



The State University of New York
Student Assembly

1617 – FC1
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RESOLUTION 1617 – FC1

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Jason Burgos, President of the Student Association, SUNY Fredonia;
Robert Drumm, Chief of Staff for Student Affairs, SUNY Student Assembly

DATE: November 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Shared Governance

Action Requested

The Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) urges and addresses the lack of Student Representation on Campus Level Committees throughout the system

Resolution

Whereas the State University of New York has a very robust system of shared governance with the inclusion of students that has been championed by Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, as well as many campus presidents, system administrators, faculty, and staff; and

Whereas this system has proven time and time again that when students are involved in that system the overall ethos is improved, and the relationship between the campus administration and students is better; and

Whereas the Executive Committee of the State University of New York visited the State University of New York at Fredonia for their September 2017 Meeting; and

Whereas the Executive Committee has observed during their visit that SUNY Fredonia is a successful example of implementation of shared governance and should be used as a personal example to other SUNY campuses; and

Whereas this model of involvement or the Fredonia Model which won the first ever SUNY Shared Governance Award should serve as a reference to other

student governments for an example of successful shared governance practices; and resolved the Student Assembly State University of New York dedicate itself to assisting student governments in the implementation or advancements of shared governance best practices; and

Whereas under the leadership of President Virginia Horvath, as well as her administration, faculty, and staff, there is an unprecedented level of student involved in all aspects of campus life and decision making, including but not limited to the College Council, President's Cabinet, Faculty Senate, Advisory Councils, and other tasks forces and committees; and

Whereas this level of student involvement pays total credence to the "putting students first," and has proven to be an effective tool which allows the student voice to always be a part of any conversation, as well as keeping dialogue open between students and the administration, faculty, and staff and the students healthy and open; and

Whereas this model of involvement, or "Fredonia Model," should be the norm at all campus throughout the SUNY System, and not the exception; and

Whereas many campuses do not include students in their campus governance model, other than the elected student to sit on either the College Council or Board of Trustees; and

Whereas in some cases for State Operated Campuses and Community Colleges the sole student involved in the campus shared governance model is not afforded a vote, only a seat at the table; and

Whereas that student leader who sits on either the College Council or Board of Trustees is not always given the same rights, privileges, and access to information as the other members; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York is a good example of shared governance and dedicates itself to making the "Fredonia Model" applicable to all corners of the State University of New York; and, be it further

Resolved that the Campus Relations Committee, under the direction of the Chief of Staff for Internal Affairs, along with the chairs of both subcommittees, conduct a detailed analysis of the state of shared governance of all campus's and compile a report, to be presented to the Executive Committee before the end of this term; and, be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York urge the Board of Trustees, as well as all Campus Presidents, to begin the much

needed change, if not already applicable, to the campus shared governance model; and, be it further

Resolved that the above mentioned report, with all of its findings, be presented to the Executive Committee of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York, the Student Assembly of the State University of New York, the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York, the New York Association of College Presidents, the University Faculty Senate, and the Faculty Council of Community Colleges; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this resolution within 20 days upon its passing to the parties listed above and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.