



▶ UFS PRESIDENT'S REPORT..... 1



▶ CHANCELLOR'S REPORT..... 1



▶ SECTOR QUESTIONS ..... 2

▶ RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS..... 2

# UFS *focus*

## A SYNOPSIS OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE'S (UFS) PLENARY MEETING PROCEEDINGS TO INFORM THE BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE SENATE AND ITS WORK

The official UFS post-plenary report and all resolutions are available on the UFS website: <http://www.sunyufs.us/winter-2020-post-plenary-report.html>

## President Kay's Report

**Budget** – SUNY Priorities were listed as the need to increase base aid for community colleges, relieve hospitals of debt service, and a need for \$500M in capital funds. A call for advocacy related to 181-03-01 New Deal for SUNY and CUNY to incorporate enhanced MOE provisions that truly supports and advances our core academic missions.

**General Education Advisory Committee** – Four subcommittees have been formed on values, compliance, cultural sensitivity, and information management. Completion timeframe: Spring 2021.

**Student Mental Health and Wellness Task Force** – Subcommittees of wellness, assessment, campus-wide engagement, clinical, system-wide structure & support.

**SUNY Council on Assessment (SCOA)** – hosted drive-in workshops during Fall 2019, including at Buffalo State, addressing assessing diversity outcomes

**Faculty Advisory Council on Teaching & Technology (FACT2)** Save the date: Digital Equality Conference on March 19-20 in Syracuse. Also save the date for CIT2020 from May 26-28 in Oswego.

**Presidential Searches** – two searches completed for NCCC and Plattsburgh; searches underway for ESF, Fredonia, Old Westbury, Purchase, Stony Brook, SUNY Polytechnic, Upstate Medical, Fulton-Montgomery CC, Monroe CC, and Suffolk CC



## CHANCELLOR JOHNSON'S REPORT

Chancellor Kristina Johnson updated the UFS body on the New York State General Fund deficit projections (~\$7.8M primarily driven by State costs associated with the Medicaid program and shared a summary of the SUNY budget request (e.g., critical maintenance, community college funding, support for appropriate programs such as EOP, increased support to cover TAP gap). Information on the State of the State address, the SUNY Diversity Conference, inaugural EOP Norman R. McConney Awards, and some of the key events that Dr. Johnson attended were provided.

Resolutions

**Executive Committee:**  
“SUNY/CUNY Budget”  
(unanimously passed)

**Summary:** SUNY UFS called on Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature to make New York State a national leader in sustainably and equitably supporting and advancing SUNY and CUNY’s core academic missions, and that in 2020 SUNY UFS will expand and deepen its coordination with good-faith partners to contact Governor Cuomo, their representatives in the New York State Legislature, and legislative leaders, and express their support of both their organization’s advocacy priorities and those of SUNY UFS.

*Advocacy Letter Template:*

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1D2xHb5ZTmp0NbPWvonWpikohJag\\_2n2L](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1D2xHb5ZTmp0NbPWvonWpikohJag_2n2L)

# Questions to the Chancellor

*UFS is organized into sectors of similar institutional types and each sector is invited to ask the Chancellor up to three questions at the plenaries.*



Buffalo State is part of the Comprehensive College sector, along with Brockport, Cortland, Empire State, Fredonia, Geneseo, New Paltz, Old Westbury, Oneonta, Oswego, Plattsburgh, and Purchase. Our sector asked two questions:

1. In 2020, what is System's emerging sense of priorities for effective action across SUNY that meet the gravity, complexity, and difficulty of renewing the American dream in the 21st century?
2. On many campuses in our sector, our exit interviews and other data we're collecting suggest that many of our students are leaving involuntarily because of personal and family financial hardships and emergencies, including basic needs insecurity. Is there someone at SUNY System who is charged with system-wide strategic enrollment management—with a portfolio that includes both recruitment and retention? If so, who are they and what are they doing to assist the comprehensive sector with our most pressing retention challenges and opportunities?

The other UFS sectors asked questions about these issues:

**University Centers:** the priority of the liberal arts within SUNY; student health; interim appointments

**Specialized and Statutory:** leadership appointments; supporting shared governance on campuses; SUNY Online

**Technology and Agriculture:** SUNY Online, test-optional

**Health Sciences:** asked questions of the Chancellor in a Jeopardy-style format

**Campus Governance Leaders (CGLs)** asked for assistance in development of University-wide policies related to free speech, racial conflict, and harassment. An inquiry was made about assessment of closed vs open Presidential search outcomes.

[Visit the official post-plenary report online for the Chancellor’s answers to sector questions!](#)

**Additional reports and remarks were provided by:**

- SUNY Provost, Tod Laursen: PRODiG, Task Force on Promoting Student Safety, Diversity and Inclusion, Provost Office (Re)Structure, Strategic Enrollment Planning, General Education Implementation Update, Global Learning for All, Online Advisory Committee
- SUNY Vice Chancellor for Finance and CFO, Eileen McLoughlin: SUNY 18/19 Financial Statement Summary, SUNY 20/21 Budget Request Summary, Financial Sustainability Initiatives
- SUNY Senior Library Strategist Mark McBride: Update on SUNY’s negotiations with Elsevier
- FCCC, SA, CUNY
- UUP

Please visit the UFS website for the official UFS post-plenary report, full reports, resolutions, and information about upcoming UFS events.

<http://www.sunyufs.us/plenary-files.html>

