TO:    Downstate Community
FROM:  Dr. John C. LaRosa
        President
SUBJECT: Internal Control Program
DATE:  March 24, 2011

The term Internal Controls refers to all the measures taken by Downstate to provide reasonable assurance that it functions in a competent and appropriate manner consistent with its applicable regulations and policy objectives. A strong internal control system helps to minimize risk and allows for efficient and effective operations. Everyone at Downstate has some role in internal controls.

The New York State Governmental Accountability, Audit and Internal Control Act of 1987 (Internal Control Act) formalizes New York State’s commitment to efficient and effective business practices, quality service, and ethics in the operations of state government. As part of the New York State University System, Downstate must comply with the requirements of this legislation.

In an effort to achieve conformance with this legislation, Downstate management is responsible for continuously evaluating internal controls within their units through an assessment process designed to determine the unit’s effectiveness for accomplishing its mission.

If Downstate is to be a successful, well- run and fulfilling organization in which to work and grow professionally, internal controls must be a consistent part of the operations. I trust that you will all continue to participate and strengthen this program.

Thank you.