



G R O U P i & i

# THE LATEST

May 2016

## Group i&i Partners with Public University to Build Culture of Research

May 16, 2016

--- *Group i&i* recently completed the first phase of an innovative partnership designed to enhance the culture for research, scholarship and creative activity at William Paterson State University (WP) in New Jersey.

In 2015 and 2016, through the WP Office of the Provost, *Group i&i* principals, Toufic Hakim, PhD, and Kathy Wiener, MPA, conducted a review and assessment of the University's research funding activities including extensive, focused interviews with faculty and academic administrators, and individualized coaching with faculty members to refine their research agendas and develop competitive proposals for funding.

Commenting on the experience, Martin Williams, Director of WP's Office of Sponsored Programs said of the Group, "You were exactly the right organization for this project. I'm sure it will have a lasting impact, especially on raising our expectations for research and research funding at WP."

In addition to supporting several successfully funded research grants, the team produced a comprehensive report of findings, which is being shared with key stakeholders throughout the University, including opportunities for future. A second phase will soon be planned, with *Group i&i's* support, to engage the WP community invigorating the scholarly environment for the benefit of students and faculty, the larger community, and higher-learning endeavor.

"There is quite a bit of student-faculty research and scholarly collaborations taking place at WP," stated Hakim. "By engaging in individual and group conversations with many stakeholders across the University, we were able to discover and share the shared vision as we heard it and present strategic recommendations for invigorating the environment for research, scholarship, and creative expression."

\*\*\*

Through its Senior Managing Principal, who has had national involvement in the undergraduate research movement and has led the development of faculty-student research initiatives on a number of university campuses, and its broad experience with strategic planning and organizational development, the Group brings a strategic understanding of how an effort like “strengthening a research culture” can be realized through a broad-based engagement of key constituencies.

[www.Groupi-i.com](http://www.Groupi-i.com) | 908.258.0043