius Institute would play not only for NJCU students and faculty, but also for all citizens of the region and beyond.

With the addition of the Confucius Institute to NJCU's impressive catalog of academic and professional opportunities, NJCU will be able to provide education on Chinese language and culture, thanks to partnering with one of the largest private universities in China – Jilin Huaqiao University of Foreign Languages in Jilin Province.

NJCU is one of just two universities in New Jersey selected to host a Confucius Institute; Rutgers University is the other. Approximately 100 universities across the country, which include Columbia University, New York University, University of Michigan, the University of Buffalo, SUNY, and Stony Brook University-SUNY, host Confucius Institutes. Approximately 400 Confucius Institutes exist at universities throughout the world.

"NJCU's collaborative partnership through the Confucius Institute will expand the internationalization of NJCU by providing a broad selection of new teaching and research opportunities for our faculty and by preparing our students to study and work in a fast-paced global environment," said Dr. Sue Henderson, president of NJCU.

NJCU has been recognized by the American Council on Education for its international efforts and now has over 30 partnerships with universities throughout the world. Recent, the Chinese government and NJCU have approved several joint degree programs.

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*The College of New Jersey  
Kean University  
Montclair State University*

*New Jersey City University  
Ramapo College of New Jersey  
Rowan University*

*Stockton University  
Thomas Edison State College  
William Paterson University*

“This distinction reflects our vision for internationalization at NJCU and is consistent with our plans to enhance cultural and educational opportunities for our students, faculty and librarians. The Confucius Institute designation signals that NJCU is viewed as a worthy and reputable educational partner by a rising superpower in the contemporary world. Our academic trajectory is on the upward swing; through these activities and programs we are engaged in enhancing our urban mission,” stated Dr. Daniel J. Julius, NJCU provost and senior vice president.

Jersey City Deputy Mayor Vivian Brady-Phillips emphasized the diversity of Jersey City as being part of that urban mission. “We in Jersey City are citizens of an international city . . . The Confucius Institute is welcome in this city that embraces its diversity . . . The mutual understanding and cultural communication that will be enhanced by this Institute are invaluable societal benefits,” she said.

NJCU officials noted that more than 90 languages are spoken in Hudson County, where NJCU is located, and more than 40 languages are spoken in the Jersey City Public School District.

Up to five Chinese faculty members, fully supported by Jilin Huaqiao University of Foreign Languages, will begin working at NJCU this fall. A library of 3,000 books is being donated by Jilin Huaqiao University, as are funds to host cultural events. NJCU will host summer programs promoting Chinese language to the community as well as to high schools throughout the area. The Confucius Institute also will offer non-credit language courses, as well as host cultural events.



**PROUD PARTNERS:** Dr. Sue Henderson, NJCU President, and Dr. Qin He, President of Jilin Huaqiao University of Foreign Languages, share a moment with a sculpture of the Chinese philosopher Confucius for whom the Institute was named. The statue was presented to the University at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the NJCU campus. NJCU and Jilin Huaqiao University of Foreign Languages will partner through the Confucius Institute

*to provide education on Chinese language and culture and to emphasize international opportunities.*

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