



Faculty Council of Community Colleges
Resolution Supporting New Funding Model for the Community Colleges
Resolution # G1: 2018-19
Passed unanimously
October 13, 2018

WHEREAS the Faculty Council of Community Colleges recognizes New York State’s need for fiscal responsibility, but also understands the unique position of SUNY’s thirty community colleges to address the increasing needs of both recent high school graduates and post-traditional students seeking to enhance their academic skills and employment opportunities, the need of the region’s business community for qualified employees, the need to create the work force required to catalyze new industry and economic prosperity, and the need for an educated citizenry; and

WHEREAS the SUNY Board of Trustees also acknowledges in their 2018-19 Operating and Capital Budget Request that “the 30 community colleges operating under the program of the State University of New York ensure open access to high quality postsecondary education, and contribute significantly to the development of an educated citizenry and skilled work force”; and

WHEREAS SUNY’s thirty community colleges, through their rigorous Liberal Arts and transfer programs, educate approximately 50% of the transfers to SUNY state-operated colleges and University Centers, at less than the per student cost of those institutions, fulfilling the community colleges’ mission to serve as local points of access to higher education as well as to the work force; and

WHEREAS vital statistics show a declining population in almost all of New York State’s counties; and

WHEREAS the current model negatively impacts the ability of community colleges to create realistic predictive models that are fiscally responsible and sensitive to the economic situations of their students; and

WHEREAS that model also often resulted in an increased financial burden on community college students due to the colleges' need to raise annually tuition to make up shortfalls in state funding; and

WHEREAS the new model proposed and approved by the SUNY Board of Trustees in their 2018-19 Operating and Capital Budget Request was also approved by the New York Community Colleges Association of Presidents and supported by the Community College Business Officers Association; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges agrees with the SUNY Board of Trustees' recognition in their 2018-19 Operating and Capital Budget Request that "the operations of the 30 SUNY community colleges have evolved past the volume driven model established in the early 1970s, and that a major change in approach is required to maintain State support for each college, [to] recognize the cost of inflation, and to match the cost of high need/high cost programs"; and be it also

RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges supports the proposed funding model in the SUNY Board of Trustees' 2018-19 Operating and Capital Budget Request, as also supported by the New York Community Colleges Association of Presidents and the Community College Business Officers Association; and be it also

RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges calls for a community college funding model that has a definite base minimum of aid, in the form of a funding floor for each campus, plus additional FTE funding commensurate with any enrollment growth a campus achieves.