



JOHN F. KENNEDY UNIVERSITY

An Affiliate of the National University System

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 30, 2020

Dear John F. Kennedy University Families:

Our mission at John F. Kennedy University has always been to provide our students with a transformational education experience that helps students pursue their dreams in an environment that is engaging and enriching, but also adaptable to the busy lives that our students lead. Over the last year, we have focused on our core strengths of programs that emphasize issues of social justice and the betterment of our society through our highly regarded psychology and law programs, while exploring ways to reach more students who need greater flexibility to achieve their educational goals.

While we have made significant changes to be relevant, viable, and cost-effective, the university's position as a tuition-dependent institution with declining enrollment has increasingly become a precarious one.

After careful consideration, the JFK University Board has decided that the best path forward is to administratively relocate our programs to other institutions within the National University System (NUS) and then close university on December 31, 2020. The majority of all current JFKU degree and certificate programs will be continued and adopted by other NUS affiliates, namely National University (NU) and Northcentral University (NCU). More specifically:

- JFKU's graduate psychology programs will be integrated as degree offerings at National University.
- The JFKU College of Law—including the JD, BA and Paralegal Certificate Programs—will move to Northcentral University and carry on its name as the JFK School of Law at NCU.
- JFKU's undergraduate programs in psychology and management, currently offered through FlexCourse, will be continued and adopted by NCU.

As parents and family members of JFKU students, we are sure you will have many questions. We want to assure you that our first and foremost concern is with our students. We are continuing the majority of our programs, and our faculty and staff will be working over the next several months to help our students complete their degree at JFK University or at one of the two sister schools that are adopting programs.

There will be no tuition increases due to this adoption, and tuition discounts will be offered to most students who remain within the National University System. For students continuing on at an NUS institution, we will be working to make sure that credits will be transfer as seamlessly as possible based on program requirements and we will work to ensure they stay on track to completion as laid out in their Personalized Graduation Plan developed over the last several months.

Students who do not wish to continue their studies at an institution within the National University System have the option to complete their degrees at another postsecondary institution. JFKU staff will work with each student and those institutions to provide a smooth transfer.

We understand that changes of this magnitude are difficult to hear and may raise many questions and concerns. We fully appreciate this and will be putting our full resources into answering your student's questions and addressing their concerns as soon as possible. To start that process we will be taking the following steps:

1. Zoom meetings will be scheduled with students and their deans, program chairs and key faculty to address specific questions.
2. Small group Zoom meetings will also be scheduled to allow students to process these changes in a safe and supportive setting.
3. Welcome meetings will be scheduled between students and leaders of National University and Northcentral University to answer your questions about program adoption.

We fully appreciate that this is difficult news to learn and that it will no doubt take some time to understand and accept. Please know that we will work hard to ensure that each of our students are taken care of and will be able to continue to pursue their education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas Stewart".

Dr. Thomas Stewart
Acting President
John F. Kennedy University