



**They've done it again...SUNY & CUNY that is.**  
Phillip Smith to:

09/29/2008 05:57 PM

Dear All...

Today the SUNY Board of Trustees Finance and Administration Committee met to discuss how to address the SUNY budget cuts. Despite the best intentions and leadership efforts of committee chair, Carl McCall, there was no real plan put forth. Instead, a few campus presidents and business officers gave "testimony" on how their campuses would be harmed by the latest round of cuts (7% or \$96 million) levied by Governor Paterson.

It comes as no surprise that campus administrators told tales of gloom and doom such as, projected admissions and enrollment cuts, reduced course offerings, hiring freezes, and faculty attrition. Just what we at UUP have been saying for weeks and weeks.

The bottom-line: No real plan! Oh, well...it's only been two months since the governor announced his latest round of cuts. The committee will meet again in November. No need to rush into this, I guess.

Now contrast this with CUNY. On Tuesday, September 23rd., CUNY Chancellor, Matthew Goldstein, sent another message to his campus community: "CUNY's Top Priority - Faculty Enrichment." Chancellor Goldstein, once again, reaffirmed his pledge to hold fast on student services and faculty jobs. Indeed, part of his message was, "CUNY's faculty are the lifeblood of the University..." You can see his whole column here: [http://web.cuny.edu/administration/chancellor/column\\_p=100.html](http://web.cuny.edu/administration/chancellor/column_p=100.html) (By the way, CUNY's budgets cuts were proportional to those of SUNY. So if CUNY can develop a manageable plan, why can't SUNY?)

Meanwhile....Governor Paterson is supposedly meeting with the Senate and Assembly leadership on Friday, Oct. 10th. to seek another Special Session of the Legislature. You don't suppose he's going to ask for yet another round of cuts, do you? Nah, of course not! (Psst....I got a nice bridge for sale, too.)

It sure looks like it's up to us--once again--to have an impact in protecting SUNY...nothing new here, huh? Please spread the word: Visit the UUP Website ([www.uupinfo.org](http://www.uupinfo.org)) to send a fax to the Governor (scroll to "Call To Action") ..... AND get involved in our Advocacy Program. Regional training is going on now (see dates below)...please email Rob Trimarchi ([rtrimarc@uupmail.org](mailto:rtrimarc@uupmail.org)) or call 800-342-4206 for more details.

OCT 3--Regional Advocacy Training, Buffalo  
OCT 7--Regional Advocacy Training, Syracuse & Central NY  
OCT 10--Regional Advocacy Training, North Country (Lake Placid)  
OCT 14--Regional Advocacy Training, Albany

SUNY is the \$olution....is the simple, yet powerful message we published in the Legislative Gazette today: [http://www.legislativegazette.com/back\\_issues/08-9-29\\_for\\_web.pdf](http://www.legislativegazette.com/back_issues/08-9-29_for_web.pdf) See page 4. I'm sending similar

articles (Letters-to-Editor, or OpEd pieces) to newspapers near all the SUNY campuses. Look for them soon.

In union,

Phil