

Faculty Focus on Teaching, Equity, and the Student Experience



Week 3 of our weekly newsletter to inform new faculty of vital teaching ideas and campus resources for equity and student success.

While in future semesters this will go only to new faculty, we are sending to all faculty this semester and welcome your feedback at apease@jjay.cuny.edu.

Teaching Tip 3

How to Make Your Teaching More Engaging

- **Engagement is the necessary first step for learning**
- To learn, students need to DO something (not just listen)
- Cognitive resources are limited; using EMOTION to motivate behavior works
- Your enthusiasm for your subject is contagious – teach with gusto
- Establishing a community in the classroom helps predict whether your students will participate in class discussions, have anxiety, and even have better grades
- Stories are our most natural form of thought; use stories to convey important information and your students will remember it
- [Click here to read the Chronicle of Higher Education article outlining these principles with lots of practical tips](#) or for non-



subscribers see the article pdf attached to this email.

EQUITY in ENGAGEMENT

Perhaps the most powerful teaching strategy in building an inclusive and equitable learning environment is for instructors to be explicit that they expect ALL students to be engaged in their own learning, and your classroom will be a space in which they are encouraged and given opportunities to do so.

Examples, problems, and ideas raised in courses should reflect and originate from the many and diverse backgrounds of all of our students – if emotion is how we engage most readily, recognizing and identifying with course material and authors is primary to engagement.

CSIL, the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership is How John Jay Encourages Engagement Outside of Class

- **The more actively engaged students are with college faculty, staff and other students, the more likely they are to persist in their students and achieve at higher levels.**
- To involve students with one another and growth experiences that help them develop community and leadership skills, [CSIL](#) supports our 58+ academic, recreational, creative, cultural, educational, philanthropic, political, and religious clubs, the Student Government, and hundreds of events each year.
- CSIL cultivates leadership, service, inclusion/diversity, community building and engagement.
- CSIL also supports the National Society of Leadership and Success in which hundreds of John Jay students participate in order build their leadership skills on campus.
- A CSIL “at a glance” flyer is attached to this email.

