



JOHN F. KENNEDY UNIVERSITY

An Affiliate of the National University System

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 30, 2020

Dear Students:

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. In recent years, we have focused on our core strengths (our highly regarded psychology and law programs that emphasize issues of social justice and the betterment of society) 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 operations by the end of 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.

Our concern is first and foremost with you, our students. We assure you that we are continuing the majority of our programs and that JFKU faculty and staff will be working over the next several months to help you complete your degree at JFK University or at one of the two sister schools that are adopting your program.

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Your tuition will not be increased due to this adoption, and tuition discounts will be offered to most students who remain within the National University System. Students who graduate before December 31, 2020, will still receive a degree from JFK University. For all students continuing at other NUS institutions, we will work to ensure that your credits will transfer as seamlessly as possible based on program requirements and will not impact your Personalized Graduation Plan.

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 you 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 questions and addressing your concerns as soon as possible. The following steps will be implemented:

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

Our first step is to schedule Zoom meetings with you and the deans and program faculty to discuss your individual situations and next steps.

Our top priority is ensuring that you are able to continue your course of study and reach your goals. Your academic or faculty advisor is prepared with specific information related to your personal graduation plan. While you will be contacted as soon as possible by your program to set up Zoom meetings, please feel free to reach out to your dean, department chair, as needed.

Finally, for more information and the latest updates on the JFKU transition plans, please visit www.jfku.edu/program-relocation.

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 you are taken care of as you continue to pursue your education.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael R. Cunningham
Chancellor
National University System



Dr. Thomas Stewart
Acting President
John F. Kennedy University