
***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

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**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT ASSEMBLY (SUNY-SA)
AND
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE (CUNY-USS)
BRINGING HIGHER EDUCATION TO FOREFRONT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL
DEBATE**

On October 7, 2016, The SUNY Student Assembly and the CUNY University Student Senate are joining efforts to bring higher education to the forefront of the next presidential debate. The two organizations are hoping to leverage their combined population of over 1.2 million students to ask the candidates through PresidentialOpenQuestions.com:

“How will you incorporate the student voice when addressing issues of higher ed?”
From the site, moderators from ABC and CNN have agreed to pick submissions from the top 30 questions by Sunday, October 9, 2016.

Click [here](#) to vote now.

"Issues of higher education are of critical importance to our country's future. Supporting quality Public higher education is an investment into the leaders and innovators of

tomorrow.," said Marc J. Cohen, SUNY Student Assembly President and SUNY Trustee. "Including the student voice in forming comprehensive policy is vital to the success of any higher education reform, and we hope our candidates give students what they deserve: A thoughtful response and a seat at the table. I'm excited to be attending with our colleagues at CUNY for this important effort."

"Listening to the student's voice is an important part of shaping the agenda for our country," said Chika Onyejiukwa, CUNY University Student Senate Interim Chair. "We appreciate shared governance because it welcomes participation from all stakeholders. Our presidential candidates will impact the lives of billions, it is extremely important we remind them what matters to us."

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The University Student Senate (USS) of the City University of New York (CUNY) is the official representative governance organization of the 500,000 students at CUNY. Founded in 1972, USS is responsible for preserving the accessibility, affordability, and excellence of higher education within the City of New York. Website: www.cunyuss.org

What is SUNY SA?

The Student Assembly of the State University of New York, known as SUNY SA is an organization comprised of student leaders elected by their peers from across SUNY's 64 campuses. SUNY SA is the unified voice for over 465,000 students attending the State University of New York system. Empowering students throughout the state, SUNY SA is committed to student life and ensuring the representation of its members on the state and national level as well as throughout the SUNY system.