

Undergraduate Student Government
Stony Brook University
SAC Suite 202, Room 209
631.632.3297
stonybrookusg.org



Deborah Machalow
Executive Vice President

Najee Simmons
President Pro Tempore

SENATE

Senate Resolution Supporting the SUNY Assembly Legislative Agenda

Whereas, the delegates to SUNY Student Assembly discussed and generally agreed to a Legislative Agenda for the body's Director of Governmental Relations to base lobbying efforts on;

Whereas, the agenda includes increasing the maximum Tuition Assistance Plan (TAP) award in order to keep pace with the State's recent tuition hikes;

Whereas, the agenda includes the reintroduction of TAP for graduate students;

Whereas, the agenda includes protections for the SUNY System's Community Colleges;

Whereas, Stony Brook University has lost \$82 Million in cuts to State support over that last four years, these cuts being a SUNY wide trend;

Whereas, the agenda for the first time includes a federal lobbying agenda;

Whereas, the federal agenda calls for the maintenance and expansion of federal financial aid programs such as Pell Grants, subsidized loans and unsubsidized loans;

Whereas, the Aid Elimination Penalty is not mentioned in the agenda, but is a policy that revokes federal financial aid to students convicted of drug crimes while in school, causing many to have to drop out;

Resolved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government at Stony Brook University, representing its 16,000 undergraduate students:

- Fully supports all items currently listed in the SUNY Assembly Legislative Agenda 2012, notably the addition of a federal agenda, and the provisions dealing with both state and federal financial aid programs that make higher education more accessible for all students.
- Supports that in addition to "greater investment" in SUNY the Director of Government Relations seek inflation adjusted restitution for the \$82 million cut from Stony Brook University over the last four years, and similar restitution for whatever was cut from other school's budgets within SUNY.
- Supports the addition of repealing the baseless and discriminatory federal Aid Elimination Penalty to the federal agenda.

Deborah Machalow

Date

Executive Vice President