



**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**  
**SUNY STUDENT ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS**  
**NOVEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> FALL CONFERENCE**  
**ROCHESTER**

**1516-35 Unpaid credit-bearing internships**

Resolved that the Student Assembly urges SUNY System Administration to adopt the NACE criteria, as attached, for internships to ensure that internship experiences are educational and primarily benefit the students; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly advocates that students and community partners be provided with a fact sheet before choosing whether or not either will participate in an unpaid credit-bearing internship; and be it further

Resolved that the above mentioned fact sheet will at a minimum contain an overview of all substantive laws and SUNY System Administration policies relevant to unpaid credit-bearing internships with particular regard to protections against unfair labor, the NACE standards, that students are never required to work more hours than was indicated at the time of commitment, and, for students, a link to the student evaluation database and available appeals and reporting processes for grievances including applicable campus offices and the SUNY University Auditor (OUA); and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly calls on the SUNY System Administration to guarantee that students are never required to take part in an unpaid credit bearing internship unless they explicitly choose to in writing after receiving the proper information; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly urges SUNY System Administration to require all credit-bearing internships to publish in a form available to prospective interns the required number of hours per week and treat exceeding them as a violation of the NACE standards for the purposes of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly calls on SUNY System Administration to prohibit approving unpaid credit-bearing internships that violate the NACE standard, are offered by employers who have repeatedly violated the NACE standard within the past five years, or displace actual paid workers or those who would otherwise be needed if the internship did not exist; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly calls on SUNY System Administration to direct the University Auditor (OUA) to audit compliance to the NACE standard and other SUNY Student Administration rules related to unpaid credit-bearing internships across System Administration following the implementation of the NACE standard in System Administration; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly calls on the SUNY System Administration to require regular anonymous student evaluations of unpaid credit-bearing internships specifically on whether they meet each NACE standard and maintain the evaluations in a system wide database accessible to all relevant campus bodies and prospective interns, to give students the right to terminate the internship at any point during the term without academic penalty if the standards are being violated, and to require that facilitators of the internship be prepared with alternative ways for the student to earn the credit they are enrolled in for such cases; and be it further

Resolved that the Student Assembly requests all methods of increasing the number of paid internships throughout the system be explored; and finally, be it

Resolved that the Student Assembly will send this resolution the SUNY Board of Trustees, Chancellor Zimpher, The University Faculty Senate, The Faculty Council of Community Colleges and requests that it be included in the guidance being sent to each campus by the Applied Learning Steering Committee.

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 62-1-5. It was adopted on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015.

### **1516-37 Alignment with The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Resolved that the students of the SUNY call for the entire network of SUNY universities to align themselves with the Sustainable Development Goals in order to create a more inclusive global SUNY community amongst all SUNY campuses;

Resolved that SUNY plan to be involved with the implementation of the SDGs knowing that although not every goal and target is feasible for SUNY to achieve, we hope to improve the world with the agenda in their greatest capacity;

Resolved that SUNY continues to create a socially conscious system that not only benefits SUNY but the world;

Resolved that SUNY aligns itself with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to continue the precedent of being a national and global leader;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs Sally Crimmins Villela, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 69-1-1. It was adopted on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015.

## **1516-41 Legislative Agenda Authorization**

Resolved that the 2015-2016 Legislative agenda shall be:

- Community College Base Aid ○ Encourage the state to meet their statutory obligation in regard to aid per fulltime equivalent (FTE)
- TAP for Graduate Students ○ Advocate that the Tuition Assistance Program be expanded to include instate graduate students
- TAP for PartTime Students ○ Advocate the the Tuition Assistance Program be expanded to include all parttime instate students
- Child Care center funding ○ Advocate for budget increases for SUNY childcare centers in order to help provide affordable and accessible childcare to SUNY students and employees in addition to community members
- Disability Accommodations
  - Encourage the state to invest in facility accessibility on SUNY campuses
  - Advocate that the state establish (in conjunction with System Administration) minimum accessibility standards, encompassing the breadth of diverse disabilities
    - To invest in the subsequent projects pertaining to accessibility
- Textbook affordability ○ Advocate the state legislature to invest in alternatives to print textbooks such as open educational resources and print on demand technology and services.
- Minimum Wage Increase for WorkStudy\*
  - Advocate to increase the work study minimum wage to \$12.00 per hour and include an automatic increase clause commensurate to cost of living increases.
- Expedited Refund Reform\*
  - Advocate for quicker returns on refunds for students; not university wide
  - Account for new FAFSA process through Obama administration
- Student Loan Interest Rates\*
  - Supports measures in federal legislative action to lower student loan interest rates in addition to untying rates from the market and establishing lower, permanently fixed rates

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 63-6-3. It was adopted on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015.

## **1516-47 STARS AASHE Sustainable Tracking**

Resolved that SUNY calls for all campuses to enroll in the STARS AASHE program;

Resolved that campus will use STARS AASHE to improve sustainability in all of the categories detailed within the report;

Resolved that SUNY campuses simultaneously work with REV from NYSERDA to earn money based on their STARS AASHE score in order to invest in sustainable projects;

Resolved SUNY campuses use STARS AASHE as a way to continuously be updating and improving campus sustainability;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty

Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with a majority of 56-3-7. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-48 Sustainable Education**

Resolved that the Student Assembly encourages SUNY faculty, duly assisted by SUNY, to provide additional courses that fulfil existing general education requirements and focus on the basics of sustainability and sustainable development;

Resolved that SUNY encourage all classes to have an underlying focus of sustainability and sustainable development when feasible;

Resolved that SUNYSA calls on SUNY to integrate environmental stewardship into all campus practices, including course work, residence life, student activities, construction/renovation, and campus and auxiliary operations;

Resolved that in an effort to protect the sanctity of New York's resources and develop wellrounded individuals, we call on SUNY and New York to educate students about New York's resources and how to sustainably use them;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with a majority of 61-4-7. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-49 Gender Inclusivity**

Resolved that the Student Assembly encourages SUNY faculty, duly assisted by SUNY, to provide additional courses that fulfil existing general education requirements and focus on the basics of sustainability and sustainable development;

Resolved that SUNY encourage all classes to have an underlying focus of sustainability and sustainable development when feasible;

Resolved that SUNYSA calls on SUNY to integrate environmental stewardship into all campus practices, including course work, residence life, student activities, construction/renovation, and campus and auxiliary operations;

Resolved that in an effort to protect the sanctity of New York's resources and develop wellrounded individuals, we call on SUNY and New York to educate students about New York's resources and how to sustainably use them;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with a majority of 61-4-7. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

### **1516-50 Drug and Alcohol Awareness**

Resolved that we the students of the Student Assembly call for SUNY to add information about substance abuse and preventative measures to the first year student seminar curriculum;

Resolved that we request that an AD Hoc committee be formed consisting of faculty and students with the charge of developing the aforementioned curriculum; Resolved that once a curriculum that is unbiased and informative in nature, it shall be added to first year seminars to in an effort to limit the overuse and abuse of drugs and alcohol;

Resolved that all students are made aware of their legal rights and in the event of an incident, an Emergency Contact will be notified;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs Sally Crimmins Villela, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 63-9-1. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

### **1516-53 Resolution in support of an Interfaith Initiative throughout SUNY**

Resolved That the Student Assembly of the State University of New York hereby recognizes the urgency of an Interfaith Initiative for SUNY that would:

- 1) make steps toward demonstrating a tolerance and acceptance for religious diversity
- 2) accommodate all clearly present religious and/or faith organizations observed by the SUNY student body
- 3) collect and report data reflective of religious diversity among students;
- 4) educate students on the topic of religious tolerance and keep them aware of religious diversity; and let it be

Resolved That this Interfaith Initiative call for the creation of non-denominational prayer rooms that will be accessible to students while under the supervision of an agent that will arrange programs and celebrations to encourage religious tolerance among the student population in all SUNY campuses; and let it be

Resolved That the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Diversity Task Force,

University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper. Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 73-4-2. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-54 TAP Resolution**

Resolved the funds generated by Rational Tuition increases ought not to be used to subsidize Tuition Credit; and be it further

Resolved the State ought to increase the maximum TAP award to an individual student to the actual rate of State-operated campus undergraduate resident tuition; and finally, be it

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with a majority of 47-14-13. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-55 Identity Caucuses**

Resolved that the Student Assembly at the State University of New York Executive Committee create, design, and institutionalize identity caucuses within the organization in collaboration with the Student Association at SUNY Oswego and other interested campus governance student leaders:

- a) Identity caucuses will remain closed spaces that retain full control over their agenda and policy setting, elections, structure, and day-to-day decision making.
- b) Caucus leadership i.e. the chair and vice chair (title subject to change) are elected in caucus by their membership.
- c) Caucus membership shall be responsible for drafting the governing documents for their respective caucuses.

Therefore, be it further resolved that identity caucuses shall serve as a vehicle for effective community building for underrepresented groups within the SUNY wide student body.

This resolution was passed with a majority of 56-10-7. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-57 Sustainability Committee Resolution**

Resolved that campuses will create a Sustainability Committee that will be an advisory committee to the president;

Resolved that the committee will actively work on projects to enhance efficiency and sustainability across the campus;

Resolved that the committee will meet at least once a month and consist of faculty from facilities, dining services, environmental health and safety, various academic departments, and a minimum of 5 student seats

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York recommends a modest budget be allocated to the sustainability committee to host campus events and provide educational materials;

Resolved that the sustainability committee has the authority to collect, compile, and submit data to STARS AASHE in order to gauge the campus' overall sustainability;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with an overwhelming majority of 63-0-4. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### **1516-58 Renewable Portfolio Standard**

Resolved that the entire SUNY System including its related entities and both State Operated and Community Colleges increase their renewable energy consumption by no less 25% by the year 2020 through commodity contracts in the electricity market;

Resolved that the entire SUNY System including its related entities and both State Operated and Community Colleges works to continuously reduce its carbon footprint;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was passed with an majority of 61-2-4. It was adopted on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

Additionally, the SUNY Student Assembly General Assembly passed the following bylaw resolutions:

1516-45 Article X Bylaw Reform