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To: The John Jay College Community

RE: Recalibration Period for Educational Equity, Distance Learning, and Coronavirus Updates

I continue to be in awe of our community's rapid transition to a distance-learning model in a remarkably short period of time. This transition has highlighted our faculty's great care and concern for their students as they have worked hard to quickly translate their courses to a distance-learning format, the resilience and adaptability of our students, who are quickly adjusting to new ways of learning, and the commitment of our staff for supporting all of these efforts. Today, I write to call your attention to the Chancellor's message this afternoon announcing changes to the spring academic calendar and to share new resources with you.

In his message today, Chancellor Matos Rodríguez outlined adjustments that CUNY will make to the spring academic calendar in order to allow us to quickly address disparities in access to computers and technology experienced by some of our students and ensure their success. Please take a moment to read the Chancellor's full message on the [CUNY website](#), and note that CUNY is instituting a "**Recalibration Period for Educational Equity**" that involves changes to our spring semester calendar as outlined below:

- **CUNY's Recalibration Period for Educational Equity** will begin this **Friday, March 27** when distance-learning classes will be paused, and last through **Wednesday April 1**. Distance-learning classes will resume on **Thursday, April 2**. Fully online classes will continue as regularly scheduled throughout this time.

This Recalibration Period for Educational Equity will allow John Jay, along with other CUNY colleges, to continue our work providing our students with access to the equipment they need to successfully complete their semester requirements in a distance-learning format. Any John Jay students in need of a long-term loaner laptop should please email the DoIT Helpdesk at [helpdesk@johnjay.cuny.edu](mailto:helpdesk@johnjay.cuny.edu) to request an appointment to pick one up.

- The University's previously scheduled **Spring Recess** will now run **from Wednesday April 8 through Friday April 10**, encompassing the beginning of Passover and Good Friday.

For faculty, staff, and students whose religious observation extends into the week of April 13, as always you have the right to request a religious exemption to observe the holiday and we will offer maximum flexibility in addressing the requests.

As we continue to move forward with distance learning, we have compiled new resources to help you:

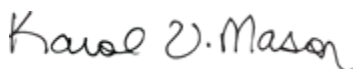
- We've created a new [Distance Learning Success](#) webpage to organize the variety of distance-learning resources available for students, faculty, and staff. Here, you'll find everything that you need—from logging on to Zoom Video Conferencing for the first time, to one-on-one support for designing a course on

Blackboard, to successfully navigate our new virtual approach to teaching and learning. The webpage also includes key Academic Policies and Guidelines, as well as inspiring stories and videos from John Jay community members who've mastered the distance-learning educational experience.

- As John Jay continues to take steps to ensure the health and wellbeing of our community in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, we have restructured our [Coronavirus Updates](#) page on the College's website to offer easier access to important information, contacts, and news.

You can find campus services using our [departmental contact list](#). If you don't know where to get help or have other specific questions, please email [AskJohnJay@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:AskJohnJay@jjay.cuny.edu). Please stay connected to your John Jay family and take on new challenges with confidence.

Thank you,



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President

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