

### III. Other (Optional)

#### The College of New Jersey

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) is a highly selective institution that has earned national recognition for its commitment to excellence in undergraduate education. Founded in 1855, TCNJ has become an exemplar of the best in public higher education and is consistently acknowledged as one of the top comprehensive colleges in the nation. TCNJ currently is ranked as one of the 80 “Most Competitive” schools in the nation by *Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges* and is rated the No. 1 public regional university in the northern region of the country by *U.S. News & World Report*. TCNJ was named among the 50 “Best Value” public colleges the Princeton Review and *USA Today* in 2010 and, in 2006, was awarded a Phi Beta Kappa chapter—an honor shared by less than 10 percent of colleges and universities nationally.

TCNJ offers a comprehensive range of academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, as well as professional schools. TCNJ is committed to significant learning experiences at every level, beginning with academic seminars for first semester students and culminating in capstone courses for seniors. There are no teaching assistants—all classes are taught by faculty members—and a 13-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio allows for small classes and personalized attention. Specialized undergraduate research programs, internships, and global study opportunities at TCNJ equal or surpass what is offered by top private colleges.

#### Commitment to Success

TCNJ has a unique mission among state colleges. That mission calls for the provision, to a diverse community of learners, of an undergraduate, residential experience that is highly competitive and designed to produce future leaders of and significant contributors to fields that are critical to our state. TCNJ has been quite successful in fulfilling that mission.

- TCNJ was named by the Princeton Review and *USA Today* as one of the top values in public higher education for 2010.
- TCNJ was awarded, in 2006, a [Phi Beta Kappa](#) chapter—an honor shared by less than 10 percent of colleges and universities nationally.
- TCNJ is the top-ranked (4<sup>th</sup> overall in the 2012 edition) public regional university in the northern region of the country, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and has been since the ranking’s inception.
- TCNJ is the only New Jersey college or university to make *U.S. News*’ list of 70 up-and-coming institutions (in the 2011 edition).
- TCNJ is a national model of teacher-scholarship, and, through programs like the Mentored Undergraduate Summer Experience (MUSE), encourages undergraduate-faculty collaboration in research.

#### Results

- 91% of 2009 graduates rated their educational experience as excellent or above average.
- TCNJ has the 3rd highest graduation rate among schools in the northern region and surpasses those achieved by many prestigious private institutions.

- TCNJ has a 94% first-to-second year retention rate. When students stay in school, they stay on course for timely graduation and save money. This is also an indicator that the whole system at an institution, not just the recruitment component, is working properly.
- TCNJ students and faculty have won numerous major fellowships during the last decade, including Carnegie, Fulbright, Marshall, Gates Millennium, Goldwater, Phi Kappa Phi, Truman, Boren, and National Science Foundation awards.
- According to the most recent National Survey for Student Engagement, TCNJ bettered the average of its Carnegie Foundation peers in the level of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experiences, and supportive campus environment, as they apply to the experience of first-year students.
- Since 1985, TCNJ has made it to 70 NCAA athletic championships and won 38 Division III national titles while producing 48 Division III Academic All-Americans.

### Faculty and Staff Excellence

TCNJ's faculty and staff members are nurturing instructors and national leaders in their fields who are frequently acknowledged for their excellence. They are a source of pride and recognition for the state. A few recent examples include:

- Mark Kiselica, interim dean of Education and professor of counseling, was ranked one of the top scholars in the counseling profession based on an analysis of the *Journal of Counseling and Development*, the premier publication of the American Counseling Association
- Professor Jess Row, who was named to *Granta's* "Best of Young American Novelists" 2007 list, which is published by the literary magazine every 10 years and includes only 21 distinguished young writers born after 1970;
- Women's lacrosse coach Sharon Pfluger, is a member of the National Lacrosse and Field Hockey Hall of Fame, is one of just two female coaches featured in the NCAA Hall of Champions' Legends of the Game display located in Indianapolis, IN;
- Assistant Provost Robert Anderson, who was named an Outstanding First-year Student Advocate by the National Resource Center for First-year Experience and Students in Transition.

### Remarkable Students

- TCNJ students have won more than two dozen major fellowships during the last decade, including Fulbright, Marshall, Gates Millennium, Goldwater, Phi Kappa Phi, Truman, Boren, and National Science Foundation awards.
- Students have highest first-time passing rates in the state for CPA exam, Education (Praxis) exam, and Engineering Fundamentals exam.
- TCNJ has produced 54 Division III Academic All-Americans
- TCNJ has made it to 70 NCAA athletic championships and won 38 Division III national titles.

### Invaluable to Students and the State

- *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* rates TCNJ as the 4<sup>th</sup> best value in public higher education nationally for out-of-state students and the 21<sup>st</sup> best value for in-state students in 2011--significantly higher than any other New Jersey school.
- TCNJ was listed among the "Best Northeastern Colleges" by *The Princeton Review*.

- More than 88% of TCNJ students are New Jersey residents
- TCNJ attracts high-achieving students from out of state who rank in the top 10 percent of their high-school classes and have SAT scores of approximately 1260 out of 1600.
- Most TCNJ students (71%) graduate in four years, and nearly all have earned degrees within five (84%) or six years (86%). At other state colleges and universities, only about 30% of students graduate in four years, and less than 53% graduate within six years.
- 91% of TCNJ's most recent graduating class rated their undergraduate academic experience and career preparation as either excellent or above average.
- 97% of TCNJ's most recent graduating class indicated that their career preparation was excellent, above average, or average.
- 43,000 of The College's 64,000+ alumni live or work in the State of New Jersey
- During the last five years, TCNJ has secured increasing numbers of federal grants providing millions of dollars for programs that improve the quality and diversity of New Jersey's teachers and increase the participation of underrepresented groups in the sciences.
- TCNJ has maintained a service-learning requirement of all first year students. This provides local and state communities with approximately 20,000 hours of community service each year.