1617-FC12
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<u>**RESOLUTION 1617–FC12**</u>

TO: **Members of the Executive Committee**

FROM: **Michael Kimmer, President of the Student Association at SUNY Plattsburgh**

DATE: **November 12th, 2016**

SUBJECT: **Democracy Day Resolution**

<u>Action Requested</u>

To Declare the Day of Our Federal, State, and Local Elections as "Democracy Day", and to Make This Day an Official Holiday Throughout the SUNY System

Whereas, an alarming percentage of eligible voters in our country do not exercise their right to vote; and,

Whereas, college students in particular are an underrepresented group of voters in the United States; and,

Whereas, the SUNY system and the students that make up this system of higher education have an obligation to do everything within their power to encourage our citizens to engage in the democratic process and civil duty of voting in all elections including local, state, and federal elections; and,

Whereas, the SUNY system needs to support any efforts, especially innovative and forward-thinking efforts, to engage our political constituents and assist them in carrying out and fulfilling their civic duty to vote; and,

Whereas, the SUNY system and the administration has a responsibility to increase the overall percentage of voting members in our campus community, both faculty and students, in order to

maximize our political leverage in advocating for issues regarding higher education; therefore, be it

Resolved, that SUNY will declare the day of our general elections as "Democracy Day", and will treat this day as an official holiday and no classes will be held; and, be it further

Resolved, that "Democracy Day" will be specific to General Elections; and, be it further

Resolved, that SUNY will support efforts to make this holiday mandatory throughout the SUNY system.

Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the SUNY Chancellor, the SUNY Board of Trustees, Representatives from the Student Governments within the SUNY Student Assembly