Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU)

Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) is a private university dedicated to public service. FDU, New Jersey’s largest private university, is an independent, nonsectarian institution of higher education which attained university status in 1956. The mission of the University is to serve as a center of academic excellence dedicated to the preparation of world citizens through global education. The University provides students with the multidisciplinary, intercultural and ethical understandings necessary to participate, lead and prosper in the global marketplace of ideas, commerce and culture.

About The University

FDU has two campuses in northern New Jersey (College at Florham in Madison and Metropolitan Campus in Teaneck-Hackensack), and an overseas campus in Wroxton, England, and affiliation agreements with other New Jersey and international sites. The Metropolitan campus, located six miles west of New York City, is an urban, metropolitan campus. FDU’s College at Florham is a friendly, small-college environment on the picturesque grounds of a former country estate near historic Morristown.

Petrocelli College of Continuing Studies and University College are housed at the Metropolitan Campus and Becton College is located at the College at Florham. Petrocelli College of Continuing Studies is best known for its highly practical and career-oriented degree programs. University College: Arts · Sciences · Professional Studies is FDU’s largest and most professionally accredited academic center. Becton College is the center of liberal arts study at FDU giving students a multidisciplinary education. The Silberman College of Business, located on both campuses, integrates the study of business with a world view. The College has prepared students for successful careers as business leaders at many of the nation’s top companies. The College includes three institutes: Rothman Institute of Entrepreneurial Studies; the Institute for Sustainable Enterprise (ISE); and the Institute for Global Business Education (IGBE). The Rothman Institute offers practical class work and outreach programs related to starting a business and fostering innovation. ISE’s mission is to effect organizational and societal transformation through sustainable, social, environmental and economic prosperity. ISE faculty address challenges such as resource depletion, global warming, widening economic gaps and entrenched poverty, with a multidisciplinary approach. IGBE oversees international business education programs which help students learn the essentials of fast-paced global business.

Designated as a Master’s L: Master’s Colleges and Universities institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, FDU provides a wide range of degrees in a university environment with an international perspective. The University offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including doctoral programs in clinical psychology and school psychology, and the AACSB-accredited Silberman College of Business. FDU also offers a variety of combined degree programs allowing students to complete their undergraduate and masters degrees in five years.

In the 2005 US News and World Report collegiate ranking, Fairleigh Dickinson University once again was ranked among the “Top Schools” in its peer group. In the category “Universities-Master’s for the Northern geographic region, FDU is ranked number 62 among Top Schools.
Other New Jersey schools ranked in this group include the College of New Jersey, Rowan University, Rider University, Montclair State University and Monmouth University. In the same report, FDU was tied for 17th in campus diversity; tied to 14th in most international students and tied for 20th in the highest proportion of classes under 20 students. Rankings are devised on peer assessment; faculty resources; student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving rate.

Fairleigh Dickinson University is a Title III institution, a designation given to universities that have a strong record in recruiting, retaining and providing support for minority students. The University is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and in 2006 received reaccredidation approval for the maximum 10 year period. FDU is licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. The School of Engineering is accredited by the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES); the Engineering Workforce Commission's Survey of Engineering and Technology Degrees and Engineering Workforce Commission's Survey of Enrollments in Engineering.

Corporate, Foundation and Alumni Contributions Increase; Government Grants on the Rise

The University’s facilities continue to expand through gifts from major donors and corporations, from alumnae, and with funds from government grants. In 2005, Petrocelli College at FDU was awarded nearly a half million dollars in a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to expand the certificate program in computer security and forensic administration. This important program will combine practical training in cyber crime detection and prevention for the regional forensic community. The University also will develop a state-of-the-art crime lab and train law enforcement officers and corporate security professionals to collect and examine digital evidence from hand-held computing devices, such as PDAs. Two additional grants totaling $296,000 have just been awarded in 2006 to expand the cyber crime lab.

Additional government grants in excess of $3.5 million are being administered by the University.

In 2006, Fairleigh Dickinson University received a $5 million pledge from FDU alumnus, trustee and business entrepreneur Greg Olsen, the largest gift in the University’s 64-year history. In recognition of his gift, the University renamed the School of Computer Sciences and Engineering in honor of physics professors Lee Gildart and Oswald Haase, two retired professors who had a profound impact on Mr. Olsen’s life and career.

A major donation of $500,000 from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation toward the construction of the new library at the College at Florham represents the fifth leadership gift of $500,000 or more toward building the new library. To date, $4.5 million has been raised for this important project. In recognition of this latest gift, the auditorium in the new library will bear the William Randolph Hearst name.

For 2006-2007, we expect that commitments to the University will exceed $9 million as we launch the largest capital campaign in University history. This is an increase in almost $6 million from the previous year.
**Student Population**

FDU has a diverse population of students and faculty on both New Jersey campuses. As of Fall 2005, 10% of all undergraduate students were Hispanic, 10% Black, 6% Asian-Pacific Islander, .2% Native American, 56% White, Non-Hispanic and 17% unknown. Fifty-five percent of undergraduate enrollments are female. The Metropolitan campus has 5,435 undergraduate and 2,231 graduate students while the College at Florham has 2,650 undergraduate and 1,050 graduate students. Ranked in International Institute of Educations’ *Open Doors* as one of the most popular US universities for international graduate students, FDU’s enrollment includes international students from 82 different countries. More than 10% of the students at the Metropolitan campus are international students. Students also represent 37 states of the United States. Since the University enrolls a significant number of adult students, efforts are made to sensitize faculty and staff to the needs of adult learners. The majority are residents who attend classes on the Metropolitan campus while the majority of College at Florham students are resident students.

**Faculty**

Faculty at FDU use rigorous academic study, intensive research involvement and global opportunities to share their knowledge and introduce students to new ways of thinking and relating to one another. Seventy percent of the 290 full-time faculty hold doctorates or terminal degrees. The average class size throughout the University is 18 to 25 students and the student to faculty ratio is 14:1.

**Academic Achievements**

In Fall 2005, the Metropolitan Campus enrollment increased by 7.7% from Fall 2004. In addition, during the 2005-2006 academic year, the Honors Program enrollment reached 165 students and three students presented their research at a referred poster session of the Northeast Region of National Collegiate Honors Council. Sixty-two EOF students were honored at the Annual Awards ceremony for academic achievement and the School of Nursing BSN students achieved a 100% pass rate on the NCLEX-RN exam for the second time in three years.

**Global Learning Initiative**

As part of FDU’s mission, global education is a strong focus throughout the University. The administration, faculty and staff at FDU believe that global education provides knowledge and understanding of culture, language, geography and global perspectives. It is also a curriculum that ensures that all students will be able to succeed in a world marked by interdependence, diversity and rapid change. Distinguished scholars and practitioners around the world serve as Global Virtual Faculty in partnership with on-campus faculty in teaching of FDU’s on-line courses. FDU requires all undergraduates to enroll in one Internet-based course for each year of study. The GVF program brings together the distance learning requirement and FDU’s commitment to global education by engaging Global Virtual Faculty. Associated with the United Nations since its inception in 1945, FDU partners with the Ambassador's Club and has a UN Pathways Program which hosts numerous ambassadors and diplomats on both campuses for lectures and discussions with students.
**Regional Center**

FDU’s Regional Center for College Students with Learning Disabilities is a long-standing, nationally recognized, comprehensive model program that has been successful for the past 18 years. The Regional Center has a high retention rate and nearly 50% of its students achieve a grade point average of at least 3.0. One of six centers in the State of New Jersey that receives funding from the NJ Commission on Higher Education, the Center includes faculty who are nationally recognized in the field of special education with expertise in learning disabilities and using assistive technology. Testing for and diagnoses of learning disabilities are part of the services offered by the center. Arrangements can be made for students with diagnosed learning disabilities to have extended time for examinations and examinations may be read to the students based on the students’ needs.

**PublicMind**

Fairleigh Dickinson University’s PublicMind™ is a well-known research center that conducts polling and other research on politics, society, popular culture, consumer and economic trends. PublicMind surveys international, national, regional, and specialized populations on local, state, national, and global issues. Often quoted on National Public Radio and in other national media, the PublicMind advances public discourse by publicizing interesting and controversial data and analyses.

**Community College Partnership**

FDU partners with eight New Jersey community colleges to form the Community College Partnership, which eliminates barriers for adult and full-time working students with family and job responsibilities that make it difficult to achieve their educational goals. Students can select the track that best meets their personal and professional scheduling needs. The program uses a cohort class structure requiring completion of degree requirements in designated sequence, allowing students to maximize utilization of their previous credits and finish the program within the projected full-time or part-time schedule. Small classes and credit for work experience make this program ideal for working adult students. Atlantic Cape, Burlington County, Cumberland County, Gloucester County, Mercer County, Ocean County, Raritan Valley and Warren County Community Colleges are in the partnership.

**University Library Resources**

FDU’s libraries include the Weiner Library, the College at Florham Library, a Business Research Library, and College of Continuing Studies Reading Room. The Weiner Library collections contain approximately 260,500 volumes, 900 periodical titles, 25,000 e-books and 20,000 journals. It also contains 76,626 microforms, maps, government documents and audiovisual materials. A United States government depository library since 1963, the Library contains the Abraham Lincoln special collection, the Columbia film archives and selected presidential papers on microfilm. The College of Florham Library houses more than 150,500 book titles as well as some 500 current newspapers and periodicals. The non-circulating collections include the Douglas Lloyd Kahn Collection on the History of Photography and Film with some 2,500+ titles; and the smaller non-circulating collections of Literature by Black Authors, in particular African-American writers in first editions; the Florham-Madison campus and the Twombly estate collections; and archives of the New York Cultural Center (NYCC). The University libraries primarily serve the University community but are open to other individuals engaged in research.