

Support CUNY! Stop the Budget Cuts!

The City University of New York (CUNY) is a vital resource for New Yorkers and for New York. Almost half of all college students in our city are CUNY students, and without CUNY most of them would have no opportunity to get the quality education they need to succeed and prosper in the 21st-century economy.

But right now CUNY is in danger. Mayor Bloomberg has proposed \$65 million in cuts to CUNY's budget and student financial aid. We must act now to make sure those cuts are restored by the City Council and new funds added to meet the needs of the university. Budget cuts would mean increased class sizes, course cancellations, reduced library hours and deteriorating facilities.

We need every CUNY student, parent, faculty, staff and community supporter to contact their City Council Member, the Council Speaker and the Mayor to make sure they understand: New Yorkers need CUNY and CUNY can't afford budget cuts.

Three things you can do:

- 1. Sign a CUNY Rising postcard to the City Council.*
- 2. Get your friends, your professors, your students, your family to sign postcards, too. Make sure you collect them back and turn them in. Call 212-354-1252 for your campus drop-off location.*
- 3. Go to the PSC website, www.psc-cuny.org, click "Act Now" and send a letter to Mayor Bloomberg, Speaker Quinn and your Council Member. Let them know what your campus needs.*

Restore cuts included in the Mayor's Preliminary FY 2009 Budget

- Operating aid for CUNY Community Colleges \$30.3 million
- Programs students need including ASAP, Veterans' Resource Center and renewable energy training called for by PlaNYC 2030 initiative \$11.2 million
- Scholarships and innovative programs including Vallone Scholarships, Civic Justice Corps at John Jay College, NYC Works, CUNY's Black Male Empowerment Initiative, CUNY Citizenship and Immigration Project and the Creative Arts Team \$24.0 million

Resources to fully fund CUNY's FY 2009 Operating Aid Request

- Increases for hiring additional full-time faculty, expanding student support services (including counseling services, support to veterans and students with disabilities), workforce development programs and academic research \$19.5 million

Funding for CUNY's Capital Request (needed to match state funds) \$ 376 million

PSC Mental Health Counselor and Faculty Mentoring Proposal

- CUNY Community Colleges have one licensed mental health counselor on average for every 2,300 general population students, far below national standards. Individual attention from faculty is one of the best ways to improve student achievement. \$2.5 million

CUNY PROVIDES HOPE AND REAL OPPORTUNITY. INVEST IN CUNY!

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