New Year, New Look and Theme for the Newsletter

Happy New Year to all our colleagues and friends! As we head into the new year, there are many initiatives and challenges that lie ahead of us - old and new, small and big, planned and unexpected, and our OFA team is prepared to tackle them with continued pride and professionalism.

Now that we are in the New Building quite comfortably, and while there are still lots of things still happening with the New Building, we decided to transform New Building News into a larger update from the Office of Finance and Administration for a more comprehensive take on the projects, news, and initiatives we are involved with in other areas of campus life.

Speaking of new looks, Haaren Hall is in the process of getting a makeover with our new branded look. You can already see the big changes on the 6th floor – from fresh branding colors to messaging. The Haaren Hall Atrium makeover will follow, with the painting of the arch and elevator walls.

A 20-feet long John Jay logo has been installed on the wall of the 2nd Floor of Haaren Hall in the corridor leading to the New Building. The branding colors will be introduced to the 2nd floor in the coming months, along with some branding for the Public Safety Desk at the 10th Ave. entrance. Plans are to finalize the “branding” of Haaren Hall by the end of this summer. Some “branding” will be introduced to North Hall, but on a smaller scale since our occupancy there will be ending soon.

And here’s a new venue that has people buzzing all over the College – the long-awaited jaw-dropping knock-out-gorgeous Moot Court. Passersby have stopped in their tracks to admire the two-floor-high ceilings, clean lines, cedar walls, and an expansive Manhattan skyline view. Drapes, judge’s bench, furniture, and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment, once received in the coming months, will complete this stunning room located on the 6th floor. Maybe all court rooms should look this nice! The current AFLAC commercial you are seeing on TV was filmed just outside the Moot Court on the Quad.
WELCOME ABOARD

Meet the Interim Public Safety Director

As you may be aware, there has recently been a change in leadership in the Department of Public Safety. While we are looking for a new director, Michael Lederhandler was appointed as the John Jay College Interim Director of Public Safety. Michael has been Director of Operations for CUNY Public Safety from 2008 to the present. He has also served as the Director of Public Safety for Kingsborough Community College from 1996 to 2008. Michael is also an Adjunct Lecturer at Kingsborough Community College for the Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science. He possesses a Bachelor of Science from SUNY, Oneonta with a major in Business Economics and a Masters of Arts from SUNY, Albany in Criminal Justice. Michael’s experience as a Director and his current position at CUNY will enable a smooth transition for the Public Safety staff and the College community.

Our Newest Additions to HR and Accounting Team

Ayana Murray joined John Jay in October 2012 as the new Employment Services Manager. She is responsible for employment actions, including employee classifications, appointment processing, on-boarding and the HR Center, and is the department’s first point of contact for prospective, current, and former employees.

Ayana comes to us from Marymount Manhattan College where she was the Assistant Director of Human Resources. Prior to this she was a Human Resources/Asst. Store Manager at Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, Inc. Ayana has a Bachelors degree in Sociology from CUNY-Brooklyn College and a Masters degree in Human Resources Management from Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus. She earned the Professional in Human Resources certification (PHR) from the Society for Human Resource Management.

April Chester joined us in November 2012 as the HRIS specialist (HR Information Systems). Also alumni of CUNY, she received her Associates in Medical Business Administration from Bronx Community College and her Bachelor’s degree in Health Care Administration Services from Lehman College. She began her journey at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital and at Jewish Home Life Care System.

As the HRIS Manager at John Jay, April manages and oversees the daily operations and maintenance of HRMS PeopleSoft/CUNYFirst. She is responsible to ensure data integrity, as well as assisting with the testing to implementation of any new features or rollouts, as they relate directly to CUNYFirst.

Shana Johnson has recently joined the Accounting Department as the College Accountant for non tax-levy entities. In her new role, Shana will maintain general and specific books of accounts, classify revenue and expenditures, and assist in coordination of financial statements and reports. She comes to John Jay from New York City Tech with experience in accounting and bursar operations. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Accounting from York College.
Public Art Update

The installation of the hanging fiber-optic sculpture facing 11th Ave. entrance by Nobuho Nagasawa, previously scheduled for unveiling in late January, is being delayed due to delivery issues. The completion is now postponed to the end of March.

Other two pieces by artists Alfredo Jaar and Ralph Helmick are in fabrication. Both are estimated to be delivered and installed late summer.

Easels No More

For one reason or another, poster easels have been a part of John Jay’s look for years. Those of us who have been here for a few years probably remember the unsightly forest of easels in the Haaren Hall Atrium and in the North Hall Lobby. It was a rich mix of new and outdated announcements of different caliber, with some of them placed on lopsided easels that often created a domino effect for their sturdier neighbors. It wasn’t pretty.

Soon after the New Building opened, easels started popping up in its public areas, repeating the old pattern and sometimes creating a tripping hazard. We searched far and wide for a suitable solution, and we think we found it...

Introducing the New Mobile Double-Sided 2x3 FT Poster Display. It’s easy to operate, and it looks professional and classy. The posters don’t require mounting on foam core (in fact they won’t work if mounted on foam core), which will save many of us time and money. All displays are designed to fit only vertically-formatted posters which will create a uniformed and consistent look throughout the campus. Easels will no longer be used in the New Building and Haaren Hall Atrium and Connection. Please click here or call ext.8541 for more details on how to use the new poster display, to request a demonstration, and much more.

Taking the Show on the Road

The performing arts are no longer limited to the Theater. We are now engaging our students through the arts in some creative ways and taking the show on the road.

One of the ideas the College is exploring— and so far successfully—is bringing the events to where the students already are. In collaboration with the Department of Art and Music and Office of Student Life, last spring the Theater facilitated two concerts (Rhythm & Blues and Salsa) in the New Building Mezzanine, which were attended by over 200 students. The next event series of concerts planned for the summer in collaboration with the Department of Communication and Theater Arts is a production of Antigone on the Jay Walk. So, stay tuned and look for announcements.
Memorial Hall

The progress on Memorial Hall (old theater lobby) is full speed ahead. Another dramatic transformation of the space has occurred just recently with the painting and light installation in the area where the monument will be placed. The granite pedestal is currently in fabrication. The monument will be lit from above and below. There will be bench seating throughout the space. Memorial Hall, which connects the Harren Hall Atrium to the New Building lobby, will be completed end of April.

Haaren Hall Space Renovation Update

This year, just like last, will be filled with numerous moves—not as exciting ones (they will involve temporary moves to the North Hall) but rather necessary ones. Haaren Hall is about to undergo extensive renovations that have been planned along with the design and construction of our New Building. It’s a major and complicated next phase of addressing space needs at the College with many interconnected pieces, temporary office relocations, and office expansions that will benefit numerous academic departments and non-instructional support areas. Major building systems in Haaren Hall (now 25 years old) will be upgraded and/or replaced. This will mean temporary office relocations to North Hall for some offices, including temporary relocation of classrooms from Haaren Hall to North Hall in the fall. The first major series of moves from Haaren Hall to North Hall is scheduled for June 2013. The project is managed by Ynes Leon and the Office of Space Planning and Capital Projects (Ext. 8013). The office has been working very closely with Academic Affairs to consult with departments and offices regarding how new spaces will be laid out, preliminary schedules and other details. The schedule of moves has recently been updated and is available on the New Building website here.

Faculty and Staff Night Out

Do you want to get engaged?

The Department of Human Resources introduces the first Faculty and Staff event in what will be ongoing activities to increase employee engagement throughout the College.

Here our faculty and staff will come together to support our Basketball team. No matter what the score of the basketball games - this is a “win-win” for all! This event is a part of our BRAVO Employee Institute program and further enhances its goal to provide services and activities to the workforce of our College.

So, be a good sport and join your colleagues and students on January 28th to cheer them on and have some fun.

Please RSVP here.
New Events Management/Space Reservation System

For those of us involved in scheduling space for events, meetings, conferences and other activities, life may soon become a whole lot easier. The Department of Theater and Event Services, which now also includes Space Reservations and Audio-Visual Services, has acquired a new Event Management System (EMS). This is a complete campus scheduling system that can integrate our various schedules across the College. EMS will make the scheduling request and approval process more streamlined and efficient.

The system offers over 170 built-in reports. Demos of the system have already been presented to several user groups within the College, and the response was very favorable. The EMS software will be installed this month. The system will be populated over the next few months. This system can provide the College with precise information about the usage of our spaces if all the pertinent data is loaded into the system at the outset.

A governance committee has been formed to create the guidelines for how this system will service both the College and external requests. This committee consists of representatives from the user groups that plan events and those who schedule and service the events.

After the system is completely set-up, training will be scheduled for all of the user groups in the College.

Community Sing: The People Sing with the Broadway All-Star Voices

Imagine you’re on a lit-up Broadway stage—now get ready to sing with a chorus of real Broadway all-stars! Gerald W. Lynch Theater at John Jay College presents in collaboration with Carnegie Hall’s Neighborhood Concert Series Community Sing: The People Sing with the Broadway All-Star Voices.

Composer Thomas Cabaniss and musical director of Chicago: The Musical Leslie Stifelman will guide you through the show-stopping, electrifying numbers of your most beloved Broadway musicals.

Leslie Stifelman is the music director and conductor for Chicago: The Musical, the longest running American musical in Broadway history. Stifelman’s projects have been awarded the Peabody and Grammy awards.

Thomas Cabaniss composes music for opera, theater, dance, film, and concerts. He has written an opera based on E. T. A. Hoffmann’s The Sandman, and he scored an Oscar-winning short film, The Lunch Date. He is a faculty member of The Juilliard School.

RSVP via the JJC events calendar http://tinyurl.com/GWLT-Feb3

*Online reservations will close February 1 at 4pm. Walk up reservations will begin one hour prior to showtime at the 59th Street entrance.
MBJ Food Services Announces New Dining Options Throughout the John Jay College Campus

- **JJ’s South: Monday – Friday (8am-3pm)**

*Located at the Lobby Level of the Westport Building* - MBJ Food Services is pleased to announce the re-opening of the Cafeteria. In addition to Seattle’s Best coffee and Tazo tea, MBJ Food Services will also offer a variety of hot breakfast and lunch entrée options including daily specials. Freshly prepared gourmet sandwiches, salads and parfait yogurts will be available together with MBJ’s baked from scratch pizza and made to order hot heroes.

- **JJ’s North: Monday – Friday (8am-3pm)**

*Located at the Lobby Level of North Hall* - MBJ Food Services is pleased to announce the opening of its newest food service location that will offer Seattle’s Best coffee, Tazo tea and a wide variety of breakfast muffins, bagels, rolls and croissants. Lunch items will include freshly grilled hot dogs, gourmet sandwiches, salads and parfait yogurts.

- **JJ’s: Monday – Friday (8am-8pm)**

*Located on first floor of New Building*—MBJ Food Services is pleased to announce that in addition to a wide variety of bagels, croissant and muffin favorites, Starbucks Brand Coffee and Tazo Tea will soon be offered along with a full variety of freshly made blended cappuccino and frappuccino beverages and other Starbucks brand specialty drinks.

New Building Signage:

Our signage consultant has been working hard to complete the tremendous amount of signs around the New Building, and it looks like they will be finally done by the end of January.

Elevators:

We recognize and acknowledge a concern over elevator waiting time from floor to floor in the New Building, especially during the semester. Facilities Management is working to address this issue and by the start of the semester will implement a series of changes to improve elevator operation and minimize waiting times.