



THE STATE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW YORK

Nancy L. Zimpher August 17, 2010
Chancellor

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Dr. Kenneth O'Brien
President
University Faculty Senate
State University Plaza
Albany, NY 12246

Dear Ken,

This is in response to your letter of May 18, 2010, which outlined the resolutions passed at the April 24, 2010, University Faculty Senate plenary.

I appreciate your ongoing willingness to continue refining the process by which I respond to Faculty Senate resolutions. It is essential that I have a full picture of the issues the UFS is addressing and that our communications meet the needs of your membership.

Below please find my responses to the two resolutions for which you've requested my feedback.

155-01-1 Resolution on Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting.

I understand your concerns relative to faculty representation on presidential search committees. I am currently reviewing search procedures as they relate to all 64 campuses, and your concerns and recommendations are important input as we undertake the review. I will be keeping the Board of Trustees informed and will keep you apprised of any proposed changes to the procedures.

155-03-01 Resolution of the University Faculty Senate on the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act.

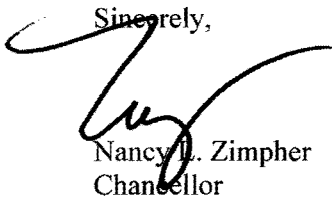
First, I want to thank you and the Faculty Senate for your support of PHEEIA. This endorsement and your vocal support were critical to our advocacy effort, and an important reason why the Empowerment Act was on the table until the bitter end of the budget negotiations.

Unfortunately, as you know, none of the provisions of PHEEIA were adopted in the final state budget. However, we have received assurances from legislative leaders and the Governor that they will return to address the Empowerment Act before the end of the year. We will publicly hold them to that promise, and this campaign will continue until these essential reforms are enacted.

As for the issues of special concern you have listed, these are all matters that can only be dealt with on a policy level once we have a statute in place that enables us to set tuition policy, establish public-private partnerships, and streamline procurement practices. That said, I can assure you that these issues are of equal concern to me and that we will continue to work closely with you to address them once we are in a position to implement the reforms.

As always, thank you for your stalwart partnership and leadership—I look forward to our continued working relationship as we continue to chart a new course for SUNY and New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nancy L. Zimpher', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Nancy L. Zimpher
Chancellor

NLZ:jfn

cc: Ms. Monica Rimai, Sr. Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer
Mr. John O'Connor, Sr. Vice Chancellor and Secretary of the University
Dr. David Lavalley, Sr. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost
Ms. Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Deputy for the Education Pipeline and Vice Chancellor
for Community Colleges