## LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

## MEMORANDUM

(excerpt from Memo to the Community)

**TO:** Long Island University Community

**FROM:** David J. Steinberg

**DATE:** June 29, 2012

As you know, we are now deeply engaged in our decennial Middle States review. Traditionally, we have used this intense period of self-assessment to revisit our institutional mission, to gauge its continued relevance and our ability to fulfill it. The Middle States evaluation team that will visit us next spring will judge our Self-Study Report and the claims we make in the context of our declared Mission Statement. It must define, therefore, our priorities and capture our core values.

Early in the self-review process I established a committee to review our existing Mission Statement and to evaluate collectively what, if anything, needed to be changed. This University-wide committee included students and faculty leadership, deans, trustees, alumni, administrators and University Officers. The group began its work nearly 18 months ago and then adjourned until it could be informed by the findings of the several Middle States Working Groups. From beginning to end the conversations were lively, the participation substantial, and the arguments often intense. Most important, it was evident that our mission remains firmly grounded in "Access and Excellence." As the discussions progressed, I appointed a sub-committee of seven, chaired by Chancellor Ed Shorin, to translate our rearticulated ideas into written form. The interim language the group proposed served as a launchpad for the full committee subsequently to craft a statement that the Board ratified on June 12th. The revised statement reaffirms our core values and reminds us that LIU is all about her students.

Long Island University was founded on the principle of educating and empowering men and women from all walks of life. Through our mission of Access and Excellence, the LIU community remains committed, above all else, to the educational needs and interests of our diverse student body. We strive to cultivate and expand academic, professional, artistic and co-curricular opportunities, enabling students to realize their full potential as ethically grounded, intellectually vigorous and socially responsible global citizens.