

**SFY 2007-2008 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: Assemblymember Deborah Glick, 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 Deborah Glick, Co-Chair
Senator Joseph Griffo	Assemblyman William Parment
Senator Serphin Maltese	Assemblywoman Earlene Hooper
Senator Charles Fuschillo	Assemblywoman Vivian Cook
Senator Joseph Robach (alternate)	Assemblyman William Colton (alternate)
Senator Toby Ann Stavisky	Assemblyman Joel Miller
Senator Jose Serrano (alternate)	Assemblyman Thomas O'Mara (alternate)

On March 30, 2007 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 \$45 million, the Co-Chairs and Conferees report that we have agreed to the following:

1. Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) \$ 11,936,114

The Sub-Committee agrees to reject the Executive's proposal to eliminate the use of the Ability to Benefit (ATB) examination as a measure of determining TAP eligibility. The Sub-Committee agrees to allow the use of a New York State Board of Regents selected and federally approved Ability to Benefit examination that has been independently administered and evaluated to determine TAP eligibility. The Sub-Committee also agrees to amend the Accelerated TAP Program to allow students who are taking remedial courses to be eligible for an accelerated study award.

2. Operating Aid \$ 16,464,730

The Sub-Committee agrees to increase operating aid at SUNY by \$11,764,730. Of this appropriation, \$4,264,730 is provided for the ATTAIN labs and \$500,000 is provided for small business development centers. The Sub-Committee also agrees to increase operating aid at CUNY by \$4,700,000 to fund Master Plan initiatives.

3. Community Colleges

\$ 9,926,963

The Sub-Committee agrees to increase Community College Base Aid above the Executive's proposal by \$50 per full time equivalent student at both SUNY and CUNY Community Colleges. The Sub-Committee also provides \$1million for low enrollment assistance for SUNY community colleges and \$500,000 for Cornell Cooperative Extension.

4. Higher Education Programs

\$ 6,672,193

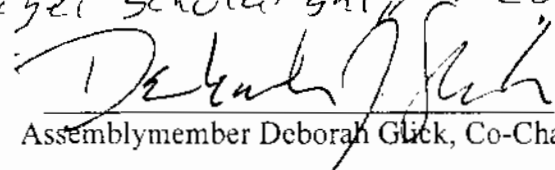
The Sub-Committee agrees to provide a 3% increase in funding for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and the Liberty Partnership Program and a 5% increase in funding for the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), Search for Education, Elevation and Knowledge Program (SEEK), and College Discovery. Also, the Sub-Committee agrees to increase Bundy Aid by \$2.94 million and provide \$1,027,000 for the expansion of nursing programs at private institutions.

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

- Accept the Executive's proposal to require that to be eligible for participation in TAP, institutions must be approved for participation in federal student financial aid programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
- Accept the Governor's proposal to codify academic progress standards from the 2006-07 State Budget for students receiving TAP awards as a measure of determining academic eligibility;
- Reject the Executive's proposal to eliminate the use of the Ability to Benefit (ATB) examination as a measure of determining TAP eligibility;
- Require students who do not have a high school diploma, or its equivalent, to receive a passing score on a New York State Board of Regents selected and federally approved Ability to Benefit examination that has been independently administered and evaluated to determine financial aid eligibility for TAP;
- Amend the Accelerated TAP Program to allow students who are taking remedial courses to be eligible for an accelerated TAP award;
- Establish a temporary New York State Commission on Public Higher Education; and
- The Stony Brook University Quality Assessment and Review Board will be sent to the General Conference Committee for further consideration.

*And the committee will continue to discuss
The Senator Patricia Meyer scholarship & loan
fac. access language*


Senator Kenneth LaValle, Co-Chair


Assemblymember Deborah Gluck, Co-Chair

2007-08 HIGHER EDUCATION SPENDING PLAN (000's)

	State Fiscal Year 2007-08 Costs
<u>I. Higher Education Services Corporation</u>	
Tuition Assistance Program	
Accelerated Study Eligibility Decrease to 18 credits	4,936,114
Reform TAP eligibility requirements for ATB students	7,000,000
Tuition Assistance Program Subtotal	11,936,114 ✓
<u>II. SUNY/CUNY Operating Support Additions</u>	
SUNY Operating Aid	7,000,000 ✓
Small business Development Centers	500,000 ✓
ATTAIN Labs	4,264,730 ✓
Operating Add Subtotal	11,764,730 ✓
CUNY Operating Aid (CUNY Compact)	4,700,000 ✓
Joseph Murphy Institute	500,000 ✓
Operating Add Subtotal	5,200,000 ✓
SUNY Community Colleges- \$50 Base Aid Increase	6,120,713 ✓
CUNY Community Colleges- \$50 Base Aid Increase	2,306,250 ✓
SUNY Community Colleges- Low Enrollment Assistance	1,000,000 ✓
Cornell Cooperative Extension	500,000 ✓
Community College Subtotal	9,926,963
Operating Support Adds Subtotal	26,891,693
<u>III. Additional Higher Education Programs</u>	
EOP - 3% increase	587,658
HEOP - 5% increase	726,000
SEEK - 5% increase	489,030
COLLEGE DISCOVERY- 5% increase	41,965
Liberty Partnerships	360,540
Bundy Aid	2,940,000
Private College Nursing Program Expansion	1,027,000
Higher Education Program Subtotal	6,172,193
Higher Education Table Target	45,000,000