Governor Cuomo Announces SUNY Maritime College as #1 in the Nation For Post-Graduate Salaries

EDUCATION

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SUNY's Fashion Institute of Technology Ranked Second for Two-Year Colleges by Payscale.com and Placed 5th Globally in 'Business of Fashion' Rankings

14 SUNY Schools Offer "Best Bang for the Buck"

Governor Cuomo announced SUNY Maritime College has been ranked as the top four-year school in the country for alumni salaries, and that SUNY's Fashion Institute of Technology ranked second for two-year colleges, according to a 2015 College Salary Report compiled by Payscale.com. Additionally, 14 SUNY schools and four CUNY schools offer the "Best Bang for the Buck," determined from a study by Washington Monthly.

"New York's university system has a rich internationally recognized tradition of providing a high-quality affordable education that, as these new rankings show, puts its graduates on the road to success," **Governor Cuomo said**. "I commend SUNY Maritime and FIT on this well-deserved recognition and for helping to ensure that this remains a state of opportunity."

"Today's news reflects SUNY's historic commitment to

affordability coupled with the highest quality higher education," **said SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher**. "The return on the investment of a SUNY education is second to none, and we're proud of our campus partners who do so much to make a SUNY the smartest investment New Yorkers can make in their future."

SUNY Maritime College graduates with bachelor's degrees earn a median mid-career income of \$134,000, and FIT alumni earn an average of \$72,100 after 10 years, according to the report. In addition, SUNY Maritime graduates enjoy a near 100 percent job placement rate within three months of graduation.

FIT was also ranked fifth worldwide and second in the U.S. in the Business of Fashion's first ever Global Fashion School Rankings. FIT earned third place globally in the 'Most Influential' category.

In all, more than <u>35 SUNY colleges</u> were recognized by the Payscale.com report, which analyzed salary date from 1.4 million college graduates nationally, comparing compensation among similar jobs and degree holders.

"Our students are equipped with a unique hands-on academic experience that prepares students to succeed in the 21st Century," said SUNY Maritime President Rear Admiral Michael Alfultis. "Our first place standing in the Payscale salary report is a testament to the top notch training and education students receive at SUNY Maritime College."

"FIT is in the company of outstanding institutions throughout the world that are doing excellent work, and these rankings speak to the

excellence of FIT's career education, built on a foundation of liberal arts," said FIT president Dr. Joyce F. Brown. "As a public college of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, FIT is affordable and accessible to a diverse student population, offering a business and design curriculum that fosters critical thinking, encourages creative problem-solving, and leads to jobs."

Also today, 14 SUNY colleges and universities were among the Top 100 recognized for providing the "Best Bang for the Buck" by Washington Monthly, including Fashion Institute of Technology; SUNY College at Brockport; SUNY Buffalo State College; Binghamton University; SUNY Plattsburgh; University at Buffalo; SUNY Poly; SUNY Potsdam; SUNY New Paltz; University at Albany; SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; SUNY Oneonta; SUNY Fredonia; and SUNY Cortland. Another nine campuses made the Top 400. The Governor also congratulated four CUNY colleges received this honor: Baruch College, Lehman College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and Queens College.

The Payscale.com report can be found <u>here</u>.

The Washington Monthly report can be found <u>here</u>.

The Business of Fashion report can be found here.

About the State University of New York

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<u>SUNY</u>. SUNY students and faculty across the state make significant contributions to research and discovery, resulting in nearly \$1 billion of externally-sponsored activity each year. There are 3 million SUNY alumni worldwide. To learn more about how SUNY creates opportunity, visit <u>www.suny.edu</u>.