

# Stories of Resilience

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



INDEPENDENT  
COLLEGE FUND  
OF NEW JERSEY

[www.njcolleges.org](http://www.njcolleges.org)



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## ICFNJ Mission

The Independent College Fund empowers deserving students to realize their goals by strengthening New Jersey's independent colleges and universities with support for strategic investments in programs, scholarships and education. The Independent College Fund of New Jersey partners with the corporate and philanthropic communities to support its 14 member institutions.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



For 67 years, the Independent College Fund of New Jersey has been fostering interactions among the 14 independent higher education institutions and the diverse business entities that span the state to close the gaps of affordability, broaden experiential learning and expand talent pipeline engagement. COVID-19 sought to threaten our mission, but our institutions transitioned to new learning models that safeguarded students, faculty and staff while maintaining the integrity and quality of a private college education. Independent higher education moved forward with virtual classrooms, which meant sharing space with family members rather than

peers and work from home scenarios giving students access to campus services without being on campus. The changes came with challenges, but the resilience of the students and the unfailing commitment of faculty and administrators to higher education helped to overcome the obstacles.

ICFNJ maintained important programs to promote student access, encourage student persistence and foster career preparation. Scholarships totaling \$450,000 were distributed to 135 students across all member institutions. The awards were critically important to students as employment, internships and work-study opportunities declined due to the pandemic. Students continued toward degree completion through virtual classrooms, gaining valuable communication and collaboration skills that will prove increasingly important in a virtual work world. The Undergraduate Research Symposium was bolstered by the research race to develop a COVID vaccine. Students supporting 26 research projects worked with dedicated faculty to effectively use limited lab time and utilize the value of literary research to generate projects to present at the symposium before a panel of judges.

A college education has always been an investment in the future for students, families and communities. Despite generous financial support, some students still found that a family emergency or unexpected expense could become the impediment to degree completion. To help address the single situations that could develop into a financial barrier to college success, ICFNJ created an Emergency Aid Fund. With the onset of the pandemic, the number of requests for assistance exceeded funding resources. The Emergency Aid Fund helped bridge a financial gap for 15 students facing a loss in life's necessities and maintains a balance ready to help students transition back to campus in the fall.

As you read through the 2020 Annual Report, you will find student stories of strength and resilience. Among its pages are the effects of funds invested in the aspirations of a diverse community preparing for roles as community and business leaders, researchers, teachers, artists, accountants, nurses, writers and engineers. They will bring the critical decision-making skills gained through classroom, community and work experiences to new issues and jobs that have yet to be defined as technology advances.

We will continue to help students realize their dreams with the generous support of our donors. Our Honor Roll is included in the Annual Report, along with a list of board members who support an educated citizenry for New Jersey. Join me in thanking them for their continued funding and assistance.

Respectfully,  
John Drzymkowski  
Chair  
Board of Trustees





Left: Members of Caldwell University's Nepalese Student Association safely distribute food at an annual event to share their culture.

Right: Masked singers perform at the event sponsored by Caldwell University's Nepalese Student Association.



# Stories of Resilience

2020 presented tremendous challenges to the state's 14 independent colleges and universities. Our institutions—and our students—responded with great determination, courage and resilience. Here are a few of their stories:

## Academic Independence

Like most college students, the pandemic forced Daniel Gulko to adjust quickly to a new way of attending class at Stevens Institute of Technology. Along the way, he cultivated academic strengths that will carry over into his career. The ICFNJ Scholar explained, "COVID-19 elucidated a new way of learning for me. It showed me that I am a very independent learner, as well as one who works well when communicating on Zoom. It was interesting to see the shift from in person to virtual meetings and how both could be equally effective in driving team-based decisions and collaboration."

## Extracurricular Ingenuity

Fostering an appreciation of diverse cultures and ideas is a central part of higher education. At Caldwell University, Prabuddha Raj wasn't going to let a worldwide pandemic stop that important work. An officer of the University's Nepalese Student Association, Prabuddha and a team of fellow students reimagined the event celebrating Nepal's traditions and cultures. All attendees were screened for COVID-19, and strict masking and social distancing protocols were followed. "With so many regulations in place, it was extremely difficult for us to organize the event," said Prabuddha, an ICFNJ Scholar. "Bringing people together is the main objective of this event, so we still wanted to do it in person."

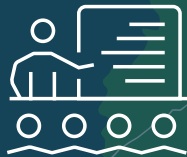
## Choice Rules

A new program called Centenary Choice provided flexibility for Centenary University to offer students the option of attending classes and participating in extracurricular activities—and even commencement—in person, online or in a HyFlex format combining the two. The program balanced the comfort level of each student with COVID-19 safety requirements. Centenary University President Bruce Murphy, Ed.D., explained, "Centenary Choice played an important role for our students during the pandemic. Moving forward, the University will offer Cyclone Flex, providing every student with the flexibility to take courses online."



## 2020 FAST FACTS

**63,030**  
enrollment 2020-2021



**\$450,000**  
in scholarships awarded

**135**

scholarship recipients



**9,363**

undergraduate degrees  
conferred

**6,886**

graduate degrees conferred



## ICFNJ PROFILE

### History

The Independent College Fund of New Jersey (ICFNJ) was founded in 1953 as a cooperative effort involving business and academic leaders of New Jersey in order to broaden financial support for and increase awareness of the value independent higher education brings to the state.

### Annual Campaign

The Independent College Fund of New Jersey conducts an annual fundraising campaign, which runs from January 1 to December 31, to provide a channel for the business and foundation communities to invest in New Jersey's private colleges and universities and their students. ICFNJ offers four investment options: unrestricted giving, scholarships, special projects and designated gifts.

### Membership

Membership comprises 14 regionally accredited, independent, nonprofit, four-year degree granting colleges and universities in the State of New Jersey.

### Distribution of Funds

Since its first allocation in 1954, ICFNJ has raised and distributed close to \$76 million in support of its member institutions. Undesignated contributions to ICFNJ are used to supplement the operating budgets of the member institutions and are distributed using a formula established by the member institutions: unrestricted money is distributed 60 percent equally and 40 percent by enrollment. A donor can also designate a gift specifically to one or a combination of members, though it is the unrestricted gift which benefits the entire independent educational community.

### National Affiliation

ICFNJ is affiliated with the Council of Independent Colleges ([www.cic.edu](http://www.cic.edu)). The national partner is a network of 27 state and regional councils whose aim is to broaden corporate and philanthropic support of independent higher education.

### Tax Status

ICFNJ is a tax-exempt, nonprofit New Jersey corporation and has been ruled "not a private foundation" by the Internal Revenue Service. It is a 501(c)(3) organization and all gifts to it may be tax deductible under present federal law.





# HELPING HANDS

The ICFNJ Emergency Aid Fund provides an educational lifeline for students experiencing economic hardship. Last year, it took on new importance.

The pandemic stretched the financial resources of families throughout the nation, but especially those who were already experiencing economic hardship. For lower income college students suddenly thrust into online learning at home, it quickly became difficult to marshal the resources for laptops, internet connections, desks and other learning essentials.

Thanks to the generosity of several corporate donors, the ICFNJ Emergency Aid Fund was ready to help. Launched in the months prior to the pandemic, the Emergency Aid Fund was originally formed to assist financially challenged students with basic necessities of daily living like food, shelter and clothing.

“Many lower income students choose to attend one of our 14 member institutions because we offer greater opportunities to change the multigenerational cycle of financial uncertainty,” said MaryAlice Breuninger, ICFNJ vice president. “We’ve found that often, these students prioritize their college education above

everything else, including life’s necessities. When that happens, the economic challenges can become too great and small financial setbacks can have devastating consequences on their ability to complete their degree.”

Thanks to five corporate donors, the ICFNJ Emergency Aid Fund was born—and soon became a critical lifeline for many students struggling to afford college expenses. Administered through ICFNJ, the fund quickly pivoted to provide assistance to students whose families were grappling with illness due to COVID-19, as well as job loss, food insecurity and housing uncertainty. Students enrolled at ICFNJ member institutions were eligible to submit applications and supporting documentation demonstrating food, housing and medical needs for grants of up to \$500.

Breuninger said demand was high from students seeking support: “These areas became the focus of our 2020 emergency aid awards, bridging the crisis gap and offering students and their families time to make plans, secure alternate ongoing funding and





ICFNJ and our 14 member institutions offered financial support to assist students in continuing their studies, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic.

reduce stress. Overwhelmingly, students funded through the Emergency Aid Fund have found ways to stay the course and move toward undergraduate success and degree completion. That's a testament to their resilience and to the commitment of the ICFNJ donors who stepped up in this time of national crisis."

In addition to corporate sponsors—Pfizer, Sobel & Co., PNC, PSEG and UPS—the Emergency Aid Fund received generous gifts from ICFNJ board members and individual donors. In addition, the state's independent colleges and universities transitioned sponsorship funds from events not held due to the pandemic to the fund, with the shared goal of assisting students at New Jersey's independent institutions to continue their education.

Marshaling both federal and institutional funding, ICFNJ member institutions also stepped up to bridge the gap for their own students. For instance, at Saint Peter's University, the Jane Moulton Reuter '72 Needy Student Emergency Fund provided travel funding for students

to return home at the beginning of the pandemic, as well as laptops to facilitate online learning.

In addition, through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), colleges and universities across the nation received millions in federal funding, much of it earmarked for each institution to assist individual students to weather financial hardships caused by the pandemic. Each ICFNJ member institution had the flexibility to tailor the application process and awards to the individual needs of their own students.

"New Jersey's independent colleges and universities have a reputation for providing personalized support to students that strengthens degree persistence and leads to higher graduation rates," Breuninger said. "At ICFNJ, we were proud to make a difference in the lives of our students during this difficult time."



## Bloomfield College

**Students Enrolled\*: 1,533**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 15:1**

Bloomfield College has been ranked among the best institutions in the U.S. at moving students forward in economic standing and social mobility, and was also cited as one of the nation's most diverse liberal arts colleges. Founded in 1868, the College has the lowest tuition rate among New Jersey private four-year institutions. Located just 15 miles from New York City, Bloomfield College offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees, as well as master's degrees in accounting, fine arts and education.



**Breyana Jivra '22**  
Schering-Plough Undergraduate  
Research Scholarship  
Major: Pre-chiropractic Studies

For Breyana Jivra '22, exploration in college has sharpened her career goals. An international student, she chose Bloomfield College for its women's soccer team, intending to focus on chiropractic medicine. Then, faculty mentors introduced her to other careers in medicine. Breyana

says, "The faculty at Bloomfield really care about their students and want to see all of us succeed. I've found oncology to be a route that interests me a lot. In the future, I'm hoping to be a pediatric oncologist and do research in that field."



## Caldwell University

**Students Enrolled\*: 2,274**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 13:1**

Caldwell University's campus life is centered around its core values of respect, integrity, community and excellence. Rooted in the Catholic Dominican tradition of its founders, the University provides a strong liberal arts core curriculum and an education that inspires the pursuit of truth and a spirit of serving others through graduate programs in fields such as art therapy and applied behavior analysis to benefit those on the autism spectrum. In fall 2021, the University introduced SOAR (Student Outreach and Academic Resources) to provide students with language-based learning disabilities and/or attention deficit disorders with the tools they need to succeed in a post-secondary setting. The University offers 15 sports, including football. The University added women's acrobatics and tumbling as an intercollegiate varsity sport and men's rugby as a club sport for the 2021-2022 academic year.



**Peter Toscak '21**  
Partners for Health Foundation Nursing Scholarship  
Major: Nursing

While attending Caldwell University to earn his undergraduate degree in nursing, Peter Toscak '21 has worked full time as an overnight clinical technician in a busy hospital emergency department. Tending to patients alongside experienced healthcare providers, he was inspired by nurses who display outstanding clinical knowledge and a commitment to excellence. Peter explains, "Nurses are the patients' advocate, resources for learning and true facilitators of positive change."

This scholarship will allow me to use my expertise to affect people in a positive manner."



## Centenary University

**Students Enrolled\*: 1,636**

**Student/Faculty Ratio 12:1**

Centenary University is the intellectual, economic and cultural heart of the Skylands Region in northwestern New Jersey. The University is noted for leading academic programs in the sciences, equine studies, business, psychology, education, fashion and criminal justice. With excellent opportunities for internships and independent research, Centenary students earn recognition on the state, national and international levels, as well as admission to top graduate schools. Through online and in-person classes, the University successfully completed the 2021 year and celebrated three in-person commencements in May.



### Jefferson Jean-Paul '21

**Johnson & Johnson Pre-professional Healthcare  
Major: Biology**

Undergraduate research has been a central part of the college experience for Jefferson Jean-Paul '21. The biology major traveled to Florida's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute to study cancer cells in sea turtles, and later placed in the top 10 in an international research competition in Texas. A future cardiologist, Jefferson says, "I never envisioned opportunities like doing research in Florida or traveling to Texas to present

my own independent research. I just never thought things like that were possible. Centenary is a very supportive and motivating university."



## Drew University

**Students Enrolled\*: 2,229**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 12:1**

Founded in 1867, Drew University is dedicated to exceptional faculty mentorship, experiential learning and a strong link between campus and community. Noteworthy opportunities for undergraduates include the Charles A. Dana Research Institute for Scientists Emeriti (RISE), the Drew Summer Science Institute, the Center for Civic Engagement, international semesters and study in New York. Drew is the home of 2015 Nobel Prize Winner for Medicine and Drew Fellow William Campbell.



### Drew Laun '23

**Council of Independent Colleges (CIC)/  
UPS Scholar  
Major: Sociology**

Drew Laun '23 has parlayed his love of fencing into a pathway he hopes will lead to a spot on Germany's national fencing team. "Fencing is something I'm passionate about," explains Drew, a sociology major with a minor in environmental studies. Once in Germany, he plans to teach English. "At Drew University, I found an

environment where I could grow as an individual. There is a lot of support. If you put your best foot forward, there are people willing to help you."





## Fairleigh Dickinson University

**Students Enrolled\*: 8,441**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 12:1**

Founded in 1942, Fairleigh Dickinson University is New Jersey's largest private university. It offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate degrees, including doctoral programs in pharmacy, nursing practice, clinical psychology and school psychology, as well as an AACSB-accredited business school. The University has two New Jersey campuses, The Florham Campus in Madison and Florham Park and the Metropolitan Campus in Teaneck and Hackensack, as well as two international locations, Wroxton College in England and the Vancouver Campus in Canada.



**Richard Guerriero '21/'22**  
CohnReznick Scholarship Award  
Major: Accounting

A high school accounting course sparked an interest in accounting for Richard Guerriero '21/'22. After earning his undergraduate degree in accounting at Fairleigh Dickinson University, he is pursuing a master's in the field. His goal: to become a CPA. Richard says of his scholarship, "I am grateful to have been chosen for this prestigious

award. It has motivated me further in wanting to achieve my goals and ambitions of becoming a CPA. This recognition has proven to me that hard work and conviction are my greatest assets."



## Felician University

**Students Enrolled\*: 2,004**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 14:1**

Felician University relied on the power of community throughout the pandemic. Pivoting to a remote and then HyFlex learning platform, creating an Emergency Student Fund to meet the indirect needs for students and their families and providing a wealth of services and team building activities allowed faculty, staff and students to maintain the energy and purpose of Felician. President James Crawford, III urged everyone to check in with those around them and to be mindful of their physical and mental health. Our community's compassion, devotion and resilience successfully led Felician University through this unprecedented time.



**Geisha Tiburcio '21**  
Novartis Science Scholarship  
Major: Biology

Nature fascinates Geisha Tiburcio '21: "In high school, nothing challenged me like my biology courses. I wanted to understand why and how nature did things." After earning a degree in biology from Felician University, she plans to work in a lab. Geisha is thankful for the opportunities her ICFNJ scholarship made possible. She explains, "The scholarship has made the increasing costs that come with higher education more feasible. As

a student, the biggest obstacle should be your classes—not whether you are able to afford the upcoming semester."





## Georgian Court University

**Students Enrolled\*: 2,231**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 11:1**

Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, Georgian Court University is Central and South Jersey's only Catholic university. GCU supports diversity and academic excellence, expands possibility for students of all faiths and backgrounds and offers 35+ undergraduate majors and 10+ graduate programs. In 2020, GCU was named a Best Value College by Money.com and a Best Bang for the Buck (Northeast) by *Washington Monthly*. High student retention and graduation rates also make GCU a Top Performer on Social Mobility on *U.S. News & World Report's* rankings.



**Zyeira Mallory '21**

**PNC Barry Gillman Award**

**Major: Social Work**

During the pandemic, Zyeira Mallory '21 juggled virtual classes at Georgian Court University and a part-time job—all while caring for her newborn child. Now, she plans on following in her father's footsteps to become a social worker to assist others. Zyeira says, "My university has helped me to understand that I do well with overcoming

adverse situations. I have been through many hardships throughout my college experience, and I overcame it all. I wanted a career in which I would be helping others."

## Monmouth University

**Students Enrolled\*: 5,675**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 12:1**

Monmouth University offers exceptional opportunities for academic and personal development, thanks to close faculty-student collaboration, often leveraging our nationally recognized centers of excellence, including the Urban Coast Institute, the Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music and the top-rated Monmouth University Polling Institute. The University's magnificent coastal location, situated between the vibrant music, culinary and cultural hubs of Asbury Park, Red Bank and Long Branch also offers easy access to internships at globally recognized companies in New York and Philadelphia.



**Lauren Baines '22**

**Novo-Nordisk Scholarship**

**Major: Nursing**

Lauren Baines '22 was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at just 9. A few years later, her grandfather lost his battle with cancer. She recalls, "What solidified my passion for nursing was caring for my Pop Pop for the last year of his life. I wanted to provide the same level of care to others struggling from illnesses or injuries."

After graduating from Monmouth University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Lauren hopes to work in critical care, and someday, be certified as a nurse anesthetist.



## Princeton University

**Students Enrolled\*: 7,853**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 4:1**

Chartered in 1746, Princeton University provides students with academic, extracurricular and other resources—in a residential community committed to diversity—that prepare them for positions of leadership and lives of service in many fields of human endeavor. Living up to its unofficial motto, “In the Nation’s Service and the Service of Humanity,” Princeton has educated two U.S. presidents, hundreds of U.S. and state legislators and 44 governors, including 11 New Jersey governors.



**Matthew Marquardt '21**  
BD Advancing Healthcare Scholarship  
Major: Chemistry

Princeton University graduate Matthew Marquardt '21 is bound for the Ohio State College of Medicine with a renewed appreciation for his own resilience. “I’ve learned that I have incredible perseverance and grit to push through challenges and accomplish my goals,” explains Matthew, a future orthopedic surgeon

or neurosurgeon. “I’ve also learned that there are often significant factors outside of my control that influence my life’s trajectory. As a result, I now focus on incorporating reflection and gratitude into my life to ensure that I’m moving in the right direction.”



## Rider University

**Students enrolled\*: 4,717**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 10:1**

Rider University is a comprehensive, private university centrally located between Philadelphia and New York City. More than 4,600 students are drawn to its programs in business, education, liberal arts, sciences, music and fine and performing arts. Engaged learning is the common, unifying thread of a Rider education, yet the destiny-shaping experience is deeply personal for every student. Rider provides resources, inspiration and support to help students determine which opportunities to seize, driven by their own interests, goals and motivation. Rider students forge their paths through internships, study abroad, community service, research with faculty, participation in the arts and more before embarking on exciting futures with the support of meaningful connections made at the University.



**Megan Enright '21**  
Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Major: Health Science

Megan Enright '21 has always wanted a healthcare career, but wasn't sure if she should enter the administrative or clinical side of the field. Shadowing a midwife as a Rider University health sciences major was pivotal. Now, Megan has decided to attend nursing school and work as a labor and delivery nurse: “It was the most incredible experience of my life. I assisted in two natural births and a cesarean section and observed multiple ob/gyn procedures and surgeries. It was definitely a life-changing opportunity.”



## Saint Elizabeth University

**Students Enrolled\*:** 1,272

**Student/Faculty Ratio:** 11:1

Saint Elizabeth University is a value-based community made up of thinkers, doers, realists and risk takers. Rooted in the Catholic liberal arts tradition, the University helps turn passions into real-world professions and attracts learners with strong convictions. The close-knit environment grounded in leadership in service to others gives students the focused education and mentorship they need to transform their communities. Since 1899, Saint Elizabeth University remains committed to the vision of its sponsors, the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, to provide higher education to those who have not traditionally had access to it. Learn more about Saint Elizabeth University at [www.steu.edu/visit](http://www.steu.edu/visit).



**Sarah Carty '22**

**Johnson & Johnson Discover Nursing  
Major: Nursing**

For Sarah Carty '22, nursing is a family affair. Yet, the pandemic threatened to derail the career goals of this fourth-generation nurse. Sarah overcame the challenges of studying virtually and temporarily losing her job, while dealing with the grief of losing her beloved mother-in-law. The future ICU nurse says, "Nursing school is difficult regardless of any extraordinary circumstance.

Then, the pandemic hit and I felt the weight of the world. But nursing school has taught me that I'm more resilient than I ever thought."



## Saint Peter's University

**Students Enrolled\*:** 3,197

**Student/Faculty Ratio:** 12:1

Saint Peter's University is one of 27 Jesuit colleges and universities in the U.S. dedicated to the development of the whole student. The University is proud of the individual attention provided to students to help them discover who they are and where they want to go in life. With more than 50 majors to choose from, rigorous academics are just part of the equation. Students will find more than 50 clubs and student organizations and a Division I athletics program. They will join a community of individuals in a family-like atmosphere where they can focus on realizing their full potential.



**Anji Elnakady '22**

**CIC/UPS Scholarship  
Major: Biology and Chemistry**

A lifelong interest in science has helped to pave the educational path of Anji Elnakady '22. A double major in biology and chemistry at Saint Peter's University, she hopes to someday become a doctor. As a college student, Anji has learned much about herself: "I've discovered what I am passionate about and what I am capable of.

While the transition from in-person to virtual learning was very challenging, it also allowed me to build independence and learn at my own pace."

## Seton Hall University

**Students Enrolled\*: 9,814**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 14:1**

One of the country's leading Catholic universities, Seton Hall serves nearly 10,000 students with more than 90 academic programs, and has been singled out by *The Princeton Review*, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Bloomberg Businessweek*. The South Orange campus offers many employment, internship, cultural and entertainment opportunities. Its Interprofessional Health Sciences campus in Clifton and Nutley houses nursing, medicine and other related programs.



**Lana Hannineh '23**  
ICFNJ Scholarship  
Major: Biology

Future doctor Lana Hannineh '23 has always loved to study living organisms. A biology major at Seton Hall University, she is thankful for the scholarship she received through ICFNJ, which has sharpened her focus on research. Lana says, "The ICFNJ scholarship helped me immensely and

enabled me to pay off some of my tuition. My biology major pushes me to want to research and learn more every day. This scholarship has motivated me to continue excelling in research and can be used to further my research."



## Stevens Institute of Technology

**Students Enrolled\*: 7,257**

**Student/Faculty Ratio: 12:1**

Stevens Institute of Technology, The Innovation University®, is a premier, private research university in Hoboken, NJ. Stevens is home to three national research centers of excellence, as well as interdisciplinary research in healthcare, biomedical engineering, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, financial systems and technologies, data science, complex systems, information systems and resilience and sustainability. It is consistently ranked among the nation's elite for return on investment for students, career services programs and mid-career salaries of alumni.



**Yanqing Liang '22**  
Engineering & Land Planning Associates  
Major: Civil Engineering

Sustainable design and giving back have always been big interests for Yanqing Liang '22. That's why she chose to major in civil engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology: "Civil engineering is a field that can directly impact how a community operates. I wanted to have the opportunity to be part of major projects for community improvements." Her career direction

will incorporate sustainable design and resiliency into the field of water resources. Yanqing says, "College has made me realize how much I enjoy contributing to a community."





## Undergraduate Research Symposium

ICFNJ's student researchers combined lab time with virtual investigation to complete the projects presented at the ICFNJ Undergraduate Research Symposium.

ICFNJ's student researchers faced extraordinary challenges in completing their independent research projects this year. With many campuses and labs closed and strict social distancing in place, these scholars still worked with persistence, supplementing scarce lab time with in-depth virtual investigation. The results were remarkable.

Despite the pandemic, 26 students presented their findings at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS), which was held virtually this year beginning on April 12. The event encourages students to explore their interests and passions through research and to prepare for the career opportunities that await them by honing technical skills in the lab and enhancing skills for presentations, interviewing and networking. The continued funding by PSEG, BD and Wells Fargo has supported the event and creates extraordinary opportunities for students from ICFNJ member institutions.

"During this incredible year, the world saw the power of research, as scientists worked to develop COVID-19 vaccines in record time," said Lou Manzione, President of ICFNJ. "There's a real value in engaging students in the

sciences and providing opportunities for them to pursue their passion for research. They could be the pioneers who will power groundbreaking research in the future."

Monmouth University student Flobater Gawargi '21 earned the highest score for his study, Anti-Covid MicroRNA Therapy To Block The Expression Of The Spike, Envelop, Membrane And Nucleocapsid Genes of SARS-Cov-2. Flobater was a 2020-2021 Novartis Science Scholarship recipient, and an ICFNJ URS 2020 Award Recipient. Centenary University's Samantha Johnson '21 was the first runner-up, while Laura Sine '22 of Monmouth University was the second runner-up. Honorable mention went to Shivani Mody '21 of Drew University and Nikolina Perrelli '21 of Centenary University.

A highlight of the four-day virtual event was a panel discussion called Charting Your Path to Career Success, presented by professionals from BD. The panel included Nichola Charles, senior program manager, new product development and product engineering; Sebastian Luna, senior research & development engineer (diabetes care); and Allan Spina, vice president, research & development portfolio management & innovation training.

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

## **\$100,000 and above      Years of Support**

Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies .....63

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BD.....55

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Partners for Health Foundation .....5

PSEG Foundation .....63

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# 2020–2021 ICFNJ Administered Scholarships

Last year, ICFNJ distributed \$450,000 in scholarships. These awards help lessen the impact of rising tuition costs, provide students with more time to focus on their studies, decrease the number and amount of loans needed to complete college and teach philanthropy.

## DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIPS

CIC/UPS Scholarship

Neil D’Amelio Memorial Scholarship\*

Deloitte Scholarship for Accounting Majors

Dr. Joseph V. Doria Scholarship\*

Joseph V. Doria, Jr. Community Service Scholarship\*

Roland L. Lewan, Jr. Memorial Scholarship\*

NJ Sales & Marketing Executives Association | Nicholas R. Vecchio Memorial Scholarship\*

NY/NJ Snowflake Youth Foundation Scholarship\*

SAGE Foundation

Schering-Plough Undergraduate Research Scholarship\*

Frank J. Tricarico Scholarship\*

John B. and Joyce Wilson Silver Anniversary Scholarship\*

## COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

BD Healthcare Scholarship

Bristol-Myers Squibb

CohnReznick Accounting Scholarship

Engineering and Land Planning Associates

Johnson & Johnson Discover Nursing Scholarship

Johnson & Johnson Pre-Professional Health Care Scholarship

Kings Super Markets Employee

Lyrics for Lucas Foundation Scholarship for Advancing the Performing Arts

Novartis Science Scholarship

Novo Nordisk Scholars Program

Partners for Health Foundation Nursing Scholarship

Partners for Health/Edward A. Smith Memorial Nursing Scholarship

PNC - Barry Gillman Memorial Scholarship for Humanitarian Service

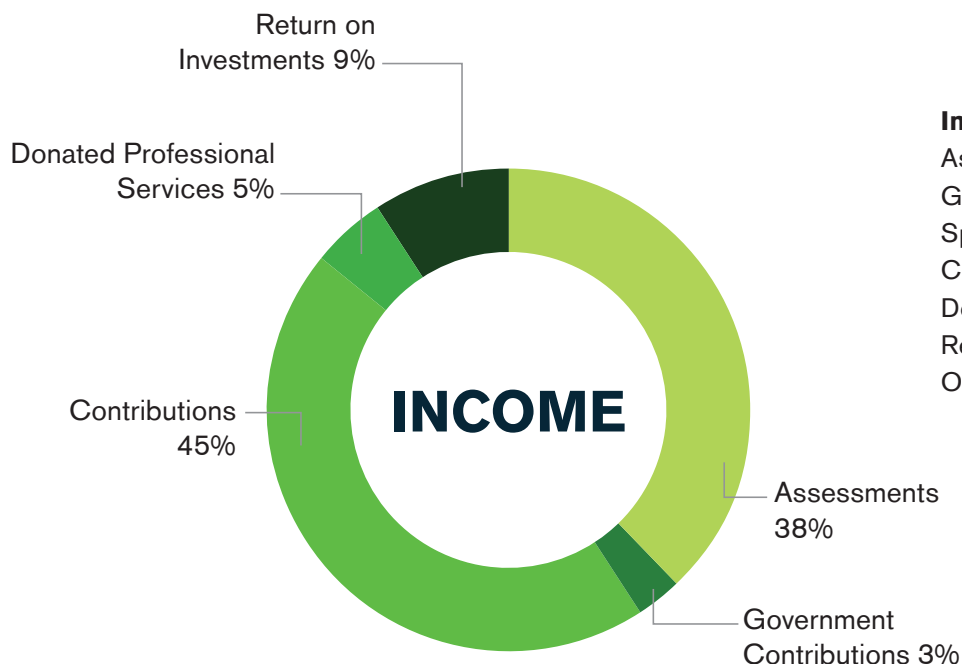
PricewaterhouseCoopers - Martin R. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship for Accounting Majors

PSEG Scholarship for STEM Majors



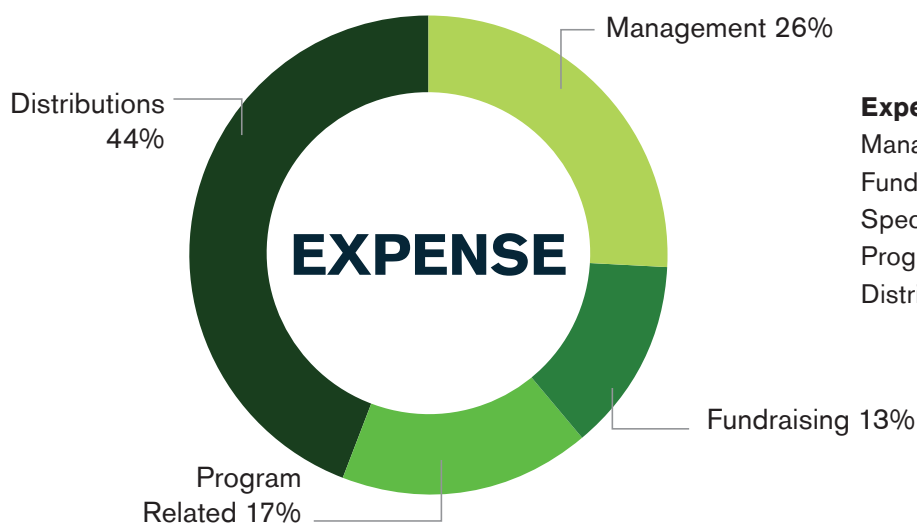
\*Endowed scholarships

# FINANCIALS



## Income

Assessments .....	\$560,000
Government Contributions.....	\$40,428
Special Events.....	\$0
Contributions.....	\$667,824
Donated Professional Services .....	\$70,731
Return on Investments .....	\$134,113
Other Income.....	\$284
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,473,380</b>



## Expenses

Management.....	\$329,670
Fundraising.....	\$166,104
Special Events.....	\$0
Program Related.....	\$218,622
Distributions.....	\$555,235
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,269,631</b>

## At a Glance

2020 numbers sourced from institutional research.

Total Enrollment .....63,030  
 New Jersey Residents Enrolled....69%  
 Minority Enrollment .....39%

Alumni Living in New Jersey .....51%  
 Baccalaureate Degrees  
 Conferred .....9,363  
 Advanced Degrees Conferred ...6,886

Financial Aid Recipients  
 (Grants and Loans).....95%  
 Total Institutional Aid  
 Provided ..... Over \$1 Billion

Copies of complete financial statements of the Independent College Fund of New Jersey, which are audited by Sobel & Co., LLC, are available upon request.



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[njcolleges.org](http://njcolleges.org)

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Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(973) 748-9000  
[www.bloomfield.edu](http://www.bloomfield.edu)

**Caldwell University**  
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Caldwell, NJ 07006-6195  
(973) 618-3000  
[www.caldwell.edu](http://www.caldwell.edu)

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Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
(908) 852-1400  
[www.centenaryuniversity.edu](http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu)

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(973) 408-3000  
[www.drew.edu](http://www.drew.edu)

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[www.fdu.edu](http://www.fdu.edu)

**Felician University**  
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(201) 559-6000  
[www.felician.edu](http://www.felician.edu)

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[www.monmouth.edu](http://www.monmouth.edu)

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(609) 258-3000  
[www.princeton.edu](http://www.princeton.edu)

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[www.rider.edu](http://www.rider.edu)

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