

Vision Long Island

On November 30th, the SUNY OW Alumni Association made it possible for us to attend [Vision Long Island](#). We found the event very interesting and informative. We had an opportunity to interact with elected officials and learn how their decisions affect our community. It was interesting to hear business owners and politicians speak about their experiences and issues on Long Island and what they are doing to meet these challenges. Two recurrent themes were taxes and affordable housing. Elected officials and corporate leaders are looking to make it easier and faster for companies to apply for permits needed to build affordable housing near transit facilities. These are issues that are of interest to us as graduating seniors with post-graduation career plans. Another important theme discussed was the need to keep millennials on Long Island. It was stated that New York, more specifically Long Island, is very expensive to live on and driving those Millennials away and out of Long Island. Long Island talent leaving the local area is detrimental to our local economy and businesses.

*Students in attendance repeatedly raised concerns about environmental issues as well. We were informed that counties are pushing legislation to assist with the financing of solar panels, for instance, to address the effects of global warming. The Town Supervisors and County Executives were inspiring in their commitment to public service. Their dedication and commitment to their constituents was made very clear to all in attendance. Our sincere thanks to **Mr. Lionel Chitty, Business Administration, Class of 2002**, Hicksville Chamber of Commerce, for his generous support that made it possible for us to attend this amazing event.*

Jennifer Bella, Accounting, Class 2019

Megan Doyle, Finance, Class 2019

Miguel Quiñones, Business Administration, Class 2019

Celebrations

- On Friday, November 30, students **Jennifer Bella**, **Megan Doyle**, **Miguel Quinones**, **Dean Raj Devasagayam** and **Raul Zevallos** attended ***Vision Long Island***. They were representing SOB. On the pictures, from left to right: **Patrick Cadet**, Class 1989; **Megan Doyle**, Finance; **Miguel Quinones**, Business Administration; **Jennifer Bella**, Accounting; **Lionel Chitty**, Class 2002; **Raj Devasagayam**, SOB Dean; **Raul Zevallos**, Class 2000.



...Celebrations continued

- During May 16-20, 2018, **Professor Barbara Olsen** presented her paper “*Untangling Women’s Braided Relationships with Music*” in Santiago de Cuba at the **Canadian Anthropology Society’s** joint collaborative conference with the **Society for Applied Anthropology**. This paper has been accepted as a chapter in a book on women and consumption edited by **Maryann McCabe** and **Timothy Malefyt** now in contract with **Routledge Publishers**.
- **Professor Barbara Olsen** participated in the **Consumer Culture Theory Conference** held in Odense, Denmark from June 28 to July 1st, 2018. As Odense is the birthplace of **Hans Christian Andersen**, the theme of the conference was “**Consumer Culture Fairytales.**” **Prof. Olsen** presented a paper based on her ethnographic research conducted in a campground over twenty-two years. The paper, appropriately titled, “**RV ‘Money-Pig’ Entanglements: Camping with Contradictions**” was woven around H.C. Andersen’s fairytale “**The Money-Pig.**”

Announcements

- **Sampling Class.** Have you ever wanted to sample a class before enrolling? Now you can! The School of Business now permits students to **sit in during one class session prior to registering** for it! This will help you: **sample the course content**; see what the coursework entails; glean the teaching styles of a professor; network with current students after class. **Students must first email the professor** to obtain permission to attend a particular class session.
- The **Excelsior Scholarship** application for the Spring 2019 term is now open for new applicants, and **will close on Monday, January 14, 2019**. The link to the application is found at [EXCELSIOR](#). Please be reminded that current Excelsior Scholarship recipients, including students who first received an award in Fall 2017 or after, do not need to take any additional action for this term.
- For over a decade, Old Westbury accounting student have volunteered for the **Bethpage Federal Credit Union** (“BFCU”) sponsored **VITA program**. VITA student volunteers gain valuable real-world experience preparing electronic tax returns, build their resumes, and at the same time help their local communities. Students who wish to enroll in the VITA program for the 2018-19 tax season should do so now. Students will first review basic tax return topics by taking an online course provided by the IRS. Volunteers will then need to pass an online test to become certified. After certification, students will attend an IRS-sponsored training course on the preparation of electronic tax returns. After successful completion of training, students will be expected to volunteer a few hours per week throughout the **February 5 – April 11, 2019 tax season** at one of the designated [VITA sites](#).
- Applications for the **Chancellor’s Innovative Study Abroad Program grant** is now available. This is a great opportunity to get the study abroad program that you were thinking about off the ground in the first year! Faculty interested in applying for a grant (up to \$4,000), please contact Mary Marquez Bell as soon as possible. Applications should be forwarded to OIES (Room I-210) by **Friday, March 22, 2019**. That will give the office time to review the proposals before submission on April 2, 2019.
- **April 16th, 2019** is the **2019 Student Research Day**. This annual event celebrates the student’s academic and creative accomplishments at SUNY College at Old Westbury. The theme this year is **Research for Change**. If a student is interested in participating in this year’s Student Research Day, the student will need to be sponsored by a faculty sponsor who will work closely with the student to best prepare the student for the presentation. It is an honor to be invited to participate in the Student Research Day, as only the strongest student work is selected. Please note that all abstracts must be approved by a faculty mentor before it is submitted. Abstracts not approved by a faculty sponsor will not be accepted. Applications and abstracts are due March 8, 2019. Visit the [Research Day website](#) for the [2019 application](#).

Designed and edited by Raul Zevallos – Assistant to the Dean
Assisted by Melody Young – Biology Major, Class 2019

If you have any information for future newsletter please send it to zevallosr@oldwestbury.edu

