

JOHN JAY

COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

JUSTICEMATTERS

PRESIDENT
Jeremy Travis

VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT
Jayne Rosengarten

SENIOR EDITOR/WRITER
Peter Dodenhoff

EDITOR/WRITER
Adrienne Anifant

DESIGN DIRECTOR
Laura Gardner

PHOTOGRAPHY COORDINATOR
Maria Garcia

PHOTOGRAPHY
Arpi Pap

DESIGNER
John Christiana

CONTENTS

SPRING 2014

FEATURES

Justice Sotomayor 3

Supreme Court Justice shares her vision

Knowledge Without Borders 4

John Jay to expand its online offerings

Oh My, Candida! 8

Understanding a life-threatening fungus

CUNY Justice Academy 10

Moving into science

Putting Stock in Bonds 12

Engagement fund builds connections

CUNY Service Corps Students 13

Inspired to make a difference

Human Touch 16

Anthropology major ready for fall debut

A Matter of Honors 18

The Macaulay Honors College at John Jay

Exceptional Undergraduates Wanted 20

Fellows heed the call to service

A Writer at Heart 22

Evan Mandery's personality-driven look at key death-penalty cases

DNA Analysis 28

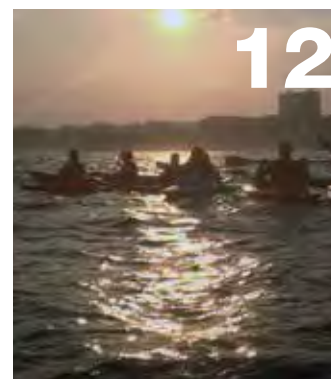
John Jay's authoritative expert in DNA analysis

DEPARTMENTS

President's Letter 2

Alumni Profiles 24

Class Notes 27





FROM THE PRESIDENT JEREMY TRAVIS

Dear Friends,

We've done it! One year ahead of schedule, the ambitious Campaign for the Future of Justice has met and surpassed its goal of raising \$50 million by the College's 50th anniversary, and the extended John Jay community not only deserves the credit but reaps the benefit.

The John Jay College Foundation's Board of Trustees developed the idea for the campaign nine years ago. While at the time the goal seemed like quite a stretch, requiring our full energy and attention, the fact remains that we have crossed the finish line in a vigorous sprint, propelled by an evaluation grant of nearly \$3 million from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to John Jay's Research & Evaluation Center.

But the sprint to the finish was just one part of the campaign, which succeeded on the strength of gifts large and small. The extended John Jay community came together in remarkable fashion to make this effort a success. Increasing numbers of our alumni have participated generously in the campaign, through the Jay Walk paver initiative and other drives. Our Foundation trustees have collectively pledged \$10.1 million to bolster the campaign's success. Our faculty have launched the Rising Star Fund to provide support for a broad range of student opportunities and have produced in the last year alone more than \$18 million in external research grants.

This level of investment in our faculty shows a confidence in their scholarly credentials and output, and John Jay will remain strong and vital if we have a strong faculty. Yet at the same time, as we get ready to mark John Jay's 50th anniversary

during the 2014-2015 academic year — and more information on that will be forthcoming in the months ahead — it's important to remember that these gifts, grants and other forms of support for the Campaign for the Future of Justice are, ultimately, investments in our students. The campaign's success reflects the aspiration that the business and civic community would rally 'round and recognize the unique value of John Jay and invest in our students and faculty. I speak confidently in saying that we will remain tireless in our efforts to seek the support of friends of the College in carrying out our important mission.

We use the term "John Jay community" or "College community" frequently, but never lightly, and this latest issue of Justice Matters deftly and vividly portrays many facets of that diverse group. Our first-class faculty can be seen in the context of their amazing research and scholarship as well as their creative teaching and curricular activities. Our bright, eager students are on display in their roles as academic achievers and service-oriented "fierce advocates for justice." And then there are our proud alumni, some of whom recently achieved high elective office. This amazing institution — this amazing John Jay community — is something we can and should all be proud to be a part of.

Sincerely,

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR

NEWS

will help launch John Jay's 50th anniversary celebration

by Peter Dodenhoff

The first Monday in October traditionally marks the beginning of the U.S. Supreme Court's term. A few short weeks prior to that date, one of the members of the Court will pay a special visit to John Jay College to serve as the featured speaker at a Convocation to launch the College's 50th anniversary celebration.

Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the first Latina member of the Court, "has graciously agreed to share with us her vision of justice, her stirring story of accomplishment, and her inspirational example for our students," said President Jeremy Travis.

President Travis made the surprise announcement during his State of the College address on November 4. "I am thrilled beyond words," he said. "Imagine the excitement when Justice Sotomayor comes to our campus!"

Justice Sotomayor, a native of the Bronx, was appointed to the Court in 2009. A graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School, she served on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York from 1992–1998 and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1998–2009. Prior to her appointment to the federal bench, she served as an assistant district

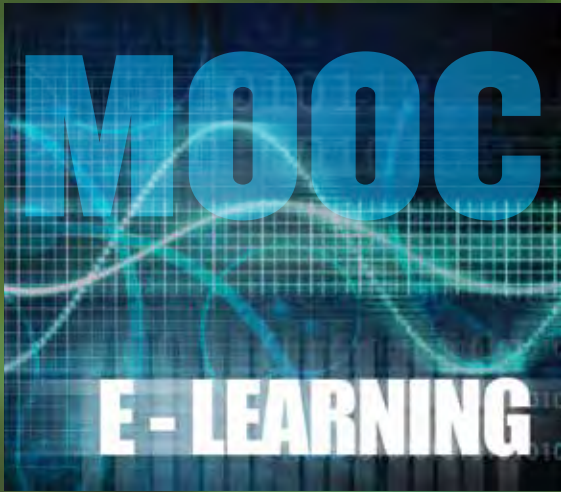


Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor



attorney in New York and as an attorney in private practice. She has also taught at the New York University and Columbia University law schools.

The Convocation, which will be held on September 17 during the Community Hour, was created in 2013 as a "bookend" to Commencement and serves as a festive welcome for new students — freshmen, transfers and graduate students. **JJ**



JOHN JAY ONLINE

Knowledge Without Borders

by Adrienne Anifant

A teacher's lectern and students' desks are traditional symbols of education dating back centuries. They signify a tripartite relationship between teacher, student and classmates; they connote instruction, retention and discipline — hallmarks of education, fixed in time and space.

With the rise of online higher education, or distance learning, in the early 1990s, these time-honored symbols seem quaint, almost archaic. Once regarded as avant-garde, even academically inferior to traditional in-classroom education, online education has since proven its academic prowess to be equal to the quality and effectiveness of conventional classroom education. Well in excess of 6 million college students nationwide took at least one online course in fall 2013, and John Jay College is standing tall within those ranks.

This fall, John Jay will add to its existing online Master of Public Administration – Inspection and Oversight with two new fully online degree and certificate programs: a Master of Science in Security Management and Advanced Certificate in Terrorism Studies. In addition, John Jay will launch the City University's first non-credit massive online open course (MOOC), the Literature and Law of American Slavery, which will be free to the general public and taught by Pulitzer Prize-winning Distinguished Professor of English John Matteson. (See sidebar.)

John Jay Online is part of a vision that President Jeremy Travis outlined shortly after he began his tenure in 2004. Online education at John Jay, he believed, was essential to the College's growth. The second of two task forces to examine the issue, led by Dr. Anne Lopes,

the Associate Provost of Strategic Initiatives and Dean of Graduate Studies, established John Jay Online's strategic direction and posited the need for an experienced, dedicated director. Dr. Feng Wang, who was hired in 2011, had previously developed, implemented and managed online education programs and services at Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh, NY. Under his direction, the Office of John Jay Online will include such functions as program development and promotion, student recruitment, instructional design and development, learning management system administration, faculty development and student services.

As President Travis noted in his 2013 State of the College Address, John Jay Online "will show John Jay at its best," drawing attention to the online offerings of the College, celebrating the College's faculty and expanding its reach geographically. In the years ahead, other master's and certificate programs will be offered online, including Criminal Justice Informatics, Evaluation Studies, Homeland Security,

Emergency Management and Community Corrections.

Acceptance of online education quality has been steadily growing, according to the annual Babson national survey of online education. "Given John Jay's outstanding brand and very expensive location in Manhattan, online education is par-

amount to growth at John Jay," said Wang. "According to the National Center for Education Statistics, most of the growth in higher education in the past decade has been coming from online education. Our strategy at John Jay is very clear: We believe online education, if planned and implemented wisely, can benefit all key stakeholders of our college, whether on campus or online."

"Online offerings are of considerable interest to our current students in that they provide scheduling flexibility that is otherwise unavailable. Today's students expect online courses and program options, especially at the graduate level," said Dean Lopes. "Teaching online is an exciting learning experi-



Dr. Feng Wang, Director of John Jay Online

DEMOCRATIZING HIGHER EDUCATION

John Jay to Launch CUNY's First MOOC

John Jay will be riding the crest of one of the newest waves in higher education — the Massive Open Online Course, or MOOC — when Pulitzer-Prize winning author and Distinguished Professor of English John Matteson will teach the College's first such online curriculum. This free, non-credit course, titled "Literature and Law of American Slavery," is the first of many that are planned as a way of delivering the expertise of John Jay's preeminent faculty to the world.

"I'm tremendously excited to present the first MOOC in CUNY," said Matteson. "It's quite a responsibility, but it's also a great honor."

The course will consist of 40 10- to 15-minute lectures, beginning with the landmark British legal case of *Somerset v. Stewart* from the 1770s to lead students through the slavery crisis of the 19th century. As conceived and led by Matteson, who holds a Ph.D. in English as well as a law degree, the course will closely examine America's literary and legal debate over slavery from the 1830s through the Civil War, including the early legal history of the 14th Amendment. Matteson will lead MOOC students through discussions of such legal questions as whether a master

could legally take the life of a slave, the citizenship of former black slaves under the Constitution, and the heated controversy over the Fugitive Slave Law. The class will also analyze and discuss literary work by authors including Herman Melville, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Frederick Douglass.

"The course itself is pretty exciting," said Matteson. "It brings students face-to-face with a very rich record of original documents. People who take the course will experience the same words and emotions that were fueling the arguments during the actual time period. We also go outside the studio to visit places like Gettysburg and Frederick Douglass's home in Washington, DC. It's like being in an academic time machine."

Matteson believes that online learning using the MOOC model offers the potential for the "democratization of education. It's a way of breaking down economic barriers and making information available in an entertaining and engaging format for basically anyone armed with a little bit of curiosity and free time," he said.

He commended the College for consistently taking the lead in offering equal access to excellent education. In addition to



Pulitzer Prize-winning Distinguished Professor of English John Matteson

ence for both faculty and students. Research shows that the use of best practices in online faculty development, course design and delivery can significantly enhance both teaching and learning.”

An analysis of empirical studies published by the U.S. Department of Education in 2008 found that students who took classes online performed better than those who took the same course through traditional classroom instruction. The report also found that, on average, students performed the best in hybrid or “blended classes,” those combining online distance learning and classroom instruction.

In 2012, the not-for-profit academic support organization ITHAKA also conducted a large-scale study of online learning in which CUNY participated. The researchers found hybrid education was as good, if not better, than face-to-face instruction alone.

Wang said that online students benefit from more time on assignments as well as dynamic interactions with fellow students and the instructor in learning activities that are tailored for various learning modalities.

“It is flexible; you don’t have a class time, you can get work done anytime from your home or office, and it is convenient,” said Wang. As of the fall 2013 semester, President Travis noted in his State of the College address, John Jay offered 122 undergraduate course sections entirely online. They represent

nearly 5 percent of John Jay’s entire undergraduate course offerings, “the second highest percentage in the university,” the President said. Online education, he emphasized, is closely linked to the College’s goal of improving undergraduate retention and graduation rates.

Wang added that “to a lot of students, online education is more affordable.” The John Jay model, he said, charges a flat rate to in-state and out-of-state students. “This is essential because this market is highly competitive,” he stressed.

John Jay Online will seek to capitalize on the College’s strong brand in specialty areas such as criminal justice, security, public administration and forensic science that are widely known throughout the country and around the world. Wang said John Jay Online plans to expand its outreach to students locally, statewide, nationally and internationally. The online MPA-IG program has already enrolled several students from abroad, and Wang said the online master’s degree in Security Management and Advanced Certificate in Terrorism Studies have already attracted much interest from students both in the U.S. and abroad.

“This is one example of how online education can promote John Jay College and can benefit students outside our traditional constituencies,” said Wang. “When there is no physical requirement to be in a classroom, it’s like knowledge without borders.” JJ

John Jay’s longstanding justice-related curriculums, the College recently reinstated majors in the traditional humanities. While continuing to be an international beacon of expertise in criminal justice, Matteson observed, John Jay has emphatically renewed its commitment to liberal arts education.

Matteson won the Pulitzer Prize in Biography in 2008 with his book *Eden’s Outcasts: The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father*. That work examines the relationship between Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, and her father, Bronson Alcott. Unlike many biographers who are primarily interested in the workings of power, Matteson takes a different approach. “I am interested in telling the stories of people who come into the world lacking power,” he said. “I want to write about people who have to blaze their own trail, who find their own way of making a difference. That’s true of both the Alcotts and the subject of my second biography, the early feminist Margaret Fuller. Although they were proceeding from a highly disadvantaged position, they didn’t let that stop them. In their stories I

find examples of a human courage that we need to celebrate and understand.”

John Jay students are a continual source of inspiration and pleasure for Matteson, who cited their extraordinary eagerness to succeed and desire to do well, even in the face of daunting challenges like holding down part-time or full-time jobs while taking five classes. “It is very uncommon to come across a John Jay student who gives up on anything,” Matteson said.

As John Jay’s standard-bearer in its move to the forefront of the latest advance in higher education, Matteson has high hopes for the MOOC’s success. “We should understand the utility of education, but also that it is one of the great privileges and sources of joy in life, he said. “It’s my hope to give my students something that they need but also something

they didn’t know they needed — something that satisfies their practical requirements but also satisfies something deeper. Education literally means ‘to draw out,’ and that’s the real objective: to discover the hidden riches of a person and bring them to the surface.”

“I’m tremendously excited to present the first MOOC in CUNY,” said Matteson. “It’s quite a responsibility, but it’s also a great honor.”

Oh my, Candida!

Understanding a Potentially Life-Threatening Fungus

By Adrienne Anifant

John Jay College continues to be on the cutting edge of scientific discovery, as faculty members and their students bring creative research and thoughtful solutions to a variety of pressing issues.

Professor Jason Rauceo in the Department of Sciences and his team of undergraduate students recently had their pioneering research on a potentially life-threatening fungus published as the cover story in the leading science magazine *Genomics*. The article, titled “Genome-wide transcriptional profiling and enrichment mapping reveal divergent and conserved roles of Sko1 in the *Candida albicans* osmotic stress response,” discusses the mediating effects of Sko1, a DNA gene regulator.

Rauceo has been studying *Candida albicans* since graduate school, intrigued by a fungus that is one of only a few dozen among millions in existence that can infect humans. In healthy individuals, *Candida* lives in the mouth and gastrointestinal and vaginal tract as a harmless microbe; however, when an individual's immune system is compromised, *Candida* can cause infections. Minor, common infections caused by *Candida* are diaper rash, oral thrush and vaginal yeast infections, but *Candida* infections can also be lethal in severely immunocompromised individuals, where it inhabits vital organs such as the kidneys. At-risk groups include patients undergoing extensive chemotherapy and AIDS patients, among others.

Rauceo and his team of students, including undergraduate co-authors Jennifer Teubl and Leonid Sukala, were interested in understanding how *Candida* evades antifungal drugs when it inhabits highly saline niches in the body such as the kidneys. When *Candida* exists in a saline-rich environment, its susceptibility to highly effective antifungal drugs, such as caspofungin, is significantly reduced. Rauceo and his research team wanted to understand the genetic circuitry that governs *Candida* adaptation under these conditions.

“My research seeks to understand the genes within *Candida*'s DNA that are turned on or off in diverse environments, and this study focuses on one master switch that controls the response to salt stress, which is a protein called Sko1.



The *Candida albicans* fungus



If pharmacologists were to design a drug targeting a master switch such as Sko1, it might be a way to promote survival of a patient suffering from severe *Candida* infections in the kidneys.”

Rauceo said his team’s innovative approach used molecular genetic and novel statistical techniques to analyze *Candida*’s complete DNA processes, studying which genes are turned on and off in different environments. Most importantly, they were able to present their complex findings using a new tool called enrichment mapping that allows a researcher to directly understand the biological processes affected within *Candida* under such conditions in a simplified format. It was these findings and their creative presentation that earned the research its place on the cover of *Genomics*. JJ

Assistant Professor
Jason Rauceo

Student Achiever

Hands-on Research as an Undergraduate

Jennifer Teubl, who earned her bachelor’s degree in Forensic Science from John Jay in 2012, was a key contributor to Professor Jason Rauceo’s recently published research on the potentially deadly fungus *Candida albicans*, and for her work she earned co-authorship credit for the *Genomics* cover article, “Genome-wide transcriptional profiling and enrichment mapping reveal divergent and conserved roles of Sko1 in the *Candida albicans* osmotic stress response.”

Teubl began working in Rauceo’s biology lab as an intern through the Program for Research Initiatives for Science Majors (PRISM) at John Jay. Teubl had the opportunity to work on several different aspects of research and engage one-on-one with Rauceo and her classmates. Her focus for the *Genomics* paper was the bioinformatics portion of the project, which entails analyzing large-scale data sets with

open-source software that is available online. It was an area with which Teubl had no previous experience.

“I love a good challenge,” said Teubl, “so when Professor Rauceo asked me to take on that portion of the project I agreed. This worked out wonderfully, not only for the paper but also for my career goals.”

She is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at New York University’s graduate school of biomedical sciences, in the biomedical informatics department. Teubl’s work now consists of creating the same kind of open-source software that she used in Rauceo’s lab.

“Although I chose John Jay because I was interested in forensic science, I received a well-rounded science education that allowed me to slide easily into biological research,” said Teubl.

CUNY JUSTICE ACADEMY

Moving into Science

by Peter Dodenhoff

Born out of the 2006 Critical Choices report that provided a road map for John Jay's reinvention as a senior college, the CUNY Justice Academy (CJA) is proving its worth many times over as a partnership between John Jay and six community colleges. One example can be found in the CJA's forensic science program, which is producing a steady harvest of talented, motivated, enthusiastic students who make their mark almost from the instant they set foot on the John Jay campus.

"These are students in the CUNY Justice Academy with an incredible thirst, and it's great to have them come over here and see them get involved in research," said Frances Jimenez, Outreach Coordinator for John Jay's Program for Research Initiatives for Science Majors (PRISM). "They are our hidden gems."

The Critical Choices report proposed the end of two-year degrees at John Jay, and now, through the Justice Academy, students can earn an associate's degree at a community college before moving on to John Jay to complete their baccalaureates. "There's nothing else like this at CUNY," Dr. David Barnet, Director of Academic Planning for John Jay's Office of Undergraduate Studies, said of the Justice Academy. "We knew vertical transfer opportunities were going to be valuable to CUNY students, and we knew it was something we could do something about."

The Program and Its People

A sampling of Forensic Science students who have come to John Jay via the Justice Academy is a study in diversity, from their roots and their academic emphases to their long-term plans, yet they are unequivocal in their consensus when it comes to the CJA. "I always wanted to do forensics, and I wanted to come to John Jay, but I lacked the money," said Natalia Fernandez, a native of the Dominican Republic who is in her first semester at the College. "I learned that community college is actually cheaper, and then I found out about the Justice Academy and was able to get a scholarship from my government."

Fernandez earned her associate's degree at Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), where her advisor,



Frances Jimenez and Dr. David Barnet

also a Dominican, provided invaluable help and advice. At BMCC, she also began doing research, through which she connected with Jimenez and was matched with Professor Gloria Proni, who is now her mentor in the PRISM program. "Dr. Proni is a really good mentor, always encouraging me to get involved and take advantage of every opportunity," said Fernandez.

Korean-born Jiwon Seo is now a junior at John Jay after earning his associate's degree at Queensborough Community College, where he feels he was well prepared academically. "Overall, I'd have to say the Justice Academy provides a good transition for students," said the soft-spoken Seo.

“Queensborough is one of the few community colleges with research opportunities for science students. I didn’t really plan on a science career; I was more interested in medical school. But now I like this better. I like doing the research and discovering how it can be applied forensically.”

Working with Professor Shu-Yuan Cheng, whose research examines environmental toxins, Seo is currently conducting a study of chemotherapeutic (cancer-fighting) chemicals and is thinking of pursuing a Ph.D. after his undergraduate studies are completed.

One of the first Forensic Science students to enter John Jay through the Justice Academy will be graduating this spring and already has an acceptance to the doctoral program in chemistry at Stony Brook University. Chantal Adlam applied to John Jay directly from high school in Jamaica but was not accepted due to her lack of SAT scores. “I searched online and found that BMCC offered a program with a transition to John Jay,” said Adlam, who moved to the United States full time in 2009, and transferred to John Jay, associate’s degree in hand, in spring 2012.

Like Seo and Fernandez, Adlam is a student in John Jay’s PRISM program and is unstinting in her praise for the program. “Fran [Jimenez] took me under her wing and helped connect me with Professor Anthony Carpi,” said Adlam, whose science research began in her second semester at BMCC. “Professor Carpi has helped me define what I wanted to do,” she said. “For a student researcher like me, connecting with Professor Carpi was like winning an Oscar.”

Taking the Leap

Adlam said the PRISM program creates a sense of community for science students at John Jay, thereby eliminating one potential source of stress for Justice Academy students making the jump to a senior college.

That transition is supported by a variety of pre-admission enrichment and outreach programs for community college students, Jimenez pointed out, including lab open houses, special events at the Museum of Natural History and trips to the Cold Spring Harbor lab on Long Island. “The idea is to get them excited before they come here. It allows community college students to get a taste of science at John Jay and mingle with

current students,” said Jimenez, who maintains close ties to the forensic science coordinators at the community colleges with CJA science programs.

“At Hostos, the advisors and faculty there are really accommodating, and they helped me a lot,” said Ruth Romero, another native of the Dominican Republic who began doing research in neurochemistry while at the community college. “It was a relatively smooth transition to this whole world of science that I’m discovering.”

One can never tell how a budding young scientist will find his or her way to the CJA science program. Nyeisha Brathwaite, who came to the United States from Trinidad three years ago at age 16, was riding the New York subway when an ad caught her attention. “It was for Forensic Science at BMCC, and it said you could make the transition to John Jay.” Now in her second semester here, Brathwaite says fellow Forensic Science students at the community college level should realize the program is no joke. “You have to work 10 times harder when you transition,” she said. “It’s tough, and it can be lonely, but you have to remember why you came into the program in the first place.”

Barnet noted that the CJA Academic Council includes a working group of science faculty from partner campuses, which was created to facilitate discussion of their problems and concerns. “Questions that come up in the CJA group are very concrete, very thoughtful, with the members sharing thoughts on pedagogy and best practices,” Barnet observed.

A summit on the Justice Academy was held on February 26, with broad CUNY representation. The overall feeling about the CJA, Barnet said, was “this is wonderful!” It’s a view that participating Forensic Science students appear more than ready to share. **JJ**



CUNY Justice Academy forensic science students (l. to r.) Natalia Fernandez, Nyeisha Brathwaite, Curlene Duprey, Jiwon Seo and Ruth Romero

PUTTING STOCK IN BONDS

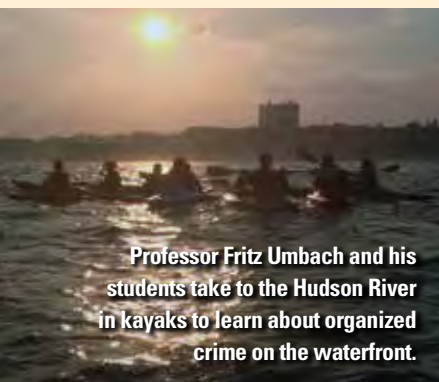
New Faculty/Student Engagement Fund Builds Connections *by Peter Dodenhoff*



Vice President for Student Affairs Lynette Cook-Francis



Acting Director of Strategic Initiatives Rosann Santos-Elliott



Professor Fritz Umbach and his students take to the Hudson River in kayaks to learn about organized crime on the waterfront.

After the John Jay student body approved an increase in student activities fees last spring — the first such increase in 25 years — a number of new programs were launched to enhance the overall student experience. One of the most compelling, introduced last fall by Vice President for Student Affairs Lynette Cook-Francis, is the Faculty/Student Engagement Fund, which supports diverse initiatives aimed at bringing the two groups closer.

Dining with a professor. . . Weeks of Welcome to familiarize students with individual academic departments. . . Kayaking on the Hudson. . . Field trips to the New York Philharmonic and the Museum of Sex. These and much more are all part of the new initiative, and Vice President Cook-Francis could hardly be happier with the results.

“FSE is a high-impact practice in student affairs that was missing from our toolbox,” she noted. “At the University of Arizona, where I had come from, we knew that spending time together outside of the classroom positively impacts both the students and faculty. For example, students are more likely to ask questions in class, and faculty are more likely to know the students and adjust the delivery of course material accordingly. All this contributes to learning and the academic mission of the College.”

Initial results have been striking. The Faculty/Student Engagement Fund served a total of 874 students and 18 professors in its first semester, while a corollary Departmental Engagement Fund, which covered the Weeks of Welcome efforts, served nine departments and 510 students. FSE grants for the spring 2014 semester are expected to show even greater college-wide engagement.

“We’re looking to get maximum mileage out of modest investments,” explained Rosann Santos-Elliott, the Acting Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Division of Student Affairs. “The idea is to engage students on a level they wouldn’t have experienced otherwise. And as long as you are engaging students, funding approval is likely.”

The average outlay for an individual project is \$250 to \$500, although field trips can cost more,

and funding proposals tend to be limited only by the faculty member’s imagination. “Faculty always find creative ways to use the funds, underscoring the fact that the most important thing is how a little funding can make a huge impact,” said Vice President Cook-Francis.

In the fall 2013 semester alone, some of those creative undertakings included:

- A CHE 126 (Chemistry of Cooking) class, in which Professor Elise Champeil invited a chef to present a seminar on molecular gastronomy. The chef demonstrated how chemistry plays a role in the creation and elaboration of new dishes.
- Sociology Professor Cynthia Jackson, who teaches SOC 302 (Social Problems), was using *The Feminist Porn Book* as a text, and to amplify the reading she took her students to the Museum of Sex in Manhattan. The outing allowed the class to delve into stereotypes about gender, sex and sexuality.
- One faculty member used a grant so he could meet with students in his online class. “With the world becoming more and more virtual, FSE reminds us of the importance and power of good old, real-time face-to-face interaction,” Vice President Cook-Francis recalled.
- History Professor Fritz Umbach took the students in his FYE 100 (First-Year Experience) class “Criminal Justice & Pop Culture” on a kayaking trip down the Hudson River, during which he lectured on the history of corruption and organized crime along the New York waterfront. An experienced sea kayaker, Umbach plans to repeat the Hudson River adventure in May and again in the fall.

Vice President Cook-Francis is looking forward to the results of a survey of program participants, and said that anecdotal feedback thus far gives her high hopes for the program’s long-term prospects. “The fact that many dozens of faculty have used the program that has impacted over 1,500 students within a mere six months shows the value and need for the grants,” she said. JJ

Inspired to Make a Difference



Community Outreach Director Declan Walsh (fifth from right) and members of the CUNY Service Corps.

John Jay's CUNY Service Corps Students

by Adrienne Anifant

John Jay College's selection last August as one of seven City University campuses to participate in the CUNY Service Corps has produced a satisfying confluence of service, academic excellence and civic responsibility. Dovetailing neatly with John Jay's mission of Educating for Justice on a broad, interdisciplinary level, the CUNY Service Corps's aim is "to inspire students to the highest ideals of citizenship and public service."

The largest such service program in a public university system in the United States, the Service Corps is designed to connect more than 850 CUNY students as well as faculty and staff with service projects at partner sites throughout the five boroughs. More than 95 partner sites are currently involved, including the Association

to Benefit Children, Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC and the Center for Court Innovation.

More than simply enhancing support for nonprofit organizations, civic initiatives and community services, the Service Corps enables CUNY students to acquire valuable hands-on work experience in professional areas while fulfilling their civic interests. Students are placed in service positions for 24 weeks over two semesters, working 12 hours per week. Service Corps members are paid \$12 an hour and, in some cases, can earn college credit.

The paid placements provided by the Service Corps provide valuable insight into possible career paths, which can prove vital to a student's professional success and personal development, especially in the

current competitive job market.

John Jay consistently has the largest cohort of students in the Service Corps with 172 participants. The Office of Community Outreach and Service Learning provides each student with comprehensive training in job readiness, office politics and sexual harassment, as well as mentoring for all students throughout their placements. The placements themselves focus on four themes: the city's health; environmental sustainability; excellence in education, and the economic vitality of neighborhoods and communities.

"Much of my job here with out-of-classroom experiences is to have our students understand the enormous social capital of who they are and all they bring to the table. They come here with 'deficit stories,' but they don't realize that those experiences are exactly what give them value," said Declan Walsh, director of the community outreach office.

"You see a chemical change when they have converted — when they have been personally responsible for changing

something or making something happen, it changes their approach to everything," Walsh said. "They are more mature, more realistic; they seem empowered to do things in a real way. They say they want to change the world, but it starts with lots of small things."

Walsh recalled one student who studied psychology and was assigned to work as a tour guide for the 9/11 memorial. Although she was initially skeptical about how her clinical skills were relevant to her work at the memorial, she quickly realized that her psychology training actually helped her flourish at the memorial. She was able to provide empathetic, knowledgeable support to visitors of the 9/11 memorial, many whose family members were victims.

"I think the John Jay cohort has been fantastic; they are ready to hit the ground running, and I think the city has clearly benefited," Walsh observed. "The proof is in the pudding: The response from the sites is overwhelmingly positive across all domains, punctual, professional—they love our students."

Students

Alexcia Pierson Senior, Forensic Psychology

Placement: Tutor at Curtis High School, Staten Island, NY.

What I Do: Give students a look into the life of a college student and inspire them to pursue higher education. I participate in two programs. The first is called Advancement Via Individual Determination where I work as a tutor, and for the second program I am a tutor in the after-school program.

What It Means To Me: My placement has given me the opportunity to work with teenagers, which will help me in pursuing my career goal as a juvenile probation officer. I chose to become a CUNY Service Corps member because I wanted to be a part of something big and meaningful that involves helping others. I wanted to help educate the world.

My Dream: Become a juvenile probation officer or a lawyer.

Dellyssa Edinboro Junior, Humanities and Justice

Placement: English Tutor at Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center

What I Do: Work as a tutor for students studying for the English component of TASC (formerly known as GED) and their College Entrance Examinations.

What It Means to Me: I have always been interested in a better educated society and the opportunity of serving in the Corps has only strengthened my determination in making this interest a vital part of my future. Working as an English Tutor, I am able to see firsthand the achievements as well as the struggles of persons who are seeking to obtain a High School Equivalency. This has allowed me to be more understanding toward the strong and positive change that these students have been willing to take in their lives.

My Dream: I am interested in changing the policies that influence education. I hope to advocate for policies, services and organizations that play an important role in providing a better educated city for everyone.



Landy Defamilia

Junior, Fire and Emergency Services

Placement: Education Department for the Queens Zoo, part of the Wildlife Conservation Society

What I Do: My responsibilities include preparing arts and crafts for instructional lessons, providing assistance for special events, and conducting tours of our animal exhibits.

What It Means To Me: Of all of the work I have done thus far at the Queens Zoo, the most memorable and important task I undertook was the learning of each animal we have at the zoo. I aspire to enter the medical field, and if I learn to appreciate wildlife, I can also appreciate human life much more. This is a form of service that provides a sense of fulfillment for me as well as for those whom I provide this service.

My Dream: Upon graduation, I plan on becoming a paramedic. This will serve as a springboard for my long-term career goal of being a medical doctor.

Malcolm Clark Senior, Political Science

Placement: South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation

What I Do: I've had the chance to be a part of a new Chase bank opening and assemble a brochure that previews the economic potential of the area. I've created flyers, packaged meals for the homeless and packed turkeys to give away on Thanksgiving.

What It Means To Me: Life is made up of many different kinds of experiences that a person encounters along the way. Within these experiences a person shapes his or her character and the path he or she chooses to take along the way. Throughout my placement, I've learned how an institution like SoBro can change a community. We must remember to help each other out.

My Dream: Travel the world, obtain a master's in Public Administration and become Mayor of Mount Vernon.



Sedys Lasso Senior, Criminal Justice (BA)

Placement: CUNY Citizenship Now!

What I Do: I work with an immigration attorney and sit through her consultations with clients who have questions and concerns about obtaining U.S. citizenship status.

What It Means to Me: I have become more aware of the immigration struggles in the U.S., and I am interested in the immigration reform conflict that Congress is currently working on. I am motivated to join organizations that help immigrants.

My Dream: I would like to become involved with law enforcement, work as a college professor or a TESL teacher.






Human Touch

Anthropology Major Ready for Fall Debut

by Peter Dodenhoff

When one hears the term “people skills,” it’s not likely that the first thing that comes to mind is majoring in anthropology. Yet that’s precisely what anthropology is — the study of humankind in all its aspects — and beginning in fall 2014, John Jay will roll out its new anthropology major, a curriculum that complements the College’s mission of Educating for Justice in a whole new way.

“The major is a natural fit at a criminal justice college and a natural fit in New York City,” said Professor Anthony Marcus, chair of John Jay’s Department of Anthropology. “This is a very strong department, one of the best in the world, and the major is founded on the amazing research people are doing here.”



John Jay has an existing major in Culture and Deviance Studies, which Marcus said “has always drawn people who are attracted to human-service work.” The new major, he explained, “is a way of getting different students with different ambitions. The major is more global, more cross-cultural, and has more of an academic trajectory. It is a classic liberal arts major that could steer people toward a Ph.D. or law school, because anthropology is more focused on why people do things.”

The new major will include core courses in urban, cultural and applied anthropology, ethnographic research methods, and class, race, ethnicity and gender issues. “This major will be attractive to students who want to be involved in practical, politically engaged work. They’ll be provided with a full panoply of tools to succeed in the field,” said Marcus, whose own résumé includes field research in the Maldives islands, Indonesia and Nepal, among other places.

Professor Alisse Waterston, who is current president-elect of the American Anthropological Association and will become the organization’s president in 2016, is credited as the driving force behind the design and adoption of the new major. “Alisse put in the greatest time and effort in designing the major,” said adjunct Professor Hanna Lessinger, who describes herself as the new major’s “drum majorette,” overseeing its implementation and promoting it to students. But the Anthropology Department as a whole, Lessinger said, is “a high-powered group of people who believe passionately in the power of anthropology.”

Lessinger herself has studied sweatshop workers in India and been involved in developing the anthropological specialization of transnational migration studies, and both she and Marcus feel the new major is arriving on the scene at a most propitious time. A new wave of immigration has altered the demographics of New York City in a manner not



Professor Alisse Waterston, President-elect of the American Anthropological Association

seen since the early 20th century, providing a fertile laboratory for ethnographic research, particularly within the structure of a major that is very much global in its outlook.

“We feel we have a big advantage over other programs,” said Marcus, “in that students don’t have to fly out of JFK to some foreign location to do cross-cultural research. Opportunities to work on exciting projects are available right here in our own backyard. You almost have to work to avoid it.”



Husband-and-wife researchers,
Associate Professors Edward Snajdr
and Shonna Trinch

The members of the Anthropology Department are at once globalists with research agendas that are very much embedded in New York, Marcus noted. In just one example, Professors Shonna Trinch and Edward Snajdr are currently on study leave in Spain, where they plan to write a book and several academic articles on how their Brooklyn hometown is changing, and launch a new project on language and immigration in Spain. Snajdr and Trinch won a highly competitive grant from the National Science Foundation’s Program in Cultural Anthropology to collect data on the kinds of say people have when their city is rapidly changing. “While most anthropologists go home to write about their participant-observation and study of people and cultures in far-away lands, we left home to write up our findings about Brooklyn.”

Snajdr and Trinch use a variety of anthropological field methods, including interviews, participant observation, cyber-ethnography, ethnographic mapping and neighborhood surveys, to examine some of the changes that are transforming Brooklyn.

Other members of the Anthropology Department have conducted field research in

places ranging from the transit system of Taiwan to Palestine and Israel, from post-Communist Eurasia to Puerto Rico, Sri Lanka and Colombia. They have examined subjects that include commercial sex exploitation of children, the spread of HIV infection, human trafficking, undocumented immigrants, environmentalism and international development.

Students who major in Anthropology can expect to have ample opportunities for similar research, as well as study abroad, internships, conference presentations, co-publication with faculty members and paid assistantships. “Through an anthropology major you discover reserves of courage in yourself and learn how fundamentally good people are,” said Lessinger. “This optimism feeds nicely into human service fields.”

Human service work is just one of the possible career tracks for Anthropology majors, who emerge from the program with solid cultural and theoretical grounding, Marcus said. Other professional options might include consumer research, disaster relief, multicultural marketing, policy analysis, diversity training, and much more. “Everybody who is above a certain managerial level needs some of the tools that anthropology provides,” he observed. “Every work site demands some kind of cultural analysis.” JJ

For more information on the new B.A. in Anthropology, visit www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments/anthropology/about_us.php



Professors Anthony Marcus
and Hanna Lessinger

A Matter of HONORS

John Jay Students Are Macaulay Honors College Pioneers

John Jay College last year became the eighth City University campus to be part of CUNY's William E. Macaulay Honors College, with the inaugural 20-member freshman class starting in the fall of 2013. The pioneering students were chosen from a highly competitive pool of 1,000 applicants who demonstrated exceptional academic skills and leadership.

"The dedication necessary for success as a Macaulay Honors College student mirrors the passion instilled in John Jay College students to become fierce advocates for justice," said President Jeremy Travis.

Macaulay is a consortium of eight schools, providing students with a small-school liberal arts experience within

the context of a massive urban educational institution. Students in Macaulay receive a full four-year undergraduate scholarship, a laptop computer, and a \$7,500 "opportunities fund," a cultural passport that provides access to a diverse, academically enriching selection of New York's institutions and resources, unique internships, global research and study abroad opportunities.

Treating New York City as a living textbook, Macaulay's academic program begins with four signature interdisciplinary seminars in the freshman and sophomore years that ask students to look at New York City and the world through various lenses, combining rich experiential learning opportunities with traditional academic studies. The seminars include "The Arts in New York City," "The Peopling of New York," "Science and Technology in New York City," and "New York in the 21st Century." Students can take classes at Macaulay, at their home campus or at any of the other CUNY- Macaulay campuses.

Professor Dara Byrne, the Academic Director of Macaulay Honors College at John Jay, said: "John Jay brings to this a different look at social justice and New York City and justice in a global perspective. We will be layering into Macaulay conversations justice issues and how they affect the community, from criminal justice to environmental justice and sustainability. I think John Jay is the perfect piece of that puzzle for Macaulay."

An interest in and commitment to service is a requirement of Macaulay, and Byrne said that makes John Jay and its students a natural fit, given their focus on



Macaulay honors students (from left)
Michael Hourahan, Drew Podgorski and Kayla Talbot

careers in service. “These students are fantastic. When I first met them at their interviews, it was an obvious choice. I was struck by their desire to do more than just go to school. They were already asking questions in their high school journey of what their impact can be in the world. They were more likely to be students who created a club rather than joined a club, and they talked about ethical concerns. They wanted to do the right thing but wondered what the right thing was in that context.”

“It’s a phenomenal thing to meet young people who are academically talented, but who are also thinking about these global issues and being civic-minded and wondering what is the right path to have that kind of impact,” Byrne added.

“One of the signature things about John Jay is thinking about and working through questions of common good and justice in all its forms. A primary part of students’ experience at Macaulay is no different — pulling together a body of students who represent global leadership and cutting-edge thinking about justice and the common good.”

John Jay’s Macaulay freshmen have diverse backgrounds and lofty ambitions, as a small sampling shows.

Kayla Talbot is a forensic psychology and criminology major from “a small, one-stoplight town upstate called Otego.” Macaulay, she said, “made it possible to come to John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Without the scholarship, I would not have been able to afford the cost of living in New York City.”

She is currently a research assistant in Professor Deryn Strange’s Applied Cognitive Psychology Lab. She plans on getting her Ph.D. in Forensic Psychology and is interested in having a career that integrates psychology, social justice and criminal justice.

Michael Hourahan is from Staten Island, NY, who is majoring in Law and Society. As a Macaulay Student Ambassador, he represents John Jay on panel discussions, Macaulay webcasts and during Macaulay events for prospective students.

“The Macaulay Honors College has been a wonderful experience for me so far. I really enjoy Professor Ocej’s Seminar 2 class, ‘The Peopling of New York.’ Also, I consider many of the faculty and staff of the Macaulay Honors College and John Jay to be my mentors and friends. I am so impressed with the level of concern and appreciation that faculty at MHC/JJ express. They have worked with me to see that my academic goals are fulfilled. I couldn’t have asked or expected such a wonderful and tolerant community of preeminent professors and scholars.”

His goals are to obtain a law degree from the University of Virginia and become a federal prosecutor.

Drew Podgorski is from Brewster, NY, and is majoring in international justice. “My experience has been tremendous so far. Between being a Macaulay Scholar’s Council representative and a student in General (David) Petraeus’s class at Macaulay, I have been able to take full advantage of all that Macaulay has to offer.”



Associate Professor Dara Byrne, Academic Director
of the Macaulay Honors College at John Jay

John Jay’s Macaulay freshmen have diverse backgrounds and lofty ambitions, as a small sampling shows.

He is currently an Army ROTC cadet, who wants to become a career Army officer and reach the rank of colonel or higher. After military service, he would like to run for national office, at the congressional level or higher.

Byrne, for her part, said that the most rewarding aspect of being the director of the program on its maiden voyage is being able to build a program that reflects the ideals and mission of John Jay. “Providing students with the same economic means as a majority of John Jay’s students with the reward of full tuition and immersive learning experience is the highlight of my career. It makes me proud,” she said. JJ

EXCEPTIONAL UNDERGRADUATES

WANTED!

John Jay-Vera Fellows Program Helps Students Heed the Call to Service

by Adrienne Anifant

The John Jay-Vera Fellows Program is a dynamic, collaborative project between the College, the Vera Institute of Justice and Vera's spinoff agencies. Through a carefully crafted mix of internships and academic experience, 10 exceptional undergraduate students are able to feed their dual interests in criminal justice and public service. The John Jay-Vera Fellows work in front-line agencies working to improve the administration of justice, influence public policy, conduct research and deliver a range of social services.

In addition to interning 10 hours per week for two semesters, with one or two of the host agencies, Fellows attend a coordinated, theme-based, two-hour weekly seminar taught by three faculty members from John Jay's Interdisciplinary Study Program. The Fellows receive six academic credits and a \$3,000 annual stipend for their participation in the program.

The innovative internship program would not be possible without the generous support of a phalanx of donors. The John Jay-Vera Fellows Program was started in 2008 with a grant from Herbert Sturz, former New York City Deputy Mayor and the founder of the Vera Institute of Justice, and Richard and Ronay Menschel from the Charina Foundation. In the years since,

the program has drawn additional enthusiastic support from Jeffrey Gural, Chairman of Newmark Grubb Knight Frank; Arthur Mirante II, Principal and Tri-State President of Avison Young; former New York City Corporation Counsel Frederick A.O. Schwarz Jr., and, most recently, Ron L. Moelis, Chairman and CEO of L&M Development Partners Inc. In addition to

financial backing, supporters have visited with the students and shared their own experiences, and offered an open door to them when they graduate and need advice.

"Each of these donors cares greatly about the impact of such a program for the particular students that it reaches," said Abby Stein, Director of the John Jay-Vera Fellows Program and a Professor in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. "They recognize that their funding goes toward training an army to be on the front lines of social justice work in this city and, eventually, in the nation."

John Jay-Vera Fellows work with the homeless, with ex-offenders re-entering society, with victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, and with disabled populations, immigrants, at-risk juveniles and the mentally ill.

Stein said donor contributions go primarily toward providing stipends for students, thus allowing the Fellows to devote



Professor Abby Stein, Director of the John Jay-Vera Fellows Program

the time to internships and classes without having to take on an outside job, or in some cases a second job.

“Herb Sturz is a great believer in learning through doing,” Stein noted. “Of course thinking, reflecting and processing are important components of consolidating ideas and making change. But it all must start substantively, on the ground, look-

ing into the eyes of people, whether they are the policymakers or the disenfranchised.

“Our program gives students that chance to be at the vanguard, where it really counts, and then to come home to the College and get help processing what they have seen. To me that is the definition of educating for justice.” JJ

The 2013-2014 Fellows include:



Simonne Isaac

Senior, B.A. in English

Internship: Urban Resource Institute, an agency that provides services, including shelter, to victims of domestic violence.

“Through the John Jay-Vera Fellows Program, both the intern-

ship at URI and the weekly seminar, I have learned to be more sensitive and aware about some of the ways that trauma may affect someone and possible responses to it. I do not take things at face value. This seminar and internship have reinforced my determination to become an attorney, specializing in public interest. The Fellowship also provided financial relief for me as I received a stipend and did not have to worry about looking for another job.”



Joseph DeLuca

Senior, B.A./M.A. in Forensic Psychology

Internship: Vera Institute in the Substance Use and Mental Health Program.

“The John Jay-Vera Program gave me many contacts within the so-

cial justice world, through both my internship placement and the get-togethers we had with other mentors. Working at my internship, I was able to hone my research skills and connect to and learn from a number of

dedicated professionals in the field. More than anything, the program solidified my interests in working with underserved individuals in our society and highlighted how much more work can be done to reform our justice system. Overall, I was very inspired by the passionate individuals I worked with at my internship, and this extended to the Vera class itself: The discussions we had were lively and always made me consider various perspectives on a particular issue. I am also happy to say that I have developed close relationships with all of my peers from this class and the three professors.”



Anthony Ortiz

Junior, B.A. in Forensic Psychology

Internship: New York City Criminal Justice Agency.

“The true value of the Fellowship lies in its dynamic integration of both an academic exploration of topics

and the unique opportunity to gain practical knowledge and experience. During my time at CJA, I performed multiple pretrial and post-trial tasks that granted me a unique insight into the full spectrum of the criminal justice system. The lessons learned as a student in the seminar segment of the class altered the way I perceive injustice. My sharpened ability to analyze injustice, compounded with practical knowledge, has prepared me for a career as a fierce advocate of justice. In this way, Vera has propelled me toward the very thing I sought by coming to John Jay.”

A WRITER AT HEART

Mandery's Novelistic, Personality-Driven Look at Key Death-Penalty Cases

By Adrienne Anifant

A former capital litigator, a death-penalty scholar, John Jay professor and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, acclaimed fiction writer, Evan Mandery could rightly be viewed as a true Renaissance man who has established expertise across diverse areas. However, he describes himself as “really just a writer at heart.”

“I wrote my first book when I was five,” Mandery said. “It was a story about a monster that went to the grocery store. I didn’t grow up with any role model as a writer, so it never occurred to me that a person could make a living doing it,” said Mandery.

Mandery’s latest critically applauded book, *A Wild Justice: The Death and Resurrection of Capital Punishment in America*, tells the story of America’s ambivalent relationship with capital punishment. Published in August 2013 by W.W. Norton, the book — Mandery’s sixth — explores the legal and moral battle in the U.S. regarding the death penalty that took place in the 1970s with two landmark Supreme Court cases.

Mandery’s interest in the death penalty surged when he had the opportunity to work pro bono on a death penalty appeal in Alabama for three years. His 15-year-old client in the case had shot a woman in front of her 2-year-old son.

“I began representing him at the state habeas stage where you raise state constitutional issues that could not have been raised by the defendants themselves initially. So our case consisted largely of our side trying to show evidence that should have been presented in the original trial on his behalf, but wasn’t,” said Mandery.

“I interviewed my client’s victim’s husband who was against the death penalty. The human drama of that moment was truly captivating to me.”

From that experience, Mandery has carved out a career encompassing approximately 20 law review articles, a textbook expressing his views on the legal and moral landscape of capital punishment in the U.S., and three literary satiric novels.

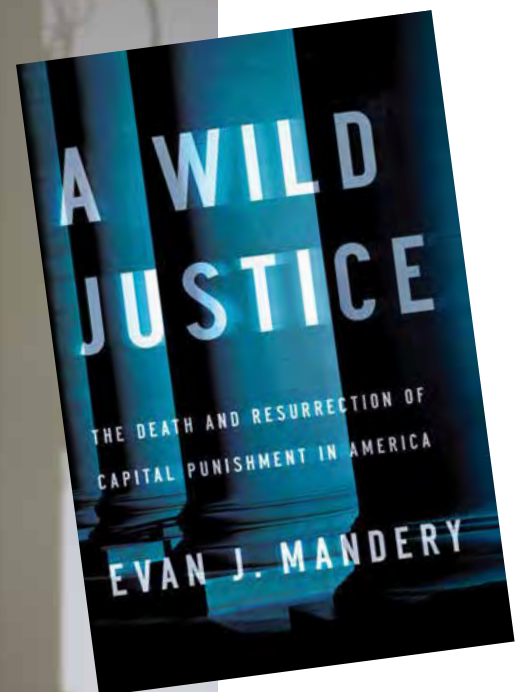
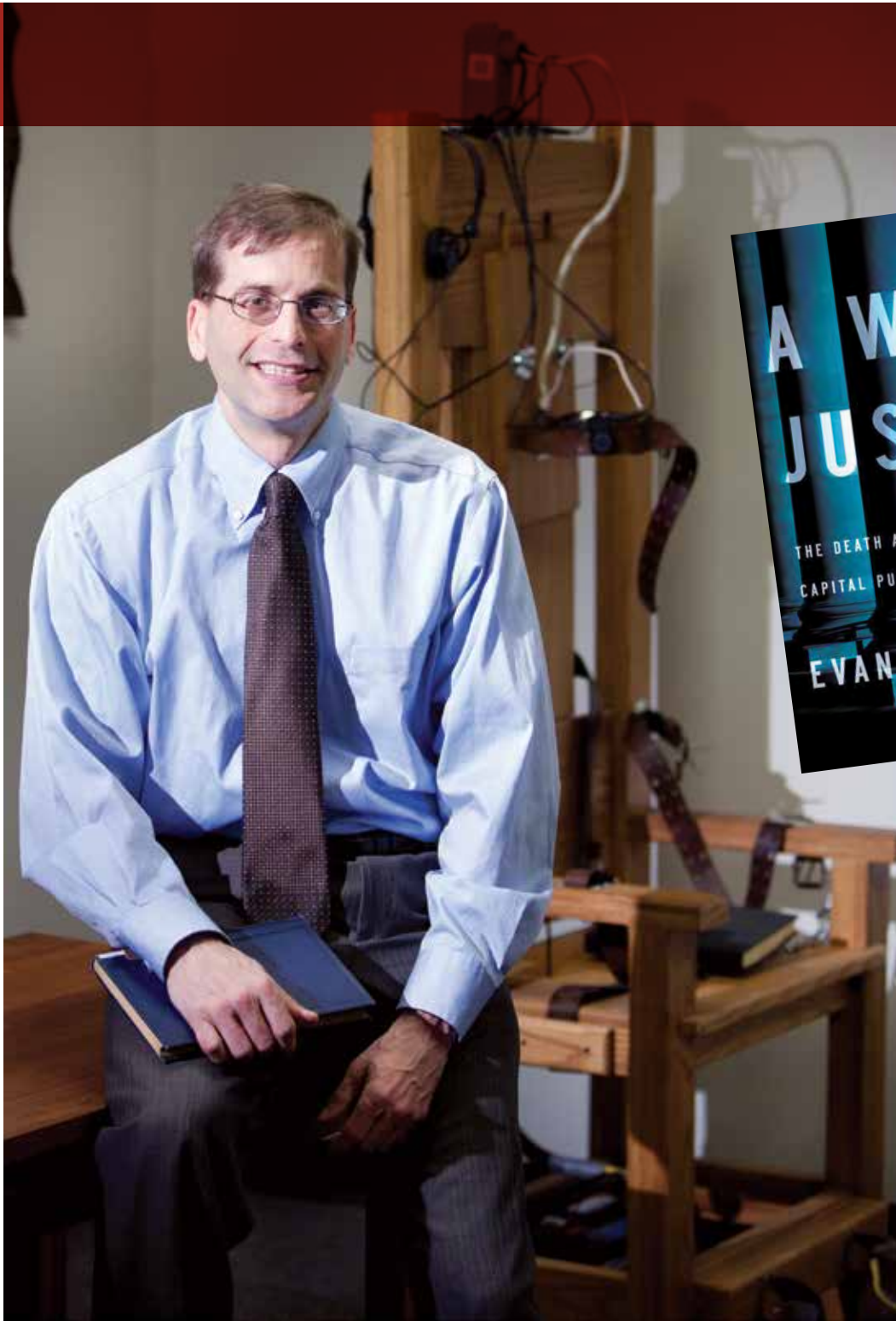
Mandery said it was his writer’s sense of empathy for people that made law and litigation compelling, and in his most recent work, *A Wild Justice*, he comes full circle. The book tells the story of the death penalty as it existed in the U.S. In 1972, the Supreme Court struck down Georgia’s death penalty law in *Furman v. Georgia* — a decision that, while it divided the justices, led nearly everyone to believe *Furman* would end capital punishment in the

U.S. However, states responded with a groundswell of support for the death penalty and set the stage for the 1976 *Gregg v. Georgia* case, which reversed the direction toward abolition.

“The story of my book is why this nation’s highest court did not overturn the death penalty,” said Mandery. “There were many points in history when, if it had not been for some quirks, the results would have come out differently.”

Mandery believes his instincts as a writer informed

A Wild Justice. “It is very much driven by personalities, and the pacing is very novelistic,” he said. “I tried to maintain evenhandedness and balance in the book, and stay away from the morality of capital punishment. To me it is a story about how the Supreme Court operates, told realistically — not through judicial opinions, but from the perspectives of all characters involved, including the law clerks, the litigators, the judges, and how they interrelate over the long haul that is a litigation campaign.” JJ



Death takes a holiday:
Professor [Evan Mandery](#),
author of *A Wild Justice*

Public service can be among the most noble of callings, an assertion not unfamiliar to the many thousands of John Jay alumni. The latest evidence can be seen in the four alumni who in November were elected to major political office in New York city and state.

Three of the four are veteran officeholders. Three of the four are African American. Three of the four are male. But what they have in common is the John Jay baccalaureate degree that helped shape who they are.



Eric Adams **BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT**

“There is no higher honor that anyone can achieve in life than that which a community bestows on one of its own,” Eric Adams (B.A. ’98) notes on his official Web site. “My agenda as Borough President will continue to focus on one thing: making Brooklyn a better place to live now, and for future generations.”

Adams honed his public service skills during a 22-year career with the New York City Police Department. He graduated from the Police Academy in 1984 as the highest ranked student in his class and retired in 2006 at the rank of captain. His career was marked by his role as co-founder of 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, an advocacy group for black police officers, and as president of the Grand Council of Guardians.

He rose to prominence in the 1990s by speaking out forcefully after a series of “friendly fire” shootings of black police officers by

white officers. His strident advocacy continued after his election to the New York State Senate in 2006, most notably with his opposition to the NYPD’s “stop, question and frisk” (SQF) policy. He testified for the plaintiffs in the lawsuit that last summer led to a federal judge’s ruling that the NYPD had abused SQF practices, and in the aftermath of the ruling called on the Police Department to “commit itself to educating officers to better protect the civil rights of the people they serve, and begin working with the communities where stop-and-frisk was most abused so that the relationship between citizens and the police can be repaired.”

As a State Senator, Adams also took part in a silent protest in March 2012 when he and fellow lawmakers wore hooded sweatshirts into the Senate chamber to show their solidarity with the family of Trayvon Martin, the Florida teenager who was shot and killed by a neighborhood watch officer who felt the teen was “acting suspicious.”

Adams was elected Borough President with 90 percent of the vote and became the first African American to hold the office.

Kenneth Thompson **BROOKLYN DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

A political newcomer, Kenneth Thompson (B.A. ’89 magna cum laude) toppled a longtime incumbent, Charles J. Hynes, to win election as Kings County (Brooklyn) District Attorney. Like Adams, Thompson is the first African American to hold the office to which he was elected.

Yet despite being new to elective office, Thompson is certainly no stranger to the law. After earning his bachelor’s degree from John Jay, he went on to New York University Law School, and then held a succession of high-profile legal positions with the federal government. During a stint with the Treasury Department, he was a key member of the team that investigated the 1993 raid on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, TX, in which four federal agents were killed. Later, as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York, he was a member of the team that prosecuted New York City Police Officer Justin Volpe for beating and sodomizing Abner Louima in the bathroom of a Brooklyn

precinct. Volpe abruptly pleaded guilty in the middle of the trial.

Thompson credits his mother as being instrumental in his public service career. In 1973, she joined the NYPD and was one of the first women to go on patrol in the city.

Even in private law practice, to which he turned after his service as a federal prosecutor, Thompson remained vitally engaged in seeking justice for those whom the system has often overlooked or failed. He co-founded his own firm, where he represented victims of unlawful discrimination or sexual violence — notably Nafissatou Diallo, the hotel chambermaid who reported having been sexually assaulted by Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the former head of the



International Monetary Fund. He also worked with elected officials and members of the clergy to get the U.S. Department of Justice to reopen the investigation into the case of Emmett Till, the black Mississippi teenager who was brutally murdered in 1955 for allegedly whistling at a white woman.

In a 2005 interview, Thompson cited “helping people who have their rights violated” as the most rewarding aspect of his job. His widely recognized success as a trial lawyer, he said, was attributable in part to his “ability to look the jurors in their eyes and speak from the heart.”



Scott Stringer NEW YORK CITY COMPTROLLER

Scott Stringer (B.A. '86) got his first taste of reform-oriented politics and government as a teenager when he served as a community board member in his Washington Heights neighborhood and was a campaign volunteer for Congresswoman Bella Abzug. It's been a steady climb through the ranks of elective office ever since, culminating in his election last November 5 as New York City Comptroller.

In winning the coveted endorsement of The New York Times prior to the general election, Stringer was praised for bringing “the right mix of experience, doggedness, political skills and integrity to the job” of Comptroller. It's that enviable skill set that has served him and his constituents well throughout his 21-year career as an elected official. As a member of the State Assembly, where he represented Manhattan's Upper West Side from 1992 until 2005, Stringer was a leader on such issues as domestic violence, anti-stalking legislation, affordable housing and government reform. His passionate advocacy of a good-government agenda occasionally found him at odds with the Legislature's powerful party bosses.

As Manhattan Borough President, a post he won in 2006 and held through 2013, Stringer added new vigor to an office that is sometimes criticized as being little more than a bully pulpit with a paucity of real power. He advocated for bike lane safety, progressive food policy and affordable housing, and transformed the office into a watchdog of government waste and mismanagement, issuing a steady stream of insightful policy reports on issues ranging from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's deficient funding to reform of the New York City Housing Authority. He is an outspoken champion of the DREAM Act for immigrants' rights and for marriage equality.

In his inaugural address as Comptroller on January 1, Stringer continued to stress the themes that have been hallmarks of his political career. “There will be those who say that we as a city cannot afford to tackle poverty and inequality,” Stringer said. “As Comptroller, I say we can't afford not to. I believe that pursuing a progressive agenda and being fiscally responsible is not mutually exclusive. We can and we must do both.” He pledged to turn the Comptroller's office into “a think tank for innovation and ideas,” and said efforts to eliminate government waste, abuse and mismanagement would continue on his watch. New York City, he said, “demands performance from its government and holds its leaders to the highest standards of transparency and efficiency.”

Lovely Warren MAYOR OF ROCHESTER, N.Y.

The road to the Mayor's office in Rochester has been filled with speed bumps and other hindrances for Lovely Warren (B.A. '00), yet she has always managed to keep her eyes on the prize.

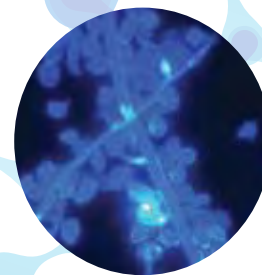
Warren, a Rochester native, was inspired to pursue a legal career, to right wrongs and make her hometown a safer place, by the shooting of her grandfather in 1984 while he was working as a security guard. Just 7 years old at the time, Warren charted a course that would take her to John Jay and subsequently Albany Law School. In 2007, only seven years removed from her John Jay graduation, she won election to the Rochester City Council and three years later was elected as President of the Rochester City Council, the youngest person in the city's history to hold that office.

She achieved yet another first when she became the first woman to be elected as the city's Mayor. En route to that office, she pulled off a stunning upset in the primary against the heavily favored incumbent Mayor Thomas Richards.

In a post-election interview, Warren — a charismatic campaigner who thrived on a personal, door-to-door approach — recalled that in 1997, while still a student at John Jay, she attended an event at which the speaker talked about visualizing what one's future might hold. “She went around the room and asked what do you aspire to be? I stood up and said I want to be mayor of the city of Rochester.” Now that she has achieved that ambition, Warren has pledged to mend what she has described as a divided city. “I want the community to be better across the board,” she said. “I want to build up the things that are great about our city... and build upon the positive so the positives will overtake the negatives.”



The Authoritative Experts in DNA Analysis



With its rich history of science educations, John Jay College has one of the acknowledged “authoritative experts in the field” of DNA Analysis.

by Peter Dodenhoff

As sciences go, DNA analysis is relatively new, having only been a factor in scientific investigation for around 25 years. But John Jay, with its rich history of science education, can lay claim to having one of the acknowledged “authoritative experts in the field,” with Professor Lawrence Kobilinsky having been named as one of the nation’s top 15 DNA analysis professors by the Web site forensicscolleges.com.

Kobilinsky, chair of the Department of Sciences, is familiar to viewers of TruTV and other crime-oriented programming. As a forensic serologist, he specializes in using the latest technologies to link bodily fluids and tissues to potential crime suspects. He has served as an advisor to crime laboratories and related facilities in such places as Mexico, Brazil, the Dominican Republic and China, with his efforts having earned him numerous awards and other recognitions. He is also editor of the six-volume “Inside Forensic Science” book series published by Chelsea House.

“I am elated at having been chosen as one of the top college professors who works in the area of forensic science, educating both students and practitioners in the field of forensic DNA analysis,” Kobilinsky said. “Human identification by study of DNA has had a profound impact on the practice of criminal justice in the United States and abroad, and I am proud to have contributed to the advancement of forensic science and its applications.”

The forensic science program at John Jay is one of the oldest and most prestigious such programs in the country, having been part of the college curriculum for more than 40 years. Students have the option of pursuing specializations in Toxicology, Criminalistics or Molecular Biology, and they regularly conduct cutting-edge research under the guidance of faculty members. Graduates of the program have gone on to significant positions in both the public and private sectors, including medical examiners’ offices, local, state and federal crime labs, pharmaceutical companies and academia.

In 2012, the Science Department occupied three floors in the College’s new building, comprising some 36,000 square feet of state-of-the-art teaching and research laboratories, classrooms and offices. “John Jay’s forensic science program and this gleaming new facility represent a gem in the crown of the City University,” Kobilinsky observed.

In all, John Jay College is represented three times on the Top 15 list, which also includes two alumni. Lawrence Quarino, who received his master’s degree from John Jay and his Ph.D. from the John Jay/CUNY Graduate Center doctoral program in criminal justice (forensic science specialization), is currently director of the forensic science program at Cedar Crest College in Pennsylvania. He has worked as a forensic scientist with the New Jersey State Police and as a supervising forensic scientist with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in New York City. He was a molecular biology consultant for the World Trade Center Identification Project and has written about detecting cocaine in hair samples



Professor Lawrence Kobilinsky, ranked as one of the nation’s leading DNA analysis professors.

using a new freeze/thaw method.

Katherine Roberts, who also earned her doctorate from the John Jay/CUNY Graduate Center, is a professor and director of the master’s program in criminalistics at California State University-Los Angeles. She specializes in nuclear and mitochondrial DNA analysis as well as trace evidence analysis and has presented information about sexual assault evidence at the Fifth Annual DNA Awareness Forum in Los Angeles.

The top 15 rankings on forensicscolleges.com were based on criteria that include interesting research to promulgate new technologies or strategies in DNA analysis, practical experience outside the academic setting, and a track record of publication on the subject. JJ

The forensic science program at John Jay is one of the oldest and most prestigious such programs in the country

1970s

Irving L. Lawrence (B.S. '76) is Account Manager and Purchasing Agent for Floribbean Wholesale Seafood in Margate, FL.

Charles E. Rall (B.S. '76) recently retired as a deputy sheriff with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in Phoenix, AZ.

1980s

Joyce Fields (B.S. '81) is an independent filmmaker of such films as *Faith Bits*, *A Kindness*, and *Smoked Out*. She is also the author of the novel *First Peter*.

Kevin M. Holian (M.P.A. '82) is retired after 39 years as National President of the Professional Managers Association. During a long career in federal service, he served in a number of top managerial positions with the Internal Revenue Service, including Deputy Director-Special Projects, Associate Director of Emergency Management and Physical Security, Senior Operations Advisor for Cybersecurity, and Senior Technical Advisor for Security Risk Management. He is the author of the memoir, *An Unconditional Life: Choosing Needs Over Wants*.

Forrest M. Garrett (B.S. '88) retired from the U.S. Army in June 2012 at the rank of 1st Sergeant and is now Senior Security Specialist/Safety Officer at the U.S. Army Software Engineering Center in Aberdeen, MD.

Carmelo Acevedo (B.S. '88) has been a New York City elementary school teacher for more than 25 years. He is married with a son who hopes to attend John Jay.

1990s

Debra Castro-Moore (B.A. '90) has been promoted to Senior Counsel in the law Department of Wells Fargo Bank, NA. She provides legal support to the areas of wealth management, investments and fiduciary services.

Bryan Wilkins (B.A. '93) is living in Florida, where he recently transferred from the Palm Beach Police Department to the Coral Springs Police Department, assigned as a road patrol officer.

Gregory Spaun (B.S./M.A. '96) was recently named a partner at Welby, Brady & Greenblatt LLP, a leading regional law firm serving the construction and development industries.

Terrence DeGrenier (B.S. '97) is currently the Systems Manager for the U.S. District Court in the District of Arizona, Tucson Division. He is pursuing a master's degree in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Judicial Administration at Michigan State University.

Jocelyn Johnson (B.A. '98) established the Department of Probation on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies, where she is the first Chief Probation Officer.

Angela (Rodriguez) Noble (B.S. '98) recently became an assistant attorney general for the State of Florida. She works in the Department of Legal Affairs, Criminal Appeals and Capital Collateral Division.

2000s

Stephanie McGirr (MA '00), a 22-year veteran of the U.S. military (Army and Air Force) was recently promoted to Chief Master Sergeant with the Special Operations Command in Tampa, FL.

Aretha M. Brown (B.A. '01) recently received a position as an instructor teaching criminology and psychology, and says, "Thanks, John Jay, for the exposure!"

EXPLORE, ENGAGE & RECRUIT AT JOHN JAY WITH THE CENTER FOR CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT!

Recruiting at John Jay gives you entry to a multicultural student environment where creativity and innovation on a global spectrum are fostered and encouraged. We invite you to partner with us to recruit the next generation of innovators for your job and internship opportunities.

Upcoming Opportunities to Recruit:

Graduate & Professional School Admissions Fair

Wednesday, October 15, 2014
1:00pm — 4:00pm

Fall Job & Internship Fair

September 2014
1:00pm — 5:00pm

Spring Job & Internship Fair

February 2015
1:00pm — 5:00pm

Register to participate in these events on our Web site at
www.jjay.cuny.edu/careers

Additional Resources & Services Available Include:

- Information Sessions/Tabling Events
 - Interview Rooms • Site Visits
- Professionals-in-Residence • Shadow Days
 - Career Education Workshops
 - Mock Interview Days

Purnima Taylor, Deputy Director, Center for Career & Professional Development, recruit@jjay.cuny.edu / 212.237.8754



CLASS NOTES

Virna Pacheco-Brandofino (B.A. '03) has been working in the field of social work for the past 10 years since graduating from John Jay. For seven years, she worked with children and adolescents with severe psychiatric and emotional problems.

Wanda Boone (A.S. '04) works for the New York State Unified Court System Office of Court Administration as a data recording assistant.

Nicholas Mircovich (M.A. '05) graduated from New York Law School and was admitted to the New Jersey bar in 2012. He is a full-time police officer and currently has a part-time solo legal practice.

Anastasia Ford Jones (M.S. '05) recently accepted a position as East Coast Regional Loss Prevention Manager for the Charming Charlie fashion chain.

Christopher Bruell (M.A. '05) earned his Ph.D. in Criminology and Justice Policy from Northeastern University in May 2013 and is currently an assistant professor of criminal justice at Saint Anselm College in Goffstown, NH.

Benjamin Rosen (B.A. '05) was appointed by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo as Director of Public Information for the State Office of Mental Health in August 2012.

Robin Warwick (B.S. '05) recently completed a doctorate in audiology at the CUNY Graduate Center and is now working at Bellevue Hospital.

Adam M. Shatzkamer (B.A. '07) has graduated from Rutgers University School of Business.

Josephine (Bisi) Ogboye (B.A. '08) graduated from Michigan State University College of Law in July 2013 with her J.D. degree *cum laude*.

Ralitsa Ruski (B.A. '08) is an M.B.A. candidate at Ohio State University's Fisher College of Business, Class of 2015.

Robert DeMarr (B.S. '08) was recently promoted to Supervising Fire Alarm Dispatcher with the New York City Fire Department.

Siobhan Beere (M.A. '09) went on to get her J.D. degree from Rutgers University School of Law and is now an associate with the law firm of Post, Polak, Goodsell, MacNeill & Strauchler, PA, in Roseland, NJ.

2010s

Anna Midyushko (M.S. '10) was a probation officer with the New York City Department of Probation for three years before being called for the January 2014 NYPD Police Academy class.

Dwayne Edwards (M.A. '10) recently left active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps and is now an account executive with MSA Security.

John A. Mesa (B.S. '11) went directly from John Jay to a position as a Parks Enforcement Officer with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. "John Jay taught me many things that I use in the field," he reports.

Miriam A. Olivera (B.A. '11) is working as a financial coordinator reproductive endocrinologist specialist representing patients who are either infertile or experiencing complications trying to conceive.

Carol Taylor (B.A., '11) is executive director of a small not-for-profit focused on school safety.

Taylor Belcher (B.A. '11) has a financial services practice specializing in accumulating and protecting wealth for businesses and individuals, and recently became a Manhattan-based agent for New York Life.

Betty J. Thomas (B.A. '11) is Assistant Financial Secretary at New Mount Zion Baptist Church in Harlem, where she uses the skills learned at John Jay in the administration and operation of the church.

Silvia Sinchi (B.A. '11) is in her second year of graduate school at the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare. She is an intern with the Suffolk County Felony Youth Part, an innovative court seeking to divert 16-, 17- and 18-year-old at-risk adolescents.

Diana Diaz (B.A. '11) is a first-year law student at New York Law School and Executive Director of the Real Estate Transfer Department at Argo Real Estate, a midtown Manhattan real estate management firm.

Jana Demetral (B.A./M.A. '13) is a staff psychologist for the North Carolina Department of Public Safety at Central Prison in Raleigh.

Edlyne Verna (B.S. '13) started as a freshman at John Jay in 1999 and after unforeseen interruptions in her schooling became a proud alumna last year at age 34. She is now in the M.P.A. program at John Jay and says of the College, "I have grown, learned and cried within its walls and choosing John Jay is a choice I will never regret."

Robert Shullich (M.S. '13) just passed the ISC2 CCFP (Certified Cyber Forensics Professional) examination. This is a new information security certification that was released in September 2013.

Our grads make us proud!

Share your story with your classmates and the community at

<http://johnjay.jjay.cuny.edu/alumnistory/>

