

SUNY DAY '08

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.