

# The Latest Affairs

*Serving Students. Developing Leaders. 100% Engagement.*

## Spring 2016

Food Bank Opening March 24

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Save the Date! Upcoming  
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Opportunity

Welcome, New Colleagues!



*David Lennox and Jessica Robles-Morales have been appointed LGBTQ coordinators for Student Affairs.*

## A Note from the VP

Dearest Student Affairs colleagues,

In keeping with our Strategic Plan, every corner of our division has been up to good things this year. We have expanded services, improved our spaces, clarified our policies, strengthened our programming, identified new entrepreneurial efforts and much more...all with student success in mind. As I speak to students, they tell me these changes are much appreciated. Soon, each unit will participate in a Division-wide student satisfaction survey to get valuable feedback on students' experiences in our areas.

We've also said good-bye to dear colleagues and welcomed new ones, some of whom you will learn about in this edition of the *Latest Affairs*. Speaking of that, the

## SERVING STUDENTS

### Food Bank Coming Soon!

On **Thursday, March 24**, John Jay's food bank will officially open. Located in the Wellness Center and operated in partnership between that office and Community Outreach, the food bank will provide nutritious non-



perishable groceries for students in need. Special thanks to Malaine Clarke (*Wellness Center, Health Services*), Rima Douglas (*Community Outreach*), Dana Trimboli (*Senior Director, Student Affairs*), and student

search for our new AVP is commencing, and I look forward to your participation in helping us identify the right candidate.

The banner in the Atrium tells us just how many days we are from Commencement. They go so fast! In these last days before the Big Day, I want you to know how much I appreciate all you do to make John Jay a stand-out college who puts students first every day!

Sincerely,

Lynette Cook-Francis  
VP for Student Affairs

## Welcome, New Colleagues!



### Jazmin Letamendi, Ph.D., M.S.

Jazmin joined us on January 11, 2016 as Associate Director of [Student Transition Programs](#). She brings over ten years of experience in higher education, and has a passion for serving students. She has earned a Ph.D. in social sciences/conflict analysis, as well as an M.S. in college student affairs and a B.A. in anthropology. In her dissertation,

*Identifying Factors, Attributes and Experiences That Influence Student Engagement: Theoretical Application of Conflict Analysis for the Enhancement of the Campus Setting*, a national study involving over 500 students across 48 states was conducted and Jazmin developed a two-part quantitative approach to measuring student engagement - the Hypothetical Algebraic Formula for Student Engagement (HAFSE) and the Index of Student Engagement and Involvement (ISEI).

Before coming to John Jay, Jazmin worked as a program director under a Department of Education Title V grant, and developed a successful, supportive and community-enhancing mentoring program for graduate oceanography students at Nova Southeastern University.

Aside from student affairs, she enjoys traveling and trying foods from all over the world. To date, she has visited Estonia, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Spain, France, Colombia, a few islands in the Caribbean, and most recently, Canada.

workers from Community Outreach for helping to bring this valuable service to life!

## LGBTQ Coordinators



### David Lennox & Jessica Robles-Morales

David Lennox ([Center for Career & Professional Development](#)) and Jessica Robles-Morales ([Women's Center for Gender Justice](#)) have been named LGBTQ coordinators for the Division of Student Affairs.

As members of the [LGBTQ+ Coalition](#) (formerly the LGBTQ Task Force), David and Jessica will provide programming and resources for John Jay's LGBTQ community and their allies. Full bios for both coordinators, as well as more information about their new roles, can be found [on Bloodhound Central](#).

## Essential Skills

### A Project Update

John Jay Student Affairs has become part of a national movement, funded by organizations like the Lumina Foundation, for colleges to demonstrate that they provide students with the skills necessary for them to be successful in the work place. John Jay's Essential Skills are based not only on national benchmarking, but also on those skills which employers tell us they most desire from our graduates.

They are:



From this point, we move on to developing a more formalized curriculum to measure students' attainment of these skills. We are thrilled to announce that Dr.

## Richard Pusateri, US Navy Retired

Dick joins us as the new Military & Veteran Services Manager. He is a native of Latham, New York, and a graduate of Case Western Reserve University with a Bachelor of Arts in history. His subsequent degrees include the Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University, the Master of Science from Syracuse University, the Master of Arts in Human Resource Management from Salve Regina University, and the Doctor of Ministry with an emphasis on ethics from Princeton Theological Seminary. He is an ordained United Methodist minister. Prior to beginning his active duty service in the US Navy in 1983, he served as a librarian, pastor and campus minister in middle Tennessee.

Captain Richard Pusateri, Chaplain Corps, US Navy served 30-years on active duty. He served 16 years with the US Marine Corps in assignments with the infantry, aviation, a Marine Expeditionary Unit and 2-force level commands. In 1990-1991, he deployed with MAG-13 (Forward) to Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, which included 43 days and over 3800 sorties of aviation combat operations. While serving as the I MEF and MARCENT chaplain, he supervised all Marine Corps religious support in the Southwest Asia combat zone in 2005-2009. During this period he deployed for over 20-months in combat operations, including 13-months as the I MEF (Forward) chaplain in Al Anbar province, Iraq. At MARFORPAC, he served as force chaplain for the largest Marine field command in 2009-2013. In this role he also served as US Marine Corps Forces, Korea (MARFORK) chaplain, and led cooperative initiatives in Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Philippines, and Thailand.

His Navy assignments included service with a Seabee battalion, 2-ships, and submarines at Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC). While Force Chaplain, COMSUBPAC, he provided critical ministry and pastoral advice following the February 2001 submarine USS GREENEVILLE collusion with EHIME MARU. He also served at the US Merchant Marine Academy. On joint duty, he served with Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA), Camp Lemonier, Djibouti in 2005 with responsibilities in Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen.

Captain Pusateri deployed in operations for over 10-years. He was extensively engaged in prevention and response initiatives for suicide, domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment and combat operational stress, and took part in Marine Corps service-level program development in these areas. He retired from active duty on May 1, 2013. Following his naval service, he served as the Executive for Itineration and Missionary Support for United Methodist Global Ministries in New York, NY in September 2013 to February 2016.

Kathleen Lis Dean has agreed to consult with us to accomplish these goals. Dr. Lis joins us as a resource made possible through a CUNY grant given to Academic and Student Affairs.

We will begin our rollout of the Essential Skills curriculum this fall with select cohorts as we pilot this important effort. Many thanks to the Essential Skills team - Danielle Officer, Danielle Poupore, Will Simpkins, Gerald Stannard, and VP Cook-Francis - for their work over the last year to bring this project to fruition.

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## Save the Date!

### Upcoming Professional Development



Will Simpkins (*Center for Career & Professional Development*) will host a workshop on **Monday, April 25** as part of our spring break development offering.

The session, ***ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies for Student Affairs Professionals: The Gist***, will provide a broad overview of the recently revised competencies for student affairs professionals, along with tips on how to use them for personal and organizational development.

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The Office of Communications, Marketing & Assessment for Student Affairs will be offering an in-service for interested colleagues on **Friday, April 29**.

The workshop, entitled ***Ditch the Flyer. Create a Visual Masterpiece***, will focus on design fundamentals, along with practical tips for creating visual material that grabs students' attention and encourages involvement.

We'll be in a computer lab, so come prepared to practice in real-time! For more information, contact **Mark Travis Rivera**, social media marketing manager for Student Affairs.

STAY CONNECTED

