

## TOP TIER

**NJIT** has continued its impressive climb up the annual *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of colleges and universities by joining the top 100 National Universities for the 2020 edition of the publication. Each year, *U.S. News* ranks institutions of higher education throughout the country based upon “outcomes, faculty resources, expert opinion, financial resources, student excellence, and alumni giving.” Joining the top 100 National Universities is a significant achievement for NJIT, and it is because of efforts that have yielded tangible and important results. NJIT’s rise in these rankings is indicative of progress, and *U.S. News* is just one of the places taking note of what is happening at NJIT. We are #1 in the nation for the upward mobility of students from families in the lowest income brackets, according to *Forbes*. We also are among the 131 most elite research universities in the nation after attaining R1 status in the Carnegie Classification. In addition, Payscale.com rates NJIT #53 out of more than 4,000 universities for the mid-career earnings of our graduates. This issue’s cover story illustrates how this most recent *U.S. News* ranking is a testament to the university’s upward trajectory in education and research on a national level.

At NJIT, our aspirations extend far beyond rankings success. We aim to make a positive impact on our community and society. NJIT’s civil engineers work on a range of infrastructure projects with the City of Newark, from intelligent transportation systems, to dam monitoring and assessment, to water systems. Our second feature in this issue, “NJIT Engineers Get the Lead Out,” describes how a research team is working with Newark to develop and test chemical methods to prevent lead-shedding corrosion in service lines that stretch from the water main located beneath the city’s streets into dwellings.

We also are proud to announce that NJIT@JerseyCity welcomed its first students this Fall. Jersey City was chosen for this new Ying Wu College of Computing initiative because of the strong demand for data scientists in the area. Students at the Jersey City site will study modern computer science and be active participants in projects involving artificial intelligence, big data, analytics, data mining, visualization and machine learning. Most of the graduate students at NJIT@JerseyCity are working professionals attending the programs in the evenings and are professionals from companies and organizations such as Microsoft, IBM, Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Prudential, BNY Mellon, TD Ameritrade, NJ Transit, Con Edison and City National Bank.

As always, I hope you enjoy reading these articles and welcome your feedback. ■

