SUNY THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

STUDENT ASSEMBLY BRIEF 2023 Fall UFS

Presenters: Alexander O. Ruiz President

PRESIDENT Alexander Ruiz



What is the SUNY Student Assembly?

The official representative organization for students at the State University of New York (SUNY), the SUNY Student Assembly (SUNY SA) brings together student leaders from all 64 SUNY campuses to advocate for the needs and concerns of students across the state. Comprised of community colleges, Agricultural and Technology Institutes, Statutory Colleges, University Colleges, and Doctoral Granting Institutions.

SUNY SA serves as a bridge between students, the Chancellor, and the University Board of Trustees and works to represent the interests of SUNY students on the local, state, and federal levels.



Representatives

• 16 Representatives

- 3 Undergraduate DGI
- 2 Graduate DGI
- 3 University Centers
- 6 Community Colleges

Campus Represented

 Alfred State - Farmingdale - Binghamton - University at Buffalo - Buffalo State - SUNY Polytechnic - SUNY Brockport - Old Westbury - SUNY Oswego -ESF - Monroe Community College - Hudson Valley Community College - Erie Community College - Genesee Community College - Dutchess Community College - SUNY Geneseo



Reps In Action

- A new age of communication
 - All reps have sent introduction emails to SGA Presidents
 - Required to send 2 monthly emails
 - Encouraged to meet with their campus virtually/in-person at least once a month

"Action Months"

- Focused on one issues every month to focus on
 - Mental Health, Food Insecurity, etc



Conference

November 17th through 19th \bullet Syracuse NY, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Syracuse **Focused on Professional** Development DEI, Ethics, Title IX, Public 0 Speaking Selected by feedback from different campuses **Mix of Student and Professional** 0 speakers **Registration Fee Early Bird Fee Financial Assistance** 0



Sunysa.org

ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL communications@sunysa.org

Executive Cabinet

- Chief of Staff
- Parliamentarian
- **Executive Director of Student Voices**
 - Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Director of Student Health
 - Director of Accessibility
 - 0
 - Director of Sustainability Director of Non-Traditional Students 0
- **Executive Director of Policy**
 - Senior Director of Govérnment Relations 0
 - Senior Director of Policy Research Ο
- **Executive Director of Public Relations**
 - Director of Media Relations 0
 - **Director of Community Relations** 0



Policy Team

Farm Bill

- After researching the Farm Bill it is clear that it could be very beneficial for SUNY especially our community colleges which could get access to \$20 million in new money under one proposal for agricultural programs (S.1740).
- Mental Health

 NYS Assembly Bill A04142 Summary: Requires at least a ratio of one clinical, non-student mental health staff member per one thousand students on all SUNY and CUNY campuses and for state colleges and universities to update such ratio every five years.
 #AMoreAffordableSUNY



Student Voices Team

- SNAP Accessibility for Students
 - SVT will table at different campus to inform students about the requirements to this program and sharing resources for students to benefit from.
 - Connecting campus SGA's with Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NEOP)
 Coordinators throughout the different counties of NYS.
- Food Insecurity
 - In tandem with the SNAP outreach, our team is working on fostering collaborative relationships and partnerships with campus food pantries.
- SV Events
 - SUNY SUCCESS Town Hall Conversation: Gathering first gen students from across the system to celebrate their accomplishments and share visions for the future. (Date: TBD, Campus: TBD *HYBRID Event)
 - Women in Leadership: (Date: TBD, Campus: University of Buffalo. *HYBRID Event)
 - Exito Hispano: Celebrating Hispanic students from across the SUNY system. Event of fellowship & networking. (Date: TBD, Campus Rockland Community College, *Hybrid Event)
 - EOP Empowerment Exchange: Meeting with EOP Students and empowering their voice through meaningful conversation. (Date: Spring 2024, Campus: SUNY Polytechnic Institute)

SUNY STUDENT

Civic Engagement:

Civic engagement or civic participation is any individual or group activity addressing issues of public concern. Civic engagement includes communities working together or individuals working alone in both political and non-political actions to protect public values or make a change in a community.

To address the specific needs of students on our campuses the focus must be on equipping our students with the tools that empower them to tackle the challenges they face.

"Collaboration among stakeholders is what makes the most effective institutions of care and support" Direction is what is necessary to ensure that students are capable of molding their experiences in the areas in which they call home; directly impacting a student's access and engagement in conversations relating to access to **food, transportation, accessibility,** and many more conversations that drastically impact a student's **overall health** and **well-being**.

- Connecting students with local and state officials: Number of meetings organized by Campus Student Associations/Governments between students and local and
- state officials to advance advocacy toward food insecurity, transportation, affordability, and accessibility.
- Increase Local Engagement in Voter Registration by utilizing the platforms and tools SUNY has executed with prior (Proactively).
- Set the expectation of Campus Organizations to submit projects to the Student Assembly that promote collaboration among community members.

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The objective is to streamline communication channels between our campus leaders and those designated to represent/support them as students and engaged community builders.

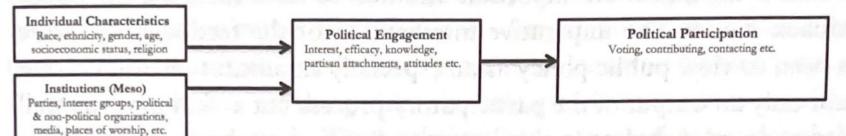
The Student Assembly will be referenced as the tool, not the venue; to ensure consistent engagement with this project, the respective campus Student Association/Government will be fully autonomous when organizing campus events and demonstrations that officials and/or organizations are requested to attend. The Student Assembly may aid in the organization of said demonstrations on a partnership basis (Per campus Student Association/Government request).

This Project allows us as students to actively participate in conversations while they occur. For far too long students have been the reactionary medium of more extensive conversations that impact millions. A resource that shall endure the issues of today and tomorrow!





A. Traditional Models of Participation





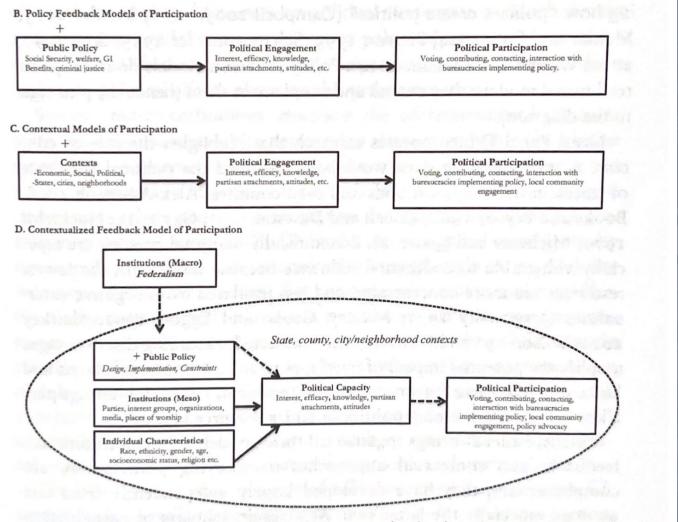


FIGURE 2.1 A contextualized feedback framework of political participation

Questions?



Contact Information

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