

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

February 7, 2023

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

February is Black History Month, a time to reflect on the American story through the lens of African American experiences. But what about the John Jay story?

The very forces of civil unrest and justice advocacy of the 1960s that created the call for greater professionalization of police officers, the founding impulse of John Jay, also created the grassroots efforts by Black New Yorkers that led to Open Admissions and changed the College from 90% white police officer students from 1965-1970 to 50% Black and Puerto Rican students by the College's tenth year. As Distinguished Professor Jerry Markowitz recounts in his history of John Jay, [Educating for Justice](#):

Black Studies, Puerto Rican Studies, Women's Studies, American Studies, Environmental Studies, and more all flowered, drawing both in-service students and civilian students.... Professor of English Audre Lorde and Blanche Cook introduced an interdisciplinary course, "Women in Black and White," that also had a major impact on the students. Cook recalled that, "all of our students the first time we taught the class were men and most were cops." They were so moved and upset by what they were learning about the role and views of women in American society that many brought their wives and friends to class.

Where Cook and Lorde were models of inclusion, the College, like America, was slow to act on its justice promise. Between 1989-1991 Black and Latinx students protested "the perceived lack of sensitivity on the part of faculty and administrators to student needs, and most especially the dearth of African-American and Latino faculty." Students took over North Hall for almost an entire month and protests became violent. This resulted in a greater number of Black administrators and faculty at the college, but the struggle continues. (for official numbers of current college demographics view our [Equity Scorecard](#)).

John Jay's history is not separate from the American story but our claim to educate for justice holds us to a higher standard. Let's move forward together and with care.

In this update I want to preview the Faculty Opportunity Fund, let you know about the upcoming COACHE survey, and remind you of the Deans' Open Forum on Thursday, February 9.

Faculty Opportunity Fund Preview



In the next couple of weeks be on the lookout for an announcement from interim Dean Angela Crossman about the Faculty Opportunity Fund! This new fund, created by President Mason and housed in the John Jay College Foundation, will support faculty to pay for non-research related professional development activities such as leadership training, pedagogical training, courses to develop software skills, and more. Grants of all sizes will be considered by will average between \$500-\$5000.

Don't forget the many other faculty support funding opportunities that exist through CUNY and John Jay's Office for the Advancement of Research. Click here to learn more.

COACHE Survey Launching

As we have done for more than ten years, the College will participate in the [COACHE Faculty Job Satisfaction Survey](#) in the next week or so. This survey has formed an important part of continuous improvements to better serve faculty at John Jay and I hope faculty will participate.

The results of our 2019 survey as well as improvements made in response to the survey can all be found under "Surveys" in the Resource Center of Inside John Jay.



Deans' Open Forum February 9 – Supports for Faculty



Anthony Carpi
Dean of Research,
International Partnerships,
and Student Professional
Advancement



Kim Chandler
Associate Provost for
Strategy and Operations



Angela Crossman
Interim Dean of Faculty

This semester the Deans want to share the work they are doing, and we want to hear from you as to your needs and ideas. We will hold 4 open forums via Zoom during Community Hour: February 9, March 1, March 28, May 1.

FEBRUARY 9 1:40-2:45 “Supports for Faculty” with Deans Anthony Carpi, Kim Chandler and Angela Crossman

Zoom Link: <https://jjay-cuny.zoom.us/my/apeasejj?pwd=OVMxOUY1Y1ppTVkvNTUvSFdETU9NQT09>

Allison Pease
Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs



524 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
(212) 237-8101