



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

CONNECTICUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Laura Sheehan, Associate Vice President for Marketing, Media and Communications

Telephone: 860.231.5297

Email: lsheehan@usj.edu

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH RECEIVES \$2 MILLION TITLE III GRANT FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



University of Saint Joseph announces receipt of Title III Grant. From left to right: Cheryl Barnard, Ph.D., Vice President of Student Affairs; Michelle Kalis, Ph.D., Provost; Representative John Larson, Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D., President

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (October 27, 2014) – The University of Saint Joseph, with the support of U.S. Congressman John Larson, was awarded a federal Title III Strengthening Institutions Program grant in the amount of \$2,088,767. The grant, Raising Educational Achievement (REACH), was approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

REACH is a new program that enables student success by:

- Improving academic assessment and college readiness skills for students
- Supporting faculty in meeting students' learning needs

- Enhancing resources for underprepared students and systems for tracking and serving at-risk students
- Increasing support and leadership opportunities for second-and third-year students

“The REACH Program allows the University to continue to do what it does best: educate students and prepare them to be leaders in their chosen professions and communities,” said USJ President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D. “We are grateful to the Department of Education and to Representative John Larson for recognizing our expertise in this area and providing us the means to reach and serve an even greater number of students.”

Provost Michelle Kalis, Ph.D., who was instrumental in preparing the grant, said, “The REACH program will directly support our students in the most critical areas of need. Not everyone starts college with the same skill set and USJ is committed to bringing all its students to the point where they can reach their maximum potential, be retained at the institution, and graduate in four years.”

“This award is a reflection of the outstanding work of President Reid, Provost Kalis, and their dedicated staff,” said Congressman Larson. “The University of Saint Joseph is a top-notch educational institution with a talented student body, made up of women from across the county and around the globe. SIP funding will allow USJ to implement their REACH Program, which is designed to improve the learning environment and better serve USJ’s most at-risk students. I look forward to seeing this program come to fruition.”

The REACH program will enhance student success throughout the entire college–education process, including improved retention and graduation rates. The program was launched this fall. The grant was approved by the U.S. Department of Education’s Higher Education Act, as a five-year development grant. The federal funds received constitute 52% of the project’s total costs. The remaining 48% comes from the University’s own funds and private support.

#

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master’s and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University’s two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

1678 Asylum Avenue ♦ West Hartford, Connecticut 06117-2791 ♦ Tel: 860-231-5204 ♦ Fax: 860-231-5882