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## WHO'S WHO

in Education

# Long Island BUSINESS NEWS

Where Business Gets Down to Business

## DR. CALVIN O. BUTTS, III

*State University of New York  
College at Old Westbury*

Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, is President of State University of New York College at Old Westbury.

Since being named Old Westbury's President in September 1999, Dr. Butts has worked to prepare students to succeed in the global marketplace while fostering in each leadership qualities that will prove valuable to both themselves and the communities in which they live.

Dr. Butts has guided the campus to its largest enrollments in its history, added full-time faculty, and expanded the services it provides to support and aid students. Under his leadership, the College earned accreditation from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and created its first-ever graduate programs, which now include master of arts and master of sciences degrees in accounting, adolescence education, mental health counseling and taxation.

Dr. Butts has also overseen the College's investment of more than \$4 million in cutting-edge technologies, the introduction of five new residence halls and a new Student Union, and the financing and development of a \$72 million academic building scheduled to open on campus in Fall 2012.

"As college President, I am most proud of the work we do with our students to foster their growth," said Dr. Butts. "In saying that, I mean more than the academic growth they might require to be prepared for a job or career. What inspires me is the personal growth I see our students experience. There is no better feeling as a College President than to shake a student's hand at Commencement, congratulate them on their education, and see the smile on his or her face. At that point, they have only traveled part of their personal journey, but they have become part of an alumni family 22,000 strong."

"The purpose of an education at SUNY College at Old Westbury is to build character – to create within students a composite of moral firmness blended with resolution, self-discipline, high ethics, force and judgment," said Dr. Butts. "We are teaching students how to lead, and to become graduates and citizens who are confident in their knowledge and skills. We want them to let their light shine in the communities in which they live,

the career paths they follow, and in the greater world to which they are exposed."

Dr. Butts is also pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, which is among the most historic churches in the nation. Under his leadership, Abyssinian Baptist Church is committed to playing an active role in the ongoing development of its New York City home.

Dr. Butts was instrumental in establishing the Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change – a public, state-of the art, intermediate and high school in

Harlem, and he is the visionary behind the Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School, which opened in September 2005.

He also serves as a member of the leadership boards of The Long Island Association, The Levin Institute, Sustainable Long Island, Long Island Housing Partnership, the American Baptist College in Nashville, Tenn., New Vision for Public

Schools, and the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education.

A native of New York City, Dr. Butts earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. He returned to New York and earned a Master of Divinity Degree in Church History from the Union Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry in Church and Public Policy from Drew University

SUNY College at Old Westbury is the college of choice for more than 4,500 students from Long Island, New York State, across the nation and around the world. The College offers 45 undergraduate degrees through its schools of business, education and arts and sciences and 15 graduate degrees in business, education, and mental health counseling.

On the College's 604-acre campus, students and faculty participate in an environment that demands academic excellence, fosters intercultural understanding, and endeavors to stimulate a passion for learning and a commitment to building a more just and sustainable world.

Under the leadership of its president, Calvin O. Butts, III, Old Westbury today services the largest enrollment in its history and has recently been named among the most diverse Liberal Arts Colleges in the United States by U.S. News & World Report and as a "Military Friendly School" by G.I. Jobs magazine.

