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**UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH RECEIVES \$64,000 CHEFA GRANT TO EXPAND  
COLLABORATIVE STUDENT-FACULTY RESEARCH**

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (Feb. 5, 2019) – The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) today announced that it is a recipient of a \$64,000 grant from the Connecticut Health & Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA), which will be used to purchase cutting-edge laboratory equipment for biomedical teaching and research.

“The CHEFA grant is critical in our ability to build capacity for state-of-the art teaching and research within the biology program and other related fields,” said Provost Michelle Kalis, Ph.D. “This new equipment will enhance student laboratory research skills and allow them to gain experience utilizing instrumentation used in the industry. Professionals in these fields need to demonstrate laboratory skills, as well as the ability to design and implement research, to manage and analyze large databases, and to utilize analytical and quantitative thinking skills. With the help of this grant, USJ will continue to help prepare students for the demands of their future careers. The equipment will also enhance USJ’s engagement with the community to increase the number of students pursuing STEM-related fields.”

“We are pleased to award a grant to the University of Saint Joseph to purchase much needed state-of-the art equipment for their science curriculum courses. These courses will support undergraduate programs, faculty research, and STEM community outreach initiatives. With the importance of STEM in workforce training and jobs, we believe this grant will benefit multiple stakeholders,” said Jeanette W. Weldon, CHEFA’s Executive Director.

CHEFA is a quasi-public agency created to provide access to tax-exempt financing and other financial assistance to educational institutions, healthcare providers, childcare providers and other eligible not-for-profit entities and expands higher educational opportunities for Connecticut students through CHEFA’s subsidiary, the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority.

*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 opportunities for mentored research, community service, clinical field work, and internships. 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 offers degrees with value and values. To learn more, view our website at [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu).*

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