



April 18, 2024

Dear Academic Affairs:

TLRC is delighted to recommend **Dr. Nicole Sieben** as the director of a Center for Teaching and Learning (CETL) at SUNY Old Westbury.

TLRC interviewed two excellent candidates - Dr. Nicole Sieben and Dr. Jessica Williams- for the CETL director position. We also explored the possibility of having co-directors for the role. Ultimately, TLRC decided against co-directors for the role. While both candidates provided compelling and synergistic visions for a CETL and possessed complementary individual strengths/backgrounds, the total release time offered led to our recommendation of a sole director.


For the record, TLRC's understanding is that, at least initially, the role will receive one course release per semester, and an annual stipend. We understand these terms are subject to change – potentially favorably - based on the evolving nature of the CETL, campus funding levels, campus priorities, etc.

Thank you, Dr. Dorothy Escibano for identifying the establishment of a CETL as a priority for your tenure as interim provost, for ensuring the process is faculty-driven, and for engaging with us in discussions of available resources, which is always a challenge at a chronically underfunded public institution.

Thank you, Dr. Michael Kavic, for advocating for faculty. We look forward to your continued support as the direct report of the CETL director, and as we welcome incoming Provost Dr. David Lanoue.

Finally, TLRC gives a big thank you to Dr. Sieben for her consideration of this important role. On behalf of faculty at Old Westbury, we are excited to join her in building her vision of a CETL that supports faculty in their teaching, professional growth, and overall well-being.

Sincerely,


Yogesh More

Chair, TLRC
Associate Professor

Department of Mathematics/CIS
SUNY Old Westbury