

# JUSTICE MATTERS

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

FALL 2012

## LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS

Revitalized, Distinct  
and on the Cutting Edge



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Johanny Santana, who earned her BA in English in 2012, is a testament to the resurgence of liberal arts majors at John Jay. She's now attending Cardozo School of Law on a full scholarship, and credits her English major courses, professors and participation in the College's Pre Law Institute with helping to prepare her for success. Story on page four.

# JUSTICEMATTERS

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**JOHN JAY**  
COLLEGE  
OF  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Jeremy Travis, President*

### Dear Friends,

**O**ur vision to strengthen John Jay College of Criminal Justice as a preeminent national and international leader in educating for justice is fast becoming reality. The College's move to the forefront is made possible because of the unshakable foundation laid by our graduates who champion justice every day through their work and their passion. Their commitment inspires us to continue to do even more to further John Jay's breadth and impact.

We are determined to provide a rigorous, world-class education to all students who walk through our doors. The University has recognized our efforts and we are proud to announce that John Jay has joined the Macaulay Honors College and will welcome our inaugural Macaulay class in 2013. I am also proud to announce that John Jay's Pre Law Institute is achieving major success: Last year John Jay students were accepted to more than 50 law schools, including the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall), Tulane, Vanderbilt, Brooklyn Law School and other competitive schools. Our students also received more than \$3 million in merit scholarship awards from law schools nationwide.

To further our aspirations, we have taken a number of steps over the last few years including an ambitious Faculty Hiring Initiative, which I am pleased to report has become even more ambitious. Because the state legislature and Governor Cuomo adopted Chancellor Goldstein's proposal for a five-year program of modest tuition increases, John Jay will be able to add new faculty over the next three years. When we include replacements of faculty who have left the College, we will likely be hiring at least 70 new faculty. These new faculty will join our current stellar faculty whose scholarship and research continue to be recognized through national and international awards.

These are not the only important numbers I want to share with alumni and friends of John Jay. I am thrilled to report that our major multi-year Campaign for the Future of Justice to support student success, foster innovative academic programs, and expand campus resources has raised \$40 million toward our \$50 million goal. Alumnus and John Jay Foundation Board Trustee

Richard Koehler, who is featured in this issue along with another distinguished alumna and Trustee Paula Howell Anderson, has agreed to chair the Alumni Committee of the Campaign. Under his leadership, the Committee has already brought forth a range of new ideas to engage alumni in the Campaign, including reaching out to graduates in cities across the country.

All of these developments are fueled by the energy of students who fill the classrooms and halls of our new state-of-the-art 13-story, 625,000-square-foot building. Every part of the new building, including the new science wing with over 36,000 square feet of high-tech laboratories, the Emergency Management Simulator, the Black Box Theater and the 4,050-square-foot Exhibition Gallery are all teeming with their dynamic spirit.

On a special note, our grassy rooftop plaza, which stretches over 60,000 square feet and cleverly named the "Jay Walk" by students, truly anchors our urban campus. I encourage all alumni and friends to come and visit the new building and spend time outside enjoying the Jay Walk.

This year has been one of excitement and change. In March our symposium to honor John Jay's Founding Generation reminded us that our innovation is built on the accomplishments of the faculty, staff and alumni who set the College on its path as a liberal arts institution. In May we unveiled the Lynn and Jules Kroll Atrium, which was made possible by the extraordinary generosity of our Foundation Board Chair Jules Kroll and his wonderful wife, Lynn. In September more than 1,800 freshmen, a 6% increase from 2011, joined John Jay's student body. As John Jay nears its 50 year anniversary, the past, present and the future continue to work together to create an amazing and propitious moment in the life of John Jay College.

Thank you for being part of our community.  
Sincerely,

## Justice Awards Celebration



**F**our fierce advocates for justice were honored by John Jay College on October 16 for their tireless commitment to fighting for the common good.

The 2012 John Jay Medals for Justice were presented at a ceremony held before a standing-room-only crowd at the College's Gerald W. Lynch Theater. The honorees included Dr. Hawa Abdi, the Somali human rights activist and 2012 Nobel Prize nominee; Harry Belafonte, the renowned musician, actor and civil rights activist, and Vivian Nixon, executive director of the College and Community Fellowship. A posthumous award was presented to the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas for his lifelong commitment to fighting for the voiceless and powerless.

Created in 2008, the Justice Award honors leaders who have made a significant impact on the international, national and community levels.

In his welcoming remarks, John Jay President Jeremy Travis said, "The Justice Awards are given to those who, like the ancient philosophers, understand that justice is a ligament that holds society together." The honorees, he added, "are an inspiration to our students."

The evening's A-list presenters included the renowned actor James Earl Jones, Rosanna Rosado, CEO and publisher of *El Diario/La Prensa*, and Tina Brown, editor-in-chief of *The Daily Beast* and *Newsweek*. Justice Douglas's widow, Cathleen Douglas Stone, accepted the award on her late husband's behalf. Dr. Abdi's daughter, Dr. Deqo Waqaf, accepted the award for her mother.

In turn, the Justice Award winners noted that they were humbled by the honor, and by the company they were keeping for the evening. They also expressed broad admiration for the College, citing, in Ms. Stone's words, "the wonderful work of the alumni of this institution and the students who will go out and change the world." Mr. Belafonte noted that he has been a frequent visitor to John Jay in the past, for lectures, classroom presentations and other events, and said that each time "it's been an experience beyond my ability to describe."

"Please continue to acknowledge the justice in this world," Dr. Waqaf urged College officials and attendees.

The John Jay Justice Awards ceremony is made possible through the generosity of John Jay College Foundation Trustee Richard Tarlow. **JJ**

**From left to right: President Travis, Rev. Vivian Nixon, Harry Belafonte, Dr. Deqo Waqaf, James Earl Jones and Cathleen Douglas Stone**



# Liberal Arts on the Cutting Edge

By Peter Dodenhoff

**Liberal arts majors, once an important and popular component of a John Jay education until they were jettisoned as part of the price of saving the College in 1976, have returned and they are bigger and better than ever, befitting John Jay's hard-won status as a senior college of the City University.**



“We could hardly call ourselves a senior college without liberal arts majors,” said Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Jane Bowers, who has held the top academic post since 2007, close on the heels of the Critical Choices report that served as a cornerstone for a reimagined John Jay.

The two-year campus-wide discussion that led to the Critical Choices report did more than simply pave the way for reintroducing liberal arts majors — it effectively marked a return to the original vision of John Jay as a “fully realized liberal arts college,” in the words of President Jeremy Travis.

Today, the College boasts 22 baccalaureate majors, and the newest offerings include liberal arts staples such as English, Economics, History, Political Science and Philosophy, along with Humanities and Justice, Law and Society, and Gender Studies.

Proposed majors in Latin American and Latina/o Studies, Anthropology and Sociology are currently under review awaiting final approval, and two others — Fraud Analysis and Forensic Examination, and Human Services and Community Justice — are in the planning stage.

But these are by no means your garden-variety liberal arts majors. “Our majors are not like those at other schools, because they have a flavor that is unique to John Jay,” said Bowers. “We believe that all of our liberal arts majors should have something in the substance itself that has a law or justice connection. English has the strongest flavor, with the Law and Literature track, but in different ways all of our new majors speak to the themes of justice.”

#### **Cutting-Edge, and Then Some**

As important, Bowers pointed out, the revitalization of liberal arts majors after a long dormant period gave the College a gift-

wrapped opportunity to make them “really cutting-edge.”

“Other people are saddled with history majors that are 100 years old,” she said, “but we got to start from scratch and imagine a major that suits where we are as a college, as a country and as a world.”

The new majors have shown an immediate popularity with John Jay students. Data from the Division of Enrollment Management show 372 students majoring in Economics for the fall of 2012. English has attracted 316 majors, Global History 110, and Philosophy, in its first semester, 31. “All these new liberal arts majors are growing at a nice clip,” said Dean of Undergraduate Studies Anne Lopes. Provost Bowers said “pent-up need and desire,” along with students switching from other majors, have contributed to the rapid growth. “You come here wanting to major in one thing, and then all of a sudden you decide ‘wait a minute, what was I thinking?’ Or you took a GenEd lit course and you fell completely in love with it, and now you have a place to go with that. Now you can say, ‘Look what’s available to me.’”

Lopes added that she hopes to see the growth accelerate through a reimagined General Education core at John Jay that will open the door to students electing double majors or major-minor combinations — “things that would enrich their degree and allow them to be much more intentional about what they’re taking and why.”

### Crucial Support

The revival of liberal arts majors could not have happened without the support of CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and a significant financial investment from the University, Bowers noted. Equally important, President Travis recalled, it took a resolution by the University Board of Trustees to reverse the earlier action that had limited the College to criminal justice-related majors. “As part of the deal to keep John Jay open, we gave up the history major, the English major, and other liberal arts majors that are traditional in a baccalaureate institution,” President Travis said in an interview for a revised edition of *Educating for Justice*, a history of John Jay College written by Distinguished Professor Gerald Markowitz.

The CUNY investment in new faculty and other resources was crucial, Bowers added. “Our faculty were telling us that this had better not be a zero-sum game,” she said. “You can’t

be taking lines away from an existing department to give to these new liberal arts majors; there has to be new money. So we presented a plan to the Chancellor in which we said, ‘Here is the number of faculty we would need to hire to make these proposed new majors possible.’ And the university invested in faculty who would not only teach in these new majors but also create and expand curriculum for them.”

The new majors, whether existing or planned, will hardly be static. “Curriculum is a living organism,” Bowers said. “It grows and it changes, because the world grows and changes, and we have an obligation to keep our curriculum evolving.”

Constant assessment, she said, helps to pinpoint strengths as well as deficiencies. “None of our majors should be coasting — not while I’m Provost,” said Bowers.

### Skills for Law School – and Life

The importance of liberal arts majors to John Jay is hard to overstate, College officials agree. “We want students to be more exposed to liberal arts, because as part of those disciplines they are doing much more work on critical thinking skills, reading skills, writing skills, all the things they need to be successful,” said Lopes. “Liberal arts majors are the way students will do significantly better if they’re interested in taking the LSAT or GRE.”

Johanny Santana, a recent alumna who was an active participant in the College’s Pre Law Institute, is living proof of what one can achieve with a liberal arts degree.

She entered John Jay as a criminal justice major, but switched to English as soon as it became available (along with a minor in Philosophy). “The major is responsible for my development as a writer and as an intellectual,” she said. “I feel that I am prepared for law school because of the courses I took and the professors that taught me in the major. There is really no doubt that the English major directly prepared me for success.” She is currently attending Yeshiva University’s Cardozo School of Law on a full scholarship.

But the relevance of such majors goes far beyond improving one’s skills on standardized tests for graduate school, Lopes added. “The College needs to prepare students for the world that they will inherit,” she noted in a recent self-study report

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# Something to Think About

## The Power of John Jay's Philosophy Major

Thinking about law school? Undecided about an undergraduate major? Try thinking philosophically!

Philosophy may be one of the newest of the liberal arts majors at John Jay, but it is quickly staking its claim as an important component of the College's academic offerings. In just three semesters of full operation, nearly three dozen students have gravitated to the new Bachelor of Arts offering, perhaps drawn by the prospect of enhancing their chances for academic and professional success.

"It's true – philosophy majors rank very high when it comes to LSAT success," said Professor Jonathan Jacobs, Chair of the Department of Philosophy, who joined the John Jay faculty in January 2011, just as the new major was about to emerge from the pipeline.

A 2009 study by the National Institute of Education bears Jacobs out, noting that Philosophy majors earned higher scores on the Law School Admission Test than students in all other humanities fields, higher scores than all social and natural science majors except mathematics, and higher scores than all applied majors.

Why might that be? It's no mystery, Jacobs believes. "To study the discipline in any kind of sustained way requires you to develop intellectual skills such as clarity of reasoning, precision in articulation, detecting lapses in the logic of an argument, and so forth. Once students understand that instead of cutting you off from everything, it's actually a mode of access to anything, they will feel less apprehension about majoring in the discipline."

Development of the new major was facilitated by the addition of new faculty positions and the creation of a new Department of Philosophy from what had been the Department of Art, Music and Philosophy. "In order to support a major," Jacobs said, "you need a certain scale of department, and you need a certain breadth of different kinds of expertise and different focuses of study. The department had reached that point."

Evidence of the broad interdisciplinary reach of philosophy can be seen in the Ethics Across the Curriculum initiative that is now in its second year.



Jonathan Jacobs

Supported by a generous gift from Steve and Ely Hammerman, the program provides up to nine competitive awards of \$2,000 each to students who do focused, extensive research on ethical issues and are expected to produce research papers of 25-35 pages. "It was important to the donor that ethics should become everybody's business," said Jacobs.

Faculty members in the humanities disciplines that have new majors – English, History, Philosophy, and Humanities and Justice – are actively collaborating to promote the majors and encourage students to sample the wealth of curricular offerings. "There's a large group of us who are really working at supporting our disciplines as a recognizable, important sphere of academic endeavor," Jacobs noted. That being said, it's understandable that he would see philosophy as a key ingredient of the new liberal arts thrust at a college like John Jay. "Philosophy's reach, as it were, with regard to issues of justice is total – all the way down and all the across," he said.

Jacobs was lured to John Jay from Colgate University, where he had been on the faculty for 23 years. Although he wears several hats – professor, department chair, Presidential Scholar, director of the Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics, and editor of the journal *Criminal Justice Ethics* – he couldn't be happier. "The institution has a common intellectual project, which is the concern with justice," he said. "I feel very strongly that philosophy should be a kind of center of gravity in the study of justice." JJ

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for the Middle States reaccreditation process. “To achieve success, students will need to develop dispositions and habits of mind that they have not yet imagined as they work with complexity and ambiguity, apply intellectual rigor and learn how to persevere. With the expansion of liberal arts options and integrative programming, the College will be better equipped to prepare students for justice-related careers, for leadership roles

in public service and for graduate education.”

Bowers, who is herself a former member of the English department faculty, chuckled as she characterized the new status quo: “We’re looking for students who love literature but have a social conscience and a yearning to do public service. And I think there are a lot of such people. We need to articulate and explain to people that you can be the kind of person who wants to go out and change the world, and you can also be an English major.” JJ

## Interdisciplinary Studies Program

### 40 Years of Innovation

It’s an experiment that has been ongoing, successfully, for 40 years – a “utopian academic playground,” in the words of Professor Amy Green. It’s the Interdisciplinary Studies Program (ISP), which has far outlasted its grant-funded origins and continues to engage hundreds of John Jay students each year with its daring approach to curriculum content and teaching methods.

Launched as the Thematic Studies Program in 1972 with a half-million-dollar grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and matching funds from private foundations, the program was the brainchild of a handful of humanities faculty at John Jay, led by English Professor Arthur Pfeffer. From a pedagogical perspective, the concept was, and remains, brilliant in its simplicity: Bring students together to explore a single theme of contemporary relevance and historical importance taught by multidisciplinary teams of faculty.

The program was renamed the Interdisciplinary Studies Program in 2005, but the structure, curriculum and teaching approaches were kept largely intact. Green has been the chair of ISP since 2009, and is an unabashed cheerleader for all that the program offers. Like all ISP faculty, she has a dual academic appointment – in her case, as a member of the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts. She notes that the ISP approach preceded and anticipated the adoption of “learning communities” in higher education in the 1990s. Courses and students are divided into two levels: one for freshmen, and another for sophomores and above. Each has its own broad theme. For the fall 2012 semester, Theme A (for freshmen) focuses on The Individual and Society, while Theme B (for upper classes) explores Perspectives on the Extraordinary. Within each theme there are 8 to 10 different courses, taught by two, three or four faculty members from different disciplines. For example, Theme B is currently offering such courses as “Let the Spirit Move You: Music and Spirituality,” “If the President Were a Philosopher,” and “Still Crazy After All These Years: Psychology and Culture.”



ISP field trip to Eastern State Penitentiary

The ISP approach is about more than just interdisciplinary teaching, Green stressed. Tests, textbooks and lectures are out; literature, primary documents, writing, speaking and creative projects are in. There are classroom debates, role-playing, guest speakers, performances, film screenings and field trips as well – ingredients, she says, that strengthen and enliven pedagogy and learning.

Part of the long-term success of ISP stems from the fact that the program is self-regulating, with a rigorous internal curriculum development and approval process. ISP is not a major in itself, and its courses, with their unstinting emphasis on learning outcomes, can be applied to General Education requirements or, in some cases, electives within a conventional major. ISP students — some 500 at present — are given regular, intensive, hands-on academic guidance by the program’s full-time Counselor/Coordinator.

To be sure, the program has also endured thanks to the steadfast support of the College. “Our alternative model is costly, but its success has earned the continuing support of the College administration,” Green noted humbly. JJ



# Words of Wisdom

By Adrienne Anifant

The English Department's Jeffrey Heiman and Adam Berlin (above) founded John Jay's flagship literary journal *J Journal* in 2008 hoping to make a unique contribution to the literature of justice. Their vision for *J Journal: New Writing on Justice* was also linked to John Jay President Travis's plan for expanding the range of humanities and liberal arts courses throughout the curriculum and integrating the College's goal of "educating for justice."

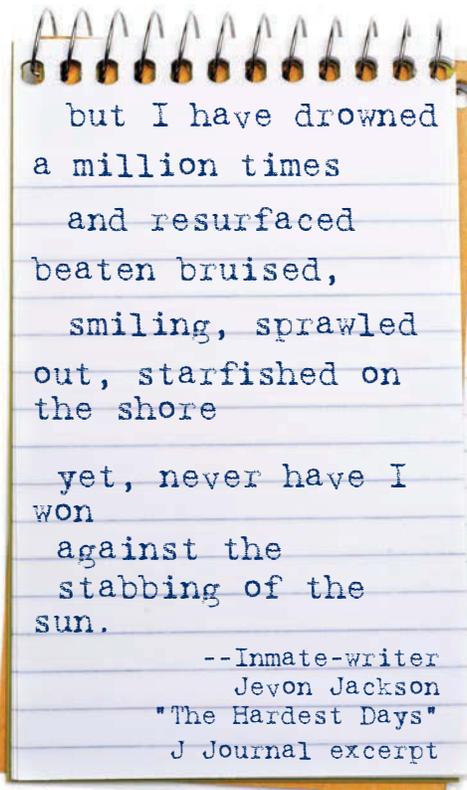
Before proposing their plan to President Travis and Provost Jane Bowers, Professors and co-editors Heiman and Berlin surveyed dozens of criminal justice journals and found that they all took a scholarly approach to justice issues. For a new

approach, the two editors intended to give the *J Journal* a distinctive voice – one that reflects the depth and range of justice communities. When it debuted, the *J Journal* was the first literary journal to feature fiction, poetry and personal narratives on themes of justice.

“The journal looks at criminal justice from the inside – at crime, justice and injustice from the perspective of the perpetrator, the victim, the observer or the person who is grappling with ethical questions,” explained Heiman. “We’re fiction writers, so we’re coming from the inside of the issue: the human side. It’s a new approach to the same question: What does it mean to be alive?” added Berlin.

The publication’s reputation has escalated rapidly in its five short years of existence, especially with the story “The Fall of Punicea” written by Paul Stapleton, which won a 2013 Pushcart Prize for fiction. *J Journal* has also been reviewed and praised for its content by *Library Journal*, *Utne Reader*, *The ReviewReview* and *New Pages*.

The journal considers submissions that are directly or tangentially related to justice, and it does not publish genre pieces, such as detective stories or whodunits. Initially, Heiman and Berlin anticipated they would receive the majority of submissions from police officers or lawyers who wanted to reveal the grim truth of their professions in cogent prose or poetry. Instead, the carefully crafted work of professional



writers filled *J Journal's* mailbox. Currently, the journal publishes writers from across the spectrum, including professors, lawyers, police officers, inmates, victims and Master of Fine Arts graduates.

Heiman and Berlin say *J Journal's* best work doesn't attempt to “smooth the hard edges,” to evade the uncomfortable; instead, it directs a penetrating light on the complexities of justice.

“Literature is moral but not moralizing. It asks questions about how to live and how to live best but doesn't give answers. The journal's umbrella of justice frames the questions in such a way that it changes the way you read each piece. Ethical questions become more apparent,” said Heiman.

The first-time editors believe that editing the journal has sharpened both their own writing and the way they teach writing in the classroom. The precision and insight with which they edit their professional writers transfers to their students' work as well.

“We're a little tougher on our students, but I think they appreciate it. I always tell them that for one semester I'm going to treat them like real writers. We give them the same kind of care and attention, but with a little more nurturing,” said Berlin. **JJ**



# John Jay Scholars on Human Trafficking

By Peter Dodenhoff

Nearly 150 years after slavery was formally ended in the United States, the worldwide trade in human beings continues apace, whether in the form of forced labor, indentured servitude or commercialized sex. At John Jay, human trafficking has come under the microscope in numerous conferences and symposiums, most recently as part of a “crime summit” co-hosted by the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office earlier this year.

For a close-up look at this uncharted netherworld, *Justice Matters* spoke with faculty members and alumni who have taken steps to shed light on this issue.

## MEREDITH DANK



Meredith Dank, who earned her PhD from the John Jay/CUNY Graduate Center doctoral program in criminal justice, is co-author of the 2012 report “Identifying Challenges to Improve the Investigation and Prosecution of State and Local Human Trafficking Cases,” which found a significant lack of awareness about human trafficking among practitioners, as well as a focus on sex trafficking

that is disproportionate to the larger issue of human trafficking.

“Generally, the focus by law enforcement and prosecutors is on sex trafficking, particularly of minors,” she observed. “However, we have learned that 80 percent of the clients of victim-service providers are labor-trafficking victims, whereas 80 percent of law enforcement and prosecution cases are sex trafficking. That’s due

to a number of reasons. The definition is a lot murkier, a lot of the victims are foreign-born, and a majority of the victims are adults, so it doesn’t tug at the heartstrings as much.”

The linchpin of federal anti-human trafficking efforts is the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act. But having legislation on the books is one thing; bringing it to bear in a meaningful way is another story, says Dank, whose multimillion-dollar grant-funded research for the Urban Institute’s Justice Policy Center has investigated anti-trafficking efforts at the local, state, national and international levels.

“Funding is so important” when it comes to tackling a multijurisdictional problem, Dank observed. At one point there were 43 federally funded task forces in the United States; today there only about seven or eight. “I hate to say it’s all about the money, but it’s true to a large extent,” she said. “Once the money’s gone, there goes the task force.”

That funding is based on numbers of victims, Dank asserted, and like others, she believes strongly that the exact scope of the problem is almost impossible to figure. “The focus on the numbers, I think,

is misguided,” she said. “I don’t think anyone would disagree that trafficking exists, that there are a lot of victims, and the amount of money and the energy and focus could be spent in better ways, but I wouldn’t even want to guess at the size and scope of the number of victims.”

The problem is due in part to a lack of consensus on a definition of human trafficking. Another big driving factor is the difficulty in getting victims to come forward. “With the foreign-born, they’re nervous about the threat of deportation,” Dank said. “And some women under a pimp may feel like this is the only person who ever cared for them, so why give him up to the police?”

Dank is currently engaged in trying to estimate the size and structure of the unlawful commercial sex economy – research that has taken her into state and federal prisons to interview traffickers and child pornographers. She’s also involved in a groundbreaking study of labor trafficking in the U.S. “Whether it’s domestic servitude, agriculture, massage parlors or what have you, we’re trying to understand why labor trafficking is never investigated or prosecuted,” she said. “What is it about those kinds of cases that law enforcement doesn’t want to touch?”

## ANTHONY MARCUS, EDWARD SNAJDR, RIC CURTIS



ANTHONY MARCUS

It’s part of the responsibility of academia-based scholars to exhibit a healthy curiosity and skepticism when it comes to commonly touted “facts,” and that’s where anthropology professors Anthony Marcus, Edward Snajdr and department chair Ric Curtis stand when it comes to human trafficking. That uneasiness is no more in evidence than when officials cite figures – usually varying wildly – about the number of human-trafficking victims worldwide.



EDWARD SNAJDR

“For the last 10 years, the U.N. has regularly issued estimates that have varied from 600,000 to 27 million,” said Marcus, whose scholarly focus is on commercial sexual exploitation of children. “All of it is based on very flimsy data. Even people who are writing journal articles begin by saying ‘I recognize that none of this data would hold up to scientific



RIC CURTIS

scrutiny.’” Added Snajdr, who has investigated human trafficking in Central Asia and Bosnia: “There is not a lot of information, whether from law enforcement or from any other source, that can seriously nail down how large a problem you’re talking about.” Estimating the scope of human trafficking is an effort Snajdr calls “research in progress.” Apart from the difficulty of getting victims to come forward, Marcus asserted that “no

one until now has actually tried to estimate whether trafficking is actually profitable, and if it is, in what sectors is it profitable and in what sectors isn’t it?” He and Curtis have conducted research that found that sex trafficking, which gets the bulk of official attention, may not actually be profitable, while there is money to be made in areas that evade scrutiny, especially forced labor.

## “What is it about those kinds of cases that law enforcement doesn’t want to touch?”

Within the realm of sex trafficking, an entire population is being lost in the shuffle, the professors asserted. “No one wants to hear about boys involved in this,” said Curtis, who has conducted extensive research on commercial sex trafficking. Of 249 sex-trafficking victims under the age of 18 identified in a study conducted by Curtis and Meredith Dank, 44 percent were boys. Marcus observed that there is major attention being paid to girls affected by this, but, “44 percent seems like a completely missed population.”

The scholarly journal *Dialectical Anthropology*, of which Marcus is co-editor, is planning a special-focus issue for 2013 devoted to the complexities of human trafficking, and Snajdr will be the editor of the special issue. The issue will include the views of anthropologists and ethnographers, sociologists and criminologists, addressing the issue from a variety of philosophical perspectives.

## JOSEPH RAMPOLLA



As an expert in cybercrime investigation and the emerging field of Augmented Reality (AR), Capt. Joseph Rampolla travels the country providing his expertise to police, prosecutors and other parties. Back in 2003, he was a young police officer in Park Ridge, NJ, with a master's degree from John Jay, when he was assigned to the Bergen County district attorney's cybercrime task force. It

was the start of a "mind-blowing" journey into human trafficking and some of the darkest corners of the human psyche.

Rampolla spent time posing online as a 13-year-old girl, and gradually made his way through worldwide peer-to-peer child pornography exchanges, Internet chat rooms and other networks. "I found a whole subculture of people who were advocating harming children," he recalled. "There were horrific chat rooms that were maxed out with 50 people from all over the globe, all basically talking about the same thing." He and a partner posed as a husband and wife looking to trade their kids for sex. "There was this dark underground of truly evil people, people who might be your neighbors, who might work in your supermarket or your gas stations. They're everyday people with a truly horrific propensity to want to offend children."

Augmented Reality, "where the virtual world meets the real world," is the next big thing in high-tech, and Rampolla proudly proclaims himself one of the technology's biggest proponents. At the same time, he concedes, AR opens the door to new cyber-opportunities for human traffickers. For example, technology exists in the form of iPhone and Facebook apps that would allow human traffickers, stalkers and others to take a photo of a potential victim and then "geo-tag" the image by attaching a precise latitude and longitude. Facial recognition software can be used to take someone's photo and then search online databases to identify the person in the photo. Potential victims may themselves be unwittingly helping the criminals through the use of popular apps like FourSquare, with which the user identifies his or her movements or location and posts the information to Facebook or other social media. Serious criminal organizations, including human traffickers, are even doing their money-laundering through the use of virtual worlds.

The Web site Craigslist was at one time the biggest thing in human trafficking and stalking, Rampolla pointed out, until prosecutors and law enforcement agencies forced the site to step up and take responsibility. Officials at Facebook, he added, have created an entire section of the company to deal with law enforcement requests.

"The whole platform is advancing so quickly," Rampolla observes. "This is a cat-and-mouse game until the end of time,

and the criminals are always ahead." He then quickly adds: "Fortunately, law enforcement is more flexible, more responsive and more maneuverable than ever before. We have the most talented people we can find to respond to emerging trends."

## JANA ARSOVSKA



Although sociology professor Jana Arsovska has tracked human traffickers from the Balkans to the United States, she is currently exploring one case right in the College's backyard that encapsulates a disturbing array of forced-labor evils.

Arsovska recently visited Newark, NJ, to interview one of the victims in the case of a man who smuggled dozens of young

women into the U.S. using fraudulent passports, and then forced them to work in virtual slave conditions at hair-braiding salons in Newark and East Orange. Lassissi Afolabi, a native of Togo in West Africa, ran the trafficking ring along with his ex-wife and another man, beating the victims, confiscating their passports and using a voodoo ritual to terrify victims into believing they would go insane if they escaped. The women were forced to work long hours seven days a week, turning over all their earnings to Afolabi, and were forbidden to have friends or contact their families.

Afolabi was sentenced in July 2010 to more than 24 years in federal prison for his role in the operation.

For Arsovska, the Afolabi case is an extension of her considerable body of scholarship into the role of cultural codes in organized crime. "It came down to the same question," she noted, "how some West African cultures are using similar codes, like voodoo, to control women." Voodoo is deeply ingrained in certain West African societies, like Benin, where it is the official religion. "There are different ways in which voodoo is used," said Arsovska. And even if you don't believe it, you may be susceptible."

In the United States, Arsovska has discovered, forced labor is quite common, especially involving West African women. Still, victims rarely come forward, whether voodoo intimidation is involved or not. In the Afolabi case, which Arsovska is studying along with Popy Begum, a McNair Scholar she is mentoring, several of the female victims testified that the ringleaders were more like benevolent parent figures who saved them from the misery of their village in Africa. "It's nothing terribly new," Arsovska said. "Most victims don't see themselves as victims."

Arsovska's research formed the basis of an article, "A Kind of Magic," that she co-authored with doctoral student Leonid Lantsman, which was published in *Jane's Intelligence Review* in September 2010. JJ

ENVIRONMENTAL  
RACIAL RELIGIOUS  
LEGAL POLITICAL  
THEORETICAL

JUST



# Opening Up

Education Program Helps Pave the Way for

**IOUS CULTURAL  
ALE ECONOMIC  
MORAL POLITICAL**

**ICE**



From left to right:  
KrystleLynn Caraballo,  
Professor Baz Dreisinger  
and Bianca van Heydoorn

# **o a Pipeline**

**Prisoner Reentry**

**by Peter Dodenhoff**

## **College education programs for prison inmates may have an uneven history, but they are nothing new. What is new – and, apparently, completely unique – is the approach taken by John Jay College. The Prison-to-College Pipeline, now in just its second year of operation, not only provides prisoners with college-level learning, it also facilitates their reentry into society.**

“I was doing work on the intersection of the arts and criminal justice, and I started getting invitations to give talks in the prisons,” recalled English Professor Baz Dreisinger. “At one of these talks I met a superintendent who said, ‘Why doesn’t John Jay have a program in a prison?’ I had no good answer to that question.” From that casual question, the wheels began to turn, and Dreisinger ended up posing the question to President Jeremy Travis, whose well known scholarly forte is prisoner reentry. “I said we ought to do this,” she recalled. “After all, we’re CUNY, we’re John Jay. He was incredibly supportive, and the program developed from there.”

The Prison-to-College Pipeline program, also informally called P2CP, is today more than the education program it was originally envisioned to be. Held at the medium-security Otisville Correctional Facility in Orange County, NY, it has become a critical reentry and resocialization tool, one that mingles inmates with students from the John Jay campus proper in a semester-long series of “learning exchanges.”

“We call them inside and outside students, because they’re all considered John Jay students,” said Dreisinger, who serves as Academic Director of the program.

Despite enjoying enthusiastic support from the start, P2CP hit a serious speed bump early in the two-year run-up to its launch in 2011, when the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) decided to close the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility on Staten Island, the intended site of the program. “We had already interviewed all the guys and picked our class,” Dreisinger said. “We were all good to go, and we could never have done a whole other interview process in time.” With some extraordinary efforts on the part of DOCCS officials, she said, “We managed to have our guys transferred to Otisville.”

The David Rockefeller Fund provided a crucial \$100,000 in grants to launch and operate the program – “the first big leap of

faith, for which we’re supremely grateful,” said Dreisinger. She added that Assemblyman Jeff Aubry of Queens, chairman of the Assembly Committee on Correction, helped with his “totally gung-ho” support and sponsorship of an appropriation measure. In both cases, Dreisinger sees it as money well spent. “There is an unequivocal relationship between reduced recidivism rates and higher education,” she observed. “There are numerous studies that have shown this to be the case. And it’s far cheaper to educate than it is to incarcerate.”

**“We call them  
inside and outside  
students, because  
they’re all  
considered  
John Jay students.”**

Education, P2CP-style, is carefully constructed for maximum benefit. “We wanted to do something different,” said Dreisinger, pointing out that there are two cohorts of students: 10 from the John Jay campus and 16 Otisville prisoners. Competition for available slots in each group is intense, with some 50 applicants for the 10 outside student spots. In order for inmates to qualify for the program, they must be within five years of release, and have no excessive disciplinary record in prison. They must also pass the CUNY assessment tests in reading and writing, write an essay and undergo an interview. “There are a lot more interested prisoners than there are available slots, so we try to recruit

people who are coming back to the five boroughs,” said Bianca van Heydoorn, Director of Education Initiatives for the College’s Prisoner Reentry Institute (PRI), which oversees the program. “According to DOCCS, 48 percent of those incarcerated in the state system are New York City residents.”

Inside and outside students are intermingled in the prison classroom, and both groups are told in advance that this will be the case. Program directors see this as an essential facet of the program. “It’s intended to promote interaction,” said van Heydoorn. “The Otisville students appreciate being interspersed with John Jay students. The whole point is what the two groups can learn from each other, as well as what the ‘outside’

students can learn from actually being inside a prison.” Along the way, participants read and write intensively, and engage in freewheeling exchanges of ideas.

But P2CP doesn’t end at the prison gates, which is part of what makes the program unique – and so far successful. It has a reentry component that PRI designed in conjunction with the Osborne Association and the College Initiative. It includes support in areas of life that are usually a challenge for those returning from prison, such as housing, employment, reunification with family and health care. And, for the men in P2CP, there is the focus on continuing their higher education. “With a minimum C average and passing the math assessment test, you are guaranteed a spot at John Jay,” van Heydoorn said, noting with undisguised pride that five inside students to date have been released from prison, and two of those are currently enrolled in CUNY, one of them at John Jay. These CUNY students pay the same tuition as any other New York City resident, and have the same access to tuition assistance and other support.

“As a public institution, we wanted to make a statement as far as our commitment to the idea of a pipeline, so that these men start their college journey while inside and then upon release are funneled right into the CUNY system,” said Dreisinger. “In this way, the campus becomes a kind of reentry tool, and a place for them to find a new community – to experience not just college inside but college outside, and benefit from all the things you find on a traditional campus.”

Dreisinger admits that she could never have foreseen being on the frontlines of the reentry issue, but that’s one of the very few surprises she’s encountered. “I had been doing educational programs in prison before this, so I knew they’d be motivated, fantastic, smart and committed,” she said. “It’s way easier to teach inside; the commitment level is just tremendous.”

She envisions P2CP becoming a national model for similar programs in other states, and has a ready answer for those who question the idea of spending public money on prisoner education. “There’s the popular, mainstream answer, and then there’s the one that I think is most just,” she said. “The popular answer is that it reduces recidivism, so it becomes a public safety issue and a cost issue. But to those of us who are really invested in this issue, it’s much deeper than that. It’s really about civil rights and the idea that everyone has a right to an education, whatever scenario you’re in, whatever mistakes you’ve made in your life. It’s a human rights issue.” JJ

*The Prison-to-College Pipeline was the subject of a recent edition of the John Jay-produced show “Criminal Justice Matters,” aired on CUNY-TV. The show, hosted by Steve Handelman, Director of the Center on Media, Crime and Justice, can be viewed on YouTube at <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/p2cp>.*

## P2CP from the Outside In

KrystleLynn Caraballo practically beams when she recalls her experience as one of the “outside students” in the Prison-to-College Pipeline program at Otisville Correctional Facility, meaning she was one of the John Jay students who went behind the walls to study with inmates in the College’s P2CP program.

The P2CP experience stoked Caraballo’s simmering interest in prisoner reentry, which was already being fueled by her work on the issue as an intern in President Jeremy Travis’s office. After graduating this past May, she quickly obtained a position as an administrative assistant in John Jay’s Prisoner Reentry Institute, which allows her to stay involved in the pipeline program.

“Otisville was an exceptional experience because it added a realistic approach to looking at reentry,” she recalled. “In the President’s office, I learned a lot about the prison system, but actually going into the prison gave it a sense of depth that a 100-page report never could.”

P2CP is not a course, per se, but a learning exchange. “We go there once a month and it’s a chance for the Otisville inmates to interact with John Jay students, and vice versa,” Caraballo remembers. “We would leave the College at 10 AM by van and return around 6 PM, leaving only about three hours to spend in the classroom at Otisville.”

“The point of the program is to penetrate the borders that divide us, and thus we are all John Jay students,” Caraballo said. “I remember one guy who defiantly but respectfully said, ‘I am a John Jay student.’ We all cheered. These guys have been labeled too many times, and this was the one area where they did not have a number, so we wanted to keep it that way.”

Purposely, in order to avoid bias, John Jay students are not made aware of the inmate students’ charges, unless the inmates themselves volunteer the information. In Caraballo’s case, “the subject didn’t come up until the last learning exchange in May. There was this one guy who was pretty much my favorite, and I didn’t find out until the end what he was in for. It took me by surprise, but it didn’t really bother me.”

Now that Caraballo is on the operating end of P2CP, she is getting a firsthand look at how complicated the undertaking really is. “It’s a lot of work, but 100-percent fulfilling,” she smiled. JJ



# I CANNOT TELL A LIE

BY ADRIENNE ANIFANT

Associate Professor Maria Hartwig

**D**eception and the art of unraveling deception have underpinned criminal investigations for centuries, not to mention delivering the most memorable scenes in our favorite crime movies and novels. The setting of a classical interrogation is well known: a small room, bright, incandescent light from a single bulb illuminates a table, three hard back chairs. Two police officers attempt to browbeat a perpetrator.

But Associate Professor Maria Hartwig in John Jay's Department of Psychology is revolutionizing long held ideas about detecting deception and conducting interrogations by inverting the orthodox rules about effective interrogation techniques and how liars strategize.

"We know from half a century of research that people are not very good at detecting lies," said Hartwig. "People's ability to tell if someone is lying is only slightly better than what one can accomplish by flipping a coin. I wanted to focus on ways you can make the difference between lies and truths a bit more obvious. How do you pose questions that elicit different types of responses from liars and truth-tellers?"

Hartwig admits that she, like many people, has her own fascination with lying, lie detection, and its central role in social life. Hartwig, who won the 2011 Saleem Shah Award for Early Excellence in Psychology and Law, was drawn to studying psychology and law while in her native Sweden. She believed that human suffering could be ameliorated by transforming traditional judicial and law enforcement techniques – if there was an understanding of how the mind works and how people behave. A new approach, Hartwig asserts, could reduce false accusations, wrongful convictions, lengthy appeals and the concomitant stress and anxiety to the accused and their families.

"We know from miscarriages of justice that they sometimes start with misjudgments of honesty," said Hartwig. "I thought it was important to understand how people form judgments of truth and deception and how an interrogation can be conducted so that it is in no way based on bullying or threats."

To this end Hartwig is leading two projects, which are funded by the FBI/High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group (HIG). The first project studies the use of background information during an interrogation with an interview technique called "strategic use of evidence." The second project explores non-coercive ways of eliciting cooperation from people during interviews and interrogation.

"The strategic use of evidence (SUE) is based on the idea that liars and truth-tellers have different strategies to convince, and that these strategies can be exploited for the purpose of lie detection. The technique uses available background information in strategic ways, for example by posing questions about the information without disclosing it. It's a technique to create implausible or inconsistent statements from liars – for example, posing questions in such a way so they say they've never been in a particular part of New York, but you have evidence that they were." Third-year Psychology and Law

doctoral student Timothy Luke is working closely with Hartwig and gaining critical field experience.

"I worked on the SUE grant proposal with Professor Hartwig, which was an enriching collaborative experience. In the field, we will conduct a study in which we will train federal law enforcement agents to use SUE techniques, and we will test their ability to use the techniques to detect deceit in live interviews," Luke said. Through their collaboration, he has had an opportunity to present the research results at conferences with both researchers and practitioners.

Hartwig's other project in the upcoming years will test the effectiveness of interrogation techniques based on principles of a theory known as "embodied cognition," which is loosely based on mind-body connection. The premise is that physical sensations can influence thought, perception and behavior.

In contrast to the stereotypical small room and uncomfortable environment to induce feelings of constriction, dependency and powerlessness, Hartwig's new line of research, which will be carried

out in collaboration with PhD student Evan Dawson, uses the physical environment to induce the suspect's willingness to cooperate and share information.

"We're going to activate concepts of openness and see if it makes people behave more openly. We will interview people in a room that is spacious, has pictures of open spaces, an open bottle. We predict this will translate into verbal openness. This is a non-coercive way to make people offer information. The good news is that what is morally defensible, legal and effective can be the same thing."

Although the lies Hartwig studies are those that may be important to catch, she goes as far as to pose that some types of lying are not necessarily bad. In fact, it is often done out of respect for, and to protect, social relationships.

"People lie all the time, but they have a strong moral objection to it. Yet they use it amply in life to get out of trouble or to make social relationships work. It's a very old social game."

She referred to arguments presented by evolutionary psychology that suggests the development of human thought could have been, in part, driven by the mental calculation and imagining that lying requires. In fact, notes Hartwig, the kind of mental imaging that liars use to strategize is the same mental projection used for feeling empathy.

"In order for me to lie to you I have to mentally represent and manipulate your mind. I have to imagine what it is that you know. It's a pretty sophisticated skill. It's part of what it is to be human – to navigate and manage other people's impressions, beliefs and thoughts," said Hartwig.

"Although I study what lies are about and how they function in social life, my work does not deny that some relationships are helped by the fact that people lie," said Hartwig. "Sparing someone the truth because you don't want them to feel bad is not born out of maliciousness but born out of love." **JJ**

People's ability  
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# ELECTION

## John Jay Faculty Share Commentary,

univision

Lecturer John Gutiérrez in the Department of Latin American and Latina/o Studies at John Jay knew he was reaching the Latino community when passengers riding the A train through Washington Heights would peer over the tops of their newspapers to ask:

“Are you that guy on TV?”

Gutiérrez says that the most gratifying part of this work is the impact he has on the Latino community. He provides analysis for Univision on House, Senate, mayoral, presidential and international electoral races as well as analysis after all three presidential debates and commentary on the day of the election and the following day.

Univision, which is the largest Spanish language channel, snagged Gutiérrez when he was a graduate student at the CUNY Graduate Center. He is still there 10 years later. A colleague had suggested his name to the news director at Univision because he would make the ideal analyst: He was not working on a campaign and he was in academia.

“Univision reaches nearly 8 out of every 10 Latinos watching a Spanish language channel in the New York metro area, so the impact is big,” said Gutiérrez. “We live in a time of enormous amount of information, so it is important to help people take a step back and look at elections and politics with some context. We look for trends over time; I do that with the narrative of the campaign. I want to give people a sense of what is happening and what is motivating voters to move one way or the other.”

Gutiérrez adds that often mainstream media neglect to address issues that are most important to Latinos such as immigration, poverty, and access to health care. He believes this is in part due to the lack of diversity in the country’s major news stations. Univision fills this dearth.

As the number of Latino voters escalates, Gutiérrez contends that there is a concurrent public obligation to inform Latino voters about political parties’ key policy positions. “At Univision, just like in my classroom,” he says, “we discuss the big issues that matter to Latinos.”

“The best part is that we’re catching people just as they are



about to go to work,” said Gutiérrez, “and provide them with a quick talking point analysis. I try to establish a good rapport with reporters and talk to them about their stories and how they are covering politics.” Gutiérrez points out that his analysis work with Univision “dovetails with the mission of my department which strives to reach out to the Latino community outside the classroom.”

Although Gutiérrez is a historian by training, his interest in politics grew out of his work with the Latino nonprofit sector in New York City.

“I was able to get into the Bronx and into Queens and talk with elected officials about how they got involved in politics,” said Gutiérrez. “I worked a lot with candidates who struggle to raise money. I began to think a lot about the structural obstacles that Latinos face to exercise political power in New York.” Most Latinos are younger than non-Hispanic Americans and many must go through the process of naturalization in order to be eligible to vote. In many communities, Gutiérrez says, the effect of voting restrictions for people who have been convicted of crimes, among other issues, is making it difficult for Latinos to have political power justified by their numbers. JJ

# ANALYSIS

## Perspectives and Predictions by Adrienne Anifant

In early November, people across the country cast their vote for the President, went home and turned on the television to wait for the results. Election night for Brian Arbour was different. An Assistant Professor of Political Science at John Jay, Arbour was in the Fox News building on Fifth Avenue huddled with his colleagues poring over exit poll data. Professor Arbour was working nonstop with the Fox News Decision Team. Their job on election night: Analyze the data and call the election for either Obama or Romney.

Arbour, who teaches Introduction to American Politics, Media & Politics, Political Parties, U.S. Congress, and Campaigns & Elections has been a member of the Fox News Decision Team since 2004. The political makeup of Fox's election analysis team comprises academics, pollsters and analysts – two Democrats and two Republicans. The balance between the parties is deliberate.

“Our job is to be objective, call the data as we see it. We receive nothing but that message from our bosses. Get it right. Get it first,” says Arbour reflecting on the pressure to be the first network to predict the outcome of the presidential race.

“On the general election night, we get to call 50 states for the presidential election and 34 states for Senate elections. Depending on how House races go, we may have to call those as well. It's really a thrilling job. It makes me real cool among other political junkies,” jokes Arbour. “The ability for a network to call a race first bolsters their reputation and it is the pride to call it first. However, the worst thing you can do is miss a call particularly on a big race. So there are conflicting pressures because we want to be first, but more importantly we want to be right for journalistic integrity,” he adds.

Originally from Houston, TX, Arbour's nascent interest in election analysis began with an early fascination with the geography of the United States. Seemingly disparate memories of childhood, such as lying on his bedroom floor constructing a puzzle map of the United States, and his thrill at taking a poll of his second grade classmates during the 1980 election, have evolved into a successful scholarly and teaching career as well as being sought after as a leading political analyst.

“As a child, I was playing with early Electoral College maps. I have always liked politics and sports. Those are the two big things in my life. I like competition and I have always liked the competitive element of politics,” says Arbour who has been teaching at John Jay since 2007 and teaches many freshman-level classes.

“I love being a professor, prepping for class, and thinking about

# fox news



related research projects. The Decision Team gives me a front row seat into politics and lets me be part of the process, which I would be doing anyway in my living room on election night. I am part of something real that I can bring into the classroom to the students. I bring them the election firsthand, which is so much better than reading about it in a book.” JJ

## Leading by Example



**J**ules Kroll, chairman of the John Jay College Foundation Board of Trustees and a pioneering executive in the investigations and risk-management fields, has made a \$2-million gift to the College that will help support John Jay's Honors Program for talented, highly motivated students.

"Jules Kroll's long and distinguished career has been built on trailblazing leadership, and he proved this once again with this generous gift to our campaign and our students," said President Jeremy Travis. "I know I speak for the entire college community in thanking Jules and Lynn for their constant and public support of our efforts to shape the future of justice."

The College acknowledged the gift from Kroll and his wife, Lynn, by naming the atrium in the new building on West 59th Street in their honor. The dedication took place on May 8 as part of the gala to formally launch the Campaign for the Future of Justice, an initiative aimed at raising \$50 million by John Jay's

50th anniversary in 2014.

Kroll, who is chairman and co-founder of K2 Intelligence and chairman and chief executive of Kroll Bond Ratings, said the gift was spurred in part by his interest in helping the minority population at John Jay. "I didn't feel that I had ever done enough for the minority community in my other work," he said in an interview with *The Wall Street Journal*. Roughly 40 percent of John Jay's 15,000 students are Latino, and 25 percent are African American. Many are the first in their families to attend college. "It makes you feel good to help with that," Kroll said.

Kroll said he hopes that the gift will "lead by example" and prompt others to do likewise. "The inspiration for this is seeing the contribution that our graduates and faculty make," Kroll said in the interview. "They really are on the front lines of educating and becoming practitioners in the area of justice." **JJ**





Mehdi Mahraoui  
and Sadari Hutson

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**J**ohn Jay's inaugural Jay Walk Scholarships are funded through proceeds resulting from the purchase of commemorative trees, benches and bricks. The scholarships recognize the outstanding achievements of two students who have overcome significant obstacles. This year Mehdi Mahraoui and Sadari Hutson were recipients of the Jay Walk Scholarships.

"The Scholarship Committee was deeply inspired by both of these students' journeys and the obstacles that they overcame," said Michael Scaduto, John Jay's Scholarship Coordinator.

Mahraoui, a Public Administration major who is also a Thurgood Marshall Scholar, a Pinkerton Fellow and a peer counselor, is passionate about a career in the area of youth justice and immigration reform. He knows the new Jay Walk Scholarship will help him achieve his goals.

"The Jay Walk Scholarship allows me to focus on my studies and take a semester off from work, so I can focus on my research. John Jay offers so many opportunities and different ways to help students focus on their studies and achieve their

highest potential," said Mahraoui, who is from Morocco.

Mahraoui plans to apply to Columbia University and NYU for PhD programs in social work and then become a professor. Mahraoui says he's looking forward to teaching.

"I want to empower children and make a meaningful contribution to this country," said Mahraoui. "My parents risked everything to give me a future. I want their sacrifice to count."

Sadari Hutson is pursuing a Criminal Justice major with a Law minor. She intends to earn a master's degree at Baruch College that will combine law and business.

Hutson is winner of the Frederick Douglass Award, a member and secretary of the Able Forces Club (an organization focused on disabled students) and the Committee on Student Interest. She previously worked at the College's radio station and is currently an NYPD auxiliary police officer.

Upon receiving her award on October 3, Hutson said, "Throughout my time at John Jay, I've always kept my eyes on the prize." **JJ**



## Paula Howell Anderson

Paula Howell Anderson is someone who knows how to make the most of opportunities. For her, John Jay College served as a springboard to Harvard Law School, and Harvard in turn helped propel her to a law firm partnership and an international reputation as a litigator. Now the 35-year-old Anderson has been acclaimed by *Crain's New York Business* as one of New York's "40 Under 40," a roster of those who have achieved success in business before turning 40. She was also honored in June by the New York Chapter of the National Organization for Women as one of its 2012 Women of Power and Influence.

It was a roster of credits like these that recently earned her election to a seat on the John Jay College Foundation Board of Trustees.

Anderson specializes in foreign-corrupt-practices cases and other complex litigation for Shearman & Sterling LLP, and also does pro bono work in international human rights that has included assisting in the prosecution of those accused of

## Richard J. Koehler

The newest member of the John Jay College Foundation Board of Trustees, yes, but new to John Jay? Hardly. Richard J. Koehler is a card-carrying member of the College's "Founding Generation," and his career track speaks volumes to the awesome power of possibility that comes with a John Jay education.

"I had tried to get into a lot of other colleges when I got out of the U.S. Navy," he recalled, "but I had an equivalency diploma and no other college would take me." And so, armed with that equivalency certificate and the badge and credentials of a New York City police officer, Koehler became a John Jay student – a dedicated, exceptional and successful John Jay student. He earned his bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, in 1973, then went on to earn a master's degree in Urban Affairs from Hunter College and a law degree from Fordham Law School, all while serving with the NYPD.

Koehler's professional achievements have been similarly marked by a steady upward track. He has held such positions with the NYPD as Chief of Personnel, Chief of Planning and Director of the Communications Division. He left the NYPD when he was named New York City Correction Commissioner by Mayor Edward I. Koch in 1986. In 1990, he left public service to return to his alma mater as a professor in John Jay's Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration.

"Being part of the John Jay faculty was wonderful," said Koehler. "And my being an alumnus informed my role on the faculty; I found myself trying very hard to be the kind of professor I felt students should have."

Today, as a founding partner in the law firm of Koehler & Isaacs LLP, Koehler serves as general counsel, labor counsel and/or fund counsel for numerous labor organizations. He has been involved in labor relations for over 25 years, representing unions in the public and private sectors and managing legal service programs for unions.

involvement in the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

Growing up in Barbados under the watchful eye of her “strict disciplinarian” grandparents, she said she always wanted to be a lawyer. She won a college scholarship from the Barbadian government and headed to New York, where her parents were already living. “I was looking for a college with a robust pre-law program,” she recalled. “John Jay is the only college to which I applied.” She graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, summa cum laude, and was the valedictorian of her class, then headed to Harvard in a van emblazoned with an oversized poster featuring her face and the words “Guess who’s going to Harvard?”

Since then, Anderson has been praised by clients and colleagues alike for her masterly ability to boil down complex litigations and come away a winner. She also teaches Advanced Trial Advocacy for prosecutors at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Court. The head of Shearman & Sterling’s Global Litigation Group, Stephen Fishbein, has said of her: “It is quite impressive how much she

has accomplished – in her corporate legal work and in her pro bono work – at such a young age.”

Looking back, Anderson sees her John Jay education as having laid the foundation for her legal career. From the substantive pre-law courses to the internship opportunities to the helpful and encouraging mentors, she obtained an “invaluable glimpse into the real world practice of law and the art of thinking like a lawyer.” And while she admits to being largely unable to recall her valedictory speech at commencement, she does remember encouraging her fellow graduates “to go out and make their mark on the world.”

That she has. Her recent honors, she says, are “a testament to the strength of the legal profession and the great things that can be achieved with a law degree,” and something that she hopes will inspire current and future John Jay students who are thinking of a career in the law. And she is unflinching when revealing the secrets of her own success: “Lots of hard work, determination, never settling for anything but excellence in whatever I do, staying focused on my goals whatever obstacles may arise, and staying grounded.”

She almost makes it sound simple. **JJ**

Koehler has far reaching experience when it comes to matters of the law. He is widely quoted and mentioned in the news media on a variety of legal issues, and his work as an attorney has been recognized for its success on behalf of a diverse clientele. For example, Koehler and his firm have been honored by the municipal government of Valadares, Brazil, for the service that he and his firm have provided to Brazilian immigrants living in the United States.

John Jay continues to be a touchstone for Koehler, who was the 2010 recipient of the College’s Distinguished Alumnus Award. He chaired the wildly successful “Founding Generation” salute held in conjunction with the 2012 Alumni Reunion, and has been named to lead the Alumni Campaign Committee that is currently in formation. “Our members will be working to help engage the alumni community as part of the Campaign for the Future of Justice,” said Koehler. “I’ll always remember what this College did for me and for so many others. This is a chance for our alumni to show that they feel as I do about John Jay.” **JJ**



# CLASS NOTES

## 1970s

**Michael P. Forbell**, MA '73, has worked as an adjunct instructor in criminal justice for 15 years at Everest University in Lakeland, FL.

**Vincent J. Clausen**, BS '74, retired from the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement as Field Office Director in Detroit, MI, in July 2009. He served 34 years with ICE and its predecessor agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**Joseph N. Ferdenzi**, BA '75/MA '78, was awarded the Thomas E. Dewey Medal by the New York City Bar Association as the outstanding Bronx County Assistant District Attorney of 2011. Currently, he is chief of the appeals bureau.

**Kevin P. Finnerty**, MA '75, founded a private investigation business that manages international investigations in Europe, Asia and Central America, following his retirement from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

**Patricia M. Sinatra**, BS '75, retired from John Jay in 2010 after 36 years of service, during which she developed the College's First-Year Initiative programs.

**Thomas Day**, BS '76, recently retired as captain with the Lakeland Police Department after more than 32 years of service.

**Richard Ramirez**, BS '76, was appointed Vice President of Environmental, Health & Safety and Business Continuity Planning/Security at Siemens Industry Inc. in Alpharetta, GA, in September 2010.

**Anthony J. Schembri**, MA '77, is the Sir Leon Radzinowicz Professor of Criminology, Criminal Law and Police Science at the University of Florida.

**Christopher E. Keenan**, BS '77, is employed as a park supervisor at Squantz Pond State Park in Connecticut.

**Alvin Williams**, BS '77, works as assistant program director of the Scatter Site Housing Program for the Coalition for the Homeless.

**Bruce W. Croce**, BS '78, retired after 28 years of service with the Suffolk County Police Department, 18 of which he spent as a detective.

## 1980s

**Collis White**, BS '80, is a United States Magistrate for the Del Rio Division of the Western District of Texas.

**Elvis Acosta**, BS '81, is a colonel in the United States Army and Director of Mission Support in the USPACOM Joint Intelligence Operations Center.

**David A. Hector**, MPA '81, retired as a lieutenant and commander of detective services in the New York City Police Department.

**Denise Reina**, AS '81, received her MS in Reading Education from Barry University in Miami Shores, FL.

**Christopher Robinson**, BS '81, recently retired as detective squad commander from the 44th Precinct Detective Squad in the Bronx.

**Gwendolyn A. Blackett-Sullivan**, BA/MA '82, is the Director of Special Services/Administrator of Special Education for the New York City Department of Education.

**Bonnie McGarrell**, MA '82, earned a second master's degree in social work and currently works as a licensed social worker.

**Thomas J. Tiefenwerth**, MA '82, a retired psychologist with the Texas state prison system, is in private practice and works as a criminal justice and psychology professor at Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

**Arnold C. Lewis**, BS '83, currently serves as legal advocate coordinator for a domestic violence agency in Somerset County, NJ.

**Linda (Giambalvo) Attanasio**, BS '84, has been working for the past 17 years as a Pastoral Minister in New Jersey, and is currently Director of Adult Education and Formation at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church in Scotch Plains, NJ.

**James D. Seward**, MA '84, received his PhD in Psychology from Temple University after graduating from John Jay. He is now a clinical and forensic neuropsychologist in New York.

**Lisa A. (Kirkman) McKenna**, BA '86, is Director of Court Mediation Services for the Dispute Settlement Center in Wilton, CT.

**Robert C. Shack**, BS '87, is now retired from the New York Police Department.

**Adam H. Brill**, BS '88, earned a master's degree in Public Relations from Iona College, and is now Director of Communications for the City of Yonkers.

**Len Mignini**, BS '88, is a sergeant in the Peekskill, NY, Police Department, where he has worked for 23 years.

**Lois Ferguson**, MA '89, received a second MA in Counseling Psychology from Centenary College in Hackettstown, NJ, in 2010, and is a Licensed Associate Counselor in New Jersey.

**Richard C. Hemingway**, MS '89, published his first novel, *Past Twilight*, which is available online from Amazon and Amazon Kindle.

## 1990s

**Michael P. Brassington**, BS '90, works in executive protection for the CEO of a major New York company. He also enjoys traveling around the United States on his Harley-Davidson.

**Joe Russo**, MS '90, won the prestigious University of Cincinnati Award conferred by the American Probation and Parole Association.

**Polly Spain**, BA '90, is a special education teacher with the New York City school system, as well as a community leader who advocates for the sustainability of affordable housing.

**Yvette M. Aguiar**, BS/MPA '93, received her PhD in Homeland Security in 2011 and is now deputy chair of the Security Management Program at TCI College.

**James FitzGerald**, BS '93, was recently promoted to assistant federal security director for the Transportation Security Administration at Kennedy International Airport in New York.

**James R. Parlow**, BS '93, just completed his 21st year with the White Plains Police Department, where he is now a lieutenant and shift commander.

**Marcia P. (Roman) Tricoche**, BA '93, is employed as principal court attorney to Justice Norma Ruiz of the New York State Supreme Court in the Bronx.

**John M. Denesopolis Jr.**, BS '94, went on to earn his MPA from Marist College in 2003, and is currently commanding officer of the NYPD's 120th Precinct on Staten Island.

**Gregory J. Myers**, BS '94, in March 2011 joined the National Association of Certified Mediators. A New York City correction officer, he is also president and CEO of Concept Security Training Institute.

**Fred J. Lukowski**, MA '94, was promoted to director of the Aiken County office of the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice.

**Sedric D. Altman**, BS '95, is a security supervisor at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Ron Carrington**, BA '96, works for the New York State Office of Children and Family Services as an investigator.

**Marcheta R. Ball**, BA '96, was accepted to New York Law School beginning in the fall of 2011, following a long career as a paralegal.

**Simon A. Rego**, MA '96, is Director of the Psychology Training and the Cognitive Behavior Therapy Program at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx.

**Darlene Sanders**, BS '96, has worked in the forensic mental health field since earning her degree from John Jay.

**Tania Peterson Chandler**, BS '96, earned her JD degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark in 2008 and is admitted to the New York and New Jersey bars.

**Daniel E. Sosnowik**, BS '96, is a captain with the New York City Police Department, where he is commanding officer of the Leadership Training Section.

**Gregory J. Spaun**, BS/MA '96, is now an associate with a leading construction law firm, Welby, Brady & Greenblatt, LLP.

**Thomas P. Falotico**, MS '96, was recently promoted to Director of Security/North America for Sandoz, the generic pharmaceuticals division of Novartis.

**Sabrina M. Jenkins**, BA '97, is Vice President of Primerica Financial Services and a licensed insurance representative for the State of New York and South Carolina.

**Kimberly A. Johnson**, AS '98, graduated from Long Island University-Westchester in May 2012 with a degree in school counseling.

**Jin M. Lee**, BA '98, is a special agent in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations Division.

**Nakesha L. (Williams) Nicks**, BA '98, received her MS in Education from Long Island University in 1999. She works as a fourth grade teacher and is married to fellow John Jay graduate **Alfonso Nicks**, BA '97.

**James P. Lamb**, MA '98, was engaged to John Jay alumna Uliana Bogash in November 2010.

**Patrick J. O'Dea**, BA '98, retired as police chief of Haworth, NJ, and joined the law firm of Maneri & Maroules in Fairfield, NJ, as an associate.

**Raymond Spinella**, BS '98, is a lieutenant in the Employee Relations Section of the NYPD.

## 2000s

**Aretha M. Brown**, BA '00, received her Master of Education from Eastern University in St. David's, PA, in December 2010.

**Elfonzo J. Hayes**, BA '00, works as a detective (intelligence specialist) and a certified gang expert with the St. Louis Metro Police Department.

**La Toya S. Lake-Gittens**, BA '00, writes: "Thanks to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice curriculum, I have trailblazed a positive path in the Royal Police Force of Antigua & Barbuda as the Criminologist/Crime Scene Technician/Crime Analyst."

**Gayle (Curtis) Sudder**, MA '00, works as a traffic investigator for the New York State Department of Transportation, conducting safety evaluations on state highways.

**Craig Trainor**, BA '00, manages his own Manhattan-based law firm, practicing criminal defense, civil rights, employment, business and entertainment law.

**Kenneth J. Thomas**, BA '00, earned his master's degree from Seton Hall University. He is director of communications for UHCW, a nonprofit organization in the South Bronx, and treasury manager for DRA Advisors LLC, an investment firm.

**Milton Acevedo**, BA '04, is an attorney managing his own practice, the Acevedo Law firm in Orlando, FL.

**Marisol A. Candelario**, BA '04, is an administrative assistant in facilities management at Consolidated Edison of New York, Inc. She is pursuing an MPA degree at John Jay.

**Nicholas Faustino**, BA '04, works with the Bergen County, NJ, Sheriff's Office. He was formerly employed by the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

**Joanna (Curtis) Hewitt**, MA '04, is a senior fraud investigator with Health Integrity, an insurance firm, investigating fraud and abuse in the Medicare program.

**Allan Leznikova**, BA '04, is attending Brooklyn Law School and expects to receive his JD degree in 2014.

**Kimberly A. Ramsay**, BS '04, earned her MSW at Barry University. Currently, she works for Compysch in Florida as a resource specialist.

**Rayon P. Rohoman**, BA '05, obtained a master's degree in Economic Crime Management from Utica College. He works in the FBI's Miami Division as a records examiner/analyst.

**Nicole Rura**, BA '05, works with the New Jersey State Police.

**Kelly Yip**, BS '05, is vice president managing the Financial Intelligence Unit of the Ethics and Compliance Department of BNP Paribas, a global banking and financial services company.

**Christina J. Williams**, BA '05, is now a captain with the New York City Department of Correction.

**Gina Addamo**, BS '06, recently earned her law degree from Shepard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University.

**Stephanie Alfaro**, BA '06, received her master's degree in Public Health from Columbia University. She is a certified EMT.

**Mark Brinadze**, BS '06, has been a New York City police officer since July 2009.

**Damion O. James**, BA '06, is a member of the gang unit with the Essex County, NJ, Department of Correction.

**Frederick M. Sahakian**, MPA '06, earned his PhD in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University, and serves as the statewide coordinator for the small systems group with the New York Unified Court System.

**Nicholas A. Sofia**, BS '06, writes: "I am very excited to be taking my experiences at John Jay to the 54th Police Recruit Academy in Virginia Beach, VA." He began his recruit training in July 2012.

**Dian F. Fields**, BA '07, graduated with distinction from Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus with a master's in Public Administration.

**Elisabeth A. Blank**, BA '07, works as a vocational specialist/job developer for the organization Community Access.

**Oscar A. Munoz**, BA '07, is a U.S. Army officer currently stationed at Fort Lewis, WA.

**Polina Katsnelson**, BA '07, is a contracts coordinator for MTV Networks Entertainment Law, and is applying to law school.

# CLASS NOTES

## 2000s

**Jeanine A. Nasta**, BA '07, received her MS degree in Elementary and Special Education in May 2010.

**Paul J. Rickard**, MPA '07, has been police chief of the Town of Mount Hope, NY, since May 2010. He previously served 21 years with the Middletown, NY, Police Department.

**Philippa Tapada**, BA '07, began her law studies at New York Law School as part of the fall 2011 entering class.

**Robyn M. Houlihan**, BA '08, obtained her MSW from Fordham University and now works as a social work supervisor in a residential setting assisting formerly homeless individuals with severe mental illnesses.

**Tiffany L. Maldonado**, BS '08, is working for a maritime law firm while applying to law schools.

**Jose L. Mena**, BA '08, works for the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement as an immigration enforcement agent.

**Delana K. Mendes**, BS '08, is pursuing her MS in Criminal Justice with a concentration in public administration at Georgia State University. Says Mendes: "I see a brighter future ahead."

**Chunhui Meng**, BS '08, is the webmaster/web developer for John Jay College's Lloyd Sealy Library.

**Joel Ortiz**, BA '08, is a special agent with the U.S. State Department's Diplomatic Security Service.

**Cassandra (Jean-Baptiste) Parrish**, MA '08, married Jacob Parrish in August 2010. She works as a full-time substance abuse counselor.

**Jonathan Simons**, MPA '08, is a sergeant with the NYPD and an adjunct professor of political science at Kingsborough Community College.

**Frank Zitzman**, MPA '08, is a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and a civilian employee of the Defense Department, where he serves as a project leader in the acquisition work force.

**Benjamin de Boer**, MA '09, is pursuing a doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Chicago.

**Smail Ferroudj**, BA '09, is currently employed as a real estate agent in New York.

**Ninoshka T. Garrick**, BA '09, is a research assistant with the Office of the New York City Comptroller.

**Sarah E. Jackson**, BA '09, is pursuing her master's degree in Forensic Psychology and Criminal Investigation through the University of Liverpool. She has worked as a research assistant for a forensic psychiatrist and interned with the New Jersey State Police.

**Kelsey F. Kowalski**, MA '09, has been employed since October 2010 with the Virginia Department of Corrections, as a clinical social worker in the mental health department.

**Danielle E. Pate**, BS '09, currently works for the Office of the New York City Chief Medical Examiner.

**Patricia Ruiz**, BA '09, is a litigation specialist in the legal department at JP Morgan Chase Bank.

**Elizabeth Soto**, BA '09, joined the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service as a junior officer. She supported a VIP visit by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to the U.S. Embassy in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, earlier this year.

**Nicholas M. St. John**, BS '09, is attending the University of Georgia School of Law and expects to receive his JD degree in 2014.

**Julio C. Valega**, BA '09, has worked for the United States Park Police in the Washington, D.C., field office for the past two years.

## 2010s

**Kevin D. Brown**, BA '10, was hired in April 2011 as Level One Help Desk at PrintingHouse Press, an appellate printer.

**Lavon R. Dirickson**, BA '10, is attending graduate school at Capella University, where he is majoring in public safety/criminal justice/forensic science.

**Edwin M. Hernandez Garcia**, BA/MPA '10, is attending Quinnipiac University School of Law. He was a recipient of the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association Scholarship Award in November 2010.

**Cynthia A. Hunte**, MPA '10, is Director of Medical Staff Services at St. Joseph Hospital in Bethpage, NY.

**Ryan D. McDonald**, MA '10, is a clinical research coordinator at NYU Medical Center, where he conducts clinical research trials on an investigational drug, extended-release nal-trexone, to prevent opiate relapse in offenders soon to be released from jail on Riker's Island.

**Kim E. Ortiz**, BA '10, is AP bookkeeper and fiscal administrator at CASES.

**Luz M. Pagan**, MA '10, was recently promoted to coordinator/judicial officer for Hostos Community College.

**Farida Rice**, MPA '10, is Director of the Family Health and Support Center with the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation.

**Donaldo L. Simpson**, BS '10, is a federal police officer assigned to the United States Supreme Court in Washington, DC. He is pursuing his master's degree in Homeland Security at Capella University.

**Jennifer M. Ortiz**, BS/MA '10, is a research director with the New York State Sentencing Commission.

**Jennifer D. Tierney**, BA '10, has worked as a psychological research support specialist at Stony Brook University. She is pursuing a JD from St. John's University School of Law.

**Carlos A. Vargas**, BS '10, is an adjunct professor at Monroe College.

**Sharese L. Crouther**, BA '11, is a program associate for Brownsville Youth Court demonstration project being run by the Center of Court Innovation.

**Shakina Griffith**, MA '11, is a Level I investigator for the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board.

**Jemmilla A. Andrews**, BA '11, is "proud to say that her education from John Jay College has allowed her to get a job with the Fire Department of New York as a Fire Protection Inspector."

**Andrew W.J. Moss**, MPA '11, was married in August 2011 to Robyn Giannotta at the San Gabriel Mission in Southern California.

**Jeffrey S. Reyes**, BA/MA '11, works as an intelligence analyst for the New York City Business Integrity Commission.

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