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To: The John Jay College Community

RE: Budget Planning for Our Future

As we approach the end of a historic semester, I want you to know that I'm extremely proud of how our community has pulled together and persevered during these challenging times. Our full-time and adjunct faculty members swiftly transitioned to a distance-learning model and incorporated innovative approaches to virtually engage our students. Our staff not only kept working remotely, but they tirelessly developed new processes and student-centered work groups. And our talented students stayed focused on their classes and worked hard to finish the semester strong—even while many of them worked on the front lines and supported family members affected by the coronavirus. Throughout it all, John Jay's spirit of service and resourcefulness shined through, and I couldn't be prouder.

As we begin to turn our attention to next year, we are going to need to call on that same spirit, and our shared values, as we face a budget challenge unlike any we have faced in recent memory. I write to you today to share information about the seriousness of this challenge, as well as the process I am setting up so that we can work together to address it.

As I wrote to you last month, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic weigh heavily in our community. These painful losses are also taking a deep economic toll that will ultimately impact our College. New York State, our primary source of financial support, is anticipating that cuts will be needed to address a projected revenue shortfall of over \$13 billion. The City is also projecting major revenue losses that we anticipate will result in significant cuts to education. This means that we are likely to see reduced funding to CUNY, and to John Jay.

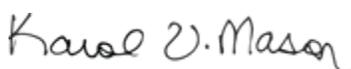
While we are grateful for the support we are receiving from the Federal CARES Act, these funds will not be enough to address the additional cuts we are anticipating in the coming year. CUNY has joined calls for more federal support for New York State, which would help avert potentially drastic cuts that would impact CUNY's ability to deliver on its special mission to provide an education for those who need it most. But there is no certainty regarding additional federal support.

We have a responsibility to begin now to work together to plan as realistically and responsibly as possible for the coming year. As difficult and painful as it will be, this planning will require us to think carefully, creatively, and strategically through how we can cut costs and identify new revenue opportunities.

Our Financial Planning and Strategic Planning Subcommittees (FPS/SPS) are best positioned to help guide us through this process. FPS/SPS is composed of students, faculty, staff, and executive administrators, each designated by their role or elected by the faculty senate or student council to serve on the FPS/SPS under our shared governance structure set out in our [College charter](#). I have asked Associate Provost Allison Pease and Assistant Vice President Mark Flower to lead this planning, using a process that is inclusive and transparent to our entire community. The members of FPS/SPS are listed on the [College Council webpage](#), but anyone in our community can attend meetings of the FPS/SPS. You can find out when the FPS/SPS will be meeting by talking to any of the members or checking the College calendar where these meetings, occurring every two weeks, will be posted. I am grateful for the leadership of Associate Provost Pease and AVP Flower, and I invite all of you to contribute your ideas and input in this process.

To be clear, we know that our community is facing a tremendous amount of uncertainty, which understandably makes people nervous and anxious. Now more than ever we need to trust and respect each other. We need to support our friends and our colleagues, and we need to explore new ways to achieve the mission of our College. Please know that none of us enters into this period of the College's history without the utmost care for our community and a profound sense of responsibility to protect this incredible institution and its mission, even as we face painful and difficult choices. We will do so, and we will do so together.

With gratitude,



Karol V. Mason
President