## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE**

December 17, 2024

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

Thank you for all you have done to contribute to academic excellence and student success this fall. What we do at John Jay matters profoundly to our city, state and the many communities across the globe from which our students come and return. Each one of us plays a fundamental role in cultivating a just and nourishing future, not only for our students, but for all of us. Thank you for excellence.

Allison

## John Jay Makes it to Second Round of Department of Education Recognition Program

In October the <u>U.S. Department of Education</u> identified 200 colleges whose public data indicated that they "clearly have a story to tell that demonstrates what institutions do matters to ensure student success" and they invited those institutions to submit an application to be recognized for their efforts. John Jay is on the list and we applied – our application is attached to this email.

We just learned this week we have made it to the finalist round; the leadership team will be interviewed by external peer reviewers tomorrow. Fingers crossed everyone!

Whether or not we are "recognized" what we do matters and we know it.



"Some of the most important innovations in higher education today are being driven by institutions that get little glory but that are narrowing gaps in

access to college opportunity and accelerating their graduates' economic mobility ... I can think of no work more worthy of prestige than putting higher education within the reach of more Americans, and helping our students attain degrees that change their lives — just as mine did for me."

- U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona



After almost three years with interim Deans, we are ready to begin hiring for permanent Dean of Faculty, Dean of Academic Programs, and Dean of Academic Engagement. Thank you in advance for participating in the interview process in spring 2025.

Janice Johnson Dias, interim Dean of Student Engagement and Retention has decided to step down and return to her faculty role, effective January 1, 2025. Please join me in thanking her for her important service in this role. Janice brought new ways of thinking about student success, kept equity at the forefront and asked us each to consider the kinds of development we need to be our best professional selves. She leaves all of us with whom she worked stronger and better positioned to serve our students and to lead others.

## **Holiday Party Tomorrow**4:30-6:30 pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor of Haaren Hall Wear your ugly sweaters and join in the fun.

