



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

September 9, 2025

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

We are off to a strong start: full classrooms, full hallways, and visible levels of student engagement. Our outstanding research and capacity to serve students well is in full display in today's update where I share a new partnership for our Psychology and Law graduate programs, continued work on serving Latinx students, and a new approach to preparing students for, and connecting them to, careers.

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DOAR Invests in John Jay's Forensic Psychology M.A. and Psychology & Law Ph.D. Students

Thanks to our faculty expertise, [DOAR](#), a trial consulting company, has invested in our graduate students by establishing the DOAR Trial Consulting Partnership Fund. The Fund will provide an opportunity to advance students' knowledge of the trial consultancy field and build a robust pipeline of graduate students who want to make trial consultancy and/or jury research their careers. Additionally, this initiative will provide scholarship support and paid experiential opportunities for students.

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JUSTICE
60 YEARS

Dr. Margaret Bull Kovera, professor of psychology and director of the Psychology and Law PhD Program, is the faculty liaison for the transformative initiative. She will collaborate closely with Paul Neale, CEO of DOAR, and Dr. Natalie Gordon, a DOAR jury consultant who earned her PhD in psychology and law from the Graduate Center/John Jay College of Criminal Justice, to ensure the success of the partnership.



Staff and Faculty Work to Serve Latinx Students

Last spring 22 staff and faculty participated in the “Conocimientos” training by ESCALA, a leading organization dedicated to providing professional development for staff and faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). The training culminated in a half day event in June with 20 members of college leadership to focus on how all of those who work with students envision Latinx servingness.

Under the leadership of Sumaya Villanueva, Assistant Provost for Student Engagement, the work continues this fall in the Academic Advisement Center. The AAC staff will refine their advising practices based on ideas of servingness and student needs.

New Approach to Career Preparation and Career Events on Campus

The Career Learning Lab (CLL) is moving from a "one-size-fits-all" approach to an "industry-aligned, skills-driven and market-ready" approach to student development and career readiness.

Rather than holding one "CareerCon" event for all employers to recruit students on campus, the CLL will host 5 industry-aligned, two-day Career Cons over the academic year in (1) Law & Legal Professions, (2) Technology & Marketing, (3) Finance & Consulting, (4) Healthcare, Community & Social Services, and (5) Education. At each CareerCon event there will be opportunities for students to explore graduate schools aligned to careers in these fields, internship opportunities and full-time jobs.

Head to the Career Learning Lab website and follow them on social media to learn more.

Industry Based CareerCon Events

Fall 2025:

- **Oct 15-16: Law & Legal Professions**
- **Nov 18-19: Technology & Marketing**

Spring 2026:

- **Feb 4-5: Finance & Consulting**
- **Feb 17-18: Healthcare, Community & Social Services**
- **Mar 25-26: Education**

