



Fairleigh Dickinson University

One in a series of communications from the University Provost

Provost's Update — Transformational Excellence Awards — March 28, 2022

The most valuable asset of Fairleigh Dickinson University is our people. Speaking with individuals across the campuses, you learn quickly about the many close relationships forged among community members and the dedication displayed regularly that helps make our campuses dynamic, exciting and rewarding places to study and to work. I am proud to be part of a community of individuals who go above and beyond for our students and for each other, often well beyond what their formal job title or description would require of them.

Beginning this spring, we are proud to launch a new initiative that provides opportunities for our campus community (including our students, faculty and staff) to recognize outstanding faculty and staff members for their consistent ability to go above and beyond to provide a transformational experience for our students. I have constantly heard stories of faculty and staff who are willing to invest in the lives of our students, making an impact through their willingness to go the extra mile. The newly created Transformational Excellence Awards provide a wonderful opportunity to formally recognize these achievements and acknowledge the impact that many within our community have on transforming the lives of those they engage with and serve.

Our goal through this awards program is to help foster a culture that promotes and recognizes this engagement. We have created a [webpage](#) that describes the award categories and enables community members to nominate individuals. To nominate someone, please fill out the form on the site.

Any member of our community can acknowledge the efforts of others going above and beyond what is expected to engage in one of three areas: student success and retention, service and engagement, and creating a community of belonging. We will also be encouraging students to submit these acknowledgements through the student government and leadership organizations in hopes that we can begin to compile a comprehensive list of all of the ways that our faculty and staff are impacting and transforming the college experience for the students they serve, engage with, mentor and support.

Those individuals who exemplify such excellence will be presented an award pin, which we encourage them to wear regularly to display their recognition as Transformational Excellence Award winners. We also will promote those recognized on our website and on social media. Winners from the New Jersey campuses also will receive a discount coupon for the bookstore and, along with a selected guest, will get a free lunch at the dining hall. Vancouver Campus winners also will receive other items in addition to the pins.

I am excited at the opportunity to continue promoting ways to tell our story as an institution, as I know firsthand the impact that the FDU community has on transforming the lives of students. I

am hopeful that this is one small way to tell the outside world about this impact and to show why our community is so special.

Michael J. Avaltroni, Ph.D.

University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs