



## THE STATE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW YORK

### **2008-09 State Budget Priorities**

#### **Support**

**Establishment of a \$4 Billion Endowment** – Support the proposed \$4 billion endowment which would be established by monetizing the New York Lottery. This endowment would generate \$220 million per year for public higher education in New York to help fund academic quality. The endowment will ensure a funding stream outside the annual state budget process and is a key recommendation of the Commission on Higher Education.

**Capital Facilities Plan** – Support the \$4.4 billion multi-year capital plan that will address critical maintenance, new educational facilities, hospitals, residence halls and Community College construction.

**SUNY Flexibility** – Support the Executive Budget Article VII language for procurement, construction, and administrative flexibility which provides the University with greater operating autonomy without cost to the state.

#### **Restore**

**Reductions in Operating Budget** – Restore \$34.2 million in operating funds for SUNY's state-operated campuses. This reduction would affect access, course offerings, and class sizes and increase the use of part-time and adjunct faculty.

**Faculty Funding / Enrollment Growth** – Restore \$29 million for mandatory costs to fully fund the 7,400 students current enrolled and planned for the fall 2008 semester. This funding supports more full-time faculty.

**Community College Base Aid** – Restore \$6.2 million or \$50 per student, in base-aid reductions; and provide an additional \$200 per student, \$20.7 million, to maintain access and opportunity without needing tuition increases.

**Community College ORP Fringe Cost** – Provide \$5.4 million to fund the mandatory contribution of 3% for Optional Retirement Program (ORP) employees as per Chapter 617 of 2007.

**Small College Aid** – Restore \$1 million in Small College Aid that funds five Community Colleges with enrollments of less than 2,000 FTE in recognition of the higher burden they face in providing basic services.

**Hospitals Subsidy** – Provide an additional \$32.1 million for the three University hospitals to fully cover salaries and benefits resulting from the state's collective bargaining agreements.

**Legislative Initiatives** – Restore the Legislative Initiative reductions: \$6.095 million for the ATTAIN program, \$840,000 for the Educational Opportunity Program, and \$500,000 for the Small Business Development Centers.

**Empire Innovation Program** – Provide \$12 million to fund the third year of SUNY's Empire Innovation Program so SUNY can hire 46 new researchers who will increase the Program research by \$70 million and generate \$223 million in economic impact.

#### **Enhance**

**The SUNY Compact** – Enact the *Compact*, a partnership between SUNY, the State, SUNY students and their parents and alumni to provide targeted and predictable financial support necessary for academic quality initiatives such as additional 1,000 full-time faculty.

**Diversity** - Provide \$2.2 million for the Office of Diversity and Educational Equity to strengthen the recruitment of diversity professors and provide academic programs for under-represented students.

**Campus Safety** – Provide \$20.4 million for campus safety programs at all 64 SUNY campuses.