

My dear colleagues,

We made it to Monday. And through Monday (almost). Do you feel yourself relaxing? Are you now wrestling with other parts of your lives (parenting, for example, or teaching at multiple institutions)? Finding new and healthy routines may be hard for the next months. We may need to value the ironies of snow falling two days into spring and laugh at the absurdities that can make our lives so seemingly impossible.

When we laugh at situations rather than people, and when we reframe our humor to take joy in the different ways other humans express and conduct themselves, it's all a bit easier. We've been intensely and seriously focused on keeping our courses and students on track, with us, and it's time to remember that it's not all going to work as intended, and we can laugh and then look for solutions. Try to be a bit lighter this week and hold your students lightly as we work our ways into this part of our teaching this term. During dark times, the warmth and expansiveness of light can help us remain whole.

A few recent highlights:

- One of our Sciences faculty recorded a demonstration using orange Jell-O and torn paper in the absence of lab materials
- A faculty member who lost access to her reserve texts at the library found a copy through another source and is working with the publisher to increase access
- Chairs and the TLC worked over the weekend to answer faculty questions about internet access, emailing students, and advising questions

These are small yet tangible examples of what is going well in the midst of so much that seems unworkable. You are making the change work, together. Thank you.

Here are a few resource reminders to support students. The CUNY Continuity for Students page is particularly well developed, and I recommend scanning the full page to make sure you have a visual memory of the contents. The John Jay information is quoted from President Mason's Friday email. It's a good on-hand reference when you are emailing and talking with students.

### **CUNY Resources for Students**

**CUNY Continuity for Students** (scroll down for resource and access information)

<https://www.cuny.edu/cuny-continuity/cuny-continuity-for-students/>

### **John Jay Resources for Students (from President Karol Mason's 3/20/2020 email)**

"As Chancellor Matos Rodríguez indicated in his latest message, **effective Monday, March 23**, access to the John Jay campus will be restricted except for essential staff. The Library and Computer Labs will be closed, but there will be limited access to the following essential services:

**Food Pantry** will remain open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please contact [maclarke@jay.cuny.edu](mailto:maclarke@jay.cuny.edu) or [nacevedo@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:nacevedo@jjay.cuny.edu) with any questions.

**Children's Center** will remain open Monday–Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for those currently enrolled and in need of this service.

**Loaner laptops:** Students who are in need of a loaner laptop should make sure to request an appointment to pick up a loaner by emailing the DoIT Helpdesk at [helpdesk@johnjay.cuny.edu](mailto:helpdesk@johnjay.cuny.edu). All laptops should be requested and picked up on campus by appointment only, **no later than Tuesday, March 24.**

All other offices and services will be open and operating remotely, including the Wellness Center that has transitioned to telecounseling. If you are in crisis and need to speak to a counselor, please email Cory Head at [chead@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:chead@jjay.cuny.edu) between the hours of 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. If it is after hours, please contact Public Safety at 212-237-8888. You can reach our other campus offices using this handy guide to their [contact information](#). If you have specific questions, please email [AskJohnJay@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:AskJohnJay@jjay.cuny.edu). Please continue to visit the [CUNY website](#) and John Jay's [College website](#) for the latest and most accurate information and resources."

In the week ahead, please remember to care for yourselves as you care for others. We are just beginning what may be several weeks of changing our perspectives and living with uncertainty. Laugh kindly and gently and fully when you can.

Looking ahead, Judy and I will share more resources in the next email directly related to your distance and online teaching. We are now moving to 2-3 emails per week and will be in touch later this week.

Warm regards,

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