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Associate Provost & Dean

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Dear Bloodhounds,

Welcome back to the Spring 2020 semester at John Jay College!

If you're like me, you might be a little nervous, maybe even scared about what to expect for the remainder of the term. You are not alone. I feel the same way as I try to work while managing my real life concerns about the impact of this public health crisis. For the first time in years, I am developing my proficiency to use a number of online professional tools that I've never used before. It's quite humbling. I have been especially encouraged by the round-the-clock effort of all of our faculty and staff as they transitioned thousands of courses and support resources in just 5 days. Their energy speaks volumes about this college's shared commitment to your success. It's inspired me to keep moving forward and push past the inevitable doubt that comes with change.

Have no fear, fellow Bloodhounds, we are all on the same page when it comes to the goal of completing the semester with health and safety in mind. By now you have received a number of emails to your John Jay email account to help you get started. The emails from your professors and staff contain important information about where you can access your distance classes, what types of academic resources are available, and how to get in touch with your professors and classmates. Should you have questions, please reach out and ask them. Don't hesitate to write to your instructors, staff, peers, student leaders, or schedule an appointment with a professional or faculty advisor.

As you are aware, the information about COVID-19 is rapidly changing. To help you stay up to date with any impact on your academic progress, Undergraduate Studies has established a Frequently Asked Questions webpage for non-emergency academic questions. You will also find links to critical college resources for mental health and wellness, financial aid and technology. Click here to access the page: <https://www.jjay.cuny.edu/Spring20FAQs>. We will keep updating it, should the information about classes, academic policies, registration, and student support ever change.

Lastly, be patient with yourself and others around you. Much like your first day in college, this necessary shift to distance-learning will take some getting used to. But remember, we know you can and will succeed.

Best,

Dean Dara N. Byrne