

## **Thank You!**

*The success and forward momentum of an organization depends on the flow of information to, from, and among their stakeholders. Traditional communication must give way to the speed and sophistication of modern busy lives. Experts underscore the importance of “[conversational communications](#).” Building upon the insights and examples gleaned from their research Groysberg and Slind, (2012) have found that stakeholders react to ordinary person-to-person conversation in a positive manner that fosters ownership and collaboration. They state, “Physical proximity ... isn’t always feasible. But mental or emotional proximity is essential.” They have identified four elements of organizational conversation that reflect the essential attributes of interpersonal conversation: intimacy, interactivity, inclusion, and intentionality.*

***Spotlight** is our mode of communication that strives to keep all stakeholders of the School of Business in a “conversational” mode of trust and relationships. Our Mission urges us to be “effective communicators.” We keep the **Spotlight** brief enough to allow a quick scan and long enough to provide essential information. We include an opening write-up of up to 300 words that is informative, educational, and relates to our Mission.*

***As the semester draws to a close, we thank you for your cooperation throughout this semester. What you do, you accomplish, makes it possible for Spotlight to be celebrating and inspiring. Please continue to share your accomplishments with the rest of us, they motivate us all to strive for excellence; it is [leadership](#). Our best wishes for a peaceful Holiday Season to all! **Spotlight** will be back in the New Year.***

*Read more at [Leadership is a Conversation](#)*

***Raul Zevallos**, Editor*

***Melody Young**, Assistant*

## **Executive-in-Residence**



Meet **Mr. JEAN BORGELLA**. He has more than two decades of experience in Management and Technology working in finance (Citi, Wells Fargo, Bank of America), transportation (USDOT), and hotel industry (Starwood Resorts). He is the founder and Executive Director of CodeScholarly, a programming start-up to teach students how to code K-12. He is an alumnus of SUNY Old Westbury, with a BA in Comparative Humanities. He holds two Master's Degrees from The George Washington University in Project Management (2006) and Information Systems Technology (2007), and he is a Certified Project Manager at the Project Management Institute. He has also held several professional posts as Compensation Specialist, Project Manager, and Entrepreneur. During his undergraduate years, he was SGA President for two consecutive terms and VP of clubs & organization. His current hobbies include - Gaming, Boxing Historian, and most importantly helping students achieve their professional goals.

## New SOB team member

SOB welcomes **Doris Rubinic**. Doris has been working at SUNY Old Westbury since June of 2012 as a secretary in the Office of the Registrar. Her experience there has taught her a great deal about the traditions, policies, and people of this institution. The workload is demanding yet she feels accomplished in knowing that she has assisted the students of SUNY Old Westbury with their many needs and inquiries. Doris looks forward to coming onboard in the School of Business by Dec 13, 2018. The role as secretary in the School of Business is very appealing to her and she looks forward to working with the great and accomplished staff and faculty in the department. She believes that her strong technical skills, leadership, education, and experience working in higher education will benefit both herself and the students in the School of Business.



## Celebrations

- On Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the **Women in Science & Engineering** Club, sponsored by SOB, held their first networking event entitled “**Off the Clock**”. During the event, students were able to engage with faculty and learn more about their research projects.



- On Friday, December 7, student **Daniel Chacko**, SOB Director of Career Services **Lorraine Todisco**, and **Raul Zevallos** attended **Advancement for Commerce, Industry, Technology (ACIT)**. They were representing SOB. On the pictures, from left to right: **Raul Zevallos, Daniel Chacko, Lorraine Todisco**.



## Announcements

- 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 students 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](#).

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](mailto:zevallosr@oldwestbury.edu)

