FY 2014 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

This week, the House and Senate passed the 1,500-page omnibus spending package, titled the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2014, to fund federal agencies for the remainder of the FY 2014. The bill contains $1.012T in discretionary spending for FY 2014, representing a semi-rollback of the cuts under sequestration.

The omnibus bill text and joint explanatory statement are available [here](#). Also available are the House Appropriations Committee [Majority summaries by bill](#), the House Appropriations [Democratic summary of the omnibus](#), the Senate [Majority Omnibus Summary](#), and the Senate list of [subcommittee 302(b)s allocations](#). The President is expected to sign the legislation today.

*SUNY OFR has prepared the attached analysis of the FY2014 omnibus bill. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions on specific programs of interest.*

**White House College Summit**

On Thursday January 16, President Obama and the First Lady convened a summit with more than 100 college and university presidents on expanding opportunities to help recruit and graduate more students from low-income families. For college leaders, the price of admission to the event was to make voluntary pledges to help more low-income students attend and complete college. (See [fact sheet](#), [remarks](#), and [White House report](#)). SUNY Chancellor Zimpher was in attendance along with Stony Brook University President Stanley.

As part of the event, WH Press Secretary Jay Carney had Chancellor Zimpher speak about the college summit and take questions from WH reporters. (See transcript of her [remarks](#) and [video](#)).

**White House Education Dataplooza**

On Wednesday January 15, the White House and the Department of Education hosted an “Education Datapalooza” to highlight the role Institutions, private sector apps, tools, and services can play in helping students get into and complete college. SUNY’s Kaitlin Gambrill, Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and University Advancement, participated on a panel session to highlight OpenSUNY. More than 500 of America’s entrepreneurs, software developers, and education experts explored products for choosing and applying for college, online teaching and learning, and new pathways for acquiring 21st century skills (see [fact sheet](#) and [blog post](#)).


On Thursday, the Rockefeller Institute of Government held a presentation at The National Press Club on
on the crisis of underfunding of public-sector defined benefit plans. The program unveiled the Rockefeller Institute’s Blinken Report, a study entitled “Strengthening the Security of Public Sector Defined Benefit Plans,” prepared by the Institute in cooperation with the State Budget Crisis Task Force established by former NYS Lieutenant Governor Richard Ravitch and former Federal Reserve Board Chair Paul Volcker. To read the full report, please click here.