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CUNY Trustees
NY City Tech

Elizabeth Hovey

I'm an adjunct history professor and co-chair of the John Jay Chapter of the Professional Staff Congress. Everything that has been said here already about the cuts is true.

I truly believe that you want our students to succeed, you want them to stay in school, you want them to graduate. I think you want to do that at the least possible cost. You do not know what is being sacrificed.

I testified once before at a Brooklyn hearing. I testified because Pathways was coming at that time and it was clear that the gutting of campus requirements was going to have bad consequences.

A trustee spoke with me afterwards about a required course. He said, "Nobody takes public speaking unless they're required to, and yet no subject is more important for their future success."

A few weeks ago we learned at John Jay that the communications department which used to have the required public speaking courses will be no more.

The students who actually did choose public speaking and putting themselves out before an audience are really suffering now. Students launched a petition that over 1500 have signed. They say over and over again the importance of dramatic arts for them to succeed at school, or even to keep trying.

I've sent to the Chancellor's twitter account [a 3 minute excerpt from the last student show](#). It speaks volumes. And I'll use the rest of my time to share written remarks students made. This letter has 3 pages

of student testimonials in small print. They didn't even know that dramatic arts are ending at their college.

Like most college students, I started off with troubles adapting to college life. Soon my GPA began to drop, and my transcript was swarmed with WI grades. ... The only reason I continued was to be in the theatre production

Theatre gives meaning to my experience at John Jay. It allows me to not only gain confidence as an individual, but it has also helped me realize there's more to me and there are many more things I'm capable of. It has allowed me to express and be myself. It has made me happier to be in school.

I have been taking drama classes for 3 semesters at John Jay. Drama has given me so many of the tools to keep going in my education. In Drama we learned to never give up.

Theatre has been very therapeutic for me. My whole life I've never really felt seen.

I came to John Jay because I thought I wanted to be a cop. I was so set on it. Until I got rejected. If it wasn't for theatre at John Jay, ... I would be lost.

If it had not been for theatre, I would not be where I am today in my life.

Reject the ease with which this university has embraced vast cuts.