



SUNY OLD WESTBURY  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 19, 2021

Dear Campus Community:

Re: Old Westbury's Internal Control Program

The New York State Governmental Accountability Act was enacted to formalize a system of productivity and accountability in all state agencies including SUNY campuses. The Act includes provisions for strengthening campus internal controls and for measuring their effectiveness. Annually, Old Westbury is required to certify to SUNY System Administration and the Office of the State Comptroller that our internal controls are functioning properly. Under the Act, the College is required to:

- Maintain written internal control guidelines
- Maintain an internal control program for continuous review of operations
- Make a concise statement of policy and standards available to all employees
- Designate an Internal Control Officer to coordinate the program
- Educate and train all employees on internal controls
- Evaluate the need for an internal audit function

The College's Internal Control Program is designed to monitor the attainment of the College's goals and protect its resources. Since good internal controls depend heavily on the participation of all faculty, students, staff and administrative personnel, an understanding of the College's goals and your role and responsibilities in attaining those goals are essential.

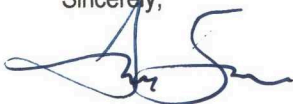
What exactly are internal controls you may ask? Some are obvious (laws, policies and procedures, purchase orders, contracts, budgets), some are security related (identification cards, passwords, locks, keys, gates, alarms) and others are not so obvious (performance evaluations, accreditation standards, assessments, time and attendance records, the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association and the President's Cabinet). Regardless of the form the internal control takes, each is designed to protect the College's personnel and resources from loss, waste, or damage.

Each of us can help strengthen internal controls by being alert to activities or situations which may hinder attainment of College goals, departmental operations, or that may pose risks of loss or harm to personnel or assets. If you become aware of such matters, please report them to your supervisor, your professor or the College's Internal Control Officer. Department heads, supervisors and faculty chairpersons also have additional responsibilities for internal control, including reporting and taking appropriate action through the College's organizational structure to correct deficiencies found.

Old Westbury, through its shared governance and management structure, must commit itself to the principles of good internal control and have full participation by all its constituencies. Remember, as a New York State public tax-supported institution, we all serve as stewards of the public trust and the citizens of the State expect that quality education, research and public service will be provided through the best utilization of our resources. I strongly encourage you to join me in fulfilling that public trust by maintaining a sound Internal Control Program at the College.

If you have any questions about the College's Internal Control Program, including planned reviews or available training, please contact Joseph P. Athy, our Internal Control Officer, at 516-876-4220.

Sincerely,



Dr. Timothy E. Sams, President