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NJCU TO HONOR PHARMA GIANT CHIRAG PATEL
ELLIS ISLAND SITE OF THE AMERICAN DREAM GALA

JERSEY CITY, N.J., May 21, 2014 -- Co-CEO, chairman, and co-founder of one of the nation's leading generic pharmaceutical companies, **Chirag Patel**, Class of '89, will be honored with the Alumnus of Distinction Award at NJCU's American Dream Gala to be held Thursday, June 5, 2014 in the Great Hall on Ellis Island, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Coming to the U.S. as a young man from India, Mr. Patel never doubted that with hard work and imagination, he could be part of the American Dream.

In 2002, he and his brother Chintu started the Bridgewater-based company Amneal Pharmaceuticals. With revenues of more than \$450 million, Amneal is now the seventh largest generic pharmaceutical company in the U.S. by prescriptions dispensed.

In 2011, the Patel brothers were named the Ernst & Young National Entrepreneur of the Year Life Sciences Award winners, one of the nation's most prestigious business awards for entrepreneurs.

"Chirag epitomizes the drive and determination we see from our students on a daily basis," NJCU President Sue Henderson said. "We applaud his great success and his commitment to helping others achieve their own dreams."

Mr. Patel will share center stage with two other luminaries: former Congressman Frank J. Guarini who will receive the NJCU Leadership Award for Lifetime Public Service; and Carlos Rodriguez, president and CEO of ADP, who will be honored with the NJCU Corporate Citizen Award.

The purpose of the American Dream Gala is to raise scholarship money for students planning to attend NJCU, a four-year state university with a student population of more than 8,400 undergraduate and graduate students. About 54 nations are represented in the student body. Eighty-five percent of the full-time undergraduates at NJCU receive some kind of need-based financial aid.

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