As you are aware, New York State and SUNY implemented numerous fiscal controls in the summer of 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak and uncertainty in the State’s approach to managing its continued financial challenges. While uncertainty remains, SUNY has notified us that, as of October 1, the following spending and fiscal constraints will be lifted:

- **Hiring Freeze** - the Hiring Freeze Exception Form will no longer be utilized. Hiring within your approved budget may resume via the pre-pandemic process.

- **Periodic Spending Ceilings** – These timing restrictions that limited spending in line with NYS Department of Budget measurement periods has been lifted and units may now spend according to their overall annual budget and not the periodic caps throughout the year that were previously in place.

- **Travel** – Campus can resume travel without the extra layer of authorization/approval at the Dean and/or Vice President level. It is advised, however, that caution continue to be given due to the ongoing nature of the virus in many parts of the US and abroad.

- **Expenditure Transfers** – State expenditure transfers can now cross funds as permitted pre-pandemic. No pre-approval is necessary unless a university wide program account is used. University wide programs should continue using the SUNY purchase request process.

While this is certainly welcome news, we need to continue to be vigilant regarding our finances as we continue to face challenges. SUNY will be monitoring and periodically re-evaluating our situation and the aforementioned controls may be reinstated if the situation demands.

Thank you for your attention to these items over the past year and a half. Your collective efforts have led to these restrictions being lifted and your continued attention to detail will ensure that we do not need to re-implement them.