

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

August 22, 2023

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

Starting on Friday, new students at both the undergraduate and graduate level will come to us with their hopes and dreams for a better future. They will look to us to help them develop into stronger thinkers, skilled collaborators, and fierce advocates for justice. I know we will find a myriad of rigorous and compassionate ways to do just that, which is why John Jay continues to be an engine for social mobility and equity, and a wonderful example in the U.S. of access and excellence.

Welcome to the new academic year! In this update I want to celebrate the onboarding of 43 new full-time faculty who are attending their orientation today at the same time I want to be clear they are lucky to be joining a faculty with hustle and heart in abundance; I'll share John Jay's newest student success cohort, MBK CONNEC as well as the news of not one but two John Jay programs that are finalists for Examples of Excelencia, and finally I will scold those of you who have not yet finalized the migration of content from your areas to the new website format. And don't forget our Welcome Back Reception on Thursday at 4 pm in 9.64NB!

Celebrating Faculty, New and Old

Please click on the attached booklet to read the bios of our 43 accomplished new full-time professors who begin their John Jay journeys this week. I know they are lucky to be joining our fierce, ambitious faculty who inspire me every day. But I also know that departments are excited to welcome these dynamic colleagues who bring a rich array of expertise to the college.

Last year was a pretty amazing year for faculty productivity. As the great Maribel Perez likes to say, "Check it!":

82 books published last year

\$30+ Million in grants brought in

And that's before we even get to the field trips, the mentoring conversations, the students who excelled because of imaginative and engaging teaching, and the differences in lives made.





New Student Cohort: My Brother's Keeper

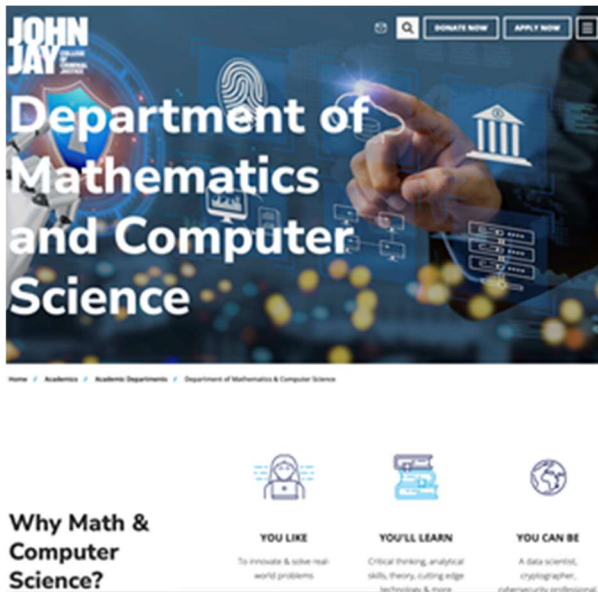
This summer we inaugurated a new student success cohort for men of color, MBK CONNECT. Based on President Obama's My Brother's Keeper framework to provide safe and supportive communities for young men of color, John Jay's MBK program is created around four pillars for success: academic excellence, community engagement & leadership, professional development and postgraduate planning, and health & wellbeing. Sixty-seven freshmen completed a course this summer while building lasting bonds of brotherhood they will bring with them as they start their college careers.

***Excelencia*: Serving Our Hispanic Students**

Two Academic Affairs programs – the Program for Research Initiatives in Science and Math (PRISM) and Accelerate, Complete, Engage (ACE) – are finalists for the 2023 Examples of *Excelencia* in recognition of their intentionality in serving Latino students. Both PRISM and ACE are among 19 Examples of *Excelencia* finalists across the country and among four baccalaureate programs.

John Jay is the only New York college to be recognized by *Excelencia* this year. Please join me in congratulating DeLandra Hunter and the ACE team for their initial success, and Anthony Carpi, Edgardo Sanabria-Valentín and the entire PRISM team for their initial success.





Website Migration: Are You Late?

AA was supposed to have completed its migration to the new website by the end of July. People: we are not there. Please check to see if the pages for your area have been updated. If not, ask your Chair or unit director how you can help.

Friendly reminder there are [orientation sessions](#) and instructions to review. Adapting to the format – rather than fighting it – helps readers find content easily and ensures your page will get published rather than put in purgatory while Kira Poplowski explains to you that you need to adapt to the format.

And thanks to those of you who have completed your new pages!



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