



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH (USJ) FIRST UNIVERSITY IN GREATER HARTFORD AREA TO OFFER BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (Nov. 13, 2018) – Meeting the growing demand for college graduates with blockchain training, USJ, in collaboration with DappDevs™, has developed the Greater Hartford area’s first two-part certification program for future blockchain technologists. Businesses and employers are expanding their use of blockchain, an incorruptible digital ledger of transactions, to increase transparency, security, and efficiency in their processes.

President Rhona Free, Ph.D., remarked, “With this certificate program, USJ continues its commitment to providing educational programs aligned to our regional economy. The Greater Hartford community will benefit from this newly-created training program that offers skill development and career advancement in blockchain application development.”

With jobs in computer and data science and financial services already an important part of our region’s growing economy, there is a promising opportunity for the University to become a leader in preparing students for a career in blockchain technologies. In 2016-2017, there was 400% growth in job postings related to the blockchain industry on LinkedIn, followed by 700% growth in 2017-2018. According to Indeed.com, 25.5% of all postings for “Blockchain Engineer” are between NYC and Boston.

The USJ pre-certificate program geared toward faculty, current college students, and college graduates in the Greater Hartford region, begins on Feb. 2, 2019, and runs over four weeks as one three-hour evening session per week. The full certification program is a six-week session that runs from March 5-April 11, as two three-hour sessions per week.

Students who dream of a career in the burgeoning field of blockchain technology will gain a deeper understanding of how individuals and businesses can use blockchain for a variety of purposes, including anything from large commercial financial transactions to individual transaction items of value. Participants in the certification program will also have opportunities for hands-on learning by developing DApps, decentralized applications that leverage blockchain networks for data storage and smart contract functionality.

With this additional program of study, the University of Saint Joseph will continue to provide well-rounded employees to area businesses and to provide students with the skills they need to flourish in today’s economy.

For more information about the program, contact [marketing@usj.edu](mailto:marketing@usj.edu).

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*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of coeducational undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Undergraduate programs for both traditional and adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 26 majors and seven pre-professional programs, taught by expert faculty in an engaging environment. 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. 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](http://www.usj.edu).*

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