

**SFY 2006-2007 Sub-Committee on Higher Education  
Report to the General Conference Committee**

To: Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, Co-Chair  
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair  
Joint General Conference Committee

From: Assemblyman Ron Canestrari, Co-Chair  
Senator Kenneth LaValle, Co-Chair  
Joint Conference Sub-Committee on Higher Education

Subject: Detailed Report of the Conference Sub-Committee on Higher Education

Senator Kenneth LaValle, Co-Chair	Assemblyman Ron Canestrari, Co-Chair
Senator Charles Fuschillo	Assemblyman Ivan Lafayette
Senator Serphin Maltese	Assemblyman Earlene Hooper
Senator Vincent Leibell	Assemblywoman Vivian Cook
Senator Joseph Robach (alternate)	Assemblyman William Colton (alternate)
Senator Toby Ann Stavisky	Assemblyman Chris Ortloff
Senator Jose Serrano (alternate)	Assemblyman Joel Miller (alternate)

On March 27, 2006 the Higher Education Conference Sub-Committee completed its work and presented a general report to the General Conference Committee. We are pleased to present this report, which provides details on budget matters agreed to by the Sub-Committee.

With respect to the allocation of the Sub-Committee's table target of \$269 million, the Co-Chairs and Conferees report that we have agreed to the following:

**1. TAP Restoration \$ 83,650,000**

The Sub-Committee agrees to reject the Executive proposals that would: increase full-time status from 12 to 15 credits; deny eligibility for TAP awards as a result of a student being in default of federal student loans; increase academic progress or academic good standing requirements; and require that students be in full-time attendance when a school certifies them to receive a TAP award. The Sub-committee also agrees to reject the proposal requiring schools to pre-finance TAP awards for students who do not have a high school diploma or GED, except in cases where students have not passed an independently administered and evaluated Ability to Benefit Test. In addition, the Sub-Committee agrees to accept the Governor's proposal regarding accelerated study to be prospectively applied to students for semesters commencing July 1, 2006 and thereafter. The legislature takes a consistent position with the Executive proposal in that it is not intended to impact those students who are currently completing a semester and anticipate applying for an accelerated TAP award for the upcoming summer semester.

Furthermore, reflecting the rejection of the Executive proposal to increase full-time status from 12 to 15 credits, the Sub-Committee agrees that the students need only to complete 24 credit hours in the two preceding semesters.

**2. Tuition Restoration \$93,985,000**

The Sub-Committee agrees to reject the proposal to increase tuition by \$500 at SUNY State Operated Colleges and by \$300 for CUNY Senior Colleges through providing additional operating aid support.

**3. Operating Aid \$59,761,900**

The Sub-Committee agrees to increase operating aid at SUNY by \$44,566,900 to fund University initiatives, High Need Program Expansion, Educational Opportunity Center increases, and Full-Time Faculty Lines. The Committee also agrees to increase operating aid at CUNY by \$15,195,000 to fund Master Plan initiatives and specialized equipment services for students with disabilities.

**4. Community Colleges \$12,795,000**

The Sub-Committee agrees to increase Community College Base Aid above the Executive's proposal by \$75 per full time equivalent student at both SUNY and CUNY Community Colleges. Contract courses at both SUNY and CUNY are increased by \$1 million each.

**5. Higher Education Programs \$7,686,970**

The Sub-Committee agrees to provide a 10% increase in funding for the Educational Opportunity Program, Higher Education Opportunity Program, SEEK, College Discovery, and the Liberty Partnerships Program. Also, the Sub-Committee agrees to increase Bundy Aid by \$2.9 million.

**6. Scholarship Programs \$3,870,000**

The Sub-Committee agrees to provide an additional \$1.8 million in funding for the Patricia K. McGee Nursing Faculty Scholarship Program and the Nursing Faculty Loan Forgiveness Incentive Program. The Sub-Committee also agrees to restore \$2.07 million for Regents Professional and Health Care Opportunity Scholarships.

**7. Arts \$4,000,000**

The Sub-Committee agrees to provide funding for the Arts Exhibitions Revolving Loan Fund and the Digitization Institute.

**Higher Education Capital Plans (SUNY & CUNY)**

**\$700,000,000**

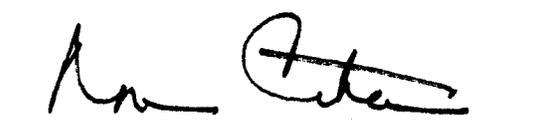
The Sub-Committee agrees to provide \$700 million in funding for capital projects at SUNY and CUNY.

The Sub-Committee agrees on the following actions in relation to Article VII Proposals:

- Create a Part-Time TAP Program for students attending SUNY, CUNY, and independent colleges in the State of New York.
- Include a proposal that would allow a person in the National Guard, who has successfully completed their term of enlistment, to continue to receive tuition benefits if the person was deployed in a combat zone and was unable to participate in the tuition benefits while enlisted.
- Accept the Executive's proposal for the New York State Math and Science Incentive Program with slight modification.
- Include language directing the allocation of funds for the Empire Innovation Program.
- Requires an annual report by the President of the Higher Education Services Corporation on the Tuition Assistance Program.
- Provide that catastrophic illness or being called to active military duty must be considered a change in circumstance for the adjustment of a student's TAP award.
- Include language clarifying the Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program.
- Require a review of tuition increases at community colleges and the justification for such increases by the SUNY or CUNY Board of Trustees.
- Extend the Regents Health Care Professional Opportunity Scholarships and Regents Professional Opportunity Scholarships for the 2007-2008 academic year.
- Reject the proposal to privatize SUNY Hospitals.
- Reject the proposal to add a distinguished faculty member to the SUNY and CUNY Board of Trustees.
- Reject the proposal to alter tuition policy at SUNY and CUNY.
- Reject the proposal for the study of the sale of surplus land at SUNY and CUNY.
- Reject the proposal to create the Partnership to Accelerate Completion Time (PACT) Program.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Senator Kenneth LaValle, Co-Chair



\_\_\_\_\_  
Assemblyman Ron Canestrari, Co-Chair

## 2006-07 HIGHER EDUCATION SPENDING PLAN

	<b>TOTAL</b>	
	2006-07 State Fiscal Year Restoration Costs	
<b><u>I. Higher Education Services Corporation</u></b>		
<b>Tuition Assistance Program</b>		
Restore Full Time Credit to 12 credits	\$	49,000,000
Restore Qualifications for Accelerated Study	\$	-
Restore Pre-Financing TAP awards for GED students	\$	20,020,000
Restore Academic Good Standing Proposal	\$	9,450,000
Restore Defaulted Loan Proposal	\$	3,010,000
Restore Full Time Attendance Proposal	\$	2,170,000
<b>Tap Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>83,650,000</b>
HESC Scholarships	\$	2,070,000
Nursing Scholarships	\$	1,800,000
Engineering Science Loan Forgiveness	\$	-
<b>HESC Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>87,520,000</b>
<b><u>II. State University of New York</u></b>		
SUNY Tuition Increase Restoration	\$	59,710,000
SUNY Operating Aid	\$	20,276,900
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$	1,890,000
SUNY High Need Program Expansion	\$	1,400,000
Full-Time Faculty	\$	17,500,000
East Campus Biomedical Technology Center	\$	3,500,000
SUNY Community Colleges- \$75 Base Aid Increase	\$	9,262,500
SUNY High Need Program Expansion	\$	1,350,000
SUNY Contract Courses	\$	1,000,000
<b>Operating Add Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>115,889,400</b>
<b><u>III. City University of New York</u></b>		
CUNY Tuition Increase Restoration	\$	34,275,000
CUNY Operating Aid (CUNY Compact)	\$	15,007,500
Specialized Equipment Services for Students w/ Disabilities	\$	187,500
CUNY Community Colleges- \$75 Base Aid Increase	\$	3,532,500
CUNY Contract Courses	\$	1,000,000
<b>Operating Add Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>54,002,500</b>
<b>Operating Support Adds Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>169,891,900</b>
<b><u>IV. Additional Higher Education Programs</u></b>		
EOP - 10% increase	\$	1,193,220
HEOP - 10% increase	\$	1,650,000
SEEK - 10% increase	\$	1,095,450
COLLEGE DISCOVERY- 10% increase	\$	76,300
Liberty Partnerships	\$	732,000
Bundy Aid	\$	2,940,000
	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,686,970</b>
<b><u>V. Council on the Arts</u></b>		
Arts Exhibitions Revolving Loan Fund	\$	2,000,000
Digitization Institute	\$	2,000,000
<b>Higher Education Program Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>
<b>Higher Education Table Target</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>269,098,870</b>