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Academic Affairs Updates

August 1, 2020 through August 14, 2020

Here are a few updates on what is happening in Academic Affairs.

Office of the Provost Matters

- Please see attachment and section below for updates from CUNY Central.

Institutional Effectiveness Matters

- **Online Course Help:** Whether you are looking for ways to elicit more meaningful dialogue online, create a learning community online in your course, need help designing an effective individual or group assignment, or adding multimedia, it is not too late to get help with online pedagogy and design by talking to an Instructional Designer in the Department of Online Education and Support (DOES). [To schedule a virtual meeting, click here.](#)
- **Racial Justice and Teaching:** The [Teaching and Learning Center](#) is facilitating a third open conversation in its series on racial justice and our students. Our final summer discussion is next **Tuesday, August 18: Racial Justice and Our Students: How Do I Increase My Openness to Learning about Racial Justice from My Students?** To register, [click here.](#)
- **Faculty Development Day:** The [Teaching and Learning Center](#) is also presenting our [Fall 2020 Faculty Development Day](#), with 15 breakout sessions, a college-wide discussion on inclusivity and teaching, and opportunities for socially distant connections. Click [here](#) to register.

Graduate Studies Matters

- Dr. Elsa-Sofia Morote is the new Dean of Graduate Studies effective today.

Undergraduate Studies Matters

- Under the leadership of Kate Szur and Nancy Yang, Undergraduate Studies launched a mandatory 3-week Summer Bridge Orientation to prepare incoming freshmen for the distance-learning experience. A necessary next step in readying for fall, this academic orientation has four broad goals: (1) to help new students feel connected to the John Jay community, (2) to become familiar with the tools needed to be successful in online learning, (3) to be more comfortable with college work and expectations, and (4) to become more confident about the ability to succeed at John Jay. This collaborative effort between faculty, staff, and peer-leaders was an ambitious undertaking and a labor of love. It would not have been possible without additional funding to support faculty and peer-leaders.
- Undergraduate Studies is especially grateful to the following faculty who worked tirelessly to develop dynamic talks, activities, and digital content on an array of critical justice issues: Professor Fritz Umbach (HIS) - "Defund the Police? Abolish the Police? Lessons from Recent NYC History"; Professor Janice Johnson-Dias (SOC) - "Be the Change You Want to See in the World"; Professor Demis Glasford (PSY) - Growth Mindset; Professor Susan Kang (POL) - "Empire State of Voting: Protecting Votes in State and Local Governments"; Professor Isabel Martinez (LLS) - "What Shapes Latinx Youths' Lives?"; Professor Jessica Gordon-Nembhard (AFR) - "Economic Justice as a Necessary Component to Racial Justice"; Professor Lisette Delgado-Cruzata (SCI) - "Race and Bodies: Biology, Society, and Human Health"; Professor Kevin Nadal (PSY) - "Navigating Everyday Microaggressions in Everyday Life." This content--which serves as a good foundation for our General Education curriculum--helped us stimulate robust staff and peer-led discussions on around areas of interest and action on Blackboard and in Slack. Our staff and peer-leaders deserve a round of applause for their creative vision under tremendous time constraints. Aside from Kate and Nancy, the leadership team includes Jay Chopra, Tamar Montuma, Briana Gerena, Marie Kezadri, Ximena Garcia-Lambas, Gabriela Martinez, Teresa Baez, and Cornelia Preda.

Registrar's Office Matters

- No updates

Research Matters

- No updates

Professional Studies Matters

- No updates

Operations Matters

- No updates

From CUNY Central

[Update #19 Guidance on Academic Continuity](#): Below is a summary of new and updated sections.

- **Academic Policies, Requirements, and Deadlines:** Recording of Remote Classes; Final Exams for Developmental Courses.
- **Financial Aid and Other Types of Supports:** Chancellor's Emergency Relief Grants
- **Distance Learning Platforms, Tools & Resources:** Zoom University Licenses; Mi-Fi Hotspot Devices
- **Student Success, Equity & Inclusion:** Covid-19 Student Conduct Protocol; Student Face Mask Accommodations, Modifications, or Exemptions; Accommodations for Students with Hearing and Communication Disabilities.