



The State University
of New York

Office of the Chancellor

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January 18, 2024

Keith Landa
SUNY Trustee
President, University Faculty Senate
H. Carl McCall Building
Albany, New York 12246

Dear Keith:

Thank you for your email sharing resolutions adopted by the University Faculty Senate at its Fall 2023 Plenary at SUNY Geneseo. I always appreciate the good questions and insights from senators and especially the discussions specific to each sector. Responses to adopted or supported resolutions follow:

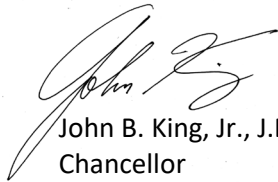
- **195-01-1 Resolution - Support for Microcredentials:** I share the University Faculty Senate's commitment to SUNY's growing microcredential program and extend my thanks to the individual campus senates for their work in approving microcredentials at the local level. Shared governance approval is an essential pillar of this work and is verified by Cyndi Proctor as each new campus program begins and again as new grants or promotions are launched; I appreciate your recognition of her work. We will soon kick off phase II of the Microcredential Advisory Group's work and ensuring consistent data collection to inform program assessment is a key part of its charge. I also appreciate noted equity concerns around financial aid and note that a special category of Part-Time Tap for Non-Degree Credentials is launching for the Spring 2024 semester at community colleges and technology colleges. There are 251 eligible microcredentials (and 39 non-credit courses) approved to date by the Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC). This is an exciting start to improving access to microcredentials for New Yorkers. I will share too recent good news that SUNY's partnership with the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) is expanding from 11 to 21 campuses. This program growth is due to strong demand and is supported with a total investment of over \$20 million to bring the state's Direct Support Professionals to national certification levels through credit-bearing microcredentials that are also putting these individuals on a path to a degree. This is the type of partnership I would like to see modeled at other state agencies.
- **195-02-1 New York State Fiscal Year 2025 Executive Budget Resolution:** This resolution demonstrates the continued engagement of the University Faculty Senate in supporting State investments in SUNY. I appreciate all that you have done to, as the

resolution requires, work with the Chancellor and other partners on budget advocacy for SUNY. Your engagement with me and my staff in your role as President as well as in your capacity as a SUNY Trustee have been essential to ensuring the faculty voice is heard and understood in our budget work. Note that this resolution was shared with our Acting Chief Financial Officer Josh Sager, the Office of Governmental Relations, and other pertinent offices at System Administration. The just released 2024/25 Executive Budget has multiple areas of not only continued support for the SUNY System, but opportunities that may be explored and utilized to ensure the best possible result for SUNY by the end of the current cycle. As the budget process moves forward, we will continue to engage with you, President Woods, and our campus leaders—guidance informed by local input—in seeking positive outcomes.

- **195-03-1 Resolution to Endorse Potsdam Faculty Senate Resolution to Freeze the Financial Stability Plan (Adopted October 18, 2023):** It has been helpful to work with you and members of campus shared governance as System and campuses have worked to address enrollment declines and related fiscal challenges. I support the work SUNY Potsdam has done to implement its fiscal stability plan. We are committed to policy and process that are transparent and uphold our shared commitment to shared governance. As we said in our recent Report on SUNY Long-Term Enrollment and Financial Sustainability: “Healthy campuses consistently engage in ongoing academic portfolio optimization conversations through the shared governance process with students and faculty, with regional employers and labor unions, and with other campus partners. This allows campuses to grow successful programs, modernize programs that are out of alignment with regional needs, and—where necessary—discontinue programs that are no longer attracting students.” Fiscal health is the responsibility of every campus, and I look forward to working with you and with our presidents to ensure that these processes are carried out in service to our students and with respect to the importance of shared governance.

Thank you for your continued leadership.

Sincerely,



John B. King, Jr., J.D., Ed.D.
Chancellor