

H. Major research and public service activities

R&D EXPENDITURES : YEAR 2011

	Amount (\$)
Federally Financed Academic R&D Expenditures	\$63,000
Institutionally Financed Academic R&D Expenditures	\$47,000
Total Academic R&D Expenditures	\$110,000

Note: Dollar amount as reported to the National Science Foundation (NSF) on Form #411 (*Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Colleges and Universities*).

Research:

The **U.S. Department of Education** awarded New Jersey City University (NJCU), New Jersey's only four-year public Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), \$9 million to enact a five-year plan that will enhance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs and bolster articulation programs with nearby community colleges, allowing students holding associate-level degrees to complete baccalaureate degrees in STEM programs at NJCU. The \$9-million Title V award was the largest grant received to date by NJCU.

The grant allows NJCU to focus on twin program goals: increasing the number of science majors and improving the persistence, retention, and graduation rates of science majors at the University.

In announcing the grant to the University community, Dr. Carlos Hernández, NJCU President, said, "Success in the STEM fields is critical to our nation's future. This groundbreaking grant will allow NJCU to make a tremendous leap forward. It will provide community college graduates who hold associate's degrees in the sciences with an innovative approach to learning that will enable more of them to earn baccalaureate degrees in STEM degree programs. That is an important goal for NJCU as an Hispanic-Serving Institution."

The University will increase its enrollment of "completers" (associate's degree-holding science majors) by improving and expanding capacity for teaching laboratory sciences; revising curriculum and aligning it within the University's science departments, as well as with local community colleges from which NJCU science majors hold associate's degrees; and standardizing and disseminating science department websites in order to increase student persistence and reduce curriculum-centered obstacles.

The program will ensure persistence, retention, and ultimately graduation by providing science-specific advisement for entering completer students; instituting a custom-designed online

system that will track the academic progress of completer students as a group; offering supplemental instruction in upper-level science courses; and affording opportunities for completer students to participate in mentored research and scientific meetings.

NJCU and Hudson County Community College (HCCC) will collaborate on a cooperative project, “Opening the Gate: Improving Mathematics Success for STEM Careers,” which will address the significant problem related to students’ being unable to enroll in STEM majors because of failure or slow progress in early mathematics courses. The project will have the overarching goal of increasing the number of Hispanic students who graduate with STEM degrees.

Three major strategies will be employed. Pathways for transfers from HCCC will be improved through hiring an on-site NJCU transfer counselor, aligning mathematics courses across the two institutions, developing dual admission and dual enrollment programs, and creating seamless transfers through a model articulation program in STEM majors.

A comprehensive developmental mathematics program will be created with directors of developmental mathematics hired at both institutions to coordinate strategies and share data. Technology innovations will be used to teach mathematics. Faculty will use lecture-capturing technology to improve students’ work outside of class, and interactive multimedia software will be used during class to improve engagement and understanding. The use of online course support will also be increased. Intensive faculty development sessions and a summer institute in technology techniques and applications will be provided for all faculty in the program.

Data-based decision-making will be used each semester to analyze student progress and to ensure that strategies are working towards meeting project objectives.

The grant will allow NJCU to complete the construction and renovation of all laboratories at the University, half of which were renovated in 2008 through a federal grant. Campus-wide installation and upgrading of wireless networks will be completed at both NJCU and HCCC.

Improved classroom technology will include tablet PCs for classroom use, smart boards in classrooms, and lecture-capturing video devices. Science calculators and software will also be provided to students.

To ensure the future success of students at the University, over the next five years \$1.2 million of the \$9-million award will be designated for the NJCU Foundation endowment. The grant stipulates that the NJCU Foundation will match these funds with an additional \$1.2 million over 20 years.

“It is significant that this grant will enable the University not only to graduate more Hispanic scientists but to enhance its offerings in science and math for future generations of students,” said Ruddys Andrade, associate vice president for academic affairs and project director of the grant. “The improvements to the science infrastructure on campus and the increase in the University endowment will benefit students for years to come.”

The grant will be funded through September 2016.

Community Service:

Afro-Cuban music legend **Arturo O’Farrill**, a Grammy Award-winning pianist, composer, and educator, was featured with the New Jersey City University Jazz Ensemble on campus on Monday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m., in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall, 2039 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. General admission was \$15.00; student, senior citizen, and group admission was \$10.00.

Directed by **Dr. Edward Joffe**, an NJCU professor of music, the NJCU Jazz Ensemble performed works by Thad Jones, Duke Ellington, Billy Byers, Jim McNeely, Frank Foster, and Chico and Arturo O’Farrill. The program spanned 70 years of big band arrangements as well as combos playing the works of Oliver Nelson and Herbie Hancock.

The concert was presented by the NJCU Department of Music, Dance and Theatre.

U.S. Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) hosted his Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at New Jersey City University on Sunday, October 2, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall on the NJCU campus at 2039 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City.

Senator Menendez was joined by **U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis**, who gave the keynote address on the importance of Latinos in the workforce, underscoring the important contributions of the more than 50 million Hispanics to the economic, cultural, and political vibrancy of this country.

Senator Menendez was also joined by **New Jersey State Assemblywoman Nellie Pou**, who emceed the event, and other distinguished Hispanic elected officials and community leaders.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Andrea Elliott** was featured in New Jersey City University *University Lecture Series* on Monday, November 21 at. Sponsored annually by the NJCU Division of University Advancement, the University Lecture Series was free and open to the community. The theme of the Series was social responsibility.

Ms. Elliott is an investigative reporter for *The New York Times* who has extensively covered Islam in post-9/11 America since 2005. In 2007, she won the Pulitzer Prize in feature writing for “[An Imam in America](#),” a *Times* series that chronicled the life of an immigrant Muslim leader in Brooklyn. Her groundbreaking work has also included examinations of the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, the challenges of Muslims serving in the United States military, the conflicts between Muslim immigrants and African-American converts to Islam, and how more than 20 young Somalis from Minneapolis joined an Al-Qaeda-linked militia in Somalia, as well

as special reports for *The New York Times Magazine* on an Alabama-born jihadist and the lives of Moroccan suicide bombers.

Shirley Sherrod, the civil rights activist and advocate for black farmers who found herself in the middle of a media storm in 2010 when she was unjustly fired by the United States Department of Agriculture, delivered the keynote address at New Jersey City University's 23rd annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Luncheon on Wednesday, January 18.

Based on the theme, "In Unity We Have Power: Reclaiming the Dream," the program to benefit NJCU's Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship was held 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Michael Gilligan Student Union on the University campus.

New Jersey City University has been named one of the nation's top 25 public colleges and universities serving Hispanics by *Poder Hispanic Magazine*.

Reported in the magazine's February/March 2012 issue, the designation was based on a combination of an institution's *U.S. News & World Report* ranking, the *Hispanic Outlook* analysis of college degrees earned by Hispanics, and Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) status.

New Jersey City University hosted free tax preparation sessions which assisted individuals in preparing their 2011 federal and New Jersey income tax returns on Tuesday, March 1, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., in Room 117 of NJCU's Education and Professional Studies Building, 2039 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. Assistance was provided by IRS-trained professionals.

Co-sponsored by **United Way of Hudson County**, the NJCU Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs, and FLEX, the Financial Literacy team at NJCU, the sessions were open to the community. No appointments are necessary.

The University continues to support the local community and the greater community through outreach programs and publications, including the **Actors Shakespeare Company at NJCU**, **Lee Hagan Africana Studies Center**, **Opportunity Scholarship Program**, **The Thomas Edison Black Maria Film and Video Festival**, and the peer-reviewed journal *Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy*.

Faculty and Students:

Jane Steuerwald of Glen Rock, a professor of media arts at New Jersey City University, was among the honorees at the 2012 Women's History Month ceremony co-hosted by Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise, the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Hudson County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs/Tourism Department.

The Women's History Month ceremony, which was based on the theme, "Empowering Women through Education," was held on Wednesday, March 14 in the Theodore Conrad Rotunda of the Justice William J. Brennan Courthouse in Jersey City.

According to a letter that was sent from the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders to Ms. Steuerwald, “This year’s program honors women in Hudson County who, through educational endeavors, have created opportunities and avenues to empowerment for women, young and old.”

A member of the NJCU faculty since 1982 and a long-time trustee of the Black Maria Film and Video Festival, Ms. Steuerwald is an accomplished filmmaker whose works have been screened throughout the United States. She has created installations, documentaries, found footage works, narrative and experimental films, and single-edition art books. Her work explores memory, family, and personal narrative.

Some of Ms. Steuerwald’s most recent films include “Rocket Experts” and “The Memory Box,” experimental narratives shown at the Museum of Modern Art–MoMA. Her film “How to Disappear without a Trace” screened at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. as part of the Black Maria Film and Video Festival; throughout the years, her work has often been selected to be shown during the international Festival.

Ms. Steuerwald, who teaches media production and chaired NJCU’s Media Arts Department for many years, is the founder and faculty coordinator of *URBAN IMAGE* and *Womenswork*, both collectives of media artists based at the University that provide opportunities for emerging artists from the Media Arts Department to screen their work at venues throughout the metropolitan area. Ms. Steuerwald is currently producing a 30-minute documentary with advanced media arts majors entitled “Jersey City: 24 Hours in Public Places.”

Ms. Steuerwald has been the recipient of numerous awards, including ones from the Black Maria Film and Video Festival, Asian Cinevision, the International Film Festival, the Atlanta Film and Video Festival, and the Athens International Film and Video Festival. She has received artist fellowships from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, Puffin Foundation, Lightworks, Sony/AFI, and NJCU.

In 2010, Ms. Steuerwald, who is an avid swimmer, swam three miles across the Hudson River to raise money for cancer research. She holds both a B.F.A. and an M.S. from Syracuse University, where she studied film, video, and synaesthetic education, and an M.F.A. from Bard College.

Dr. Jill Lewis-Spector of Highland Park, a professor of literacy education at New Jersey City University, was elected to a three-year term as an officer of the International Reading Association (IRA) that begins with the vice presidency and concludes with the position of president of this 70,000-member international organization.

One of the world’s largest educational membership organizations, the IRA is dedicated to promoting reading by continually advancing the quality of instruction and research worldwide. With chartered councils in 60 countries and more than 1,000 communities around the globe, the IRA is the world’s foremost expert on literacy.

Dr. Lewis-Spector was first elected to the International Reading Association Board of Directors in 2004 and has been chair of the IRA's Government Relations Committee and President of its LEADER Special Interest group. Dr. Lewis-Spector was also president of the American Reading Forum and chair of the Teacher Education Division of the Association of Literacy Education and Researchers, both national organizations.

In New Jersey, Dr. Lewis-Spector served on the New Jersey Commissioner of Education's Task Force on Middle School Literacy and New Jersey State Council for Adult Literacy Education Services. She has served on the Governor's Task Force on Early Literacy and co-chaired New Jersey's initial project for developing the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards Framework for Arts Literacy.

She has also served on the Long Range Planning Committee of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education's Quality Team, Community Advisory Board of New Jersey Network, Teacher Quality and Enhancement Statewide Consortia Advisory Board, Education Committee of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, and the Reader Evaluation Panel for the New Jersey Department of Education's New Jersey Reading First Grants.

Internationally, Dr. Lewis-Spector was the technical director and lead volunteer for the Secondary Education Reform Activity program in Macedonia and worked in Kazakhstan and Albania for the IRA/Soros Foundation's Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking Project.

Dr. Lewis-Spector is the author of *Academic Literacy: Reading Strategies and Background Essays* (4th ed.) and *Essential Questions in Adolescent Literacy*. She was lead author of *On the Frontline: Advocating Effectively for Your School, Your Students, and Your Profession*; *Adolescent Literacy Instruction: Policies and Promising Practices*; and *Reading Success for Struggling Adolescent Learners*. Dr. Lewis-Spector has also written numerous peer-reviewed articles on professional development, advocacy, and content area reading and has been a featured speaker at many state, national, and international conferences.

A member of the NJCU faculty since 1973, Dr. Lewis-Spector has served as chair of the Department of Literacy Education and director of the Henry J. Raimondo Institute for Urban Research and Public Policy. She has directed the Community Outreach Partnership Center (Housing and Urban Development) at NJCU and was a founder and trustee of the University Academy Charter High School.

A former public school teacher, Dr. Lewis-Spector holds a bachelor of science degree in English education from Buffalo State College (SUNY), a master of arts degree in reading education from George Washington University, and a doctoral degree in educational theory from Rutgers University.

A non-profit global network, the IRA supports reading teachers and other literacy professionals by providing professional development resources, advocating for policy and practices that benefit all teachers and students, and conducting research that promotes informed decision-making about literacy practice in the classroom. The IRA's many publications and

peer-reviewed journals, including *Reading Research Quarterly*, provide coverage of research-based practices for the classroom and ideas and reflections on literacy from around the world.

“White: a Memoir in Color,” a documentary film by **Joel Katz**, an associate professor and chair of media arts at New Jersey City University, premiered in New York City on Thursday, July 21, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., at Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children, which is located on the third floor at 410 East 92nd Street. Admission was free and open to the community.

“White: a Memoir in Color” is a personal film about being white in America. The emotional, multi-generational story about Mr. Katz's family encompasses immigration, assimilation, liberal idealism, bitter disillusionment, and ultimately, reconciliation.

“White: a Memoir in Color” is told from several autobiographical perspectives, including those of the son of a white Jewish father who, from 1968-86, was a professor at Howard University, a traditionally black college; a contemporary white professor at a university with a predominantly non-white student body; and the white adoptive father of an African-American-Irish-Italian child.

Mr. Katz introduced his film and Samantha Walker, a social worker at Spence-Chapin, helped facilitate a question-and-answer session that followed the screening.

The program was presented by Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children, Adoptive Families with Children of African Heritage and their Friends (AFCAF/NY), Families with Children from China, New York, and Spence-Chapin's African- American Parents Advisory Committee.

Mr. Katz, who teaches video production, has been a member of the NJCU faculty since 1996. He and his wife adopted through Spence-Chapin and are members of AFCAF/NY.

Dr. Edward Joffe, an NJCU professor of music, dance and theatre and coordinator of jazz studies at the University, was featured live on WBGO Jazz (FM 88.3) Radio’s “SportsJam with Doug Doyle” at 7:30 p.m.

During the on-air interview, Dr. Joffe promoted the NJCU Department of Music, Dance and Theatre’s production of “City of Angels,” a musical comedy for which he served as musical supervisor.

Final performances of “City of Angels” were held Friday, November 18 through Sunday, November 20, in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall. Curtain time was 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 3:00 p.m. on Sundays. General admission was \$15.00; student, senior citizen, and group admission was \$10.00.

“City of Angels” was directed by Marc G. Dalio, an award-winning Broadway actor who is coordinator of musical theatre studies and an assistant professor of voice at NJCU.

Based on the book by Larry Gelbart with music by [Cy Coleman](#), lyrics by [David Zippel](#), and vocal arrangements by Mr. Coleman and Yaron Gershovsky, “City of Angels” is set in Hollywood in the late 1940s and weaves together two plots: the world of a writer trying to turn his book into a screenplay and the world of the fictional film.

Seven Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004: The Joy of Cooking by **Dr. Tan Lin** of New York City, an associate professor of English at New Jersey City University, received the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) Poetry/Literature Award for titles published in 2010. The book was published by Wesleyan University Press.

The award was presented at the AAAS’s annual meeting in Washington D.C., on April 14.

A 224-page book containing numerous illustrations, *Seven Controlled Vocabularies* explores what it means to be a book in a digital age. The book contains seven sections, each devoted to a particular art form: film, photography, painting, the novel, architecture, music, and theory. Each section includes both text and photographs.

Dr. Lin has published numerous books: *Heath Course Pak* (2012), *Insomnia and the Aunt* (2011), *Bib. Rev. Ed.* (2011), *Purple/Pink Appendix* (2010), *Heath: Plagiarism/Outsource* (2007); *BlipSoak01* (2003), and *Lotion Bullwhip Giraffe* (1996).

His visual and video works have been exhibited at Yale University Art Gallery, the Sophienholm in Copenhagen, and the Marianne Boesky Gallery. A web-based version of two of his Powerpoint poems was recently commissioned for Artists Space.

Dr. Lin has served on the faculty at NJCU, where he teaches creative writing, since 2000. He has been the recipient of numerous grants and awards, including a 2012 grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts and grants from the Asian American Arts Alliance and the Andy Warhol Foundation.

“The Music of Randy Newman” by **Roseanna Vitro**, an adjunct professor of jazz voice at New Jersey City University, has been nominated for a 2012 Grammy Award for “Best Jazz Vocal Album of the Year.”

Ms. Vitro’s twelfth album, “The Music of Randy Newman” was released last May and features ten original songs by Mr. Newman, including “Sail Away “Everytime It Rains,” “In Germany Before the War,” “Last Night I had a Dream,” “Baltimore,” and “Mama Told Me Not To Come” arranged by Mark Soskin.

A member of the NJCU faculty since 1998, Ms. Vitro has toured the world as a performer, clinician, recording artist, vocal instructor, and ambassador. Her internationally-acclaimed collaborations cover a wide range of music and stylistic directions.

Ms. Vitro's recordings also include "Passion Dance," "Catchin' Some Rays: The Music of Ray Charles," "Conviction, 1; "Tropical Postcards," and "The Delirium Blues Project: Serve or Suffer."

She has performed and recorded with such artists as Kenny Werner, Fred Hersch, George Coleman, David "Fathead" Newman, Eddie Gomez, Arnett Cobb, Elvin Jones, Kenny Barron, Joe Lovano, Christian McBride, Eddie Daniels, Joey Baron, Al Foster, Rufus Reid, Buster Williams, Ben Riley, Allen Farnham, Dean Johnson, Tim Horner, Mark Soskin, Sara Caswell, Randy Brecker, Ray Anderson, Adam Rogers, and John Patitucci.

Also nominated for "Best Jazz Vocal Album of the Year," are "Round Midnight 221; by Karrin Allyson, "The Mosaic Project" by Terri Lyne Carrington and various artists, "The Gate" by Kurt Elling, "American Road" by Tierney Sutton (Band).

Galician bagpiper and classical pianist **Cristina Pato**, an adjunct professor, staff accompanist, and voice coach at New Jersey City University, performed as a member of the Silk Road Ensemble at The Kennedy Center Honors Gala, which was broadcast by CBS on Tuesday, December 27, 9:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Dr. Pato and eight other members of the Grammy-nominated Silk Road Ensemble were among those who performed in the Gala's tribute to renowned cellist and Silk Road Project Artistic Director Yo-Yo Ma, one of five recipients of a 2011 Kennedy Center Honor. The Silk Road Ensemble performed "Turceasca" and accompanied James Taylor in an orchestral version of The Beatles song "Here Comes The Sun," conducted by composer and conductor John Williams.

Other honorees at the Gala, which was held on December 4 at the Kennedy Center Opera House in Washington, D.C., were Barbara Cook, Neil Diamond, Sonny Rollins, and Meryl Streep.

An NJCU staff member since 2008, Dr. Pato has performed at venues throughout the United States, Portugal, Brazil, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Germany, Mexico, and her native Spain.

In addition to Yo-Yo Ma, Dr. Pato has collaborated with such artists and groups as The Chieftains, Osvaldo Golijov, Alison Krauss, Hevia, the Galicia Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Pipe Band, the Tenerife Symphony Orchestra, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

She has released four CDs as a solo bagpiper and two as a collaborative pianist. Dr. Pato has performed as a guest artist on more than 20 recordings and has given more than 400 concerts, many of which have been recorded and televised.

Twenty-one New Jersey City University students were inducted into the Nu Pi chapter of the National Biological Honor Society, Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta), at a recent campus ceremony.

The NJCU students are Fiby Habashi of Bayonne; Tania Conde of Bloomfield; Mohannad Siyam of Cliffside Park; Shirley Iglesias and Guido Molina of Guttenberg; Mishal Avichal, Katterin Colon, Chinwendu Emelumba, Rahul Gupta, Elisabeth McCrea, and Linda Truong of Jersey City; Herminia Sofia Charris of Lyndhurst; Brian Falk of Mor ris; David Paladines of North Bergen; Nicole Ashley Moseson and Tammy Slane of Nutley; Wilson Alfredo Medina of Ridgefield; Pauline Saleh of Secaucus; Kenneth Dorman of Township of Washington; and Hayanne Martinez and Natalie Rojas of West New York.

TriBeta is an honor society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. TriBeta encourages new discoveries through scientific investigation and to this end encourages undergraduate students to begin research work and report their findings in the journal of the society, *BIOS*. TriBeta emphasizes a three-fold program: stimulation of scholarship, dissemination of scientific knowledge, and promotion of biological research.

Dr. Cindy Jo Arrigo, an NJCU assistant professor of biology, serves as faculty advisor to NJCU's Nu Pi Chapter.

Four New Jersey City University piano majors performed on campus in a scholarship benefit concert, "An Elegant Evening of Piano," on Thursday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m., in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall, 2039 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. Doors opened at 7:00 p.m.

The NJCU student performers, who all study under **Dr. Min Kim**, NJCU director of piano studies and co-chair of the University's Department of Music, Dance and Theatre, were Jungim Ha of Palisades Park who performed Chopin's "Sonata #2 in B-flat minor, op. 35"; Charles LaLima of New City, New York and Bayonne, who performed Debussy's "L'isle joyeuse"; Hyo-Jin Lee of Fort Lee who performed Beethoven's "Sonata Op. 90" and Brahms' "Op. 118"; and Song Yuan Tang of Jersey City, Belleville, and New York City, who performed Liszt's "Reminiscences de Norma by Bellini." The concert also featured a performance of Rachmaninoff's "Suite # 2, Op. 17" by Ms. Lee and Mr. Tang.

VIP tickets, which included a post-concert reception with the student musicians, reserved seating, parking, and listing in the concert program, were \$100.00. General admission tickets were \$15.00 and student and senior citizen tickets were \$10.00.

All proceeds from the Concert benefited NJCU's Music, Dance and Theatre Scholarship Fund and Annual Fund.

Student Biographies

Jungim Ha, a graduate of Chang-won National University in her native South Korea, is a graduate student in piano performance. For the last decade, she has performed in the United States and South Korea, and participated in the Summer 2011 Casalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy.

Charles LaLima is a sophomore enrolled in the bachelor of music program. A graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan, Mr. LaLima performs regularly as a soloist and accompanist in the New York metropolitan area.

Hyo-Jin Lee, a native of Seoul, Korea, earned bachelor's and master's degrees with distinction from the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Austria. Ms. Lee, who is completing music education certification at NJCU, has performed in Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Turkey, and South Korea.

Song Yuan Tang, a native of Shenyang, China, won first place in the Eastman School of Music International Piano Competition and the Yamaha Asia Scholarship in 2006. Accepted by several leading schools of music, he enrolled at NJCU to continue studies with Dr. Kim.

New Jersey City University honored two alumnae at an alumni reception held during the New Jersey Education Association's annual convention in Atlantic City: **Danielle M. Kovach** '07 of Succasunna, a third- grade, special education teacher at Tulsa Trail Elementary School in Hopatcong who was named "2010-11 New Jersey Teacher of the Year" and was a keynote speaker at the Convention, and **Margaret H. Dooley** '92 of Middletown, supervisor of school nurses for Trenton Public Schools.

Ms. Kovach received NJCU's "2011 Distinguished Education Alumni Award" and Ms. Dooley received NJCU's "2011 Distinguished School Nurse Alumni Award" at the annual reception, which, for the second consecutive year was held in the Foundation Room of Showboat Atlantic City. More than 200 NJCU alumni attended the reception.

Danielle M. Kovach

Ms. Kovach, who earned a master of arts degree in educational technology from NJCU, where she also serves as an adjunct professor of educational technology, has been a teacher at Tulsa Trail Elementary School since 1997.

Ms. Kovach has served as the Tulsa School's technology leader since 2008 and was instrumental in earning the School designation as a SMART Showcase School, one of only two in New Jersey to be so recognized; in 2009, she received the SMART Board Exemplary Educator Award. Since 2007, she has served as secretary/webmaster of the Hopatcong Education Association.

She has been the recipient of numerous grants during her career, including a \$10,000 award in 2009 for "Superheroes of Safety," a program she designed to keep students safe from

child predators. The program has been featured on New Jersey Network's "Classroom Close-up, NJ."

Ms. Kovach also holds a master's degree in education from East Stroudsburg University and a bachelor of science degree in education from Kutztown University.

Margaret Dooley

Ms. Dooley, who earned a master of science degree in health education from NJCU, has served as supervisor of school nurses for Trenton Public Schools since 2002. In her current role, her responsibilities include supervising, observing, and evaluating 29 district school nurses and a secretary; planning and coordinating staff development; and serving as the Section 504 Coordinator for Students and as the liaison between the Trenton Public School District and the St. Francis Medical Center CARES program.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Dooley had worked as a certified school nurse for the Middletown Township Board of Education; clinical coordinator of the Surgical Day Stay Unit and assistant clinical coordinator of the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at Riverview Medical Center. Her career has also included service as a CPR instructor, staff nurse, and volunteer nurse.

Ms. Dooley also holds a master of arts degree in administration, supervision and curriculum planning from Georgian Court University, where she also completed courses for N.J. Supervisor Certification, a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Monmouth University, and a nursing diploma from St. Francis School of Nursing.