

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

November 28, 2023

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

I'm a believer in John Jay's capacity to strengthen our democracy. At a time of increasing polarization and partisanship, countering authoritarian tendencies and speaking across differences is essential to promote democracy and individual thriving. One of the tools we have to support this work is John Jay's institutional membership in the [American Association of Colleges & Universities](#) (AAC&U). More below.

Also central to a thriving democracy is a base of facts from which to make decisions. John Jay makes a public contribution to knowledge and facts not only through faculty research but through our [research centers](#), each of which provides important research and information on justice issues. Below I share a bit about the Institute for Justice and Opportunity, and look forward to sharing more about our research centers in future updates.

Finally, it is the annual Day of Giving and John Jay raises funds for our Student Emergency Fund. I've got some startling information below on how many of our students use those funds.

AAC&U Membership

The American Association of Colleges and Universities is a global membership organization dedicated to advancing the vitality and democratic purposes of undergraduate liberal education. John Jay is a member institution and all college staff are therefore members!

Institutional membership in AAC&U provides us with ongoing access to a global community of educators who are committed to advancing quality and equity in undergraduate education as well as to a wealth of resources and tools that support the success of all our students.

To access all of the benefits of your membership, see the attached instructions for activating your account.



Institute for Justice and Opportunity

Founded in 2005, John Jay's Institute for Justice and Opportunity provides opportunities before and after reentry for individuals involved with the justice system as well as research on successful reentry. Through programs like the Prison-to-College pipeline based in Otisville, NY, IJO and John Jay faculty provide education to currently incarcerated individuals. Its College Initiative program provides college training through John Jay and other CUNY schools to the formerly incarcerated. And IJO's Career Pathways unit provides training and employment opportunities to the formerly incarcerated. IJO works closely with faculty and staff around the college to support the career and social integration of the justice involved.



Student Emergency Funds

Startling Fact: in 2022 John Jay's Student Emergency Fund gave out ~\$730,000 to 1700 students. In 2023 students seeking assistance more than doubled to 3600. With help from our philanthropic partners, the Petrie Foundation, the Gerstner Foundation, and all who give during annual campaigns, John Jay gave out \$966,000.

Emergency funds are an important way we live our mission of access and equity by ensuring students who need food, help to pay for essential expenses, or tuition due to temporary hardships, can get that help so they can continue to stay in school.

For more on Student Emergency Funding, [click here](#). For our Emergency Metro Card Program, [click here](#). To see all student recourse in one place, click [here](#).



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