

Resolution on Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget Proposal

Passed by the Lehman College Senate Committee on Governance, March 2, 2015

The Lehman College Senate takes note of the following proposal, which is part of Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget. This proposal refers to CUNY. A proposal using nearly identical language has been made for SUNY.

§ 2. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 18 to read as follows:

18. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the city university of New York board of trustees shall pass a resolution by December thirty-first, two thousand fifteen, providing that students enrolled in an academic program of the city university of New York shall be required to participate in an approved experiential or applied learning activity as a degree requirement. Such resolution shall define approved experiential or applied learning activities, methods of faculty oversight and assessment, responsibilities of business, corporate, non-profit or other entities hosting students, and a plan for full implementation of this requirement.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after April 1, 2015.

In response to this proposal, the Lehman College Senate passes the following resolution.

Whereas experiential learning is already being provided for students who are studying in Lehman College degree programs where experiential learning is useful to the student; and

Whereas the mandate for experiential learning may interfere with the graduation of students in those disciplines where such learning is not normally part of the curriculum; and

Whereas the college has not been given administrative staff that is necessary to arrange for experiential learning for those students it does not already provide for; and

Whereas the governor's proposal, making curriculum the result of gubernatorial action, devalues the Lehman College/CUNY degree in the eyes of the public;

Be it resolved that the Lehman College Senate asks the Governor and New York State legislators not to pass any bill that mandates experiential learning as a college graduation requirement; and

Be it further resolved that the Lehman College Senate asks the Governor and New York State legislators not to pass any bill that changes the curricula of this college without the assent of the faculty, administration, and students that are represented by their elected Lehman College Senate.