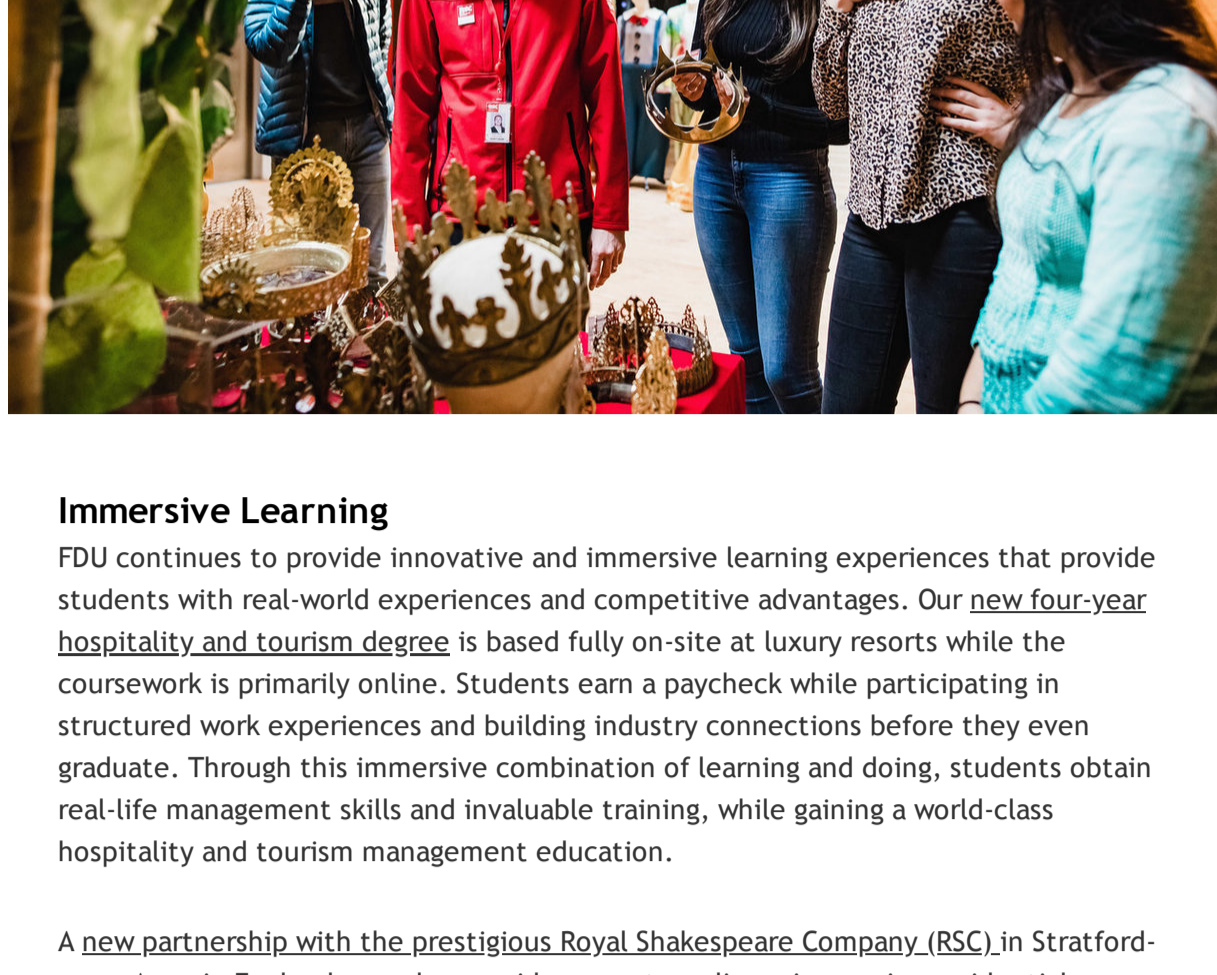




Welcome to the latest edition of the *President's Newsletter* from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Like many universities, FDU has worked very hard the last two years to safeguard the health of our community members during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, though, we have been moving forward on many other fronts to distinguish our University and take important strategic steps that will help attract new students, increase the value of an FDU degree and provide greater access and opportunities for students from all walks of life. Our momentum continues to grow strong, and we are very proud of the University's many milestones and the wonderful achievements of our alumni, faculty and students. I hope this update gives you a sense of the excitement and energy building at Fairleigh Dickinson University.



Immersive Learning

FDU continues to provide innovative and immersive learning experiences that provide students with real-world experiences and competitive advantages. Our [new four-year hospitality and tourism degree](#) is based fully on-site at luxury resorts while the coursework is primarily online. Students earn a paycheck while participating in structured work experiences and building industry connections before they even graduate. Through this immersive combination of learning and doing, students obtain real-life management skills and invaluable training, while gaining a world-class hospitality and tourism management education.

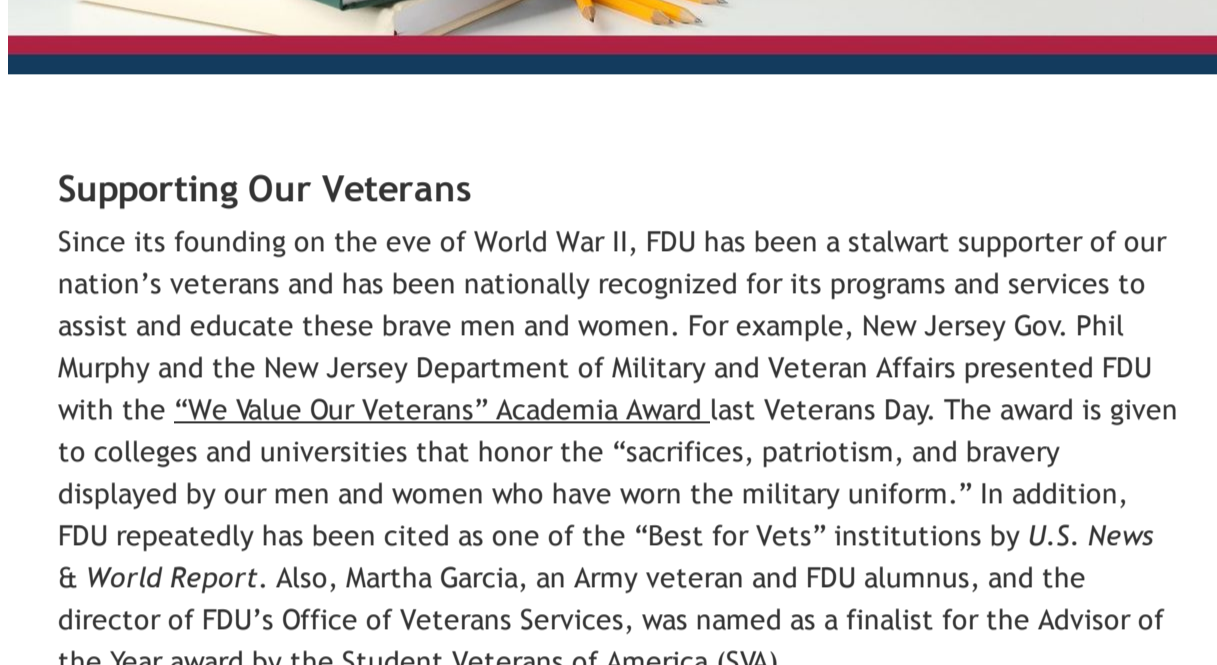
A [new partnership with the prestigious Royal Shakespeare Company \(RSC\)](#) in Stratford-upon-Avon in England now also provides an extraordinary immersive residential program for students studying at FDU's Wroton College in Oxfordshire, England. Launching in Fall 2022, this unique program enables aspiring actors and students interested in theater production and arts management to take courses on-site at the RSC with RSC artists and theater professionals. FDU students will have an exclusive backstage pass to one of the most respected theaters in the world. We are the only theater program in the United States offering this opportunity to learn and engage with the work of Shakespeare and the art of theater production in the Bard's hometown.



Expansion of Health Sciences Programs

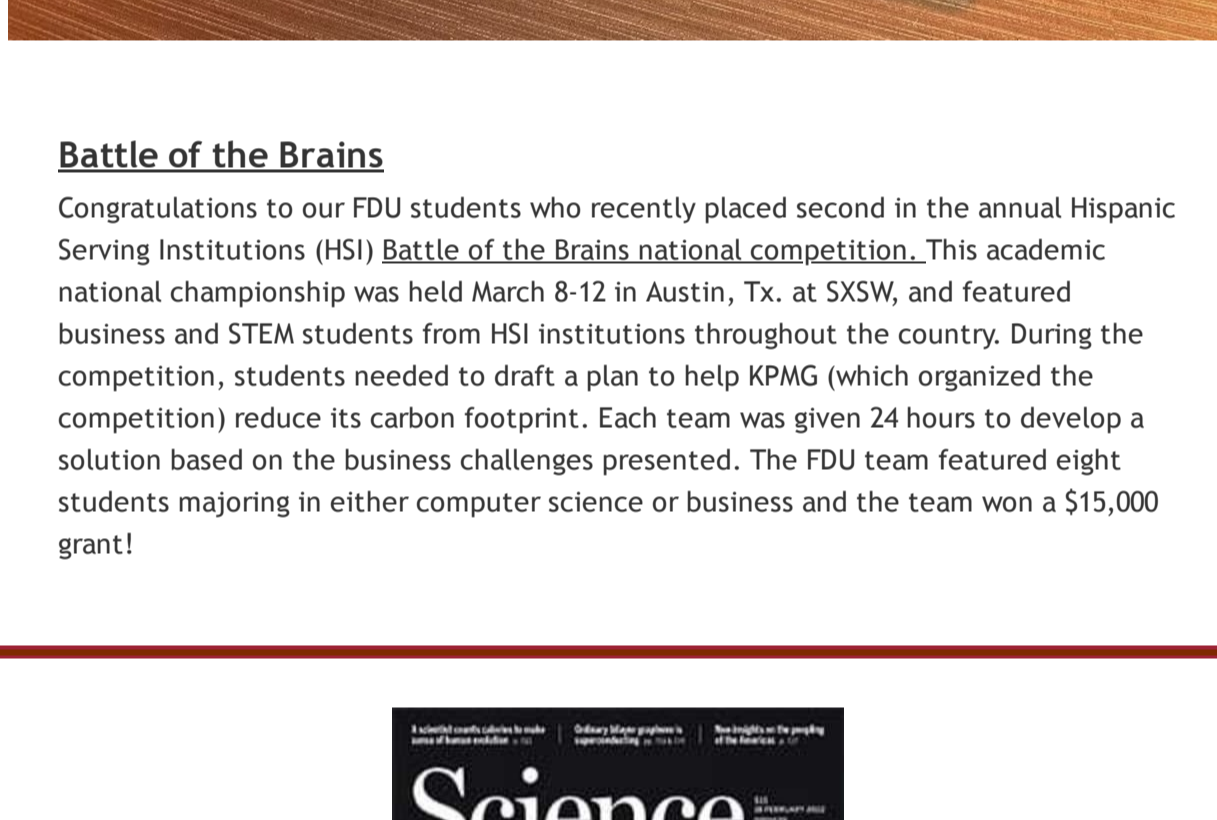
Among the many key additions in the last five years at FDU has been the expansion of health sciences programs. We recently introduced the Master of Public Health program and a fully online Master of Social Work. This spring, we launched a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program, and preparations are being finalized for the debut in the summer of our Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program.

The PA program is off to an exciting start with the initial cohort of 40 students. The program features a two-and-a-half-year curriculum that includes classroom and laboratory instruction in the medical sciences, clinical medicine, clinical and procedural skills, professional topics and medical research. Students are exposed to diverse learning modalities through lectures; case-based problem-solving sessions; simulated case scenarios; and hands-on learning in the Virtual Cadaver, Physical Exam, Simulation and Procedural Labs. In addition, students partake in service learning in local and global communities and learn about and actively participate in medical research. The Clinical and Advanced Clinical Phases, 17 months in length, take place at affiliate hospitals, clinics and other medical institutions in the urban northern New Jersey and Metropolitan New York area.



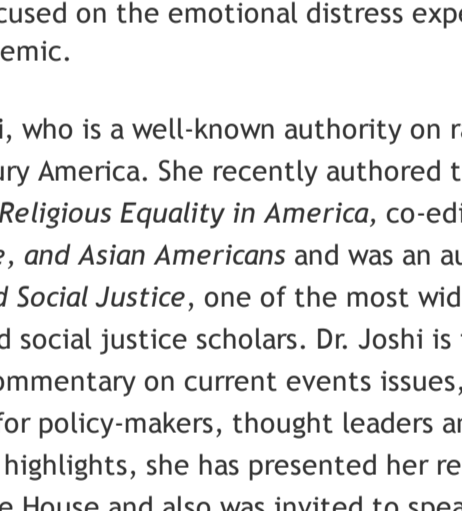
Supporting Our Veterans

Since its founding on the eve of World War II, FDU has been a stalwart supporter of our nation's veterans and has been nationally recognized for its programs and services to assist and educate these brave men and women. For example, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy and the New Jersey Department of Military and Veteran Affairs presented FDU with the ["We Value Our Veterans" Academia Award](#) last Veterans Day. The award is given to colleges and universities that honor the "sacrifices, patriotism, and bravery displayed by our men and women who have worn the military uniform." In addition, FDU repeatedly has been cited as one of the "Best for Vets" institutions by *U.S. News & World Report*. Also, Martha Garcia, an Army veteran and FDU alumnus, and the director of FDU's Office of Veterans Services, was named as a finalist for the Advisor of the Year award by the Student Veterans of America (SVA).



Battle of the Brains

Congratulations to our FDU students who recently placed Second in the annual Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) [Battle of the Brains national competition](#). This academic national championship was held March 8-12 in Austin, Tx. at SXSW, and featured business and STEM students from HSI institutions throughout the country. During the competition, students needed to draft a plan to help KPMG (which organized the competition) reduce its carbon footprint. Each team was given 24 hours to develop a solution based on the business challenges presented. The FDU team featured eight students majoring in either computer science or business and the team won a \$15,000 grant!



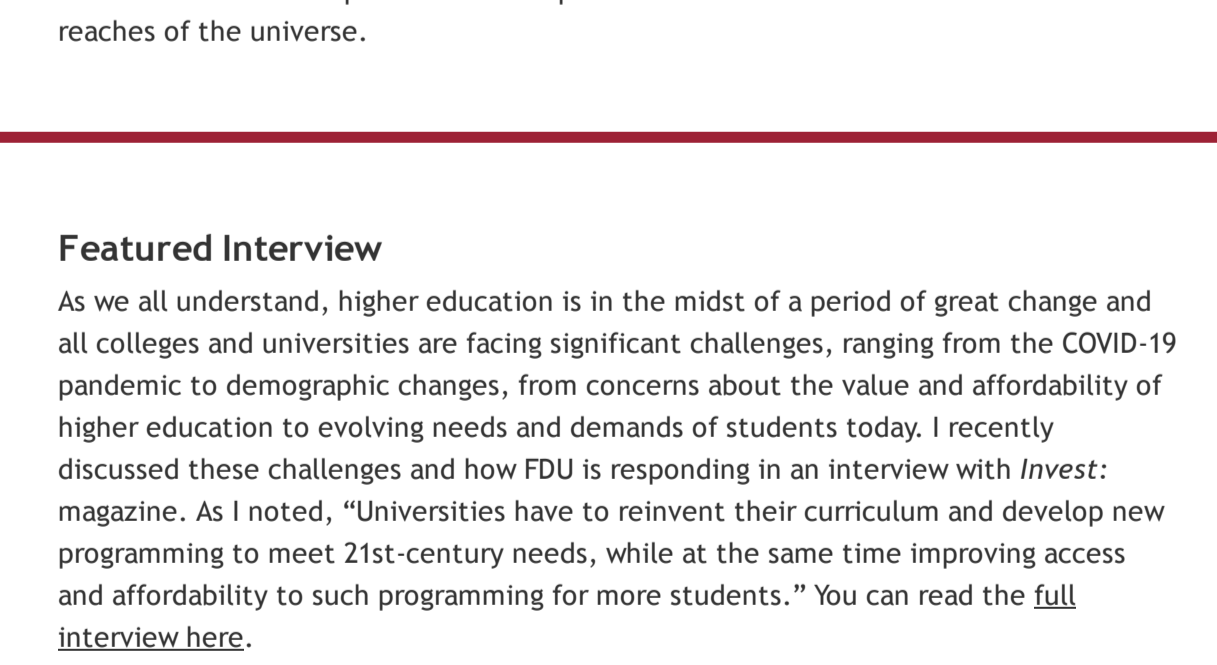
World-class Faculty

FDU's accomplished faculty continue to excel in the classroom and in their disciplines. New research from [Christopher Stubbs](#), assistant professor of mechanical engineering and mechanical engineering technology, was just [featured on the cover of Science magazine](#). The research investigates the mechanism behind how lizards detach their tails on command.

[Anthony Tasso](#), professor of psychology and deputy director of the School of Psychology and Counseling, had the [#1 most downloaded article in 2021](#) for all of the American Psychological Association's 89 journals – out of more than 5,000 articles published! The article, "COVID-19 Disruption of College Students: Academic and Socioeconomic Implication," was co-written with an FDU adjunct professor and a graduate student, and focused on the emotional distress experienced by students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Then there's [Khyati Joshi](#), who is a well-known authority on race, religion and immigration in 21st-century America. She recently authored the book *White Christian Privilege: The Illusion of Religious Equality in America*, co-edited another book *Envisioning Religion, Race, and Asian Americans* and was an author and co-editor of *Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice*, one of the most widely-used books by diversity practitioners and social justice scholars. Dr. Joshi is frequently sought after by the media for in-depth commentary on current events issues, and she also has made numerous presentations for policy-makers, thought leaders and the business community. Among many highlights, she has presented her research on Hindu American Communities at the White House and also was invited to speak with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna, Austria, on the racialization of religion as it relates to the development of policies to prevent and combat hate crimes.

[Scott Behson](#), professor of management and Silberman Global Faculty Fellow, has become one of the leading nationally recognized experts on work-family policies and workplace flexibility, topics that are more important than ever with many companies and employees still maintaining remote or hybrid work environments. Dr. Behson, who was a featured speaker at the White House Summit on Working Families and the United Nations Day of the Family, is the author of numerous articles and three books, including his most recent, *The Whole-Person Workplace: Building Better Workplaces Through Work-Life, Wellness, and Employee Support*.



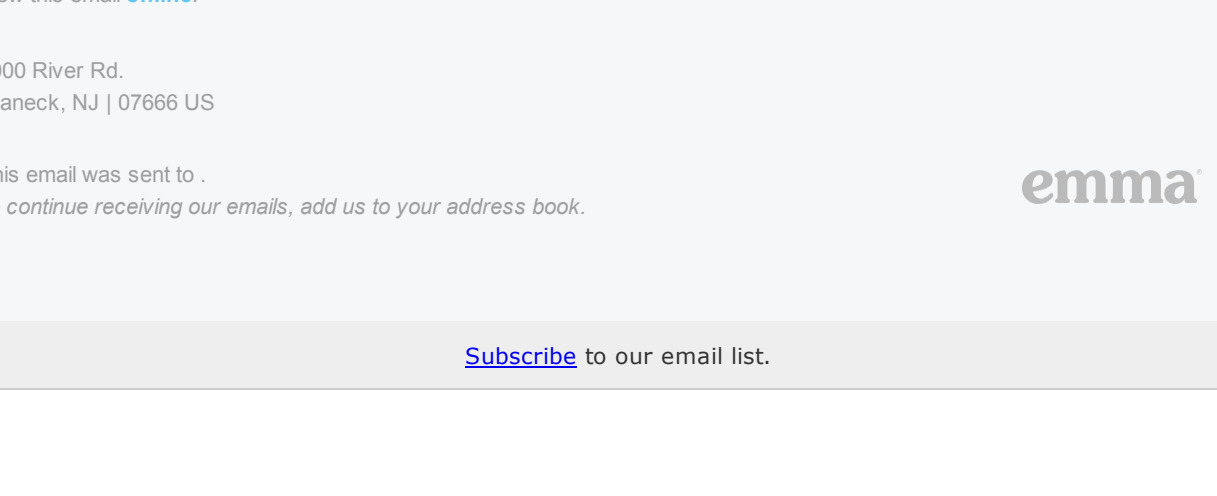
Extraordinary Alumni

Perhaps the greatest joy I have as president is meeting so many outstanding alumni who have achieved so many tremendous accomplishments. It's impossible to list them all, but I am continually impressed by the caliber of FDU graduates and the profound impact they are having on their chosen fields. To cite just a few: [Reinaldo Marcus Green](#) is an acclaimed filmmaker whose 2018 film, *Monsters and Men*, won the Special Jury Award for Outstanding First Feature at the Sundance Film Festival. He more recently directed the 2021 biopic, *King Richard*, about Richard Williams, the tennis coach and father of Venus and Serena Williams. The film has earned Oscar nominations for best picture, best original screenplay, best editing, best actor, best-supporting actress and best original song!

Then there's [Ramona Cedeño](#), who grew up impoverished in the Dominican Republic, immigrated to the United States at age 19, completed her MBA at FDU and became the founder and CEO of FiBrick, a New York City accounting firm that offers specialized financial management and services to businesses. Or [William Ochs](#), who is this year concluding an incredible aerospace career with NASA. Over the course of his career, he worked on the Hubble Space Telescope team and recently managed the development of the James Webb Space Telescope, which successfully launched on Christmas Day 2021. This is the most powerful telescope ever and will look back into the farthest reaches of the universe.

Featured Interview

As we all understand, higher education is in the midst of a period of great change and all colleges and universities are facing significant challenges, ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to demographic changes, from concerns about the value and affordability of higher education to evolving needs and demands of students today. I recently discussed these challenges and how FDU is responding in an interview with *Invest* magazine. As I noted, "Universities have to reinvent their curriculum and develop new programming to meet 21st-century needs, while at the same time improving access and affordability to such programming for more students." You can read the [full interview here](#).



President's Advisory Council

Finally, I am delighted to announce the formation of a President's Advisory Council, which will be composed of esteemed philanthropic supporters and trusted advisors who will provide important insights and valuable counsel on current issues facing the University and strategic-planning items that will help shape the University's future. Those who serve on the President's Advisory Council are expected to share their knowledge of key issues, facilitate contacts and partnerships that advance University goals, attend University events, mentor and counsel University leaders, offer career advice and guidance to students and provide significant philanthropic support to the University. Since its founding in 1942, Fairleigh Dickinson has been inspired and influenced by an extraordinary group of friends, partners and supporters who have believed strongly in the University's mission and made immense contributions to the fulfillment of that mission. The President's Advisory Council extends that legacy and provides a great opportunity for our friends and advocates to join our mission and help transform the lives of our students while transforming the present and future of this great University. For more information, see the [President's Advisory Council webpage](#).

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