

# THE ASCENDANT

ROSARY HILL COLLEGE

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

## SPECIAL ISSUE

EXTRA!

APRIL 11

EXTRA!!

EXTRA!!!



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RHC ---- DOOMED ????

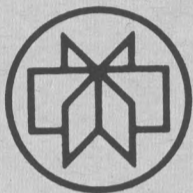
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# WILL THIS LETTER FINANCE

This letter was sent out to every home with 5 petition slips. This movement has 500,000 endorsements.



State University of New York at Buffalo



Office of the President

## Student Association

205 NORTON HALL • BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14214 • (716) 831-5507

March 28, 1972

Dear Parents,

The SUNY Board of Trustees has announced that tuition and dormitory expenses at all SUNY schools will be increased for the 1972-73 academic year. Freshmen and sophomores will be required to pay \$650 for tuition, an increase of \$100; juniors and seniors will be charged \$800, a \$250 increase. At the same time, dormitory rent will be raised \$100 to \$665 for a double-occupancy room, yielding a rent of \$74 a month for a half a room. In short, the tuition increase will cost each student \$1100 more for his education over a four-year period. These increases are not due to inflation or added expenses; they exist because of the State's increasing commitment to subsidizing higher education at private schools.

The State collects \$88 million in tuition fees from students in SUNY, but most of these revenues are used to subsidize private institutions. The most obvious subsidy is the \$30 million in "Bundy Aid" that is given directly to private colleges. This money is divided between the various schools on a per student basis. Thus some private colleges which are in little or no financial difficulty continue to receive subsidies.

The Regents Scholarship and Scholar Incentive program costs the State over \$70 million annually; of this, nearly \$50 million is paid to students in private institutions, constituting an indirect subsidy. The Regents program suffers from many defects. Scholarships are given on the basis of a standardized test which is designed to be understood by a normal high school senior. Students who have attended low-quality schools and members of minorities whose native language is not English are handicapped by this type of test. Although students in higher income brackets are statistically more likely to do well on the Regents Test, the Scholarship Award structure allocates only token amounts to middle and upper income families. In any case, scholarships can only be applied to tuition, leaving families to fend for themselves in meeting the other costs of sending a student to college.

Last week, the State Senate unanimously approved an act which established deferred-repayment financing of colleges costs; when passed by the State Assembly it will become law. Under this act, a college student may borrow up to \$2500 a year to meet tuition and non-tuition expenses, regardless of his family's income. Repayment will be made after graduation in the form of a proportional tax of the student's income until the loan is paid off. This program will not cost the State a single cent, since it qualifies for Federal support under the 1972 Aid to Education Act.

The Deferred Repayment Loan Program does more to aid students in private colleges than Regents Scholarships could ever do. But where do families with children in SUNY stand? The answer is simple: were the Regents Scholarship program abolished, there would not have to be any undergraduate tuition at SUNY. The State collects \$88 million in undergraduate tuition, and pays out \$73.5 million in Regents Scholarships. Scholar Incentives and State University Scholarships. Only \$14.5 million out of total tuition receipts actually find their way into the SUNY budget.

Thus, if Regents Scholarships were abolished and a no-tuition policy instituted, only \$14.5 million would be required to fund SUNY at present levels. Graduate student tuition brings in \$11.8 million, leaving only \$2.7 million to be accounted for. This amount can easily be raised by eliminating non-viable programs within SUNY. Furthermore, additional revenues comparable to those that would be gained from the tuition increase could be made available to SUNY by eliminating direct subsidies to those private colleges which are financially stable.

If there is no tuition at SUNY, nobody will need a Regents Scholarship to pay for it. If the Regents program is abolished, enough money to institute a no-tuition policy would become available.

What can you do to fight the hike? We would appreciate it if you and your spouse would sign and return the

# NCIALLY CRIPPLE YOU ??????

me of each SUNY student, on March 28,  
has a potential power of approximately

pledge letter we have enclosed. We will forward all the pledge letters we receive to your legislators. By signing the letter, you are notifying your representatives in Albany that you will vote only for those legislators who have a substantial commitment to the future of higher education in New York State. The text of the program you are asked to support was agreed upon by a joint session of the Student Association of the State University (SASU) and the City University Student Senate (USS). These organizations are composed of delegates from the Student Governments of all the major centers of their Universities. SASU and USS have devoted a large portion of their energy and resources to fight to obtain a rational tuition structure for higher education in New York State, and have conducted thorough research on the feasibility of the program we offer.

We would appreciate your prompt attention. The State budget, including the appropriations for SUNY, will be voted on before April 15. We must have the pledge letters returned to us by early April in order to make effective use of them during the intensive lobbying campaign that we will be conducting in Albany before the Legislature votes. Other voters in your family should also sign pledges. You might also consider asking friends, relatives, and neighbors to sign the pledge letter.

Another action you can take is to write a personal letter to your legislators. Writing a letter may take half an hour of your time, but it could save you \$250 next year. If you write to your legislators, send a copy of your letter to:

Chancellor Ernest L. Boyer  
45 Marion Avenue  
Albany, New York

and

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller  
Governor's Mansion  
Albany, New York

We are fighting to preserve easy access to higher education for all New Yorkers. Sign a pledge letter and join us. The buck you save will be your own.

For SUNY,

*Deborah Benson*

Deborah Benson, President  
Student Association  
State University of New York at Buffalo

## THE SASU-USS TWO-PHASE PROGRAM ON PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

### A. For Immediate Action

1. Roll Back of tuition in SUNY to current levels (1971-72), and maintenance of no tuition in CUNY.
2. Appropriation of such funds as are necessary to maintain Public Universities at a level which will ensure a quality education (estimated at \$20 million for SUNY and \$33 million for CUNY)
3. Replacement of the present programs of State Aid to private colleges by cooperative arrangements between public and private institutions.

### B. For Implementation By The Academic Year 1973-74

1. Tuition free education at the undergraduate level in Public Universities for residents of New York State.
2. Elimination of undergraduate Scholar Incentive Awards, Regents Scholarships, and State University Scholarships, while maintaining and increasing other aid programs.
3. Adoption of a deferred-repayment insured loan program to provide aid for non-tuition expenses in Public Universities and all educational expenses for private college students (tuition and non-tuition).
4. Changing the structure of the SUNY Board of Trustees to make them more representative of the people of the State of New York.

# SUNY "RIP OFF"

by Louise E. Continelli  
Editor-In-Chief

There is a good possibility that Rosary Hill College may be non-existent in the near future. A letter from the SUNY Student Association was sent out March 28, 1972 which may DESTROY Rosary Hill. This letter, which was sent to every parent of each student attending a New York State University, demands the ABOLISHMENT OF ALL REGENTS INCENTIVE AWARDS and alludes to the elimination of all BUNDY AID. (Thus all scholarships etc., awarded from our school will also be eliminated.) This abolishment of funds is part of a plan to establish tuition-free SUNY schools. A tuition-free program applies to ONLY FOUR

UNIVERSITY CENTERS, namely the State University at Albany, at Buffalo, at Stony Brook, and at Binghamton. This does not include all city colleges, medical centers, specialized colleges, agricultural and technical colleges, statutory colleges, community colleges and, of course, private colleges. As a substitution for our present aid, a deferred-repayment insured loan program of \$2,500 for private-school students was suggested.

Where would this future action leave the average RHC student or any student of a private institution? Her/his incentive awards, regent's scholarships, school scholarships, etc.

would be totally wiped out. The "ideal" situation would be that he/she could borrow up to \$10,000 dollars and repay it from post-graduate income. THE PROSPECT OF GRADUATING WITH A \$10,000 DEBT IS MOST FRIGHTENING TO SAY THE LEAST. Of course, this fact was not considered in the "altruistic" design of a tuition-free university.

Who exactly would benefit from a tuition free university system? The letter alludes to the benefit of the culturally deprived and lower income families by the SUNY tuition free system. This idea is ABSOLUTELY FALSE for two reasons. First of all, it is near-

ly impossible for a student, even a high-averaged student, to enter his "home" SUNY SCHOOL. Students with high school averages as high as 94 have been rejected from her/his "home" SUNY school. Why? Because they were commuters and would not reside in the SUNY dorms; thus money would be lost. However, if a student is from a high-income family and can afford the expense of dorm-living, commuting back and forth for holidays, etc., he is, even with average marks, assured a place in a "distant" SUNY system. Meanwhile, the student who cannot afford to live away from home usually will enroll in a private college

or a junior college because in the long run, despite high tuition rates, it is less expensive. Thus, the only people who benefit from the abolishment of incentive awards, regents scholarships and bundy aid for tuition-free SUNY schools are a small minority of high income families who can afford to send their sons and daughters away to school.

Besides financially crippling the average RHC student, this "SUNY tuition-free" program will also cater to only a small minority of students coming from high income families.

## STUDENTS! FACULTY! ADMINISTRATORS!

I PLEDGE NOT TO VOTE FOR THOSE STATE LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORT AND WILL NOT VOTE FOR THE SASU-USS TWO PHASE PROGRAM ON PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION, for the reasons presented in editorial on the other side

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RETURN TO:

Chancellor Ernest L. Boyer  
45 Marion Avenue  
Albany, New York

and

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller  
Governor's Mansion  
Albany, New York

# SAVE YOUR SCHOOL

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# THE LEGISLATURE WILL VOTE APRIL 15 SEND YOUR PETITION IN NOW !!!!!