**MSU, CEHS Narrative with Secondary and Special Education Statistics (AY 2017-2018)**

Building on a distinguished history dating back to 1908, Montclair State University is a leading institution of higher education in New Jersey. Designated a Research Doctoral University by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, the University’s 11 colleges and schools serve more than 21,000 undergraduate and graduate students with more than 300 doctoral, master's and baccalaureate programs. Situated on a beautiful, 252-acre suburban campus just 12 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. MSU has earned the designation of R2 – Doctoral University – High Research Activity – in the latest reclassification of the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The University has also been recognized by the New Jersey Office of Higher Education as one of eight doctoral degree-granting institutions in the state. In addition, MSU was designated a public research university in July 2017.

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 AY 2017-2018, university-wide, 35% 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 41% URM and 75% female students.

CEHS offers a wide variety of outstanding undergraduate and graduate programs leading to professional careers in public and private schools, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private industry. All programs in the College are firmly grounded in the liberal arts and include the opportunity for internships, field work or student teaching. CEHS’s eight academic departments are: Counseling and Educational Leadership; Early Childhood, Elementary and Literacy Education; Educational Foundations; Exercise Science and Physical Education; Family Science and Human Development, Nutrition and Food Studies; Public Health and Secondary and Special Education. In AY 2017-2018, 2,374 undergraduate and 1,984 graduate students are enrolled in CEHS.

The Department of Secondary and Special Education is committed to preparing educational professionals who can improve the lives of students through excellent teaching. Graduates teach in content areas such as History, English, Science, Math, and foreign languages in secondary schools as well as specialty areas (Art, Music, Physical Education) in P-12 settings. In addition, the Department prepares special educators to teach across the lifespan, as well as teachers who lead efforts to impact the quality of teaching and learning in schools. The Department grants two Master of Arts in Teaching degrees, two Master of Education in special education degrees, and a Master of Education in Teacher Leadership. As of AY 2017-2018, 221 graduate students are enrolled, of which 60% are female.