

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A MESSAGE FROM NJIT PRESIDENT JOEL S. BLOOM

THE POWER OF GIVING

It is my privilege to present the *Honor Roll* listing of donors, a special edition of *NJIT Magazine*, because the generosity of those listed in these pages has directly contributed to the success of our students and enabled NJIT to make critical advancements in its mission. Very often, the financial support provided by our donors is what enables a talented and hard-working student to graduate from NJIT and make an important contribution to society. Like many of you did while studying at NJIT, a great number of our current students face financial challenges and often are the first from their families to attend a university. They understand the sacrifices you made to earn an NJIT degree and are deeply appreciative of your decision to give back as alumni and friends of the university. And, as the following study demonstrates, these students are making the most of their opportunity.

- A *New York Times* study of “America’s Great Working-Class Colleges” ranked NJIT #1 in the nation for the upward economic mobility realized by its graduates. Data from the Equality of Opportunity Project showed that a higher percentage of NJIT students coming from the bottom of the income distribution rise to the upper three-fifths than do similar students at any other college or university in the United States.

In addition to the success of our lowest-income students, NJIT received several accolades pertaining to the success of our graduates during the past year. *MONEY Magazine* named NJIT one of the top 10 colleges in the country for career services based upon the combination of outstanding career centers and young alumni who go on to earn higher-than-average early salaries. Money.com released “11 Public Colleges Where Grads Make Six Figures” within 15 years of graduation without having to attend graduate school, which included NJIT. And the *PayScale College Salary Report* ranked NJIT first in New Jersey and 16th nationally among public universities for salary potential with a bachelor’s degree.

Many other critical initiatives have been achieved, in no small part, due to the support of our alumni and friends:

- In December, the *2020 Vision Strategic Plan Mid-Year Report* was completed. The Key Performance Indicators from the first year of *2020 Vision* have been quite positive. Both graduation and retention rates are improving. External funding has exceeded expectations in academic research, technology development and fundraising. The number of undergraduate applications and the quality of the entering freshmen cohort also has risen.
- In January, we opened the balance of the magnificently renovated Central King Building (CKB). The new spaces in CKB host the writing center, the math emporium and student interaction areas. The former gymnasium was converted into a new home for New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII) i-Labs. The new Life Science and Engineering Building is scheduled for completion in April 2017, and construction on the Wellness and Events Center (WEC) remains on schedule for a September 2017 opening.

On behalf of the university, I thank every *Honor Roll* donor for supporting these and the other achievements described in this issue. Sharing your time and treasury with NJIT makes such a difference to so many of our students and allows them the opportunity to use their considerable talents to improve our society. Your continued generosity has demonstrated how the power of giving is fueling the transformation of our university, and that is greatly appreciated.



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*Cover photo caption:
A sun dog, or parhelion, luminous
arcs formed by thin ice crystals at cold
temperatures, that lead and follow the
Sun like two playful puppies chasing
after their solar master.*

*Cover photo:
August Allen*