Southern Connecticut State University is strongly committed to the long-term growth and sustainability of our STEM education programming - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The University has responded to both state-wide and national concerns surrounding declining enrollment in STEM fields by playing a leading role in creating new opportunities for study and potential employment in these disciplines. The new Bioscience Academic and Career Pathway (Bio-Path) will complement an expanding array of exemplary science programs that provide innovative research and educational opportunities for students. Faculty and administration are encouraged by the fact that enrollment in STEM courses at Southern has increased by 21.6% over the past five years.

Southern Connecticut State University’s ongoing expansion of its science programs will now be greatly enhanced by the new 98,332 square foot Academic and Laboratory Science building that opened in fall 2015. The University hopes to inspire current students and visitors alike with this new facility that is complete with state of the art labs for applied research projects aligned with industry needs and career opportunities. Southern has also invested in the creation of new Centers of Excellence in Mathematics and Science (CEMS), Marine and Coastal Studies, and Nanotechnology that help to drive innovative research and educational opportunities for students. These centers will provide professional development opportunities, educational partnerships, and community services throughout the Greater New Haven region and beyond.

In conjunction with the opening of the new science building, Southern has created a new Office of STEM Innovation and Leadership (STEM-IL) to serve as the primary driver of innovation and growth across the STEM disciplines. Specific to the Bio-Path initiative, this new office will facilitate the flow of information between the City of New Haven, educational partners, industry representatives, and faculty members at Southern. The Office of STEM-IL will also help to create opportunities for students to participate in internship programs and innovative research projects that more directly apply classroom learning to their future careers.

### Southern Stats

As a student-centered institution, Southern regards student success as its highest priority. The university seeks to instill in our students the value of the liberal arts and sciences as a foundation for professional development and life-long learning. Students at Southern receive exemplary career-oriented education and are inspired by the research, scholarship, and creative activity of our faculty members. Through tradition and innovation, Southern strives to prepare each student for active participation and impassioned, ethical leadership in our rapidly changing, global society. Within the Connecticut State university system, Southern leads the way in graduate education and produces the largest number of graduates in Health and Life Sciences, Education, and Social and Public Services.

#### STUDENT BODY as of 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Full-Time Undergraduates</th>
<th>Part-Time Undergraduates</th>
<th>Full-Time Graduate Students</th>
<th>Part-Time Graduate Students</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,802</td>
<td>1,351</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>1,798</td>
<td>10,825</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### FACULTY as of 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Professors</th>
<th>Associate Professors</th>
<th>Assistant Professors</th>
<th>Instructors</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>181</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Percentage of Faculty with Doctoral Degrees: 84%**

#### STAFF as of 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>551</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### ALUMNI

- **87,500**
- The majority of all living alumni work and reside in Connecticut
The Bioscience Academic & Career Pathway (BioPath) was developed through a collaborative partnership with the City of New Haven to create and strengthen educational pathways for students planning a career in the exciting field of bioscience. This partnership was formalized on May 4th, 2015 when President Mary Papazian and Mayor Toni Harp signed a Memorandum of Agreement here on campus at Southern Connecticut State University. Southern was chosen by the City of New Haven as the lead institution on this project due to our longstanding commitment and investment in STEM education, strong connections with regional high schools and community colleges, and easily accessible geographic location close to downtown New Haven.

The Greater New Haven metropolitan area is now home to the second largest cluster of biotechnology companies in New England. As a vital sector of Connecticut’s workforce, Southern is working diligently with our regional high schools and community colleges to raise visibility for the Bio-Path initiative as an educational and career opportunity for current and prospective students. Faculty representatives are reviewing alignment of our educational needs of Southern students, those entering the University’s leadership in STEM education and also promote viable educational and career opportunities to prospective students.

**Vision**

The Bioscience Academic and Career Pathway (Bio-Path) will help sustain the greater New Haven region as a leader in bioscience by delivering specialized education, applied research, and promotional events in order to generate a pipeline of highly skilled and well educated citizens and workers. To foster cohesion and organization between participants, the program will be stewarded through the Office of STEM Innovation and Leadership (STEM-IL) at Southern Connecticut State University.

**Mission**

The Bio-Path initiative aims to grow interest and participation in bioscience education by providing academic and experiential learning programs that position our graduates for the 21st century workforce with an intentional focus on industry needs and the pace of knowledge necessary to maintain currency. This collaborative project will serve the educational needs of Southern students, those entering the University through regional high schools and community colleges, as well as current bioscience employees requiring additional skills or formal credentials to advance their careers. The Bio-Path project will include internships, research efforts, and certificate programs that will position Southern as a resource for all Connecticut bioscience related organizations. These efforts will culminate in a strong pool of qualified, workforce-ready candidates that will solidly position New Haven as a bioscience leader in New England.

**The Four Academic Pillars**

**Program Development**

Southern Connecticut State University is developing four unique and complementary academic pathways for incoming students from regional high schools, community colleges, and the professional community. The foundation of the Bio-Path initiative rests on the creation of a new bachelor’s degree in biotechnology and a revised biochemistry concentration that will be available to all STEM majors here at the University. Additionally, Southern will be working closely with industry partners to develop a series of certificate programs that support the professional development and career advancement needs of current employees.

**Academic Pathways**

Southern Connecticut State University, in partnership with the City of New Haven, is currently working with representatives from our regional high schools and community colleges to strengthen academic program alignment and create a seamless transfer process between our institutions. Faculty members and administration are reviewing curricular connections and proper support networks to ensure that students have the requisite knowledge and assistance needed for academic success. These efforts will be complemented by such program opportunities as career days, open house events, tours of the new academic and laboratory science building, professional development workshops for teachers, and other grant-funded cooperative activities.

**Industry and Career Connections**

Southern Connecticut State University, in partnership with the City of New Haven, has convened an Industry and Academic Advisory Board with representatives from regional bioscience companies and educational institutions along the southern corridor of Connecticut. Advisory Board members will provide the group with critical feedback on issues related to long-term strategic planning, curricular updates in order to maintain industry currency, employee professional development needs, future employment gaps, and a unified approach to external advocacy.

**Promotional Outreach**

Southern Connecticut State University will work alongside the City of New Haven and our regional partner organizations on a promotional outreach campaign to garner buy-in and support for the Bioscience Academic and Career Pathway (Bio-Path). This campaign will raise visibility for the partnership and STEM education at Southern with the intent to attract educational, corporate, and government backing for this initiative. These efforts will showcase Southern Connecticut State University’s leadership in STEM education and also promote viable educational and career opportunities to prospective students.