Greetings from the University of Saint Joseph

As we wrap-up the fall semester we want to be sure that you are up-to-date on all the latest campus news. You are welcome to contact us with questions.

In the fall issue of USJ's OUTLOOK magazine, President Free’s message was focused on thanking everyone for helping to make the semester as safe and successful as possible. She wrote, “After months of careful preparations guided by state and CDC guidelines, it was inspiring to see students and faculty back on campus on August 31, bringing masks, enthusiasm, and new expertise in remote learning. Classroom technology has been expanded to allow students and faculty to interact and learn together, even if they are physically apart. Carefully-designed policies and procedures, along with physical modifications in shared spaces such as the dining hall, library, athletic center, and residence halls, promote student safety in all areas of campus life. The HyFlex model – allowing students to participate in classes in person or remotely on a class-by-class basis – has been working so well that we anticipate adopting it permanently in some graduate programs. These achievements would not have been possible without generous donations from the community; the commitment, flexibility, and expertise of faculty and staff; and the eagerness of students to adapt to new ways of learning. I am tremendously grateful to everyone in the USJ community for our successful reopening.”

Our fall semester was very different in some ways and yet still, very much the same – our students continued to discover new interests, delve into their academic programs, develop new skills, enjoy student activities, participate in academic celebrations such as Investiture, and have thoughtful and respectful conversations about topics ranging from civil rights to academic research during a global pandemic. Here are a few news stories from the semester, more are available on our website, here.

USJ’s 2020 Investiture Virtual Ceremony
Dennis House, Multi-Media Veteran to Teach Digital Media at the University of Saint Joseph
USJ Receives $125,000 from the Davis Educational Foundation for Innovative Classroom Learning
HRSA Scholarship Makes USJ Grad’s Dream Come True

USJ undergraduate checklist - Prepare for spring 2021
1) Make an appointment to meet with your advisor.
2) Make an appointment with Student Financial Services if there are any questions about your spring 2021 financial aid award.
3) Clear any holds. Contact your advisor or Student Financial Services if you need assistance.
4) Register for spring 2021 - classes begin on January 25. Full-time status requires students to enroll in at least 12 credit hours.
5) Enjoy winter break!

News from Residential Life
The Spring Housing Application is live for students who did not live on campus this fall, who are interested in moving on campus for the spring. Students who are not currently residential students should go to usj.erezlife.com and fill out the “New Spring Applicant” application for spring 2021. Students who currently live on campus do not need to fill out a new application. Questions can be sent to housing@usj.edu.
**News from the Career Development Center**

The USJ community is now using the Handshake platform to assist students in their search for internships and full-time employment. We are available both in person and virtually to help students with resumes, cover letters, and personal statements, so that they are ready to actively engage in a career search on Handshake. Additionally, this semester we unveiled our new Employer Spotlight program – our students participated in a workshop with a local employer, Slalom Consulting, and learned about their business and sector. In the spring semester, we hope to continue to host a different employer virtually each month. And finally, we will once again look to connect our students to USJ alumni through various platforms. When they are introduced to alumni who have pursued the career in which they are interested, they get a first-hand look at the nature of the career and the journey to become part of the profession. Please have your students reach out to us directly at careercenter@usj.edu to start their career search today!

**News from Student Financial Services**

The 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available now on www.studentaid.gov. Students who will be enrolled at USJ in the summer of 2021 through the spring of 2022 should complete their FAFSA by February 15, 2021. Students who meet this deadline will receive priority when determining financial aid packages for next year.

At USJ, we’re committed to helping you make that investment in education. Contact us today to learn more or begin the application process by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**

**News from the Office of the Bursar**

Are you assisting your USJ student with tuition expenses? You can gain access to the ability to pay online as well as review all monthly statements. Use the instructions below.

**STEP 1.** Have your student log into the MyUSJ portal.

**STEP 2.** Click on the “STUDENT TAB”, the page may already be loaded to the “STUDENT TAB” automatically.

**STEP 3.** On the right side of the screen is the “GO TO CASHNET” link. Click the link and scroll down to the “Send Payer Invitation” Link.

**News from USJ Public Safety**

During the pandemic, Public Safety remains committed to providing services to students and employees while mitigating the risks to the community it serves.

While there are no significant changes to our operations, the Public Safety team encourages handling minor issues by phone; they will also attempt to provide service in outdoor environments, when possible.

- Make sure you are signed up to receive USJ Text/Email Alerts
- Public Safety Service Line (860) 231-5222 [monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week]
- Anonymous Tip Line (860) 231-5742
- ALL EMERGENCIES 911

**Support your Blue Jay!**

By supporting the Annual Fund, you can help your own USJ Blue Jay and other students as well! The Annual Fund supports a wide range of on-campus engagements including student scholarships, academic programs, faculty development, and necessary campus improvements—all of which continue to enhance the rigorous and rewarding college experience at USJ.

We ask that you consider making a gift to the Annual Fund in order to help our future leaders achieve their academic dreams today. Your gift goes directly to students and supports their most pressing needs. Donate today, and be the difference in the lives of our Blue Jays! Visit usj.edu/give or text USJGive to 41444. Thank you for your support!