



## 2019 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A TRANSFORMATIONAL AGENT OF CHANGE FOR OUR STUDENTS,  
OUR CITY, OUR COMMUNITIES, AND OUR STATE.



**New Jersey City University is an institution of higher learning with an audacious goal: the development of our students, our city, our communities, our state and the world.**

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NJCU's rich diversity provides an ideal environment for creativity and nurturing talent. Here, students, guided by faculty and mentors, discover interests and abilities to equip them for the future. They are stimulated and challenged by the wide array of ideas stemming from different cultures, customs and ways of life they encounter in the community of scholars. At NJCU, students' lives are transformed.

This transformation prepares our students for jobs of today and the world of tomorrow. We know that it is not enough just to give students the skills that will make them employable. While it is essential that they be given the skills and discipline necessary to land that first job, our goal for each student is far more expansive. It is to prepare students for that first job and also for their second and third jobs—jobs that don't yet exist and that will be using technologies not yet invented. To do this, students need to develop habits of the mind to become lifelong learners. Our general education courses are designed to give students the abilities to think critically and creatively, to write effectively, and to speak persuasively. Our disciplinary courses allow students to major in a chosen area and develop a deep knowledge and specialized expertise in that field ready for life after graduation.



Yet, given NJCU's goals for its students, preparation for work is not enough. Entering students are imbued with our motto, "Enter to Learn, Exit to Serve." We know that our students will not only be workers. They will be parents, citizens, community leaders, and policy makers. Discharging these responsibilities requires strength of character, empathy, and the joy of living. NJCU's student life, residential living, clubs, and intramural and varsity sports provide opportunities for our students to develop as persons. Our student services provide a helping hand as students progress in their degree programs. Our caring community is one that fosters growth of the whole person.

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# Our Students

For students, NJCU is nothing short of transformative. With a student population that is largely first-generation and from modest financial means, NJCU meets their needs through close advising, mentoring, and a Debt-Free Promise Program to ensure they leave with no debt upon graduation. First-time students, transfer students, returning students, military members, working parents, professionals looking to change their careers all find a home at NJCU—an affordable, diverse environment with exceptionally supportive faculty, enabling students to thrive as scholars and graduate as thoughtful, high-achieving professionals.

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked NJCU as the **best public school in New Jersey** for ethnic diversity. Students learn firsthand from classmates in an intercultural exchange that prepares them to be critical thinkers in a global landscape.
- NJCU is home of the **Debt-Free Promise**. As one of the most affordable public four-year colleges in the state, NJCU is committed to making college accessible.
- Recognized as one of the top public colleges improving students' upward economic mobility, NJCU is a great return on investment. Ten years after graduation, **students earn 22% more than the national average income**.
- Our students earn national accolades. For three years in a row, NJCU was named a **top producer of U.S. Fulbright students**.
- NJCU has helped students go on to become **game changers** in their own right, in fields ranging from music to nursing and media to education.





# Our City

In addition to preparing students for productive livelihoods and fulfilling lives of service, NJCU is a major player in Jersey City and the State of New Jersey. We are the change agent for our communities. Our mission to provide a diverse population with an excellent education is fortified by a commitment to improve the educational, intellectual, cultural, socioeconomic, and physical environment of the surrounding urban region and beyond.

This commitment drives us to not only inspire intellectual development, but economic development as well. More than a place of higher learning, NJCU is the educational anchor institution in Jersey City. Throughout its transformation into a new home for financial institutions, burgeoning industries, and waterfront development, we have partnered with the city to ensure the changes directly benefit our students and community members.



## Hudson Waterfront

NJCU moved its School of Business to a 70,000-square foot renovated building on Jersey City's Hudson waterfront in 2015, supporting the awe-inspiring downtown transformation and providing students with easy access to the New York City financial district and partnerships with nearby businesses such as JPMorgan, Provident Bank, and Wyndham Hotels.



## University Place

NJCU is working with the city to create University Place, a \$400 million public-private partnership redevelopment project bringing spaces for education, arts, shopping, dining, outdoor events, farmer's markets, market-rate rental apartments—and with all that, jobs—to the local community.



## Sustainability

Even as we grow, we are shrinking our carbon footprint. We get more and more of our food from local, sustainable sources. We've reduced water waste. We've added solar power and other initiatives to bring down our energy use and reduce pollution. We are seeking LEED certification for new building projects. We've improved recycling practices. Plus, as an academic institution, our students conduct urban environmental research and we can boast that we offer more than 48 courses on sustainability-related topics.

# Our Communities

Enriching the lives of those in our neighboring communities has always been a priority for NJCU. Our dedication to our fellow New Jersey residents is as steadfast today as it's ever been. We're not only expanding our partnerships with community colleges across the state, we're expanding our offering of Division 3 varsity sports programs. All of which will give students, student-athletes and entire communities something to cheer about.



## NCAA Division III Athletics

NJCU is one of the fastest-growing athletics programs in the country, and the largest in the New Jersey Athletic Conference. We offer 21 varsity sport programs, including the recently announced additions of men's wrestling, men's and women's tennis, women's golf—and are the first university in New Jersey to sponsor women's wrestling.



## University Performing Arts Center

Expanding on its history as a performing arts hub in Jersey City, NJCU will soon open a 500-seat performance space, making music, dance, and theatre performances an even greater part of the fabric of the community. The center will also serve as the cutting-edge academic complex for instruction in the performing arts. It will be home to the internationally known Joffrey Ballet School, which is partnering with NJCU to offer students the ability to obtain a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.



## Pre-College STEM Programs

NJCU provides STEM education for middle- and high-school students through summer programs like the Proyecto Science Program and the STEM Success Academy. And, through our partnership with Innovation High School, students work with NJCU faculty on robotics, drones and augmented reality projects and take NJCU college courses for credit.



## Institute for Financial Literacy

NJCU's Institute for Financial Literacy at NJCU (IFLEE) empowers community members to pursue a lifetime of financial health by providing the tools and resources needed to make informed financial decisions. NJCU provides teacher professional development workshops, partners with community nonprofits and faith-based organizations, incorporates personal finance curriculum into its lifelong learning programs, acts as a repository for financial literacy resources, and conducts scholarly research.





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# Our State

NJCU is a game changer for New Jersey, too. Our partnerships with community colleges across the state give students access to high-quality, affordable degree programs.

Building on our 10-year-plus relationship with Brookdale Community College, we've become an educational partner in the revitalization of Fort Monmouth—which will allow us to further expand our bachelor's and master's degree offerings along the Jersey Shore.

What's more, we've discovered that a majority of our graduates opt to stay in-state and become our next generation of workers and leaders—a win-win for the Garden State.

NJCU is a powerful agent of change for our students, our city, our communities and our state.



The university's initiatives yield a profound economic, cultural, and social impact that extends far beyond the boundaries of our campus. We pride ourselves on not only being an institution of higher learning, but an institution dedicated to a higher purpose—the betterment of our students, our city, our communities, our state—and the world beyond.



NJCU continues to be a powerful and dynamic **agent of change**. This has always been our vision, as evidenced by our motto, *Ineamus Ad Discendum / Exeamus Ad Merendum* “Enter to Learn, Exit to Serve.” This vision endures today.



