Our new Strategic Plan, John Jay 2020, is the product of our 50th Anniversary year when we looked back at a remarkable first half century of “educating for justice” and thought hard about what promises to be a more remarkable future.

John Jay 2020 looks out on a world much changed since our inaugural year of 1964, and our overriding concern is to prepare students to flourish professionally and personally in a world reshaped significantly by cultural, economic and technological change. Our plan ensures that students have the skills, knowledge and experiences required for post-graduate success. With the inclusion of new opportunities in health care and online learning, and an emphasis on global engagement, John Jay 2020 adds important dimensions to the student experience and broadens our understanding of a just society.

In preparing the plan, we had the benefit of contributions from the entire campus community. We heard from faculty, students and staff on our planning wiki, in meetings, via e-mail and during a Town Hall meeting. An Ad Hoc Committee for the Strategic Plan discussed the feedback and prepared a revised version of the proposed plan for further comment. I thank the members of the committee and everyone else who took the time to let us know what is important to you.

John Jay 2020 will strengthen the institution in key areas and give us a new profile and energy for the year 2020. And in the years ahead we will once again look out on a different world, one made more just through the efforts of John Jay students, alumni and faculty. Please join me in supporting the strategic planning to make that vision possible.

Jeremy Travis
John Jay College of Criminal Justice is a community of motivated and intellectually committed individuals who explore justice in its many dimensions.  

Mission Statement

EDUCATING FOR JUSTICE
1. PROVIDE EVERY STUDENT WITH THE FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFELONG SUCCESS

“The College’s liberal arts curriculum equips students to pursue advanced study and meaningful, rewarding careers in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.” Mission Statement

The John Jay Mission Statement also recognizes that our students are “passionate about shaping the future,” but to productively engage the future passion must be channeled through a carefully planned program of learning, both in and out of the classroom. The College must position students—one at a time—for lifelong learning and professional success along various paths into careers and graduate study.

On a personal level, all John Jay students should work toward an understanding of their aspirations and values that ultimately give meaning and direction to life; self-awareness—a fundamental purpose of education—is essential to finding a satisfying fit in a community, in a career, and in the world at large. Educating for Justice takes place at the intersection of personal and intellectual development.

The College does an excellent job in the positioning just described. However, too many students miss important learning opportunities because they are unaware of them or because they are not presented often enough or prominently enough. This goal aims to embed those opportunities systematically in all academic and extracurricular programs in order to touch every student. Through a rigorous liberal education, John Jay is committed to graduating students who are positioned for success, professionally and personally, and poised to make a positive difference in the world.
2. FOSTER A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR FACULTY

“Our faculty members are exceptional teachers who encourage students to join them in pursuing transformative scholarship and creative activities. Through their research our faculty advances knowledge and informs professional practices that build and sustain just societies.”

Mission Statement

In the past decade, the College has prioritized the hiring of faculty. These new faculty were selected for their promise to advance the College and to realize the aspirations of John Jay @ 50 as an all-baccalaureate institution, dedicated to student success, effective pedagogy, and excellence in research, scholarship and creative work.

As our faculty aspire to national and international prominence in their endeavors, the College has an obligation to increase the resources available for faculty development, support and recognition. Accordingly, we must make a substantial and sustained investment in the faculty so that they are successful in advancing their careers, teaching and mentoring our students, and pursuing scholarship and creative activities that have the potential to transform the world.
3. PROMOTE STUDENT ACCESS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

“We foster an inclusive and diverse community drawn from our city, our country, and the world.”  Mission Statement

An important tool in building the student mix we seek is scholarship aid. The College distributes nearly $1 million in scholarships and fellowships at the present time, but most of it goes to continuing students. Our ability to offer merit scholarships will be key to attracting freshmen, transfers and graduate students with the academic backgrounds to match our increasing expectations for credit accumulation and timely graduation, intellectual engagement, independent and faculty-guided research, and experiential learning both on and off-campus. At the same time, maintaining a diverse student body is of paramount importance.
4. EXTEND THE REACH OF THE JOHN JAY EDUCATION THROUGH JOHN JAY ONLINE

“The breadth of our community motivates us to question our assumptions, to consider multiple perspectives, to think critically, and to develop the humility that comes with global understanding.” Mission Statement

In the course of a generation, online learning has opened a universe of knowledge to learners across the globe, revolutionizing educational access and profoundly altering how teaching and learning take place. By the end of the decade, half of all college instruction in the world will be delivered online. Today’s college students—predominantly a mix of traditional age students, young adults and working professionals—were born into the digital age. They thrive on technologically-assisted learning and benefit from the flexibility and intellectual excitement that web-based instruction and digital learning environments can provide.

To provide our current students with the learning opportunities they seek, and expand access in the global age—a principle that undergirds our justice-focused mission—we need to advance our work in online programming. By accelerating the pace of our effort and aligning it with our mission, we can educate our students and transport our College into the future of teaching and learning. We can bring the world’s rich diversity into the classroom and provide our students with the educational experiences they need to launch and further their careers in our global world.
5. ENHANCE JOHN JAY’S IDENTITY AS A HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION

“We are dedicated to educating traditionally underrepresented groups and committed to increasing diversity in the workforce.”

Mission Statement

Hispanics make up 42% of the student population at John Jay College, giving it the largest Hispanic student population of any four-year college in the Northeast. As a federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, John Jay is eligible for federal funding, and the College will continue to take advantage of that revenue stream, but more importantly the College will build its identity as a Hispanic-Serving Institution through its comprehensive support of access and success for Latino students and thereby strengthen its commitment to diversity for the benefit of all students.
6. DEVELOP HEALTH-RELATED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COMPREHENSIVE PRE-HEALTH ADVISEMENT

“Our professional programs introduce students to foundational and newly emerging fields and prepare them for advancement within their chosen professions.”

Mission Statement

John Jay will develop health-related programs of study and build a comprehensive pre-health advisement program, goals which can powerfully support the broader goal of lifelong success for students. Pre-professional study in health care, public health, and related fields is attractive to many of the most academically talented students entering college today, and career prospects are strong for the foreseeable future. A credible, visible initiative in health care would open new opportunities to recruit students who would otherwise not consider John Jay, and it would encourage strategic partnerships with organizations and agencies across the city and region. Moreover, as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, John Jay’s development of professionals in the health care and public health areas would honor our Mission Statement’s commitment to “increasing diversity in the work force.”

An “education for justice” aligns naturally with a consideration of health care issues, given the fact of often scarce and always costly public resources distributed inequitably across the population. In global terms the disparities are larger, and as John Jay redefines and extends its international reach, the opportunities to include health and health care within our justice mission are more obvious than ever.
7. GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP FOR JOHN JAY AND FOR OUR STUDENTS

“Through their studies our students prepare for... global citizenship...” Mission Statement

The College is deeply engaged in activities around the world, and on campus the world at large is our focus in many ways. We annually host scholars from other countries, and our foreign students number about 180. Every academic department has at least one faculty member engaged in international scholarly work. Our student body comes from families where more than 100 languages are spoken. We have experienced enormous growth in our global connections, but we have often taken opportunities where they appeared instead of selectively harnessing global engagement to our mission.

Thus we are remaking John Jay as a global institution, and fortunately we have a road map to do so in the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on International Programs that lays out a number of far-reaching recommendations, the first of which is to develop a vision for global education at John Jay. Beyond the vision the College will develop infrastructure for planning and for student support.
WE EDUCATE
FIERCE
ADVOCATES
FOR JUSTICE