



**Press Clippings
September 2015
Web**

Title: What's new on campus?

Author: Susan Snyder

Link:

[http://www.philly.com/philly/education/Whats New on Philly and NJ college campuses in 2015.html#peirce](http://www.philly.com/philly/education/Whats_New_on_Philly_and_NJ_college_campuses_in_2015.html#peirce)

Date: September 1, 2015



Peirce College

Location of main campus
Philadelphia, PA

Year founded
1865

Total enrollment
1,873

Undergraduates
1,793 (96%)

Graduates
80 (4%)



Endowment
\$22 million

Operating budget
\$21 million

Full-time faculty
28

Adjunct faculty
Approx. 90

Price tag
\$14,784

Website
www.peirce.edu

Peirce College   

What's new this year?

- Flexible class delivery – Students enrolled in four of Peirce's programs will be able to choose week-to-week whether to take their class in-person or online. The program will roll out campus-wide next fall.
- Intensive courses including winter session – This new option will allow students to complete a class in just three weeks. Nine courses will be available in the fall and another six in the new winter session.
- Financial counseling – This fall, Peirce will pilot an initiative with Clarifi, a nonprofit community resource dedicated to lifelong financial literacy. Approximately 100 students will be involved in the pilot in an effort to educate them on credit, borrowing and debt as they pay for their education and beyond.
- Suburban recruiting – Peirce is taking its mission of training adult learners to the suburbs, where, depending on the county, only 29 (Camden) to 46 (Montgomery) percent of residents 25 and older have a bachelor's degree.
- Master's degree in Healthcare Administration – Peirce's second master's program is expected to be launched this spring.
- Expanding employer relations – Two new leadership positions were created this summer to expand Peirce's connections with the business community.

Title: Kenney calls for more job training, education to fight poverty

Author: Clara Lefton

Link: <http://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/news/2015/09/15/philly-mayor-jim-kenney-poverty-jobs-education.html>

Date: September 15, 2015



Democratic mayoral candidate [Jim Kenney](#) voiced his commitment Tuesday morning to obtaining more resources for local schooling – from early childhood to continuing adult education – and called for Philly's business community to provide more apprenticeships and job training to fight poverty.

"The thing that bothers me the most about living in Philadelphia at the moment is that we're in the 26 percent poverty rate. It's embarrassing," said Kenney during a keynote speech at Peirce College's Legacy of Leadership Executive Breakfast, where the politician received the Thomas May Peirce Leadership Award.

"So if I'm lucky enough to become mayor, I think in order to strengthen Philadelphia, both socially and economically," he said, "we have to have a workforce that is trained to make a living wage in a 21st century."

If elected, Kenney plans to urge the private and nonprofit sector to offer more internships, apprenticeships, co-ops and on the job training programs for adults. He also spoke of creating a report within his first year that could be shared with post-secondary institutions to make sure they have the resources to tailor curriculums to employers needs.

The office of Melissa Murray Bailey, the Republican nominee for city mayor, confirmed she would also work to increase employment opportunities in the city if elected. Her platform will focus on changing the tax structure as well as industrial era regulatory policies, in addition to creating family sustaining manufacturing jobs in the city.

"Melissa is committed to reducing the unemployment rate in Philadelphia to below the national average by 2020," said Tommy Kurek, Murray Bailey's policy director. "She is best equipped to tackle this problem on behalf of the people of Philadelphia because she has created jobs and run successful businesses throughout the world."

Kenney said he would push Harrisburg to follow the state's constitutional responsibility to fully and adequately fund education, which in turn would lead to a better prepared workforce.

The two candidates face off in the Nov. 3 election.

Title: Kenney: Students need better job prep

Author: Claudia Vargas

Link: <http://mobile.philly.com/beta?wss=/philly/news/politics/mayor&id=327727161>

Date: September 16, 2015



Democratic mayoral nominee Jim Kenney wants to reduce the city's high rate of poverty by ensuring that Philadelphia's community college and adult learning institutions better prepare students for the job markets.

"I think in order to strengthen Philadelphia both socially and economically, we have to have a workforce that is trained and making a living wage in the 21st century," Kenney said during the Peirce College Thomas May Peirce Leadership Award breakfast Tuesday, where he was the award recipient. "While that obviously requires investing

more in our public schools ... we need to invest in our adult learners."

Kenney, who faces Republican Melissa Murray Bailey in the November general election, highlighted two policy proposals regarding job training during the event, attended by more than 100 people from the business, higher education, and public sectors.

If he is elected mayor, Kenney said, he will create a task force to identify the skills, certifications, and training sought by Philadelphia businesses. He would then give the report to postsecondary institutions such as Peirce College and Philadelphia Community College so they can appropriately tailor their curricula.

"We really need to look at what we are doing, how we are doing it, and looking forward to allowing people to meet their potential," he said.

Kenney also wants to increase the number of summer internships and apprenticeships offered by businesses and nonprofits in the city from 10,000 to 16,000.

The former city councilman said that people with internship experience are more likely to get a job interview and employment than those without such experience. He wants to meet his goal of 16,000 summer jobs by the end of his first term.

How will he do it?

"By force of personality," Kenney said, laughing. He added: "I think we have to look at who does what and who we can lean on in a good way to do more."

Kenney believes that adding jobs and training people for the right jobs will reduce the poverty level in Philadelphia.

"The thing that bothers me most about Philadelphia at the moment is we have a 26 percent poverty rate," he said. "It's embarrassing."

He wants to increase the number of industrial jobs, which can pay between \$35 and \$40 per hour. Kenney called them "living-wage jobs."

Peirce College, which specializes in providing an education to working adults, gave its annual award to Kenney because of the former city councilman's work in helping create an "inclusive and economically viable community" and being a champion of equality.

"Your deep commitment to workforce development and your vigorous embrace of the role education plays as a driver in creating a more prosperous Philadelphia is inspiring," Barbara A. Prutzman, Peirce College Board of Trustees chair, said as she gave Kenney the award.

Title: PA & NJ Alumni Pay Tops US Average

Author: Jonathan Lai

Link: http://articles.philly.com/2015-09-16/news/66572951_1_cheyney-university-cedar-crest-college-peirce-college

Date: September 16, 2015

Alumni of most colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey earn more than the national average, according to new data released over the weekend by the U.S. Department of Education.

The data release, part of the White House "College Scorecard" initiative to make college statistics readily available online, includes information on the median earnings of students after 10 years and median federal debt of graduates.

Nationally, former students of either two- or four-year degree programs who received federal financial aid earn \$34,343 annually 10 years after graduating.

The federal data list 153 schools in Pennsylvania and New Jersey that primarily award bachelor's degrees. Of these, 134 have median alumni earnings above the national average.

Topping the list are three private schools: University of the Sciences (\$85,800), Stevens Institute of Technology (\$82,800), and the University of Pennsylvania (\$78,200). Stevens Institute of Technology is in Hoboken, N.J., while the two others are in Philadelphia.

Of the public colleges in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, New Jersey has some of the highest-paid alumni: New Jersey Institute of Technology (\$65,300), the College of New Jersey (\$56,800), and Rutgers University (\$54,800).

Several large universities with multiple campuses reported the same data for all of their campuses, so Rutgers University lists the same debt and earnings information for its New Brunswick, Newark, and Camden campuses. University of Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania State University similarly duplicate information for their campuses.

Highest earnings among public Pennsylvania schools were at Pitt (\$48,200), Penn State (\$47,500), and Temple and West Chester Universities (both \$46,500).

The data include information on median federal debt load for those who complete their degrees, which is also expressed as monthly payments over 10 years.

For-profit schools' graduates have many of the highest federal debt loads.

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh's graduates have a median federal debt of \$40,022, according to the data. Strayer University and University of Phoenix are also listed at the top of the federal debt list, but the largely online for-profits list the same information for all locations across the country.

Peirce College, a private four-year college in Philadelphia, sees median federal debt of \$39,162.50, or \$434.78 in monthly payments.

Other four-year private and nonprofit schools that have alumni with large median debt loads are Lincoln University of Pennsylvania (\$33,830), Bloomfield College (\$31,000), Cheyney University of Pennsylvania (\$31,000), Cedar Crest College (\$30,575), and Albright College (\$28,910).

Of the 153 schools granting primarily bachelor's degrees, nine had federal debt less than \$20,000: Swarthmore College (19,000), Lancaster Bible College (\$18,750), New Jersey City University (\$18,000), Baptist Bible College & Seminary of Pennsylvania (\$16,288.50), Haverford College (\$13,852.50), Thomas Jefferson University (\$12,500), Thomas Edison State College (\$11,289.50), Princeton University (\$6,810), and Beth Medrash Govoha (\$5,500).

Title: Advice for those retiring from law enforcement

Author: Erin E. Arvedlund

Link: <http://mobile.philly.com/beta?wss=/philly/business&id=329288801>

Date: September 27, 2015.



Robert Brzenchek, professor of criminal justice and program manager at Peirce College, is a retired naval intelligence and police officer who has made the transition to private security and will be doing expert commentary for NBC 10 during Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia.

As a retired law enforcement officer, Brzenchek says there are good and bad ways to segue out of the profession and into a second career.

First, he recommends socking away funds for retirement while still working as a beat

cop or detective.

"My salary wasn't great, only about \$42,000 as a police officer. But I tried to build a nest egg and not just live for today," something not everyone in law enforcement thinks about, he says. "Don't live paycheck to paycheck. . . . Try to fit in overtime or a second job."

Professionally, Brzenchek advises endless networking. While still a police officer in Washington, "I signed up to work extra black-tie events at embassies, the Virginia Gold Cup, anything where I knew I'd meet a defense contractor or a corporation where I might work overtime or a second job."

Many former lawmen and -women attend school during and after leaving the profession. While still a police officer, he finished his bachelor's degree and then earned a master's from American Military University. Then in 2010, he left the D.C. metropolitan force and moved back near home, joining the East Central Pennsylvania Task Force as a counterterrorism planning specialist.

That led to training others.

"In Luzerne County, where I'm from, there's a nuclear power plant, so we did all kinds of training around that," he says, as well as bomb detection and suicide prevention. The training "fueled the fire to get into the classroom and teach emergency management."

Today, he also serves on the board of Seraph, a private investigations, security-consulting, and training firm with headquarters in Tredyffrin. Founded in 1996 by Dale Yeager and Sam Sulliman, the company specializes in training and consulting for law enforcement.

To those leaving the field, Brzenchek recommends this: "Don't just jump into the first job after retirement that pays the most. Work at a defense contractor is feast or famine. Make sure you do your due diligence. Does this defense contractor or company have a long-term contract? Will it renew?"

Many of his students at Peirce College are older or entering second careers, he says.

"I teach a lot of career-changers in their 50s and 60s, many who have worked, say, for the city and want to get into criminal justice or forensic science. It's the CSI effect," he says, referring to the popular television show. "And by the way, there's no age limit to become a Philly cop."

Teaching is a natural for retired law enforcement officers, says Lisa Paris, who is in marketing at Peirce College. Her husband, Dennis Paris, worked in the Philadelphia Police Department as an undercover officer. After he retired, he went back to school, earning his bachelor's in marketing from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and an M.B.A. from Drexel's LeBow College of Business. He is now a marketing adjunct professor at Temple's Fox School of Business.

A study of law enforcement officers leaving the force for retirement found that the incidence of heart attacks was higher if retirees failed to create a regimen for themselves, according to the Maurice T. Turner Institute of Police Science in Washington.

"You eat wrong, you don't sleep, then you lose your routine," Brzenchek says. "There's also a higher rate of suicide when people leave the force."

As a result, the D.C. metro police created a policy whereby retirees had to continue coming in to the police academy for a year after retirement, and "the reintegration really helped, and heart-attack rates went down," he says

What's his advice for this security-intense papal-visit weekend? "Don't bring liquids, don't bring a purse, carry everything you need in a clear plastic bag." Forget bulky coolers and umbrellas. Those won't make it past the pat-downs and magnetometers.

"If it rains, it's going to get interesting," he adds with a chuckle. "Think of going to see the pope the same way you'd go through airport security. It's going to be that tight."

Brzenchek advised his parents not to come into the city from Wilkes-Barre, where they live.

That said, if you must travel to see the pope, "the best way to get around is PATCO or SEPTA mass transit," he says.

What worries him the most about the papal visit?

"A lone wolf," he says. "That's what keeps everyone up at night."

Philadelphia police, the Secret Service, the FBI, even the Vatican's Swiss Guard have been training for months ahead of the event. Some undercover agents and officers may be dressing as priests.

"There are going to be satellites trained all over the area, and cellphones may not work in the secure perimeter. We've never had a visit like this in Philadelphia," Brzenchek says.

Title: Advice for those retiring from law enforcement

Author: Mike Zebe

Link: <http://mobile.philly.com/beta?wss=/philly/business&id=329711141>

Date: September 28, 2015

On the Boards

Updated on SEPTEMBER 28, 2015 — 3:01 AM EDT

Peirce College trustees have elected **Barbara A. Prutzman** as new board chair of the 150-year-old nonprofit Philadelphia institution. Prutzman is CEO of BB&E Consulting. Named to the board were **Keith Daviston**, senior executive vice president and chief financial officer, Philadelphia Housing Authority, and **David A. Silverman**, a partner at Curley, Hessinger & Johnsrud L.L.P., Philadelphia.