



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Student Assembly

FROM: Sara Garfinkle, Director, Academic Affairs

DATE: April 4, 2014

SUBJECT: Support for Open SUNY

I recommend that the Student Assembly adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the State University of New York (SUNY) was founded to provide students with the broadest possible access to higher education; and

Whereas SUNY's approach to online instruction, centering on the delivery of high quality, well-supported courses and programs taught by qualified faculty, is nationally recognized as an exemplar; and

Whereas enrollment in SUNY online courses and degree programs across the state has consistently grown, with over 86,000 students registering for at least one online course in 2012; and

Whereas SUNY currently offers thousands of courses online that meet SUNY General Education Requirements and/or are SUNY Transfer Path courses in academic majors that can seamlessly transfer across campuses; and

Whereas the number of complete online degree programs offered through SUNY is comparably modest for a system of its size and is limited by a lack of system-wide mechanisms for campuses and faculty to share established courses and intellectual content; and

Whereas through the adoption of *The Power of SUNY* strategic plan, SUNY has made a commitment to increase access to a SUNY education, further student success through seamless transfer and timely degree completion, provide enhanced learning opportunities through online education and experiential learning, while also attracting new students; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York applaud the vision of the Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees in implementing and promoting Open SUNY; and, be it finally

Resolved that copies of this resolution be distributed, but not limited to, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, and SUNY Student Government Associations.