



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

October 7, 2025

Dear Academic Affairs Colleagues,

We are in for some challenging times ahead. The federal government declared an end to opportunity funding for minority and Hispanic serving institutions, which has fueled some of our student success work for the last twenty years. The federal legislation known as the One Big Beautiful Bill will reduce Medicaid payments to New York State by almost one billion dollars next year and three billion the year after. This will directly affect New York's capacity to fund SUNY and CUNY colleges; we should realistically expect reductions.

The list of challenges keeps going, but I trust you are familiar with them at this point. I also trust you know this: we are a resilient and resourceful college committed to finding ways to manifest big outcomes from small investments and we will continue to do so. In times of turbulence, we hold fast to our mission, our community, and our willingness to work with each other and with our external stakeholders to find the ways forward.

Allison

Call for Bold Action from our AI Team

In the [Sept 23 update](#) I shared that a team of faculty and staff are participating in a year-long AAC&U Institute on AI, Pedagogy and the Curriculum. As part of that effort they have created a bold action plan that calls for change from all of us. As the Summary at the end of their plan (attached to this email) says:

Our overall goal is to partner with our college in creating a framework to support effective, ethical, and innovative pedagogical and curricular engagement with emerging technologies over the next three years. Our specific goals address the development of our students' learning agency with AI, with increasing faculty and staff resources and

Student AI landscape analysis

Student AI literacy module

Faculty AI literacy self-paced workshop

AI Ethics brown bag lunches

AI + critical thinking faculty development seminars

AI + Positionality learning + practice communities

Faculty Senate conversations

training that includes AI with student-centered, inclusive, social justice pedagogies, and with improving and expanding communications and advocacy related to AI ethics and curriculum policies. By June 30, 2026, we aim to have engaged at least 10% of our students and faculty in AI literacy activities, to have revised our AI responsible use guidelines for review and adoption, to have designed a pedagogical and curricular framework for review, revision, and adoption, and to have a core emerging technologies community of at least 60 faculty, staff, and students involved in discussing and working with effective, ethical, and innovative college emerging technologies activities.

Digital Advisory Council
conversations

Writing Program conversations

Strategic plan goal

Strengthening Coordinated Care for Students

This fall, [Navigate360](#) continues to expand as a hub for coordinated student support: our shared effort to connect students with the right help at the right time.

Early Check-In requests should have landed in your mailboxes and Submissions are open until October 8th. Your participation helps us connect students with resources before they fall too far behind.

We've also streamlined the process for on-going Alerts, which are faculty-submitted notices such as "missing assignments" or "attendance concerns" that trigger follow-up from advising or support staff. For example, an alert you raise for repeated absences may prompt an advisor to reach out and help the student get back on track.

Students can now also submit their own "Hand Raises" in Navigate to request help directly. Coming in spring 2026, new financial aid indicators will make it easier to identify and assist students who might be at risk of losing financial aid.

Faculty engagement is vital to making these tools effective. If you would like to learn more or have suggestions, please reach out to Kate Szur, Associate Dean for Student Success and Innovation

kszur@jjay.cuny.edu. If you are already a Navigate360 user and need technical



assistance, please email
navigatesupport@jjay.cuny.edu.

Student Emergency Fund – We Can Help

Did you know that we raise \$1 million each year just to help students with life's emergencies?

The Student Emergency Fund is a transformational resource for students facing temporary hardship surrounding situations such as an accident, illness, fire/water damage, or need for temporary housing. Students can **apply for an emergency grant of up to \$3,000.**

The Student Emergency Fund has provided support to thousands of students and continues to fuel persistence, academic momentum, and degree completion. Please share this information with your students.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Who Has Been Rocking It Lately? Is there a staff or faculty member who has been going above and beyond lately? Is there someone whose work you want to acknowledge? [Share that with me](#) via the linked form, and I will create a shout out list acknowledging the people who are making things better for others. I plan to share this list on Tuesday October 21 in the AA Update.