

University Faculty Senate
Operations Committee
153rd Plenary
SUNYIT
October 24, 2009

**State University of New York University Faculty Senate Operations Committee
Budget Resolution**

The Operations Committee recommends passage of the following resolution:

Whereas the University Faculty Senate recognizes the extent of the current economic downturn, and in particular its effect upon the revenues of the State of New York, and

Whereas the Senate understands the necessity of reducing state expenditures, and
Whereas to that end, Governor Paterson has directed cuts executive agency budgets totaling \$500 million for the current fiscal year, and

Whereas the budget cut assigned to the State University of New York is \$90 million, representing 18% of the total cut to all executive agencies, and

Whereas the budget cut assigned to the City University of New York is \$53 million, representing 10.6% of the total cut to all executive agencies, and

Whereas the budget cut assigned to the Higher Education Services Corporation is almost \$35.6 million, representing 7.1% of the total cut to all executive agencies, and

Whereas the sum of budget cuts borne by higher education is \$178.6 million, representing 35.7% of the reduction assigned to all executive agencies, and

Whereas the proportion of budget cuts to the State University of New York in the last fiscal year placed a disproportionate burden upon the University, and

Whereas SUNY was unable to get fiscal relief from this year's tuition increase since, to date, virtually all of the increase was diverted to the State's general fund, and

Whereas demand for public higher education increases during times of economic hardship while the resources available to the University are diminished, and

Whereas vibrant public higher education is a critical asset to the economic recovery of the State by educating and reeducating its workforce, and

Whereas further cuts inhibit the University from fulfilling its mission to provide access to higher education for all its qualified residents, and

Whereas reduction in access places a particularly heavy burden upon those who are most economically vulnerable, and

Whereas the latest budget cut, coming in the middle of a fiscal year has an even greater impact than it otherwise would, and

Whereas this budget cut, coming on the heels of previously announced cuts will significantly impair the ability of SUNY to carry out its teaching and research missions, and

Whereas the teaching and research missions of SUNY are critical to the economic recovery of the State, and

Whereas the magnitude of these cuts threaten irreparable damage to SUNY,

Now therefore be it Resolved that the University Faculty Senate supports the Chancellor in her work with the Governor and the Legislature to minimize cuts to state expenditures and insure that those cuts that remain are implemented in a manner that preserves the ability of SUNY to accomplish its missions.

153-02-1
Passed without Dissent
October 24, 2009

