Building on a distinguished history dating back to 1908, Montclair State University is a leading institution of higher education in New Jersey. The University’s eight colleges and schools serve more than 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students with approximately 300 doctoral, master’s and baccalaureate level programs. Situated on a beautiful, 252-acre suburban campus just 14 miles from New York City, Montclair State delivers the instructional and research resources of a large public university in a supportive, sophisticated and diverse academic environment.

Until recently, MSU was primarily an undergraduate-serving institution, but it is now experiencing considerable growth with a marked increase in research programs and initiatives. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, which is the widely recognized classification of U.S. institutions of higher education, has recognized Montclair State University as a Research Doctoral University—one of four such public institutions in New Jersey. In addition, the New Jersey Office of Higher Education has recognized MSU as one of eight doctoral degree-granting institutions in the state.

In the fall of 2015, MSU surpassed the 25% Hispanic enrollment threshold required by the U.S. Department of Education to be eligible for funding as a “Hispanic Serving Institution.” This will open up future avenues for research and program funding to support many areas to include (but not limited to) the purchase of laboratory equipment and educational materials for teaching, faculty development and student support services.

According to the 2013 CIRP Freshman Survey, 30% of first-time, full-time freshman report they are the first generation to attend college.

Because of its location in Northern New Jersey, MSU serves a highly diverse student body. In 2014, university-wide, 31% of the students graduating with a bachelor’s degree or certificate in the undergraduate level are underrepresented minority (URM) students. The College of Education and Human Services (CEHS) undergraduate student body consists of 31% URM and 74% female students.

The Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences within the College of Education and Human Services offers five undergraduate majors, two undergraduate minors, two graduate degrees, and three graduate certificates. The Department’s mission is to engage a diverse student body to prepare lifelong learners with academic skills and real-world experience in health education, public health, nutrition and food sciences. In Fall 2015, 746 undergraduate and 136 graduate students are enrolled; 79% of undergraduates and 82% of graduates are female, while 31% of undergraduates and 21% of graduates are URM.