



*Karol Mason
President*

*524 West 59th Street
New York City, NY 10019
T. 212.237.8600
F. 212.237.8607
kmason@jjay.cuny.edu*

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Re: Leadership Changes

To the John Jay College Community:

I am delighted to share with you some changes in leadership and organizational structure. These changes include the merging of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management into one department, and creating a new Department of Institutional Advancement that will focus exclusively on fundraising and alumni engagement at this critical time. Our leadership will also change as a result of these new structures:

Lynette Cook-Francis is now our Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. Combining these two critical areas gives Lynette the opportunity to lead an integrated approach to the entire student experience at John Jay—making prospective students aware of the endless opportunities at John Jay, guiding new students through admission, and ensuring that each student is supported and encouraged during their time at John Jay, all the way to their graduation day and future careers. I am grateful for Lynette’s continued service and excited about her expanded leadership role in this new position.

Laura Ginns is now our Vice President for Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives. In this new role, Laura will be focused on key projects and policies that help facilitate student success, while promoting John Jay and our students’ many achievements. Laura will be supervising the offices of External Affairs, Diversity and Compliance, and Marketing and Communications. Laura joined us in August after six years at the U.S. Department of Education in various roles including chief of staff to the Secretary. Earlier, Laura was a litigation associate at an international law firm, a judicial law clerk and a Teach for America corps member, teaching fourth grade in the South Bronx. This new public affairs function will enable a cohesive approach to the College’s external relations and messaging and be a great fit for Laura given her background in education, law, and communications.

Robin Merle will join us on Monday as our Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement, focused exclusively on development and alumni affairs. With her more than two decades of development experience, Robin will guide John Jay's critical fundraising work to support our ambitious fundraising campaign for student and faculty success. Robin was previously at the Hospital for Special Surgery as the Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer. Robin's leadership in this role resulted in record levels of support, with millions of dollars received for research and education. Robin holds a master's degree from the Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree from Rutgers College.

Dorothy Sexton will also be joining us as the part-time Executive Director of the John Jay College Foundation. Dorothy comes to us after recently retiring as the Vice President and Secretary of the College Board. She holds a bachelor's degree from Vassar College and master's degree from the Peter F. Ducker Graduate School of Management. While we will greatly miss **Jayne Rosengarten** after her retirement, and are deeply appreciative of her work on behalf of John Jay faculty and students over the past six years, I am thrilled to have the benefit of both Robin and Dorothy's extensive experience as we seek new levels of support for our incredible students.

I'm confident that these changes will enable us to better and more efficiently support our students' success. Please join me in congratulating Lynette, Laura, Robin, and Dorothy on their new roles at John Jay.

Thank you,

Karol V. Mason
President

