

July 12, 2011



**JON CALVERT STRAUSS, PH.D., APPOINTED INTERIM PRESIDENT  
OF MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE**

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jon Calvert Strauss as the Interim President of Manhattanville College, effective Monday July 18, 2011. Thanks are due to the Search Committee, which included Board of Trustees members Kathleen McGahran, (Acting Chair), Sally Rogers, '72, and Warren Mason, '98, Provost Gail Simmons, Vice President Jose Gonzalez, Institutional Advancement, and Professors Lisa Rafanelli, and Rodney Yoder, for identifying a seasoned, dynamic, higher education leader with a strong commitment to academic excellence.

I also extend a special thank you to the approximately 70 students, faculty, and staff and alumni attendees of the open forum on July 7 who provided the Search Committee with valuable input which helped to make the final decision. The choice of Dr. Strauss was unanimously affirmed by the Search Committee and received overwhelming support from all other constituent groups.

As Interim President, Dr. Strauss will have oversight and responsibility for all aspects of campus administration and its students. He will build upon the success of the College's initiatives by providing intellectual leadership and strategic direction to the Manhattanville Community in representing the interests of the College and showing deep commitment to its mission and core values. Dr. Strauss will lead in the development of the College's Strategic Framework, Middle States follow up, and will assist in leveraging opportunities in the areas of fundraising and alumni engagement.

As President (now Emeritus) of Harvey Mudd College for nine years, Dr. Strauss restored morale, created a collaborative working environment, strengthened finances, increased student financial aid, and built up a more diverse student and faculty population. Under his stewardship, Mudd was ranked in the top 15 national *liberal arts colleges* in *U.S. News & World Reports*. He also served as President of Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Bainbridge Graduate Institute.

Dr. Strauss has a wealth of accomplishments as a scholar, including membership on the National Science Board where he chaired the Task Forces on International Science and Sustainable Energy. He also has significant experience with accreditation and accrediting bodies having served as a Commissioner of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. And, he served on the NCAA Presidents Commission.

Dr. Strauss has held senior leadership positions at the University of Southern California and the University of Pennsylvania. In addition he served as Vice President and CFO of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and was on the faculty at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, and Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Strauss received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering (Systems and Communications Sciences) from Carnegie Institute of Technology, a M.S. in Physics from the University of Pittsburgh, and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin. He also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Massachusetts.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Jon Calvert Strauss to the Manhattanville College Community.

Sincerely,

Bob Hall  
Acting President