

Fw: UUP's response to the Gov's announced mid-year cuts....

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To All Stony Brook UUP West Campus Chapter Department Representatives:

Visit the UUP Web site uupinfo.org and click on the links under "Call to Action" at the very top of the Homepage.

Please send an electronic message to our local Legislators asking that they to work to reverse the Governor's \$90M cut to SUNY.

Pam

Membership Development Officer

----- Message from "Phillip Smith" <psmith@uupmail.org> on Tue, 06 Oct 2009 16:24:36 -0400 ----- Subject Fwd: UUP's response to the Gov's announced mid-year : cuts....

All...

Below is our Press Release in response to the Gov's cuts. Which included \$90M to SUNY--out of a total \$500M. That's a whopping 18% of the total cut going straight to SUNY. All told, in the past 18-months, SUNY has been cut by \$410M. This is incredibly harsh and harmful!

As you'd expect, we're updating our "Contact Your Legislator" pages. I'll be asking you to reach out to them in the next day or so.

In Union...

Phil

CONTACT: Denyce Duncan Lacy or

Don Feldstein at (518) 640-6600 Lacy's cell number is (518) 265-3114

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2009

<u>Cuts endanger future for thousands</u> UUP: SUNY slashed by budget cut

ALBANY – The \$90 million budget cut unilaterally imposed on the State University of New York by the governor will irreparably harm a public university system that has already endured massive reductions. That warning today from Phillip H. Smith, president of United University Professions, the union that represents academic and professional faculty at SUNY.

"The latest reduction goes beyond draconian," Smith said. "It means SUNY will likely be forced to deny access to thousands of students by scaling back on its student admissions and enrollments. That would leave thousands of New Yorkers with no place to go for an affordable, public college education."

Smith said the impact goes far beyond individual students and their families. He said the repercussions extend to the entire state's economy.

"SUNY is one of the state's major economic engines," Smith said. "It makes no sense to disinvest in SUNY at a time when the economy is already reeling."

Smith said SUNY had already endured its share of budget reductions, beginning with midyear cuts in 2008 of \$148 million, representing 25 percent of the cuts taken against state agencies. The University lost \$172 million in state support in the 2009-10 state budget, bringing the overall

cut to SUNY – including today's cuts – to an astounding \$410 million. That figure amounts to a 25-30 percent reduction in the amount of state support that would have been otherwise available to SUNY.

"We strongly urge the governor to reconsider this latest round of cuts to SUNY and reverse course to eliminate the spending reduction," Smith said. "The future of thousands of New Yorkers and the future of the state's economy may well rest with his decision."

UUP represents 35,000 academic and professional faculty on 29 New York state-operated campuses, including SUNY's public teaching hospitals and health science centers. It is an affiliate of NYSUT, the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association, and the AFL-CIO.

NYSUT Press Release Yesterday

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2009

NYSUT says mid-year cuts would cause grave harm to SUNY services Students will bear the brunt of cutbacks

ALBANY. New York State United Teachers leaders said today that the mid-year elimination of \$90 million from an already under-funded SUNY budget would impact essential student services at a time of great need. This represents a major tax increase for students and their families.

.The ones who would suffer from devastating mid-year cuts would be the students, said NYSUT President Richard Iannuzzi. If SUNY is forced to scale back admissions, countless individuals will be left without access to an affordable college education during this tough economic time.

.These cuts are unthinkable, said Alan Lubin, NYSUT executive vice president. In tough times like these, cutting back . or in many cases eliminating . the one affordable means through which many of our state's students can earn a college degree is incredibly misguided. These cuts will cause irreparable harm and will damage the future of our state's economy.

Starting with mid-year cuts in 2008 of \$148 million . representing 25 percent of the cuts taken against state agencies . SUNY has been flattened by budget cuts. The University also lost \$172 million in state support in the 2009-10 state budget, bringing the overall cuts to SUNY, including today's cuts, to a staggering \$410 million. This is a 25-30 percent reduction in the amount of state support available to the institution.

NYSUT's members include SUNY faculty and other professionals who are members of United University Professions.

NYSUT, the state's largest union, represents more than 600,000 classroom teachers and other school employees; faculty and other professionals at the state's community colleges, State University of New York and City University of New York, and other education and health professionals. NYSUT is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, National Education Association and AFL-CIO.