

COUNSELING CORNER

On behalf of the Department of Counseling we would like to welcome you to John Jay College and this wonderful community. This is an exciting time as your child begins a new chapter in their life. It can also be a stressful period fraught with uncertainty and apprehension of what the future holds, for both you and your college bound student. We want you to know that the Counseling Center staff considers the John Jay students as our primary focus, especially during this transition time. The mission of the Counseling Center is to support the college community, i.e., its students, through individual and group counseling, psychological services, crisis intervention, consultation, outreach, training and referrals. Licensed professionals offer a range of psychological and counseling support services to meet the wellness, adjustment, mental health and developmental needs of students and others within the campus community. Mental health services include crisis intervention, individual, couples/family, group counseling, outreach education and referral.

The Center provides specialized services to support students with their adjustment to college life, choice of majors, and exploring the special programs offered throughout the college. The specific populations we serve include: In-Service Professionals Advising (Police; Fire Fighter; Corrections) and Veterans. In addition, the Counseling Center assigns counselor liaisons to academic and student service departments. The purpose of the counselor liaison is to act as a consultant to faculty and staff that observe students with mental and behavioral health concerns. The counselor liaison will assist in assessing concerns, gauging the safety risk and developing appropriate responses.

Outreach to the college community is essential to the Center, providing screenings and assessments for trauma, anxiety, substance abuse, depression and others. We also have established collaborative programs, workshops and tabling throughout the campus, which have proven to be a successful means in reaching students who might not typically come to the Counseling Center.

In terms of Crisis Intervention, the Counseling Center staff provides direct services to students demonstrating mental and behavioral health concerns. Additionally, the Center is a part of the College's interdisciplinary Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), established with the mission to identify, assess and monitor students displaying severe levels of distress, disruption and/or behavioral dysregulation (e.g., homicidal, suicidal, assaultive or self-injurious threats), and to implement timely interventions that protect the welfare of the student and the safety of the college community. If there is an emergency or extreme situation we work closely with the Public Safety Department, especially if a student causes serious disruption or displays an imminent threat to self or others. Our number one priority is safety and security of the college community. The Counseling Center staff here at John Jay College stands ready face any and all challenges in order to provide a safe and nurturing learning environment for its students. The bottom line is this, you can rest assured that your college bound student will be in good hands at this school of higher learning. And we are ready to assist parents, as well, with any questions or concerns.

Please feel free to contact us at (212) 237-8111 or email us at Counseling@jjay.cuny.edu.

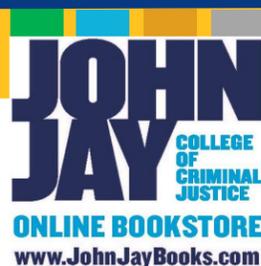
Written by: Dr. Gerard Bryant

THE NEW JOHN JAY ONLINE BOOKSTORE

John Jay College of Criminal Justice decided it was time to launch a progressive, online bookstore in order to reduce the cost of course materials for students.

There are many benefits to using the John Jay Online Bookstore, including:

- **Personalized Experience:** Login using your CUNYfirst username and password to view your custom MyCourses page (a list of all required materials for the courses you are registered for).
- **Great Savings:** Save an average of 60% off list price when you shop on the Marketplace. Plus, enjoy FREE SHIPPING on all retail orders over \$49 (note, this offer does not apply to the Marketplace)!
- **More Variety:** Browse new, used, rental, eBook and Marketplace options.
- **Multiple Payment Options:** Apply your CUNY Scholar Card to every purchase, when applicable!
- **On-Campus Pick-Up Location:** Choose to ship your books to a location of your choice. If you choose to get your textbooks delivered to school, there will be a temporary pick-up center set up in the mailroom during the first 3 weeks of classes.
- **Year-Round Buyback:** Sell your books back through the Marketplace at any time of year – you name the price!
- **More than just Textbooks:** The Online Bookstore sells millions of books, including best sellers, cookbooks, travel guides and more! Simply use the search bar to browse by title, author, subject and/or ISBN.



BLOODHOUND BULLETIN

August 2014

Office of Student Transition Programs

FROM V.P. TO M.O.M.

WHAT I LEARNED FROM MY DAUGHTER'S FRESHMAN YEAR



In Student Affairs, the beginning of the academic year provides an ideal opportunity for reflection. We remember our students' many accomplishments, and prepare to face the new challenges and joys the coming semesters will bring. With a crowd of new faces on campus, we can't help but wonder which of them will soon become familiar figures on campus, and how we can best help all of our students find their individual paths to success. This year in particular, I find myself thinking of what I was doing at this time last summer – a position that undoubtedly feels familiar to many parents of incoming John Jay students: I was sending my daughter, my first child, off to college.

I've been in higher education for over 25 years, so by the time Gabby's freshman year came around, I was pretty sure I knew a thing or two. There is a difference, however, between knowing something in an intellectual sense and actually experiencing it firsthand. In fact, I was surprised at how distinctly I felt the same concerns and emotions that I've been discussing with freshman parents for years. Suddenly, it all rang so true. Like many before me, I was shocked when an unbearable quiet overtook my home (Gabby was always the chatty one). I would worry whenever she took a little longer than usual to respond to a text message. I was heartbroken when she called me, upset because she was having trouble meeting people. Turns out, being a higher ed professional didn't give me a free pass on parental distress.

As a student in New York City, especially at a CUNY school where commuter students are the norm, socialization can be difficult. Once they leave campus, Gabby's classmates are spread out across the city and beyond – one friend an hour-long subway ride away in Brooklyn, another nearly two hours away in Queens. Factor in everyone's work schedules and academic responsibilities, and arranging a meet-up at the local pizzeria after class isn't so easy. Developing a social circle and finding time to hang out, Gabby told me, was hard. Even though we don't necessarily think of it as a main goal of higher education, socialization is an important part of

college life. And in her first semester, my daughter was struggling.

So I told her the same thing I tell my students here at John Jay: Join a club. Volunteer. Go to an event. Research shows that students who are involved on campus are more likely to have a successful experience. I had to take off my 'worried parent' hat for a moment, and give her the feedback she needed in order to succeed in her new role as a college student. She followed my advice, and I'm happy to say that it worked. She adjusted well, made new friends, and we both learned a few things about our evolving relationship. My daughter knows that I will always be there for her, but now that she's entered this next phase of her education, she has to deal with certain things on her own. Being the parent of a college student requires a delicate balance of giving space and staying close.

Things have changed between us, but that's not a bad thing. Of course, part of me is sad to feel our lives becoming more distant from each other, but Gabby is creating her own way in the world and that's wonderful to watch. In just a few months, the amount of personal growth I've seen from her has amazed me. Sometimes, I still expect to find High School Gabby, but College Gabby is different – more independent, more responsible, more considerate. College Gabby is an adult. That idea takes some getting used to.

My daughter's freshman year had many positive outcomes, not the least of which is my improved understanding of a family's role in supporting their student. At John Jay, we have an Office of Student Transition Programs – but it's easy to forget that students are not the only ones navigating a transition. Now more than ever, I want our students' families to know that we are here for you. We want to work with you, combining your support system at home with our resources and community here at the college, to help your children develop into the best possible versions of themselves. You will be amazed at the strides they'll make over this next year.

I can't wait to watch alongside you as they thrive.

Written by: Lynette Cook-Francis, VP for Student Affairs

FERPA: HEALTH & SAFETY EMERGENCIES

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of students' education records. FERPA also addresses the decisions that school officials need to make on a daily basis. It applies to any "educational agency or institution" that receives funds under any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, which includes all public K-12 school districts and virtually all postsecondary institutions, public or private.

Parents may be notified when there is a health or safety emergency involving their son or daughter, in spite of any FERPA provision that might otherwise prevent such a disclosure. Changes made to this section of FERPA are intended to "balance the important interests of safety and privacy by providing school officials with the flexibility to act quickly and decisively when emergencies arise."

According to FERPA, "...the Department will not substitute its judgment for that of the agency or institution if, based on the information available at the time of the determination, there is a rational basis for the agency's or institution's determination that a health or safety emergency exists and that the disclosure was made to appropriate parties."

ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG DISCLOSURES

If an institution has determined that a student under 21 violated its alcohol or other drug rules, it may disclose that fact to parents, says Steven J. McDonald, general counsel at the Rhode Island School of Design. However, the student must be under 21 at the time of disclosure, not just at the time the violation occurred.

DISCLOSURE TO "APPROPRIATE PARTIES"

In taking all circumstances into account, institutions may disclose personally identifiable information from education records, without consent, to "appropriate parties" whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or other individuals, if there's "an articulable and significant threat."

- The person(s) receiving the information isn't required to be the one providing the protection.
- Potential "appropriate parties" may include:
 - Law enforcement
 - Threat assessment team members
 - People who may have information that can assist in providing or evaluating the need for protection and/or how to address the threat (such as peers, roommates, mental health professionals and prior schools attended)
 - Potential victims
 - Parents of the student or of potential victims

"ARTICULABLE & SIGNIFICANT THREAT"

This does not have to be a verbal threat. It simply means that a school official must be able to articulate *what* the threat is when he/she decides to disclose education records.

NOT A BLANKET EXCEPTION

This "health or safety emergency" exception shouldn't be considered a blanket exception for routine, non-emergency disclosures of student information, though. Rather, it should only be used to disclose information necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or another individual in connection with an emergency.

WHAT CONSTITUTES AN "EMERGENCY"?

According to the final FERPA regulations:

- The institution must be able to release education records information in sufficient time for the institution to act so it can keep people from harm or injury
- An incident must be related to the threat of an actual, impending or imminent emergency, such as a terrorist attack, a natural disaster, a campus shooting or the outbreak of an epidemic like e-coli
- An emergency could also be a situation where a student gives sufficient, cumulative warning signs that lead an institution to believe he/she will harm himself or others at any moment
- It doesn't refer to the threat of a possible or eventual emergency, such as something that might be addressed during an emergency preparedness drill

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IMPORTANT DATES

August 28, 2014: Classes Begin

September 1, 2014: No Classes

September 3, 2014:

Last day for 75% tuition refund

September 10, 2014:

Last day for 50% tuition refund

September 17, 2014:

New Student Convocation
& Last day for 25% tuition refund

September 18, 2014:

Course withdrawal period begins

September 23, 2014:

Classes follow a Friday schedule

September 24, 2014: No Classes

September 25, 2014: No Classes

September 26, 2014: No Classes



@JJCStudents #JJCNewstudents

DEPARTMENT FEATURE: STUDENT TRANSITION PROGRAMS

Contact Information:
www.jjay.cuny.edu/familyprograms
parentsandfamilies@jjay.cuny.edu
Parents Hotline: (646) 557-4888

Greetings Family Members and welcome to the John Jay family! Our office is honored to welcome you to our community. We believe that family members are the biggest support system our students can have and you play a vital role in their success here on campus.

Student transitions such as the first year of college, transfer experience, degree completion, and new graduate student experiences are critical junctures in the educational pipeline and provide unique opportunities for postsecondary student learning and development. The Office of Student Transition Programs creates dynamic, student-centered experiences to inspire purposeful transitions and equip students and their family members with resources, guidance and peer connections. These experiences include, but are not limited to: Accepted Students Day, New Student Orientation, Weeks of Welcome, Convocation, Commencement Week, Commencement, and the Peer Ambassador Leadership Program.

We pride ourselves on being a one-stop shop. If your student needs help and cannot find the answer to a question, we invite them to stop by. The same goes for you as a family member. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way. The family hotline links directly to our office (646) 557-4888. Enjoy your time on campus and we wish the best of luck to your student as they begin this exciting new chapter!

Written by: Tiffany Onorato

2014 NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

1:40 PM – 2:40 PM

GERALD W. LYNCH THEATER
524 WEST 59TH STREET



Students are cordially invited to join faculty, administration and friends of John Jay College at the annual New Student Convocation, a welcoming ceremony that will also formally launch our 50th anniversary celebration.

For information on tickets for this event, visit:

www.jjay.cuny.edu/convocation