

The Student Assembly Times

February 2015

Permaculture Living Lab at SUNY Oswego

Green. Sustainability. These are words that are becoming a part of everyday vocabulary. Campuses across the state are offering classes in sustainable energy. Student organizations are also working to find ways to make the communities they live in greener and more sustainable. The Permaculture Committee at SUNY Oswego, comprised of faculty, the student body and the surrounding community, is doing just that.

The Permaculture Living Lab (PLL) project brings educational benefits to the campus. The PLL is multi-functional, incorporating the efforts of students, faculty and community. Mixing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), the PLL is a perfect example of the interdisciplinary applications.

Research for the Permaculture Living Lab project began in 2013. Throughout 2014 the Permaculture Committee gathered support and financing. By late fall 2014, construction of the PLL began. Volunteer teams consisting of faculty, staff, students and community members cultivated the grounds that would become the PLL. The project is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2015.

To find out more about the PLL and follow their success go to

http://www.oswego.edu/about/leadership/sustainability/permaculture/Permaculture_Living_Lab.html

<https://prezi.com/ytsuqrлуqgm/permaculture-living-lab/>



SUNY Oswego Permaculture Living Lab

Photo courtesy of Grace Maxon-Clarke

Contribute to the Newsletter

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Student Assembly
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

President's Corner



Welcome back Student Leaders!

I hope that everyone enjoyed their winter break and came back ready for an exciting semester of knowledge and fun!

The spring semester brings with it a very busy schedule of advocating for all of our SUNY students. As many of you know, we have been fighting to keep the Federal Perkins Loan Program in place. We received news over the weekend that the loans will be fine for the 2015-16 academic school year. Students will also be grandfathered into the program and eligible to receive future loans for up to five succeeding years to complete a an area of study. There will be more details to follow once the Dept. posts a notice in the future. This is great news for our current students; however, we realize the importance of this program and we will continue to fight to keep it in place!

There are many Save the Dates opportunities for students to get involved; from learning more about Shared Governance to advocacy for our students to our Spring Conference.

On February 10th, 2015, SUNY SA will be testifying before the Joint Legislative Budget Hearing regarding the importance of the issues brought forth in the 2014-2015 Legislative Agenda. For more information, please visit: <http://www.sunysa.org/wp-content/uploads/SUNYSA-1415-LA-Authorization-Resolution-for-Legislative-Agenda-Legislative-Agenda.pdf>.

During the weekend of March 20th, 2015, we have the opportunity to become educated on the importance of shared governance on your campus during the SUNY Voices Shared Governance Conference being held at Onondaga Community College. This conference is free to students and the deadline to register is February 18th. For more information about the conference and free registration, go to: <http://www.suny.edu/about/shared-governance/sunyvoices/conference/>.

SUNY Speaks Up, our annual day of advocacy at the LOB, will be held on March 24, 2015 starting at 9 am. We are currently scheduling times for our student leaders to have a chance to discuss important issues with their legislature and/or staffer. We will be meeting at the SUNY Empire State College facility in Empire State Plaza and going to our designated place in the LOB. Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher will be speaking with us at 1:45 pm. There will be more information forthcoming from the Government Relations Team.

We are currently working to put together a special advocacy date for SUNY Day in Washington D.C. on April 15th and 16th, 2015. Students need to take a stand on the student loan interest rate travesty in our country. Our politicians need the continued pressure from students regarding the fact that we NEED some relief from our future debt. We plan to continue to advocate for the Federal Perkins Loan Program. SUNY SA would like to have support from all 64 SUNY campuses and have each campus come with us to D.C. All of us traveling would have to be responsible for our own travel expenses but it would be the best money spent to ensure that our voices are heard.

Our SUNY SA Spring Conference will be held the weekend of April 10th, 2015 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Binghamton, NY. The theme for the conference is Connect. Collaborate. Explore.

Campus Governance Leaders Institute on June 4th and 5th, 2015 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY. More information to come ASAP.

Here's to a great semester! One filled with knowledge and hope for the future of all of our students as we all work hard to ensure student success now and in the future!

Respectfully,

Lori Mould
President, Student Assembly of the State University of New York
Trustee, Board of Trustees of the State University of New York



Albany – President of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA), Lori Mould, introduced Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY), Nancy Zimpher for the fifth annual State of the University Address. Access + Completion = Success. The formula isn't new but the work to solve the equation will be.

In addition to President Mould, a number of members of the SUNYSA Executive Committee attended the Chancellor's address. Among them was Marc Cohen, senior director of external relations.

"The Chancellor has once again provided a number of ambitious goals which the Student Assembly wholeheartedly supports such as: working to improve student completion rates, advisement services, and a focus on sexual assault and domestic violence." He continued with, "We would, of course, have liked to have seen a plan to address the difficult issue of college affordability; from tuition to textbooks because costs are continuing to rise. This is a very real challenge to access and one that we need to address as a system."

Since the introduction of Access + Completion = Success, various programs have been introduced to bring the success to the students of SUNY. Chancellor Zimpher touted the positive impact programs like Seamless Transfer, Smart Track, Teach New York and Start Up New York have had on the increasing completion rate. By 2020 the goal is to have the completion rate reach 60%. Currently New York State has a completion rate of 45%, approximately 6% higher than the national average. Chancellor Zimpher protests this isn't good enough.

Rey Muniz, III, director of government relations said, "There is one word that summarizes the Chancellor's vision and that word is ambitious." He further stated, "With new programs and new methods also comes a new price tag. This legislative session will be a challenge for SUNY as we seek to find the proper funding to accomplish our

goals. We will be working hard for our students in tandem with system administration to see that these needs are met. We call on the Legislature and the Governor to treat education as the investment that it is and to further SUNY's role as a partner in the state's economic vitality."

To increase Access the Chancellor proposes a partnership with the public schools by placing a dedicated SUNY advisor in every school district in the state. An online course to give high school students access to the information needed to apply for financial aid and the colleges throughout the state. To address issues of diversity every SUNY campus will appoint a chief diversity officer, in addition to existing staff that does reporting. To reach the Completion goals, implementing Quantway and Statway to address the increasing need for remedial math classes. Campuses will be responsible for any incurred costs due to the unavailability of required courses delaying completion past the four year mark.

To create a higher degree of Success, SUNY plans to increase staff recruiting. The applied learning program will become a graduation requirement SUNYwide.

"The Chancellor's plan for SUNY is both visionary and insightful," said SUNYSA President Lori Mould. "SUNY has a history of success and that history will help to propel us forward. We have a real opportunity here to make students an even larger stakeholder in the future of New York. The Chancellor's plan will leave more students completing degrees, less time spent worrying about remedial courses that do not count towards a degree, and will offer every student the opportunity to engage in experiential learning in the field they aspire to work in. We will continue to work with the Chancellor to represent student interests and to help her on her path to make SUNY simply the best."

#INVESTinSUNY #SUNYSpeaksUP



This person thinks
New York needs to
INVEST in SUNY!

March 24th

"SUNY Speaks Up is an incredible opportunity for us, the students, the Power of SUNY, to be heard by our representatives. Our advocacy plan this year is wide-ranging and aggressive. From affordability and aid, to diversity and safety, we look forward to progressing SUNY in an effort to make our college experience the best that it can be. Join us on March 24 in Albany to be part of this historic day!" ~ Senior Director of External Relations, Marc Cohen

2014-2015 Legislative Agenda

- **Textbook Affordability**—Create a task force to identify key areas to reduce the cost of textbooks and expand open source text availability.
- **Community College Base Aid**—Encourage the State to meet their statutory obligation in regard to aid per full time equivalent (FTE) - Secure a commitment for a Rational Aid approach for Community College funding for the next 5 years.
- **On Campus Childcare**—Advocate for budget increases for SUNY childcare centers in order to help provide affordable and accessible childcare to SUNY students and employees .
- **Chargebacks**—Reform the current community college chargeback system, ensure while urging counties to follow the existing law until change is implemented (SUNY SA Legislative Agenda, 2013)
- **Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence**—Advocate for stricter regulations with incidents and work with campuses to implement better systems of reporting, reacting, and aiding in these issues.

Cuomo announces “Get on Your Feet” program

Albany – The Student Assembly of The State University of New York (SUNYSA) advocates for the 464,000 students that attend the 64 campuses throughout the state. Making student loans more manageable has been a priority issue for the SUNYSA Executive Committee. As such, SUNYSA is in support of Governor Cuomo’s announcement of “Get on Your Feet Loan Forgiveness Program.” This program will not only assist students with the burden of student loans it also encourages graduates to remain in New York.

“The Student Assembly has long advocated for a substantive response to the increasingly serious issue of student loan debt. The governor’s new program is an aggressive move to address what has turned into a debt crisis: \$1.2 trillion dollars nationally and counting, with the average New York graduate walking away with nearly \$30,000 in high interest indebtedness.” States Lori Mould, SUNYSA President. Adding, “We are thrilled to see that our dialogue is being taken seriously, and we wholeheartedly support this and similar initiatives.”

For students meeting the following qualifying criteria, New York State will pay the first two years of student loan repayment:

- ◆ Attend college in New York
- ◆ Continue to live in New York after graduation
- ◆ Participate in the federal Pay As You Earn (PAYE) loan repayment program
- ◆ Earn less than \$50,000 per year

SUNYSA Director of Government Relations, Rey Muniz, III, has been working on the issue of student loan affordability states, “The fact that student loan debt has reached such a critical point is a travesty in and of itself. Students are investments, not profits and that is something that the governor recognizes in this program. We cannot continue to saddle the up and coming generation with crippling debt, we have to give them a fighting chance. That is precisely what the governor is saying, and students everywhere support and appreciate that message.”

Second Annual Conference on Shared Governance



Rethinking Shared Governance in Higher Education

MARCH 20-21, 2015

Onondaga Community College
Syracuse, NY

For more information Carol Donato via Carol.Donato@suny.edu.

Connect. Collaborate. Explore.

SUNY Student Assembly Spring Conference

April 10th-12th

Double Tree by Hilton in Binghamton N.Y.

Conference Registration

Registration Rates

Early-bird-By 3/10/15 - \$145.00

Regular-By 3/11/15 - \$155.00

Late-By 4/10/15 - \$165.00

Hotel Information

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Binghamton
225 Water Street, Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 722-7575

Rates per room per night: \$97.00

All hotel reservations must be made by **March 10, 2015.**

- * **Connect** with student leaders from across the state
- * **Collaborate** share ideas
- * **Explore** the endless possibilities

#connect

#collaborate

#explore

Every fall Jefferson Community College hosts a Leadership Day for the student leaders from the local area high schools. What does your campus do to **Connect**?

Email Juliann.schindler@sunysa.org #connect

Inspiration from JCC's Leadership Day

By Maeve McClusky

Campus Life Writer



On Thursday, October 23rd, Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman was to kick off Leadership Day here at JCC by telling his story. However, due to terrible weather in Boston, he could not make it- a situation I'm sure many can relate to, as we live in NNY.

In his place, the audience was shown a video of five time Grammy nominee rapper Common giving a speech, at Monclair State University, on his views of leadership and how he got to where he is now. He used many examples of situations that showed him how to become a better person and how to be a leader, and many of his stories were ones in which he found that success comes from you, not from other people.

The rapper talked often about how, if you want something, you have to work for it and you have to step up and be able to take what you want. One example was when he and Kanye West were showing their new albums to journalists. One of the biggest things that he noticed when Kanye was previewing his album was how he sang his songs with such belief in them and in himself that he found himself liking songs he previously hadn't.

What Common learned from this experience was that just believing in yourself can get you far. He found that, if people can see that you believe in yourself, they then will be more likely to believe in you.

Complete the Sentence

26 L in the A

26 Letters in the Alphabet

88 K on a P

200 D for P G in M

7 B for 7 B

64 S on a C B

99 B of B on the W

15 M on a D M C

21 D on a D

64 C in S S

Follow us on Facebook for the answers

Upcoming
Meetings



Town Hall: March 6, 2015
EC Meeting: March 7, 2015

