

**SUNY New Paltz Council Meeting
December 15, 2023**

Voting Members Present: Mr. Basch, Mr. Bettez, Dr. Venables, Mr. Law (remote and in person), Mr. Uchitelle, Ms. Noble, Dr. Scott-Childress (non-voting faculty representative) and Ms. Padmore-Bacchus (remote; non-voting alumni representative).

Campus Administration Present: President Wheeler; Provost McClure; Vice Presidents Halstead, Marks and Wright; Interim Vice President Turk; Assistant Vice President Lieblich.

Interim Chairman's Report:

- Mr. Basch called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m.
- Mr. Basch thanked all members for joining.
- Mr. Basch proposed approving the minutes from the October 4, 2023, meeting. Ms. Noble moved on the motion and Mr. Bettez seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- Mr. Basch spoke about an interview SUNY Chancellor King gave to the *Times Union* about enrollment across campuses and the future of SUNY. He said this article put New Paltz in a good light.
- Mr. Basch introduced Assistant Vice President Lieblich, who joined the Council as the student affairs division representative. All Council members introduced themselves.

President's Report:

- President Wheeler said the University is rolling into a cycle of reviewing the utility of programs in the student experience with a critical eye. This moves away from just saying majors. We're looking more robustly at multiple indicators of what's associated with student success.
- The president said we're moving to review programs with an eye toward optimizing the ones we have. This could include a reduction of programs but is not the sole purpose of the review.
- President Wheeler said the chancellor's message to universities is that you can't just grow your way out of challenges. Campuses have to look at programs that may or may not be strong and suitable for an institution's present offerings.
- The president noted under the leadership of Interim Vice President Turk that spring transfer enrollment is at 265 students, above a 250 target. The Undergraduate Admission team is looking to fall 2024 enrollment and beyond.
- President Wheeler highlighted the \$6.37 million award from the Ibis Group for the Science of Reading Fundamentals microcredential program. Their board chair is very enthusiastic about us. They seeded money to help this institution continue to innovate and grow.
- The president said that Vice President Halstead and her division are stewards of resources. He added that all leaders must be strategically aligned with resources that allow us to be sustainable.

- President Wheeler noted that Vice President Wright and team are leading a lot of work with communication and marketing. We want to make sure we are a branded entity and that people understand our best stories.
- And the president said Assistant Vice President Lieblich, sharing leadership with Assistant Vice President Patterson, is making sure all work with Student Affairs is humming along well. This is a huge portfolio.
- President Wheeler said the context for higher education is situated on a couple of things, including demographics.
- As a sector, higher education has received increased scrutiny and the president said we have to look carefully at how we make value propositions to stakeholders.
- President Wheeler shared that in the past three months we have seen increased scrutiny on the climate of campuses, particularly given attention to Antisemitic and Islamophobic acts. The president said all campuses within SUNY have been asked to pay attention to this.
- SUNY New Paltz as a campus has had a strong run in this timeframe, taking input and trying to make campus a place where students of all persuasions feel safe and supported. The president said we're always trying to do more and always surveilling that things can change. We're not sitting back and we're highly engaged.
- Mr. Basch thanked the president. He said the president speaks to an acute awareness of contemporary situations and has managed things well.
- Ms. Padmore-Bacchus said since last meeting she has been speaking with people about increasing our enrollment numbers. She will touch base further with Interim Vice President Turk on this.

Budget Update:

- See attached PowerPoint slides.
- Vice President Halstead shared some updates since the last Council meeting. She said the campus was approved for incremental funding proposals submitted to SUNY including graduate student support (\$24k); food insecurity (\$49k); mental health support (\$249k); students with disabilities supports (\$292k); and support for internships (\$326k). She said the total is \$939k that encompasses the entire fiscal year. Ms. Noble asked what happens if the University doesn't spend the funds within the year. The vice president said what we don't spend will roll over, along with any unspent funds on the state account. And this is renewable money that will come again next year.
- Dr. Venables asked how the campus identifies those in need of food. Vice President Halstead said funding will go to the campus food pantry.
- Assistant Vice President Lieblich added that the funds will go to hire someone, along with support to the food pantry.
- Vice President Halstead said the collective bargaining increases from the recent UUP agreement are processed. She added that savings from vacant positions appear to be greater than projected and that the labor market is still soft.
- Vice President Halstead walked the Council through a Trend Analysis graph that charted month end cash balances. She said cash balances are normalizing compared to the pandemic timeframe.
- Looking ahead to 2024-2025, the vice president said the state's projected budget gap closed slightly, but personal income tax revenues are still lagging.

- She said that SUNY's submitted budget request includes:
 - Maintain investment in four-year campus operating aid increases (\$54M);
 - Provide support for state-negotiated collective bargaining agreement implementation (\$86.5M);
 - Maintain '23/'24 investment levels (university wide programs);
 - Invest in critical maintenance capital needs (\$1.0B); and a
 - Clean energy implementation fund.
- Dr. Venables asked if critical maintenance is to keep up buildings. The vice president said yes and shared the College Hall renovation as an example.
- Vice President Halstead reminded the Council that the campus's capital funding is through bonds, not part of state operating budget.
- Mr. Basch asked how the campus is doing fiscally. Vice President Halstead said that we still have a significant gap to cover that won't be closed this year. She added that the hope is to use reserves this year and use less over the next three/four years. There are lots of moving parts, but the vice president said the goal would be to come to a place of sustainability by '26/'27. State aid and tuition always impact how we're doing, and the biggest component is student enrollment.
- Mr. Law asked what percentage of reserves will be used this year. Vice President Halstead said about 25%. Mr. Law asked if it will be replenished. The vice president said once we stabilize the budget, we should be able to restabilize reserves.

Wrap-Up:

- Mr. Basch thanked the Council and offered best wishes for the holidays.
- He mentioned philanthropy, Crossing the Finish Line and Student Crisis funds.
- Mr. Basch asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Noble moved on the motion and Mr. Bettez seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Winters
Deputy Chief of Staff and
Director of Community & Government Relations

SUNY New Paltz Council

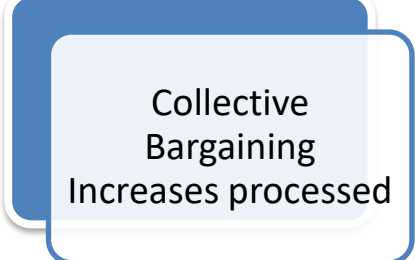
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Presented by:

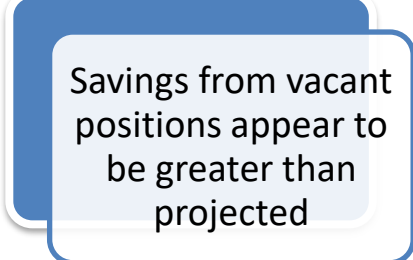
Michele Halstead, Vice President for Administration & Finance

Updates Since October

- Incremental funding proposals approved:
- \$24K Graduate Student Support (fees)
- \$49K Food Insecurity
- \$249K Mental Health Supports
- \$292K Students with Disabilities Supports
- \$326K Support for Internships



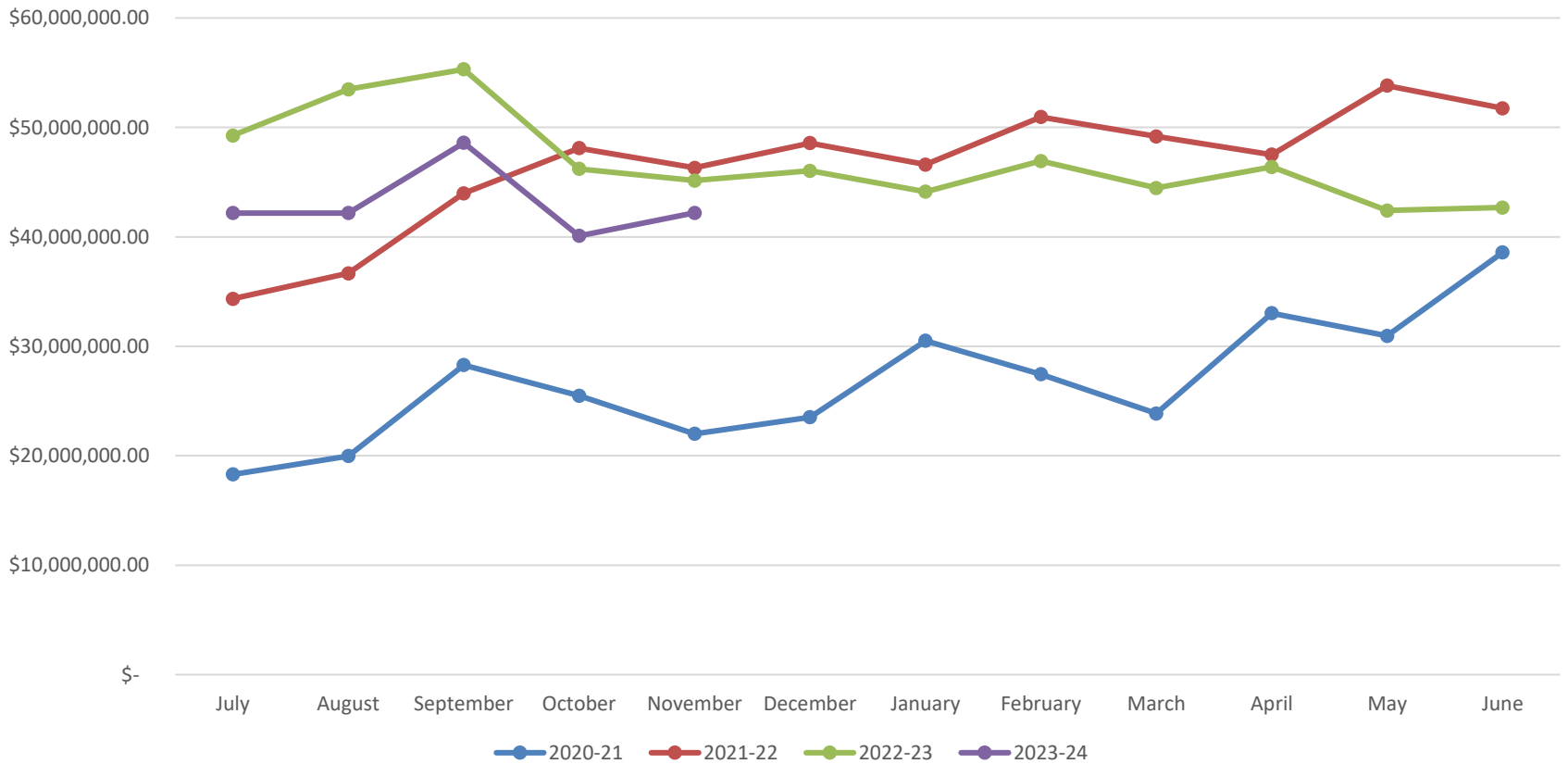
Collective
Bargaining
Increases processed



Savings from vacant
positions appear to
be greater than
projected

Trend Analysis

Month End Cash Balances



Looking Ahead to 2024-25

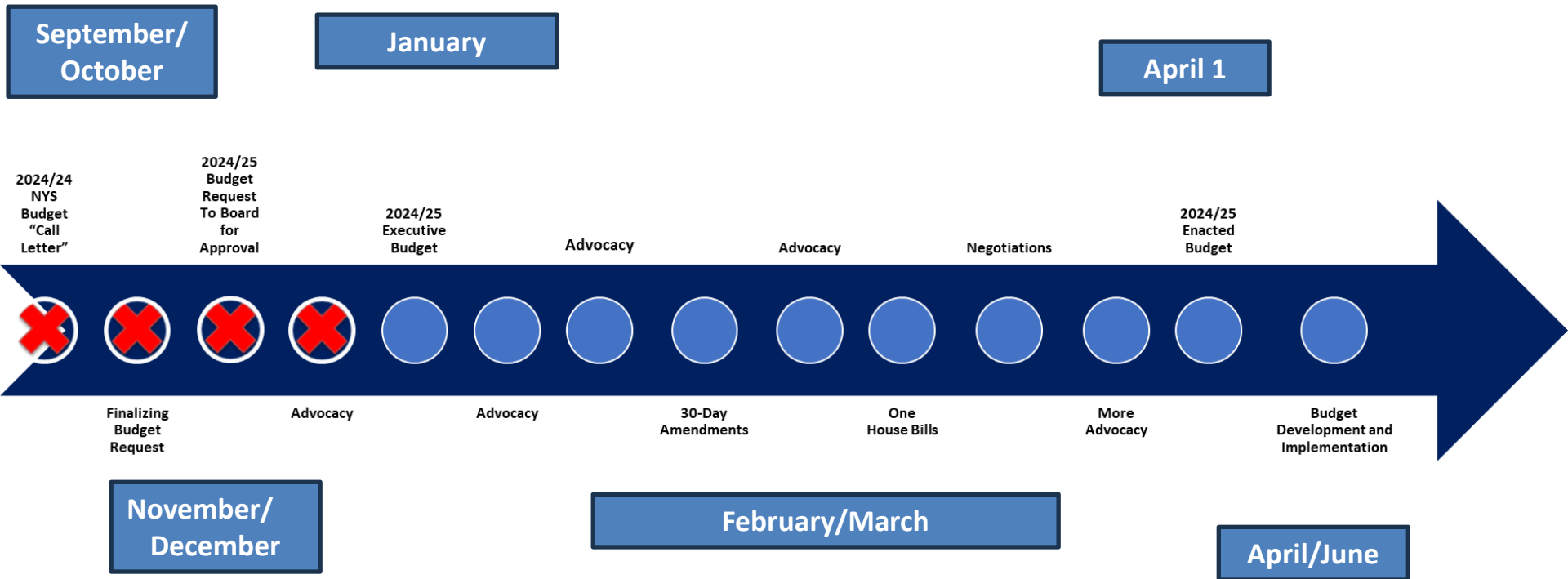
State

- Projected budget gap for 24-25 closed slightly, but personal income tax revenues still lagging

SUNY

- Budget request submitted:
 - Maintain investment in four-year campus operating aid increases (\$54M)
 - Provide Support for State-Negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreement implementation (\$86.5M)
 - Maintain 2023/24 Investment Levels (\$7.5M) (University Wide Prog.)
 - Investment in Critical Maintenance Capital needs (\$1.0B)
 - Clean Energy Implementation Fund (\$100M)

State/SUNY Budget Timeline



Questions?

FY 2023-2024 Status of Core Instructional Budget

November 30, 2022 to November 30, 2023

42% of Year Completed

REVENUE

	Last Fiscal Year 2022-2023			Current Fiscal Year 2023-2024		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 11/30/22	<u>% to</u> <u>target</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 11/30/23	<u>% to</u> <u>target</u>
Fall Tuition & Fees	\$ 23,648,220	\$24,332,241	103%	\$ 24,510,214	\$24,193,399	99%
Spring Tuition & Fees	\$ 22,356,408	\$ -	0%	\$ 22,885,935		0%
Total Funds Generated by Campus	\$ 46,004,629	\$24,332,241	53%	\$ 47,396,150	\$24,193,399	51%
State Support	\$ 15,994,300	\$ 4,376,575	27%	\$ 19,151,600	\$ 9,478,326	49%
Total Revenue	\$ 61,998,929	\$28,708,816	46%	\$ 66,547,750	\$33,671,725	51%

EXPENDITURES

	Last Fiscal Year 2022-2023			Current Fiscal Year 2023-2024		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 11/30/22		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 11/30/23	
Personal Service	\$ 60,087,246	\$23,248,081	39%	\$ 61,140,133	\$22,951,540	38%
Temporary Service	\$ 5,423,417	\$ 1,697,782	31%	\$ 5,602,376	\$ 1,990,908	36%
Utilities	\$ 2,764,820	\$ 627,535	23%	\$ 3,272,096	\$ 559,188	17%
Supplies, Travel, Contracts & Equipment	\$ 4,162,428	\$ 1,384,863	33%	\$ 5,100,533	\$ 1,035,272	20%
Total Expenditures	\$ 72,437,911	\$26,958,261	37%	\$ 75,115,138	\$26,536,908	35%