



**2015 End-of-Session  
Comprehensive  
Legislative Recap**

Bill/Sponsor	Bill Summary	UUP Position or Comment	Status
<b>UUP Budget Victories</b>			
Enacted Budget Bill	<p><b>SUNY Hospital State Subsidy</b> Provides \$87.6 million for the SUNY teaching hospitals. This appropriation is <b>\$18.5 million more</b> than the Executive Budget’s proposal for this subsidy.</p>	<p><b>Support</b></p>	<p><b>Passed; Signed Chapter 50 of 2015</b></p>
Budget Bill	<p><b>Health Care Delivery Systems Pilot Program</b> The Executive Budget included language to develop a pilot program to restructure health care delivery systems by allowing for private capital investment. It proposed the establishment of up to five business corporations, one of which would have to affiliate with an academic medical institution or teaching hospital.</p>	<p><b>Oppose</b> If enacted, this proposal would have opened the door for the privatization of SUNY’s hospitals.</p>	<p><b>Rejected</b> The enacted state budget removed the proposed health care delivery pilot program language.</p>
Enacted Budget Bill	<p><b>SUNY Investment and Performance Fund</b> Provides \$18 million in performance-based funding. The funds will be allocated to campuses based on a methodology determined by the SUNY Chancellor and approved by the SUNY Board of Trustees.</p>	<p><b>Oppose</b> UUP successfully turned an overly strict performance-based funding program into a program that resembled UUP’s BOSS proposal. Unlike the Executive Budget proposal, the enacted budget does not provide specific metrics that must be included in campus plans, and campuses are not required to include “financial incentives for campus presidents who provide</p>	<p><b>Passed; Signed Chapter 50 of 2015</b></p>

		proven leadership resulting in commercialization of research through the START-UP NY program." In addition, the enacted budget does not require the campus plans to be approved by the Division of Budget or allow the state to withhold 10 percent of funding for campuses until they complete a performance funding plan.	
Enacted Budget Bill	<b>SUNY's Opportunity Programs</b> The enacted budget increased the <b>Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)</b> funding by \$4.4 million over the 2014-15 enacted budget allocation. SUNY's <b>Educational Opportunity Centers</b> funding (including ATTAIN lab funds) increased by \$3 million over the 2014-15 enacted budget appropriation.	<b>Support</b>	<b>Passed; Signed Chapter 50 of 2015</b>
Enacted Budget Bill	<b>SUNY Capital Program Increase</b> The enacted budget provides a total of \$462.4 million in new capital funding for SUNY. Included in that amount is: \$200 million in new capital funding for state-operated campuses and \$25 million for the Binghamton School of Pharmacy (another \$25 million provided by the Urban Development Corporation).	<b>Support</b> UUP supports increasing capital funding to repair, maintain and enhance SUNY's infrastructure.	<b>Passed; Signed Chapter 54 of 2015.</b>
Budget Bill	<b>Certificate of Need (CON)</b> The Executive Budget proposed reforms for the CON process. The amendments would have altered the CON process so that public need would not be considered in limited situations. It would have also amended character and	<b>Oppose</b> The proposed reforms would have negatively impacted the SUNY hospitals and health sciences centers.	<b>Rejected</b> The enacted state budget removed the proposed reforms for the CON process.

	competence provisions to limit the look back period and limit cases where officials can be held accountable for substandard delivery of care.		
Enacted Budget Bill	<b>Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program Appropriation</b> Provides \$80 million for public providers who are the sole Performing Provider System in a county. In addition, \$200 million is appropriated for the DSRIP public hospital transformation fund and the safety net performance provider system transformation fund to assure an equitable balance between the funding pools, so that public providers are not disadvantaged.	<b>Support</b>	<b>Passed; Signed Chapter 53 of 2015.</b>
Budget Bill	<b>Back Office Consolidation Proposal</b> The Executive Budget proposed that SUNY and CUNY be required to develop a joint back office consolidation plan to combine administrative functions between the two university systems, including, but not limited to, human resources, financial management, and information technology services.	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Rejected:</b> The enacted budget rejected the governor's proposal.
Enacted Budget Bill	<b>Hospital Capital Funding</b> Provides \$700 million without competitive bid or an RFP process to stabilize Kings County health care delivery and other health care provider-related capital proposals.	UUP supports increasing access to capital funding for SUNY's hospitals and health sciences centers. However, UUP is concerned with the enacted language, which allows the funds to be allocated without a proper process. The language also requires applicants to meet certain financial criteria and serve communities with significant levels of healthcare disparities, needs and risk factors.	<b>Passed; Signed Chapter 50 and Chapter 60 of 2015.</b>

## UUP Post-Budget Victories

<p>S.281-A LaValle/ A.5370-A Glick</p>	<p><b>Maintenance of Effort (MOE)</b> Provides that the state will appropriate and make available state support to cover all mandatory costs of SUNY and SUNY's health science centers, which includes, but is not limited to, collective bargaining costs including salary increments, fringe benefits, and other non-personal service costs such as utility costs, building rentals and other inflationary expenses incurred by the SUNY and the SUNY health science centers. This bill will make the MOE permanent and disconnect it from Tuition Increase bill Chapter 260 of 2011.</p>	<p><b>Support</b> UUP, with NYSUT and its other affiliates, advocated for the passage of this bill. UUP made this issue the center of all advocacy discussions. A genuine MOE must be established to protect funding for student services and ensure a financially secure public higher education system. It's time for the state to pay its fair share in funding <b>public</b> higher education. UUP is now fully engaged in a concerted effort with NYSUT, PSC, NYPIRG and other coalition partners to press the governor to sign this bill. There will be more details on this effort to follow.</p>	<p><b>Passed the Senate and Assembly</b></p>
<p>S.5217 LaValle/ A.7388 Glick</p>	<p><b>Five-Year SUNY and CUNY Capital Plans</b> Requires the governor to submit to the Legislature, as part of the annual Executive Budget, five-year capital plans for the SUNY state-operated campuses and CUNY senior colleges. The plans must provide an annual appropriation of capital funds to cover 100 percent of the annual critical maintenance needs.</p>	<p><b>Support</b> Given the shortfalls in critical maintenance funding, this bill will provide the capital funding necessary for SUNY and CUNY campuses.</p>	<p><b>Passed the Senate and Assembly</b></p>
<p>S.4404-B DeFrancisco/ A.7252-B Magnarelli</p>	<p><b>Reimbursement of fees and hospital charges to SUNY health care facilities</b> Prohibits the state from sweeping outstanding SUNY hospital account receivables, such as tuition, fees, and hospital charges into the general fund. The fiscal impact of this</p>	<p><b>Support</b> SUNY health care facilities are owed these funds and it is only equitable that they be reimbursed these funds, to which they would have otherwise been entitled, had they</p>	<p><b>Passed the Senate and Assembly</b></p>

	legislation will fluctuate from year-to-year. However, the current impact is an estimated \$2-\$3 million.	been paid in a timely manner.	
S.5937 Larkin/ A.8174-A Paulin	<b>Pension Credit for Military Service</b> Allows all public employees who served in the military to receive pension credit for military service regardless of when they served.	<b>Support</b> UUP advocated for this bill as part of its post-budget legislative priorities.	<b>Passed the Senate and Assembly</b>
A.8244 Glick/ S.5965 LaValle	<b>Campus Sexual Assault and Violence</b> Requires all colleges and universities in the State of New York to implement uniform prevention and response policies and procedures relating to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.  One section of this bill requires institutions to annually report aggregate data and information about reports of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault. This shall include the total number of reports received, open and closed investigations, outcomes of such investigations, and penalties imposed on perpetrators. In addition, this bill provides a \$1 million appropriation for college campuses to support training and other expenses related to this legislation.	<b>Support</b> During UUP's Spring 2014 Delegate Assembly more than 300 UUP delegates adopted a resolution addressing sexual assault on campuses. Part of this resolution urged immediate implementation of an annual standardized anonymous survey of campus sexual assaults, administered by the SUNY campuses. Through NYSUT's advocacy important collective bargaining language was asserted in the final bill that was enacted into law.	<b>Passed the Senate and Assembly</b>  <b>Signed by the Governor</b>
<b>Post-Budget Issues UUP Defeated</b>			
S.278 LaValle	<b>SUNY Hospital Firewall bill</b> Creates a firewall between the individual accounts of the SUNY hospital systems. Specifies that the funds in each hospital's accounts are for the operations of that facility alone and may not be supplemented by funds contained within any other SUNY accounts.	<b>Oppose</b>	In the Senate Finance Committee. The Assembly did not introduce a companion bill.

S.276 LaValle	<p><b>Online Accelerated Proficiency Degree (APD)</b>  This bill directed the SUNY Trustees to identify baccalaureate degree programs that can be offered exclusively online at reduced rates and credits. Also called for the development of criteria to create an APD to be offered at four state-operated institutions.</p>	<b>Oppose</b>	In Senate Higher Education Committee.
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## Outstanding Issues

- **Endowment** – Gained additional traction this year. This issue was considered by the Executive during budget. UUP, with NYSUT, will continue advocacy efforts for the creation of a public higher education quality initiative endowment fund.
- **DREAM Act** – Passed the Assembly, UUP will continue its coalition advocacy efforts for this issue.
- **FOIL Bill** (foundation disclosure) – Through UUP advocacy this issue is starting to resonate with the Legislature. For the first time, UUP saw significant movement in the Assembly committees on this bill. The Senate has shown movement on this bill in the past. UUP will continue its advocacy efforts on this bill.
- **Financial Disclosure of SUNY Campus Foundation Employees** – UUP will continue to advocate for foundation transparency and will continue to pursue it through this and other similar bills.
- **VOTE-COPE via Pension Deduction** – A relatively new bill that UUP will continue to advocate for its enactment.
- **Maximum Allowable Public Service Earnings for State Retirees** – Passed the Senate, UUP will continue its advocacy efforts for this issue.
- **Healthy Workforce Bill** – UUP will continue to advocate for this issue.
- **New York State Fair Pay Act** – Passed the Assembly, UUP will continue to advocate for this issue.
- **Teacher Preparation Program** – UUP was able to mitigate the worst of the Executive Budget proposal. For example, the governor’s proposal to tie teacher preparation program deregistration and closure to test scores was limited to graduate programs. Undergraduate programs were spared. It was through UUP’s intense lobbying efforts with the State Education Department (SED) and Board of Regents that safety nets for the three new certification exams and the edTPA were secured. UUP will continue its efforts to ensure that the outstanding substantive issues related to these exams and assessment are addressed by SED. UUP is pressing for a full investigation of the problems with the four SED teacher certification exams.