A Message from the President:

BUILDING TOMORROW'S UNIVERSITY

Despite a challenging economic climate, 2013 has been a rewarding year for NJIT. The university is growing and evolving, reshaping itself into what we like to think of as tomorrow’s university.
NJIT was recognized recently as America’s #1 College Value, and that was particularly gratifying because the ranking was based on affordable tuition, underscoring our accessibility, and alumni earnings, emphasizing our return on investment. We are in the process of undertaking a new strategic planning effort that will undergird the university’s pursuit of goals and apply our considerable knowledge and expertise to the challenges of today's society. The outcomes of this reexamination are emerging as a reinvented NJIT.

- **We are the science and technology university of New Jersey.**
  
  We have never claimed to be a comprehensive institution; we are a specialized and highly focused university, and our focus is in the STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. These are the disciplines that will transform our economy, our quality of life and our environment. These are the areas where the jobs and opportunities lie in our 21st-century economy. We are already ranked in the top one percent of all public colleges in the nation for return on investment, and are eighth overall among public universities for alumni earning potential.

  With the assistance of a $100-million grant from the state’s higher education bond issue, we’ve set projects in motion over recent months that will strengthen and expand our STEM focus and lead the way to even greater success for our students.

- **We’ve opened the Warren Street Village, a unique residential complex for students of our Albert Dorman Honors College and Greek organizations, that supports these groups as learning communities both in and out of the classroom.**

- **We are building a digital infrastructure appropriate to a top-tier technology university.** We are renovating and upgrading our existing facilities to create smart classrooms and labs employing multimedia resources, collaborative learning, and continuous access to cloud computing and Internet knowledge resources.

- **We are creating, in the Central King Building, a state-of-the-art STEM teaching and learning hub that will stimulate the exchange of ideas and apply emerging knowledge through hands-on laboratories, design and modeling studios.** The facility will house a Teaching Effectiveness Institute, a Math Engagement Center, a Composition Engagement Center, and centers for advising and pre-professional mentoring. These centers will make use of best practices and pedagogy of hands-on, project-based learning, including teams of students and faculty working on solutions to real-world problems.

New Jersey has recognized that NJIT fills a unique and vital role in the state’s economic growth and development through special expertise in technology and innovation. Our educational programs are tied to the state’s projected need for quality professionals in the STEM fields. Our strategic goals parallel those in the state strategic plan.

- We have matched the university’s growth and development to the critical New Jersey industries that will be strong drivers of economic growth, particularly biomedicine, pharmaceuticals and medical devices. The Biological Sciences Education and Research Center, to be housed in the Central King Building, will provide teaching and research space for our rapidly growing biological sciences concentration. An expanded York Center will provide space for multidisciplinary research in the Integrative Life Science and Engineering Laboratories.

- We have continued the expansion of our faculty with the addition of uniquely qualified interdisciplinary academicians who specialize in such critical growth areas as advanced manufacturing, design and construction, big data, biochemistry, business systems, materials science and engineering, and sensing and control.

- **NJIT has taken a leadership role in the development of Newark as one of the state’s “vibrant regions” or “priority growth investment areas;” one of the urban communities that the state strategic plan envisions with access to quality education, housing, public transportation and infrastructure.** Our development of the Warren Street Village is phase one of the Gateway Project, a revitalization of the University Heights section of Newark that will provide improved amenities, including enhanced housing as well as new commercial space with shops and restaurants.

- We are primed to help New Jersey achieve its goal to “preserve and enhance state resources.” Examples are the university initiatives that grew out of Superstorm Sandy – the Center for Resilient Design provides storm-resistant designs and expertise for recovery to towns, businesses and individuals, while the Center for Natural Resources Development and Protection studies the storm’s impact on coastal ecosystems and the best ways to restore the state’s beaches.

- **We are tomorrow’s university.**

  We believe that NJIT has the tools and the expertise to play a critical role in the economic growth of our state and region through workforce development, partnership with industry, commercialization of research, and neighborhood redevelopment. We look forward to considerable progress in the coming year.

Dr. Joel S. Bloom  
President of NJIT