

Resolution: Fund SUNY Now

Whereas, SUNY Stony Brook University and SUNY Stony Brook University Hospital & Health Science Center rely heavily on State Funding, and are meant to offer affordable and accessible higher education;

Whereas, since the 2008 financial crisis, state funding for SUNY first declined and has since remained flat;

Whereas, with declining state resources, students have been forced to increasingly carry the burden of funding our campuses;

Whereas, the rising cost of tuition, fees and room and board are putting the promise of higher education out of reach for many;

Whereas, increased workload and stress has been placed on Faculty and Staff who are forced to do more with less;

Whereas, programs have been cut, class sizes have grown, and hiring has not kept up with increased enrollment;

Whereas, SUNY Stony Brook University Hospital is state run, focused on public service of providing high quality of care for the uninsured and underinsured, rather than their bottom line, as well as providing quality education for the next generation of medical professionals;

Whereas United University Professions (UUP) is the #1 advocate for SUNY, and the sole bargaining unit for Faculty and Staff at SUNY Stony Brook University; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the SUNY Stony Brook University Senate:

1. Endorse the 'Rally for Public Higher Education' on 12/9 that UUP Stony Brook has organized.
2. Call upon SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson to demand a significant increase in state funding for SUNY in the upcoming FY2021 New York State Budget process.
3. Specifically, Chancellor Johnson should:
 - a. Draw attention to SUNY's fiscal troubles, and the undue burden that rising tuition and fees has placed on students, when making her budget request.
 - b. Make the most robust request possible for state assistance to SUNY when she responds to the New York State Division of Budget's call for budgetary information.
 - c. Support legislation to increase state aid to SUNY, including legislation that would increase the state's contribution to TAP awards (thus closing the "TAP Gap").
 - d. Invest in our SUNY Hospitals by restoring the state subsidy of \$87 Million which was eliminated in 2019 budget.

