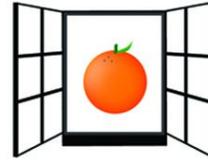


THE GENERAL BODY

A united front of student organizations at
Syracuse University



Dear SU Alumni,

We thought we'd write to update you on some things that have been happening at SU over the past few weeks, and let you know how you can help support student needs on campus.

As you may have read in [USA Today](#), [The Nation](#), [Democracy Now!](#), and [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#), members of THE General Body—a coalition of 50 student groups—have been sitting in Crouse-Hinds Hall for 16 nights (since November 3). Students are pushing for transparency, diversity, democratic decision-making, vital student services, and inclusive institutional change. We invite you to learn more about us at thegeneralbody.org, and read the [comprehensive list of student needs and grievances](#) that we are currently negotiating with upper-level administration.

Our decision to sit in was not made lightly. Many of the students who are part of THE General Body are active in campus organizations and working groups pushing for diversity, accessibility, and transparency. However, their voices have not been heard through the traditional channels.

We are inspired by the history of student activism by SU alumni. For example, at a rally earlier this fall we were inspired to hear from an alum who had been part of the [Coalition Against Racism and Apartheid](#) protests and encampment in 1985, when students persuaded the Board of Trustees to divest from South African companies. We are proud to be part of this legacy, and your support, evident in [letters like this one](#), means so much to us.

We ask that the Chancellor commit to the following urgent needs of the student body by signing this [Good Faith Commitment Contract](#). The contract asks for the following:

1. A Commitment from Chancellor Syverud that he will not cut any more programs or scholarships that recruit and admit U.S. students of color and students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds.
2. A Commitment from Chancellor Syverud that he will abide by the original contract made to the POSSE program, three years of which were prematurely cut without consulting any students
3. A Commitment from Chancellor Syverud that he will hire seven more counselors for Syracuse University's Counseling Center, as the International Association of Counseling Services, SU's accrediting agency for counseling, recommends.

4. A Commitment from Chancellor Syverud that he will hire an additional psychiatrist to the one that serves nearly 24,000 students on both SUNY ESF and SU's campus.
5. A commitment from Chancellor Syverud to honor and implement the recommendations of the Workgroup on Sexual Violence Prevention, Education, and Advocacy, which was created after community outcry in response to the irresponsible closure of the Advocacy Center.
6. A commitment to financial transparency on campus, including that the Chancellor provide the necessary salary data to the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), and that he making a comprehensive budget breakdown public—including student tuition and the \$1.044 billion raised in The Campaign for SU.

In addition to these 6 urgent student needs, we ask Chancellor Syverud to follow through on his stated commitment to sign a nonretaliation agreement, ensuring that students, faculty, and staff who have been involved in the sit-in will not face punitive measures for their advocacy work.

We encourage you to reach out to the Chancellor at ksyverud@syr.edu to ask him to commit to addressing these urgent student needs.

As alumni, donors, and spokespeople for the university, you have significant power to help us communicate our call for change. Please help communicate our message to the administration, so we can work to implement real changes that will benefit all Syracuse University students.

With gratitude,

THE General Body