

Record #	Degree	Comments
1	Master's	Despite the weaknesses of PHEEIA regarding union protection and public-private partnership oversight, the bill must be supported for two reasons. First, the NYS legislature is more or less incompetent and any attempt to separate SUNY from their control is good. Second, public education, like many other important government programs, appears to be losing public support across the country. If SUNY wants to avoid death by a thousand cuts, it needs to get creative.
2	PhD	My biggest concern with PHEEIA is that, although I receive a tuition waiver, I would be personally responsible for paying any increased amount in tuition over the next few years. If this increased significantly (e.g. \$1000 a year), I would most likely not stay at Stony Brook. If my tuition waiver would still be in effect regardless of an increase in tuition, I would be in support of PHEEIA.
3	PhD	The annual tuition raises maximum has been lowered.
4	Master's	If PHEEIA allows Stony Brook to maintain the academic rigor and increase public access (to stateside born students), then the act should be supported. By protecting low income students, we are not ensuring that low income New Yorkers are attending our institutions since many international students receive stipends and reduced tuition due to their financial independence in the US. If increasing tuition allows for more positions for faculty, and thereby increases student population sizes, then the campus should be expanded. Increasing tuition should be applied to programs, course offerings, and facility renovation. Stony Brook needs to maintain it's place as a respected institution of higher learning not just as a public university, but be comparable to private colleges and universities. Additionally, since the majority of funding comes directly from state tax-payers, those students should be the first to benefit from any tuition increases in the ways mentioned above.
5	Master's	I hate raising tuition!!!!It ruins our future!!!
6	Master's	No comment.
7	PhD	Expansion or growth requires resources, which in this case are probably going to come from tuition increases. However, proper allocation of resources is crucial when they aren't abundant, which seems to be the case. Justifying a raise in tuition to hire more faculty members does not seem justified - I'd rather have the same number of higher quality faculty than more of them. Seems like resources should go for improving intellectual infrastructure. More isn't always better, better is better. Besides, better environment becomes more competitive and draws better faculty.
8	PhD	Nothing much
9	PhD	Why can't the same provisions be passed though the state legislature? The transfer of power to the SUNY board seems unnecessary, and like a way to shirk the responsibility our legislators have towards PUBLIC education.
10	PhD	Why the PHEEIA is discussed as the only alternative to the economic problems faced by the SUNY system. I think that there should be other more creative alternatives could be directed to support public education in the State. Education is a fundamental service that should be the primary concern of a society, and the state officials should guarantee its total accessibility. I think the PHEEIA is going against to that basic principal of social development.

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11	PhD	I worry that PHEEIA may be the best of horrible options for Stony Brook right now. Graduate programs simply do not receive enough support from New York state. My department is consistently ranked in the top 10 research departments, and yet the level of support we are able to offer prospective graduate students make us considerably less competitive. The state government has made clear that expanding the SUNY budget is not a priority and that cuts in important programs are far more likely. However, the level of environmental protection and research quality following privatization is not clear to me. It would be helpful to know who the major stakeholders would be. Also, I would like to feel more confident that tuition increases for graduate students will be covered by tuition waivers.
12	PhD	While this bill is not ideal, it is a solution to the current economic problems at SUNY. Furthermore, it is a solution that is possible to get passed (as opposed to those proposition involving tax increase). Finally, it is far more appropriate for the board of trustees to control tuition than for the legislature - the board of trustees is focused on education, not politicking.
13	PhD	PHEEIA not perfect, but the situation is so extremely dire with the budget cuts that it is needed. The state legislature has shown that it does not value nor understand quality education and for that it should not hold the purse strings. Other states structure state schools in similar ways and have extremely high quality Universities. I want that for Stony Brook.
14	PhD	I am concerned that SUNY leadership has made a decision not to make the case for state support for higher public education because they have invested in getting PHEEIA passed. I think some of the provisions are short-sighted and being pushed hard and somewhat cynically, taking advantage of a difficult budget environment. For example, the implicit position that public higher education in NY should be funded by more tuition dollars and less state support seems to assume as a given that people will continue to pay higher and higher tuition prices into the indefinite future. What happens if (when?) the higher education bubble bursts??
15	PhD	This survey does not discuss about the state commitment with higher education, and how this act is designed to free NY state from their responsibility. It demonstrates that education is the last priority for the state. What has been seen with similar legislations in other states is that state funding for public higher education is reduced to its minimal, meaning that PhD lines, TA, RA and GA depend solely on the University administration wanting to invest in these positions, or professors gaining grants. Both of these are very unreliable, if PHEEIA passes NY state public education will be exclusive for people that can afford. It is very sad that our leaders who claim to be interested in education are trying to make SUNY one more business by supporting this legislation.
16	PhD	It is an excellent idea to transfer use of tuition to the University rather than the State. As it currently stands, the students of this institution do not benefit from any tuition increases. However, I disagree with the proposed annual tuition increases. While \$300.00 may seem like a meager amount, to the average graduate student who does not see a similar increase in their stipend, that amount is significant.
17	PhD	PHEEIA will transfer the power completely to SUNY board of trustees, who in turn will charge much higher tuition fees. In any case PHEEIA does not help the Graduate Students as it neither mentions anything about raising the stipends of Grad Students (TA/RA)- whose salary remain the same throughout 5 years of their PhD life, even though all other costs which they have to pay- housing/food/mandatory costs keep on increasing. Hence, whether PHEEIA is passed or not does not at all affect Grad students.

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18	PhD	Tuition should be higher at the universities that are better; it only makes sense that you charge students for what they are getting. However, delocalizing the decision-making further will increase the chance for incompetence to seep in and affect individual institutions.
19	PhD	I'm not sure how much this will impact graduate students; I feel that tuition waivers and fee waivers etc. will probably remain about the same. Then again I am lucky enough to be in a program with a relatively high stipend and full tuition waivers, and I am also graduating soon. Thus, I have not been following this closely as it will shortly not concern me.
20	PhD	What I don't understand is, how 10% state funding (and less if this act becomes law) constitutes a state university system? This University already operates like a corporation (take for example the Wang center, in which student activities and classroom activities are discouraged and curtailed in favor of "community events"). I do not trust that the Board of Trustees has academics and the university mission at heart; I fear that they have money at heart.
21	Master's	I wish that the Universities would look more at where the money is going than where it is coming from. Everywhere I go on campus I see waste. Before money is put into new buildings it should go towards making the current ones more energy efficient. How much of the roofs on campus are covered with solar panels? How many windows are left opened in the winter when it is less than 40 degrees outside and the heat is on? How many buildings have very inefficient heating and cooling systems (electric cooling when it is less than 40 degrees outside or heating with the windows opened)?
22	PhD	If things are on the right way, I hope they can become better.
23	PhD	I am quite concerned about the imminent budget cuts. SUNY Stony Brook students (TA/RA) already receive significantly lesser payment when compared to their counterparts in PhD programs in other states. That is quite surprising when one realizes the amount of business generated in New York city alone, and the human resources available to this densely populated (compared to, say, Arizona) state. Budget cuts will directly affect the faculty, students like us who depend on TA/RA, and of course, campus workers who are responsible for all the work at the grass-root level. I have studied PHEEIA extensively, and except for the public-private partnership section, I do not think anything good can come from it. I happen to completely agree with the letter sent to the governor's office by the president of SUNY faculty board.
24	PhD	I really don't get involved in state or local politics, including the SUNY system.
25	Master's	I understand the need to increase control for individual universities, but feel it is difficult to anticipate the impact of this act. Although I understand that disclosing potential partnerships is not in the university's best interest, it is challenging to foresee and therefore support the manner in which this act would be implemented. I don't believe in fear-mongering about jobs being given to non-union workers; however, because level of graduate funding is already lower in my department than in others, I imagine that graduate students are also unsure as to how this might affect their opportunities and funding.
26	PhD	PHEEIA will turn each campus into its own little fiefdom to pursue short-term projects that may not be in the best interest of the public at large. Currently the campus is in violation of a number of ADA laws and refuses to comply with the needs of its handicapped population. There are no provisions in PHEEIA to rectify this situation; instead the handicapped are expected to continue to suffer while pet projects receive funding and the installation of elevators and ramps and working accessible doors goes undone. Not to mention the bare bones service provided by the Disabilities Office. Currently the campus is a hostile environment to anyone with a disability, permanent or temporary. The Legislature is charged with compliance with the law; PHEEIA undermines that process.

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27	PhD	It seems that we must weight the risks of: a) staying in a state system and maintaining our ideals, hoping for an improvement of funding when the state's financial situation improves -vs.- b) moving away from the state system, towards a less equitable distribution of the educational resource, or at least a situation in which calculated business decisions will have more sway over funding (a situation I do not trust) and in that way, defending ourselves from budget cuts and the very serious impact they are having on our campuses. It is my opinion that we should suffer with the state, maintaining our ideals, because a business focused model (which PHEEIA seems to be) will never have the same concern for social equity as the state government, in which every taxpayer theoretically has influence. We should remain with 'the people' and take our knocks, learning how to be more efficient. To this end, I would like to see some of the higher paid employees of this university system take good-faith cuts to their salaries, which are comfortably high in many instances. Everyone below them is being cut in some way by this crisis, but I see no way in which top-level administrators are, aside from having to deal with complaints, and the shadow of job insecurity. For me, this would repair some of my damaged trust in the University leadership.
28	PhD	I support Dr. Stanley in his advocacy of PHEEIA.
29	PhD	The New York State legislature is a terrible, terrible joke. Let's be fair, leaving anything to them is a bad idea. They will not raise taxes to support the University system. So then what? I am not overly concerned about the private-public partnerships or the shift away from the legislature. But I do believe that the legislature would then further cut funds to SUNY schools, and I do not have a lot of faith in a board that is also appointed by the governor, whichever governor that is. Smaller tuition hikes would be best, provisions for union employment would be best. I have the distinct feeling that tuition will go up anyway, that waivers are not likely to meet tuition some time soon. To be honest, the main problem with the PHEEIA is that it does not convince me that these problems will be solved. SUNY needs funding streams that are stable, so I understand looking elsewhere than the state legislature for those streams. But we need the state to continue to fund the universities and we cannot assume that they will (need I mention last summer's legislative experience?), otherwise the increased funding from those private-public partnerships, and immediate, sizeable tuition hikes will be offset. The problem is funding and the legislature will not solve that problem in satisfactory ways on its own. But given that this bill originates directly from Governor Patterson, who is trying desperately to deal with the state's fiscal crisis in ANY WAY other than raising taxes, we should be very cautious about assuming it is in the best interest of the students and employees of the SUNY system.
30	PhD	While some people (such as GSO in their recent resolution) suggest that PHEEIA will increase funds available for programs, services, new faculty, etc that are important to graduate students, there are no guidelines for how funds raised through tuition hikes will be allocated. We have no assurance that the money raised will be used to directly benefit students. I'm also worried about ceding control to an appointed body (rather than an elected one) that is not accountable to SUNY students or faculty. Furthermore, I am concerned about how tuition increases will impact low-income students who rely on the SUNY system. Though I would not necessarily describe myself as outright opposed to PHEEIA, I have VERY strong reservations about what its enactment would actually mean for graduate students.

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31	PhD	I am not in favor of PHEEIA. The State University system is part of the commons, not in terms of whether SUNY is controlled by the State (whether or not PHEEIA passes, Stony Brook University will remain a public university) but whether it works to the advantage of the people. My own hope is that the State of New York would find ways to offer affordable state university education to New York residents, regardless of income and without having to raise tuition. Rather than punishing students with increased tuition, the State could balance the budget through increased taxes on the wealthiest of New Yorkers, thereby distributing the cost of the SUNY system to all of us New York residents, so that we are all paying into a system that helps to produce as many college-educated New Yorkers as possible. Increased tuition costs produce a class divide that punishes the poorer and favors the wealthier, and I'm holding out hope that the State works to make SUNY a better system by finding more sustainable funding through all of us taxpayers--as the state university system should be treated as the commons, not as a for-profit enterprise.
32	PhD	I strongly support the idea of moving much of the decision-making to the SUNY trustees and away from the state legislature, especially since, as I understand it, the SUNY system is one of the only university systems in the country where the state legislature has this kind of power. However, I do wish that there were provisions in the act that would protect union workers and the environment.
33	Master's	For students to feel safe about PHEEIA, open discussion is needed. The internal tensions between staff, students, union workers and administration makes it harder for the general assembly to know where to stand. Who really PROFITS from PHEEIA? That's the real question, we are talking about money. If SUNY becomes a business, as in part it must, what becomes the bottom line: dollars earned or the effective and successful education of students. NYS state government is NOT helping education in any sense that makes this act extremely suspect.
34	Master's	There is an overly positive spin being put on the presentation of this act. What this act really amounts to is the state of New York trying to absolve itself of its responsibilities to provide equitable and affordable public higher education to its citizenry because of the poor oversight and gross fiscal mismanagement on the part of Governor Paterson, the state legislators, and the SUNY Board of Trustees. This act will send SUNY tuition rates skyrocketing by squeezing every last drop of money out of its students and their families. If this university system cannot provide competitive rates for a quality education just because they can't handle their money, then this whole system should just privatize and drop the 'State University' misnomer. This university system is already notoriously frugal when it comes to helping anybody except the destitute poor and athletes, and my fear is that this particular institution will become a school for only the well-off and poverty-stricken (who will have everything covered, of course). It's time for the state, the SUNY system, and Stony Brook University to start eliminating wasteful expenditures (like building a HOTEL on top of a NATURE PRESERVE and a multi-million dollar athletic facility for D-average athletes) to shift money allocations, and to use more of the STATE'S funds to finance what should be considered one of the most admirable of endeavors and the highest of priorities: quality public education.
35	Master's	I really don't have much of an opinion on the topic because I don't know enough about it, or either sides of the argument for or against PHEEIA. The information provided in this survey is not enough for me to pass judgment or formulate an opinion on the matter.

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37	Master's	Is it clear that the Board of Trustees at Stony Brook will empower PhD students by giving them higher stipends? Is it clear that they will raise tuitions moderately instead of substantially? And is it clear that if it doesn't pass the opposite will occur? I'll tell you what I do know. I would have loved to have stayed at Stony Brook for my PhD in Hispanic Literature and Languages. Both my parents work for public institutions (overseas) and I am a big advocate for public education. However, even though I got accepted to the program (along with six or seven other students as I hear...) I can't stay because I wasn't offered a stipend (I hear only two students got offered stipends). So I will go to a private institution that offered me a very competitive stipend. I am absolutely not happy about it, but it is what I have to do to continue my education. Whether the Act passes or not is not as important as the results, and the change that should be implemented. Better stipends, more stipends, more faculty, more research, better education. Whatever act, or lack there of, allows for this to happen is the right answer.
38	Master's	There will always be a need for increases although they are not beneficial to students if the money goes to increase employee's pay or benefits. If increase will better the student's opportunities then they are understandable.
39	Master's	Anything that increases my tuition I am against no matter what we may or may be promised in the future. I am satisfied with our current system, however, I personally feel that if funds were distributed properly throughout the state with out the corruption that we see from Governor Paterson and the gross inflation of pensions than we would not be in the financial trouble that we are in at this moment. To reiterate- do not increase tuition.
40	Master's	Support PHEEIA! We need the \$ and autonomy!
41	Master's	As a graduate student AND an employee of the University, I am skeptical of this act. I want to support it. I trust the intentions of Dr. Stanley, Dr. Zimpher and the other SUNY and University leaders over our State Legislature, but why should I support their position when at this very moment they are deciding whether or not to eliminate my job? Out of pure personal anxiety, it is very hard to get behind Dr. Stanley knowing full well that he is about to cut jobs and that my department is at the top of the list. There has been little mention of what staff members bring to this campus - all discussion has centered around faculty and students - which is understandable - students are why the University exists and you need instructors to teach students, but what about the important contributions of support staff? I realize that having the power to raise tuition might actually help save staff members' jobs. I do not envy the position that our new president is in. Something has to give. In the pecking order, staff is at the bottom of the feeder, I get that. I just wish the discussion about this Act could come after Dr. Stanley reveals all his plans for the lifeblood of the University. It's a tough climate right now. The heat's turning up and lives are about to be fried. But, honestly, I do not believe that every effort is being made to save jobs, the way they were when Dr. Kenney was here. I think other purchases and acquisitions are taking precedence over people's lives and that's really too bad.
42	Master's	While it is important to have the flexibility to function as a university while keeping in mind access needs to be available for all NYS residents. If tuition needs to be raised, start with the non-resident. The legislature should certainly keep oversight due to the nature of the SUNY mission and the general abuse of public trust by officials.
43	Master's	I was not too familiar with PHEEIA, I answered the questions based upon the information you provided; assuming the information was correct and not biased.

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44	PhD	Why many of the questions were about a future if PHEEIA is NOT passed in the state senate and none about a future if PHEEOS IS passed? None about a future if Governor keeps cutting SUNY budget? None like "do you think the State should guarantee free, quality higher public education?" or "how important do you think education is for the economic/technologic future of the country?"
45	Master's	While in theory PHEEIA seems like a good idea for Stony Brook, in practice we have no idea its ultimate impact if passed or NOT. The fact that tuition increases will be used to support Stony Brook is definitely a positive, rather than tuition increases going to the State to be misused. On the other hand, Dr. Stanley has made it clear that the Social Sciences are not as important to Stony Brook as the hard sciences and thus, even if PHEEIA were passed I doubt my department would see much benefit from it.
46	PhD	I support the co-existence of private and public colleges and universities. SBU is a wonderful and distinguished public university, gaining more prestige with each passing year. I do not think that privatizing (even partially, though I believe there are further objectives) this successful university and encouraging to compete with private schools specifically regarding tuition is an appealing answer to our funding problems. The state university system has been successful so far and I do not think allowing the state to neglect its obligations or relinquishing SBU to the free market in which so many schools are struggling is a good solution to the budget problems. The relationship between SBU and the state has been fruitful so far; it can continue to be in the future.
47	PhD	PHEEIA is a statement of priorities by the State of New York. They are telling us that they are not going to fund public higher education. Instead, they want private money to pay for it-- that is, tuition. The state should fund public education, and the burden should not be placed on the students. I strongly oppose PHEEIA, funding cuts to SUNY, and tuition hikes.
48	PhD	I think I have mixed feelings about this law. On the one hand, I don't want tuition to go higher since I know that that would prevent people with scarce resources to go to school. On the other, I cannot help to notice that the current situation for Ph.D. students is very dire since we don't get enough money to support ourselves as we go through the doctoral program and the inclusion of private actors might help to increase the tuition and create more sources of financing for us. As much as I'd like the best of both worlds, it seems pretty unlikely that something like that might happen. So, even though I can see that this law will help doctoral students in the long run, the benefits will not reach me and the consequences will affect poor people who would have to go to school only by scholarships.
49	PhD	Stony Brook administration, faculty, students, and families should be pressuring the state legislature to increase taxes on the wealthiest 1-5% New York State residents as a way to subsidize public higher education in our state...NOT trying to sell-out or privatize the SUNY system! It is a public responsibility and should stay that way, and funding problems can be remedied through changes to the state's tax system.
50	PhD	Do not pass PHEEIA! Do not cut financial aids to SUNY! Save SUNY! Bless SUNY!
51	PhD	I strongly oppose it

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52	PhD	Keep SUNY Public!!! It is in these times when we have to defend the role of the State. We all know that there are different ways of financing education... and we all know that the best one is to make the rich people to pay more taxes (and here we have so many rich people!!!). A powerful State has always meant better education. Education is not a commodity, but a principle of social justice. So, keep private interests outside this issue... we believe in society, not in individual success. ¡QUE LA CRISIS LA PAGUEN LOS RICOS!
53	PhD	Some of the questions here seem to imply that this is an "all-or-nothing" game---that if PHEEIA does not pass, there is no possibility of fixing what's wrong with SUNY. That is false. There is no reason why those reforms which are democratically deemed to be positive for SUNY students, faculty, and staff cannot be implemented in piecemeal fashion as stand-alone legislation. If, after a thorough and democratic debate---which the SUNY administration has done little to promote---we decide that changes are needed, we could think about supporting specific stand-alone bills. Some such bills already exist: Assembly bill #A05845, for example, would guarantee that all tuition revenue is used for purposes of higher education. I haven't heard any administrators mention it, though; instead, they seem anxious to further privatize the SUNY system by passing this bill.
54	Master's	I support SUNY schools receiving moneys collected from tuition and fees.
55	PhD	I'm unsure about what the effects of changing the power distribution from the state to the universities. If it is expected to raise tuition, decrease union workers and affect the students in a negative way, then I oppose it.
56	PhD	To my point of view, this topic was not widely publicized on campus. I did not hear about it until this survey was sent to my email, and I did not read any of the details until right before I wanted to fill out the survey. I mention this to point out that this survey was very helpful in informing me of this issue.
57	PhD	This comment is not really about PHEEIA but about the survey, I think that the kind of questions "What do you think will happen if....?" that were mentioned above are tricky.
58	PhD	I am for certain articles and against certain implications, mostly due to the lack of clarity of the promises and lack of any given measurement or objective guarantee.
59	PhD	Seems to me like it will do little more than slow down the problems in higher education in New York (and the rest of America). Clearly this legislation is not a true reform. However, it should save New York tax payers from having to subsidize the salaries of academicians at a time when rampant wealth transfer seems to be the order of the day.
60	Master's	Good
61	Master's	Stony Brook like other institutions is being faced with severe cuts in spending due to the economy. My hope is that we will be able to whether the cuts. Working in the Melville Library, I see how it is affecting everyone, not just the students but the library staff and cleaners. My hope is that they can reach a happy medium with this Act to help the campus recover.

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62	Master's	I am most alarmed by the way the administration is handling budget cuts as a political vehicle to encourage support for PHEEIA. A state university should be funded by the state, and placing the burden of a public institution in the hands of the students, especially to such a degree that PHEEIA would, is wrong. PHEEIA is simply an excuse for the state government to further eliminate funding to state universities rather than looking into more plausible alternatives to cut its expenditures, and encourages the privatization of SUNY @ Stony Brook. Stony Brook is not a good area for an enormous campus. A trip to the grocery store on one of the weekend graduate buses is proof of this situation. This is why a large portion of Stony Brook students commute on a daily basis, and to privatize this university, or to take steps to do so like PHEEIA and the administration's approach to the school's budget are, would simply further this university's design flaws rather than solving its problems. PHEEIA, at best, is implausible and unfair to the university's students, teachers, workers, and integrity as an academic institution.
63	PhD	PHEEIA cannot and will not replace a badly needed increase in funding that needs to come from a commitment by the State to higher ed. Publicly elected officials and not trustees have the right and power to do this. Although many of the aspects of this act are good and important, and will offer some benefit if passed, it does not address the fundamental problem that a public education institution needs support, and should not rely on local tuition increases. Public education should remain affordable, and this act seems to be a red herring instead of a real solution.
64	PhD	As long as the funds go toward increased faculty lines and Ph.D. stipends, then I am in favor. If the funds merely go towards privatization and treating the university as a business, then I strongly oppose.
65	PhD	I think that it's obvious that tuition increases need to be retained by SUNY and not sent back to the state, but I'm very concerned about changing regulations with regard to tuition increases.
66	PhD	No
67	PhD	There are definitely problems with funding higher education, but I do not believe that PHEEIA is the answer. (And the latest five year average of HEPI is just over 4%, meaning that the tuition increases could be as much as 10%.) This legislation will only succeed in shifting the burden of tuition onto the backs of lower and middle-class students and their families. And there is no guarantee that there will be a significant increase in revenue, because the administration cannot guarantee that the state won't make further cuts to SUNY. There are other possible solutions that need to be looked into, and we need to refocus the dialogue toward the value of accessible education in our society.
68	PhD	in order for Stony Brook to become one of the top public research universities in the country, it is paramount that this legislation pass and that Stony Brook is able to do just as most other successful public universities have done: run their own institution! (also there was an error in your survey under the ten thousand dollar reference, you have \$10,00)
69	PhD	I was a past recipient of tuition waiver- that should be one of the questions for future surveys. I'm hoping that we, as a country realize that this generation of students is investing a disproportionate amount of wealth (in the form of loans) for meager and unrealistic returns. PHEEIA is just a bump in the road on this path to understanding what sort of changes really need to take place.

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70	PhD	<p>As indicated, I am very worried about provisions that may lead to it being economically desirable to hire non-union workers who do not have the leverage to negotiate the protections they deserve. The possibility of private partnerships also worries me. I would hate for there ever to be economic incentive to do what is most profitable for a company (or for Stony Brook) instead of what is best for Stony Brook students. Also, companies tend to care more about what costs the least than what is least damaging to the environment. Overall, however, I lean towards supporting PHEEIA. SUNY's institutions need to be able to adjust finances as demanded by the economy and the current state of the institution. Also, from the little I know, SUNY's schools have tuitions below national averages. I am ESPECIALLY supportive of all of the money from tuition increases going to SUNY. In fact, I think it absolutely stupid and incomprehensible that not all of tuition goes to SUNY anyway. If the legislature passed a law saying ALL tuition goes back into SUNY, would we even need to have tuition increases? But politicians and bureaucracies almost never take any action as sensible as having money paid for college education going back to the college, so I suppose I'll just have to be content with PHEEIA at least sending all of the tuition hikes back to SUNY. I'm concerned that the provisions affecting union workers and private partnerships are being added because the writers of the Act know that the financial part of the bill (giving control to institutions, increases going back into SUNY, etc...) are so desirable that people will stomach these highly questionable provisions. And if you'll forgive me for being honest and a bit distasteful: There's not much I can do about these provisions which are ripe for abuse (and let's be honest, if money can be made by abuse, then there's a 100% chance of abuse). In fact, I doubt seriously that anyone of any influence or power has read this. But it's cool guys, you gave the impression of giving a shit about what students think, so that gives you license to do whatever, right?</p>
71	PhD	<p>Public universities should be run by the state to ensure affordable education to lower income group students. The proposed act shall possibly lead to reduction in state funds, forcing the University to increase tuition. The State as a body running more enterprises together shall be able to afford lower tuition and support other worker/union friendly activities.</p>
72	PhD	<p>Tuition will increase and should increase similarly to the nationwide trend. The reduction of oversight PHEEIA provides is worrisome.</p>
73	PhD	<p>Public universities in other states charge moderately higher tuition to their in-state students. Perhaps SUNY tuition has been held artificially low over the past decade. Unfortunately, the current level of funding from both state and tuition sources are too low to allow the SUNY University Centers and other SUNY schools to develop proper programs to promote excellence. The state legislature cannot be depended on to provide sufficient funding to allow this growth; therefore tuition increases must make up for this shortfall. Unfortunately, the educational services and facilities at many of the SUNY schools are poor, and current students are not getting a decent product for the tuition they pay. This, in particular, applies at Stony Brook. I have not heard of such poor management of a university from anecdotes of graduate students elsewhere. Stony Brook has not had proper priorities in place, as both undergraduate and graduate education has suffered in the quest to appear better in metrics due to superficial actions.</p>

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74	PhD	PHEEIA does contain positive components (e.g. ensuring that tuition revenue remains on campus), but my assessment of the legislation suggests that it creates more distance between the State of New York and its obligation to fund quality, and accessible, higher education. Further, proponents of PHEEIA are characterizing this legislation as a panacea for funding public higher education, without exploring other avenues (e.g. reducing the sales tax rebate on stock transfers (currently 100% rebate), increasing tax on millionaires, NY State negotiating lower prescription drug costs, etc.).
75	PhD	differential tuition would be a great benefit to stony brook
76	PhD	In addition to the reservations I have regarding protection for unionized employees and the environmental regulations (or lack thereof), I am also wary of undermining the public character of the SUNY ed system by turning these into private institutions. I'm not sure how I feel entirely, or that I know what the outcomes will be if the act passes or doesn't, but I am certainly concerned about student welfare if these things change. Finally, I know we need teachers here but this act says that we will get 400 faculties and staff---how many of these will be actual faculty? Will we end up with tenure-track lines of just lecturers and more adjuncts? These are real questions that need specific answers, at least to put my mind at rest.
77	PhD	As long as our tuition/student fees don't increase unrealistically, I am sure the financial gains for SBU under public regulation will be beneficial for everyone on campus and it will help improve the quality and prosperity of the programs and most importantly research here at Stony Brook. It's a better school than most SUNY schools; people should be willing to pay a little more to go here for the quality of the education.
78	PhD	It's sad that this survey will reach so many with its unfair portrayal of the graduate student unions. I guess sometimes GSO election propoganda is much more important than the actual information.
79	Master's	I oppose the PHEEIA act. it takes the 'state' university out of SUNY
80	PhD	It seems like all of the beneficial parts of the bill could be passed as separate legislation, removing the more questionable elements.
81	PhD	I would feel more comfortable endorsing PHEEIA if it made mention of how it will impact graduate students. As of now, the bill does not seem to mention grad students, and I think this is a mistake. The graduate students are the heart of the university and need to be taken care of.
82	PhD	PHEEIA isn't wonderful, but it's the best option we have to save SBU from the NY State economic crisis. Without PHEEIA, SBU grad students will suffer a worse fate.
83	PhD	I believe the current economic crisis is been used by some to further restrict the access to public education and promote the privatization of public universities. The solution to the current budgetary problems of the SUNY system should be solved by taxing New York-based financial companies and banks rather than increasing the tuition paid by families. Unfortunate decisions made in the past about how to invest Stony Brook's resources (e.g. buying land in Southampton and then closing the campus there) shows that a decentralization of the decision-making process not always benefits the university.
84	PhD	I am a PhD candidate and I have been trained as a survey methodologist. This survey is very poorly constructed. The results of the survey will not be reliable or valid. I am also a GSO Senator, and will express my concerns regarding this survey during the next Senate meeting.

Record #	Degree	Comments
85	Master's	I would not support any increase in tuition, I can barely afford tuition for the MPS program now and my BA in English from Stony Brook which I received in 2005 has not earned me a great deal of income. I am struggling to pay back student loans and my Bachelors is worthless in this economy. So I'm back throwing good money after bad hoping that another degree will make me more employable.
86	Master's	Allowing SUNY schools to charge whatever they want for tuition defeats the entire purpose of the SUNY system. These schools were put in place to allow in-state students to get a quality education at a better rate since their tax dollars have been going into the system since they've been residents of the State of NY. If PHEEIA is passed and they can charge whatever rate they want, SUNY schools should just become private institutions and not be granted as much state funding as they are currently receiving.
87	Other	My primary concern is that Stony Brook is a top rated university and I believe it must remain affordable and accessible to both lower and MIDDLE income students who may not qualify for subsidies. Middle Income students are already graduating with GROSS student loan debt!! This is an URGENT concern of mine. I don't want to see capable students driven into other SUNY schools because of incremental double digit tuition increases. Stony Brook is the best the island has to offer! I would rather see it better recognized for its merits and funded accordingly from the state based on its increased # of applications, increased student enrollment, and its immeasurable community & research contributions.
88	PhD	TA lines are already cut in Economics Department. They did not offer teaching assistantship to 10 students who over beyond 4 years of their PhD studies. Without some regulations, they might even close the department due to budget cut.
89	PhD	PHEEIA will certainly provide a quick fix to Stony Brook's problems, but it will certainly create new and potentially much bigger problems in the years to come. As responsible citizens of this state university, we should not sign away our right to funding from the State of New York, and, in my view, endorsing and/or embracing PHEEIA in such haste suggests that we would rather free the state of its obligation to us than remind the state that it is indeed obligated to us. Instead of fighting for the passage of PHEEIA, which our shit-for-brains lame-duck governor has cooked up in an attempt to save his own sorry ass, we should insist that the State of New York fund higher education instead of giving tax breaks to the rich. Spitzer was committed to making Stony Brook a flagship, and now we need to focus our efforts on electing a new governor who is committed to state-funded higher education in New York.
90	PhD	I think Albany politics should stay out of higher education, this university should aim for academic excellence, not for unions to control the decision making, if the union leaders want to run the university I suggest they get a PhD, become professors and then administration
91	PhD	I think that a failure to pass PHEEIA will result in a substantial decrease in academic quality and reputation for SBU.
92	PhD	PHEEIA may not be ideal, but tuition is going to go up either way, and I'd rather see us keep it at Stony Brook. It's better than being the State's cash cow, like last year when they raised tuition and kept 80% of the difference.
93	PhD	SUNY will probably raise tuition as much as it can, but already public tuition is getting high for many lower-middle class students. The University system is in the dumps and will get worse without PHEEIA, but with PHEEIA there is little doubt the state will lower its support for SUNY and tuition will raise, making it far less accessible. Separate tuition costs for the 4 major colleges versus the others should be

Record #	Degree	Comments
		automatic since you receive very different educations at each school.
94	PhD	Privatization is not the answer
95	PhD	I think the current state of NY public education has to change. However, I am not convinced that PHEEIA as it is, would help. It seems that SUNY is paying for the many years of bad administration and money management in Albany. The main reason unions are reluctant for PHEEIA is that in the past 30yrs this country's policy has shift towards privatization. Often privatization has meant less protection to workers. Leaving public institutions to their own devices without state overseeing - no matter how mediocre it is- could mean that private interest could take over in some of the campuses thus profit will be the only driven force and public education is not about profit but about offering affordable education to the middle and lower classes. Those like me that have the talent but lack the means. Would you want me back in PR with three children like many of my neighbors? I am professional bc I had access to public education for my undergraduate and graduate career and I want the same opportunity for the next generation. If you really want pass PHEEIA you have to change it with the collaboration of UUP, graduate students and undergraduates and try to get at least to happy medium. For example if the campuses are going to be allowed the public-private arrangements Who is going to regulate those arrangements? The proponents of this law have to make clear this aspect. I check out the Borad of Trustees and while there is a bunch of good people involved in education I am uneasy with the members of the board that have ties to developing companies and real state specially with the issues that SBU has had in the past trying to expand in one of the most congested suburbs.
96	Other	I think that Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act is good because it create partnership between the government and the universities so that the public can afford to send their children to school and both the state and the Universities can generate revenue at the same time.
97	Other	If tuition increases the hiring freeze should be over especially for professors.
98	Other	Don't know too much about it..only the basic facts. Don't know enough of how school is run to understand how this act will or will not affect the school
99	Other	I am typically anti-union, except in cases where there are substantial abuses and a union is one of the only solutions. For example, I do believe graduate students are often exploited and taken for granted, as if their time was not worth anything. So a graduate student union is a good thing. I also believe that labor unions have caused significant inefficiency and made simple projects cost significantly more. So when you ask if I am concerned about what happens to unions under PHEEIA, I have mixed emotions. I say let the University act as a private enterprise as long as it meets its goals and accomplishes its educational missions. It can probably do so at lesser cost by working with non-union contractors. That said, the University should be accountable for any environmental arising from anything it does, including public-private partnerships. It should develop and be held to forward thinking environmental policies. To me, that issue is separate from whether or not PHEEIA passes. Finally, you may want to throw out my survey because I am only taking one class at Stony Brook as a non-matriculated student, and have never previously attended Stony Brook.
100	Other	i am really supposed to be de-activate and withdrawn from the university at this point
101	Other	either way there will be increases in tuition, however I believe if the PHEEIA is passed, the tuition will rise more dramatically.

<u>Record #</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Comments</u>
102	Other	none
103	Other	Haven't heard anything about it, so I can't say.
104	Other	The information the university provided on PHEEIA was so convoluted I had to seek outside sources to learn about it. If SBU spokespeople wrote in plain English--just as we teach our students to do--I would be better informed. (Or is the bloated language an intentional obstruction to understanding?)
105	Other	PHEEIA is not the answer. Stop the duplication of services and audit every department. Too much is spent on clerical staffing.
106	Other	I believe regulations/laws and decisions about the SUNY system should remain in Albany and what is decided for one campus should be applied to all SUNY campuses.
107	Other	Something doesn't seem right or add up. As I see it it looks like a way for the university to charge higher tuition and have more control and power. Power needs to be balanced, what would stop the board from continually raising tuition, what are the checks and balances? Stony brooks major draw has always been a lower tuition relative to the other university's in the area, I have been to other campuses and taken classes and I can tell you that the professors at Stony Brook and the culture is based around research and not teaching or acquiring good teachers!
108	Other	The economy will change, revenue will return and things will go on. Do not blow up the ship. Privatization does not always equal better quality and performance. Add local oversight but remember this is not a private school and should be run to benefit citizens of the state effectively.
109	Other	I feel extremely conflicted about PHEEIA, partly because in addition to taking classes at Stony Brook, my primary identity at this institution is as a professional staff member (represented by UUP.) I appreciate that GSO has asked my opinion, though, because neither UUP nor the university administration has.
110	Other	I hear there's something called Bundy Aid which provides loads of money to private institutions in New York. How about getting rid of that, encourage education and allow access to it for the masses so the more people would know, the more they could do in terms of jobs and the less likely they will get involved in sapping the system through welfare and incarceration. Why can't the state invest more in the people's future instead of the interests of enterprise? Why hasn't anyone discussed cutting the governor's pay and his employee's pay?
111	Other	SUNY is a public institution and should adhere to a system of checks and balances as provided by its present level of public and internal oversight. To remove the public piece is to become privatized.
112	Other	I think it's ridiculous and totally defeats the purpose of the SUNY system.
113	Other	It should be addressed on the website. a forum or message board could be created where the students could post their opinions or ask questions. The PPHEEIA in its current form should be posted in its entirety for people to read
114	Other	I don't trust the public/private partnership aspect of PHEEIA. I think that the SUNY campuses may be too eager to partner and thus overlook the best interests of students, rather than faculty, who may have more to gain from these partnerships. In a similar vein, there have been partnerships with industry that have been purported to add to "job growth," but to me, are repackaging of research already conducted by faculty members. These partnerships are sometimes used to simply gain more funding from the legislature. There is no actual Profit/Loss component.

Record #	Degree	Comments
115	Other	I believe that PHEEIA could be made to work in the areas of the survey about which I indicated that I have doubts, i.e. protections for union workers, etc. In order for Stony Brook University to remain competitive with other research universities, it is imperative to reconcile the two competing sides of this debate, instead of making the issue an "either, or " proposition.
116	PhD	I believe that one of the main attractions of a SUNY education is the low cost of tuition. If this is changed through PHEEIA, then SUNY will lose students. I think it would be better to adjust the allocation of state-wide funds to improve the financial support of the university centers rather than increasing tuition. In general, it is better to have more local control of campus land, but "educational purposes" should be clearly defined if campus land is to be leased to private entities. While the environmental impact of construction projects is important, I do not believe that they should be a part of this primarily financial legislation.
117	PhD	in general, people should have access to education, and Europe has a much better system to provide access to higher education to its people. It is not normal that tuition is so high, and that students should have to work so much instead of concentrating on their studies.
118	PhD	My priorities are as follows: That quality education remains accessible to all income levels, and that the campus is highly environmentally run. As a music student supporting myself, higher tuition would be a burden. However, my department can definitely use more funding; compared to other schools our facilities/resources are woefully inadequate, although our talent pool is extremely high. I am not convinced that higher tuition and more sovereignty for allocation of funds from campus to campus is the answer. Rather, I think that better management and systematization within the school's operations can do a lot. Somehow, many post-secondary schools in Europe are able to be free of tuition altogether. I don't know the ins and outs of how they do it (finances are not my field). But I think it's a noble aim to have, and perhaps we should be directing our energy towards that direction, rather than having students shoulder the risk of an increasingly high investment needed to obtain a decent education.
119	PhD	The leadership of Stony Brook needs to stop acting like entrepreneurs and start acting like administrators. There would at least be a lot more money available for faculty and TA positions, if not enough money, if the administration hadn't invested in the failed Southampton campus, monorail studies, etc. It is completely obvious that if the power to increase tuition is given to Stony Brook's administrators, they WILL increase tuition, so that they have as much money as possible for their various unnecessary projects, and Stony Brook will not be very different from a private university.
120	PhD	nothing
121	PhD	I hope it passes! Stony Brook needs it!

Record #	Degree	Comments
122	PhD	To the best of my knowledge, New York is one of the few states where the state university system is micromanaged by Albany. It appears to me that much of this micromanagement is designed for a sort of social experiment to make sure everyone has a right to a degree. A college degree is not a right, it is a privilege, and by refusing to allow the flagship institutions of the state to charge tuition commensurate with their stature, or to search out additional external funding sources through private-public partnerships or other enterprises, the state legislature is preventing the flagships universities from achieving their full potential. A quality education is expensive, and it is expensive because attracting the best faculty and providing the best facilities is expensive. Stony Brook has achieved a remarkable amount of success with its limited budget means, but it appears to have saturated its potential. The only avenue I can see that would allow the university to continue improving its facilities, faculty, and infrastructure are measures which would bring in more revenue, and stop charging students less than their education is valued. I strongly support enacting PHEEIA, as I have seen the results of independent university systems in other states, and the results are frequently producing truly top-notch state universities where revenue is not politicized and the universities can operate autonomously to improve departments as the local administrators see fit.
123	PhD	I don't think privatizing public education is a beneficial strategy for the university or greater community.
124	PhD	I feel that the salary rates for RA,TA and GA are too low considering the high living costs in this region. I would strongly support any act that helps to increase their income.
125	PhD	While raising tuitions is an easy answer to the budget shortfall, there are better ways of solving this. I especially do not want to see SUNY go the way of the UC system which has seen massive tuition increases. The university should have much more freedom in forging partnerships with private organizations. Stony Brook has excellent research capabilities, and should be given a free hand to collaborate with industry. This in turn should generate revenue. I also support leasing university land, and resources to private entities to build their own research labs etc on campus.
126	PhD	I think the biggest questions that I have are about the fact that if PHEEIA generates more revenue for the SUNY Universities, then why should it become necessary to substantially increase the tuition and other fees? I understand that there is a revenue to the State that needs to be given, but yearly increase in tuition and fees will put Graduate Students at risk of paying more every year yet getting the same levels of stipend and/or scholarship. Also increase in faculty should be judiciously handled to maintain the quality of education and keep PhD students interested in joining Stony Brook and providing them sufficient stipends.

Record #	Degree	Comments
127	PhD	<p>Neither situation is even minimally adequate. On the one hand, empowerment to local individuals, such as the current leader of the board of Trustees or to individuals like Shirley Strum Kelley, is a recipe for disaster. Current examples of their poor support for PhD-level programs include the building of a sports center, rather than INCREASING the number and breadth (in terms of years covered) subscriptions to peer-reviewed journals. Another example is the interview the current leader of the Board of Trustees gave recently on WNYC (the Brian Lehrer Show). She demonstrated a complete ignorance as to the actual issues that befall graduate students: unsustainably poor pay; inability to support a family and the requisite use of Section 8, Welfare, etc; inadequate subsidization of daycare. Further, myriad first-hand examples of egregious waste of University funding w/r/t Union labor are demonstrative of a thoroughly dysfunctional system. On the other hand, if MORE power were given to these individuals, self-serving ends would only ensue, most likely at an accelerated rate of decline (than currently) for graduate-student and faculty support. Why aren't revenues from patents secured by university faculty used as the benchmark by which University faculty and graduate students are given priority? The current attitude (as witnessed first-hand) of Union and University employees in the Procurement Department, Physics Machine Shop, Physics Office, Chemistry Office, Chemistry Machine Shop is that graduate students and University faculty are second-class citizens when, in fact, it is because of our scientific discoveries and perseverance that THEY are here to serve us. One patent alone in the Chemistry department garners \$7m/yr in royalties, yet a sports complex is being built. It is this and thousands of obtuse decisions like this which guarantee the continued decline of the SUNY system. Choosing between the current system and PHEEIA is moot, since PHEEIA will likely be just as, if not more dysfunctional than the current one. While PHEEIA may reign in wayward Union behavior, it will undoubtedly sideline academics and academic funding for research even more precipitously than currently. At the same token, the current decline is evident on a daily basis.</p>
128	PhD	<p>The concept of giving power back to the universities sounds good in theory, but I worry about grad student tuition waivers from the state reflecting the university decided tuition costs. Also, if this causes universities to be more financially driven than they presently are, it could result in accepting more students than there are class space and resources, and raising tuition to uncomfortable levels. Tuition could also more negatively affect students who are paying their own way, without parental support (as, for example, grad students do). Is the PHEEIA a take-it-or-leave-it piece of legislation, or can parts of it be modified? Because as it stands now, I would oppose it, but if I can be assured that certain regulatory measures have been accounted for, I might not.</p>

Record #	Degree	Comments
129	PhD	<p>Thank you for providing this survey, however I wish there were boxes in each question so I can justify my answers. PHEEIA is an important topic to me. I also regret you chose to summarize PHEEIA instead of also offering the act as an attachment. I am concerned that the members of the board of trustees are the people who will be making decisions about tuition levels (they already do it anyway, I know and I really don't like it). I think that decisions that impact university should be reflecting the opinion of the university community including students, staff and faculty. Members of the Board of Trustees are mostly well meaning people; however they are removed from the reality of the university by not being immersed in it every day. They are businessmen who think of making profit for the most part, they may have valuable input to advise but not to actually make decisions. I am concerned that some of them would have a conflict of interests, and hope to get a profit from the university and university associated organizations, such as the Stony Brook Foundation or the Research Foundation. I think that economical decisions should be made in assistance of administrators, lawyers and economists as well as social scientists and representatives of each of university departments (including undergraduate and graduate students, staff and faculty representatives). I don't trust a sole judgment of administrators, but I don't dismiss their input. I think that a fair way of managing the business of the university would be if people who a part of the decision making are elected by their peers, only then we can assure democracy, which I believe is currently the most fair and best system. I am concerned about commercialization of the university and inviting on-campus big companies. Cooperation with small local Long Island businesses would be a different story if done properly. I don't appreciate "Wendy's" being the food vendor - fast food is unhealthy. I am concerned that rushing people to make their decision about PHEEIA as a solution to fixing all problems at the time of financial crisis is wrong, because there hasn't been a public meeting to discuss people's reservations and questions that regard PHEEIA, doing it in the senate is not enough. Perhaps such meeting could allow all members of the university community to have an input in this important proposed legislation. Perhaps if you allow people to make modifications to the language of this act upon justification, more of them would be supportive of this act. Who wrote this document anyway? Please, consider organizing a town hall meeting, and please acknowledge modifications to the legal language of PHEEIA. It would be best if we could invite state legislators so they can hear the debate themselves and answer questions. Also, finally I'd like to say that the suggested tuition increases should reflect the student financial situation. Stony Brook's tuition is not very high in comparison to other schools, but life here is very expensive. The total cost, including room and board (to which undergraduate 1st years' are forced), tuition and fees, is high. Wasn't SUNY established to provide equal opportunity to provide university level education? Please provide better mechanisms for people who are not able to afford to go to school. If you argue that the financial crisis is destroying Stony Brook University and that only PHEEIA is going to save us, then realize that the bad situation is cause by the State who took the tuition money away from us. If this didn't happen Stony Brook wouldn't be in such a bad shape. There are tones of ideas how to minimize costs of running Stony Brook and increase its efficiency, but there are few if any avenues provided to allow Stony Brook community members have input which is recognized and from which the ideas can be implemented.</p>

Record #	Degree	Comments
130	PhD	The goals of PHEEIA are important ones. Making sure that the LEGISLATURE as well as campus and Board of Trustees get feed back on concerns of oversight are needed. The SUNY system should not be a piggy bank for the state. Access to higher education at affordable rates is critical, while maintaining proper support for the system. Sudden dramatic pull out of funding to the system/ mid year increases in tuition are more damaging to this process than slightly higher in state tuition. NY state currently has a fairly affordable system in place, and needs to maintain that. But they could change some of the rates/ fees and make it easier for students to get financial aid, while increasing it for those who can afford slightly more. PHEEIA is supposed to do that (note I said supposed to .. that is the 'ideal', not that it would actually do that.) Oversight for workers/environment is strongly needed, while expanding interaction with other entities outside the university to raise income for the school. Pointing out concerns and possible solutions would be probably the best way to make sure that something positive is enacted.
131	PhD	While PHEEIA may not be the best solution, it is absolutely unacceptable that the state would increase tuition while decreasing the amount of money they give to the university. If this is our only course of action to stop that, I support it.
132	Master's	The changes to environmental oversight and transparency of financial and other decision making are my major concern.
133	Master's	Please take my answers in context, as I live in California (doing an online program), and am not able to keep abreast of New York State politics, or school politics.
134	Master's	VERY concerned about how this bill is being sold by the administration of SUNY. Myself and two daughters are enrolled at SUNY or CUNY. We chose these institutions largely in part because of the affordable tuition. Making university tuition more than SUNY colleges is just wrong. Private colleges offer small class sizes and help that the large university setting does not. Small SUNY colleges and even Suffolk County Community College has this small class personal attention. Should we pay more so professors who are doctoral candidates can get more money or have you build a new building or plant nicer landscaping while denying union employees of the university benefits and pay? The bus driver who drives the kids around gives more personal attention than any of the professors I have encountered. What's up with that? I can think for myself, and when I read the implications of this bill, I shudder. I am going to write my legislator right now and tell them I am a student and mother of students who opposes this bill.
135	Other	I answered that I did not have enough information a lot because I feel that there may be a bias to the information that was provided. Before I would decide on things, I would want to read about this through a variety of sources and not just what I read in this survey by an entity that has a vested interest in the answers provided.
136	Master's	Please forward progress regarding this Act.
137	Other	we should not jeopardize the quality of SUNY schools just to make ends meet. There has to be a better way.
138	Other	I think individual schools should be able to keep their tuition (at least a large portion of it). This makes the institution work harder to recruit more students, develop more programs to attract these students etc. As long as this is an efficient board of trustees, it is worth a try. Unfortunately with the state there are some very inefficient processes that happen. The money needs to go to the school for faculty and classrooms and not take a large percentage off the top for other things.

Record #	Degree	Comments
139	Master's	The needs of this University as the major research institution in this part of the state needs to be protected. The communities it serves on Long Island can become more actively involved in supporting its diversity, assisting in strengthening its Graduation Rate as well as helping to fund research programs. All co-sponsored initiatives will contribute to the quality and depth of research as well as strengthen opportunities for advanced education and job creation.
140	Master's	Privatization is crap. Everyone knows it. What a waste of a survey and my time.
141	Master's	Would be beneficial for students to receive more information regarding the issue.
142	Master's	More information about PHEEIA would be appreciated since it may effect SUNY Stony Brook students.
143	Master's	My concern is that this law will create a slippery slope, toward privatization of our SUNY and CUNY public institutions. In addition, I am concerned about the university system's workers losing the protections they currently enjoy, as college administrators begin to see the value, politically, in supplanting them with inexpensive private sector employees. Even if school administrators do not adhere to such a philosophy, the pressure will be there, for it, and the SUNY and CUNY systems will find people willing to toe this line. Moreover, as I read in an article, recently, the savings suggested are unlikely and tuition hikes will likely spiral out of control, as the state houses will expect schools to fund themselves and will fail to allocate sufficient monies to support the system.
144	Master's	I have read information in regards to PHEEIA and I am still unsure exactly how it will effect future students. I get the basics, that the school and community will have more say in what happens with the school but that is about it. I am very unsure as to what my views are about this legislation. I could go either way. I think more information needs to be given with more detail. I think it is the economics of the legislation that makes it difficult to feel much stronger one way or another
145	Master's	One statement and some bias new articles do not give us enough information on what the real outcomes either way with PHEEIA to make comments such as you have asked. Maybe an open debate and with people telling us the truth about the realistic outcomes of these decisions may help us to make educated votes on the subject. I can never agree with putting more financial burdens on the middle class or not helping to educate the poorer class. Speaking for the middle class, I am sick and tired of having to shoulder the incompetencies of our State and Local leaders. As our students recently proclaimed, "Cut from the top". Maybe when we see that happening, we might start having faith in our leadership again. And yes, most of us truly believe that our state and local governments need to cut their salaries, forgo their raises, cut their budgets and expense accounts, do without getting their work place bathrooms and garbage cleaned and worry about how they will feed their families or send their children to college.
146	Master's	I wish there could be SOME oversight accountable to the state ONCE SUNY makes a decision for review...union workers being displaced is a MAJOR concern of mine about this proposal.
147	Master's	I think a change to the PHEEIA to allow for shared State and SUNY Board control of tuition increases and public-private partnerships would be preferable to complete control going to either entity. Additionally, the current situation in which SUNY tuition is placed in generalized State coffers is unacceptable. SUNY tuition should be for SUNY schools. Still, oversight and control needs to come from more than one source.
148	Master's	none

Record #	Degree	Comments
149	Master's	SUNY colleges and universities need to stop acting like they are private universities. SUNY is supposed to be affordable for low income students and if tuition continues to increase even higher than it already is, then students will have no options for being able to get a decent education.
150	Master's	PHEEIA is a dangerous plan to make SUNY semi-private. It is against SUNY's mission to provide the high quality education to all NYS residents who wish to receive education for a reasonable cost!
151	Master's	Many students are in debt because the Financial Aid Office of their private colleges was receiving kickbacks from the student loan companies that had exorbitant rates. These banks continue to make money dishonestly and at the expense of the students. Yet, amazingly, we are welcoming these types of people into the SBU community? The only thing that the PHEEIA will endorse is less students going to college. If we structure an SBU education that is based on 'networking' and 'bottom-lines' then why educate? You do not need a degree to turn a profit.
152	Master's	I am distrustful of the state, especially considering the state of our economy, and I am distrustful of private enterprise, especially concerning environmental protection and workers rights. So I think this is a lose-lose scenario. I'm just here to earn my degree so I feel as long as I know where and how to find the information I need for professional and self-growth I'll be fine. But I worry that future generations will not be able to afford the 'luxury' of an education. As it is I cannot afford to live in this state. I'll probably earn my degree and move out?!
153	Master's	I don't think it is unfair for SUNY University centers to charge higher tuition rates than college centers; the quality of education is presumably different, as is the faculty. The public universities should have slightly more control over their own contracts with service providers as well as tuition rates and other important issues, it should be modeled after successful private universities. I am concerned because, from what I have read, it seems unclear whether the state can or will reduce the amount of funding for the state universities. I wouldn't be surprised if academic institutions suffer as the result of poor financial decisions on the part of state legislators.
154	Master's	I don't trust these provisions if enacted. I am sure the middle class tuition paying student will ultimately financially suffer from this program if enacted.
155	PhD	Good freaking luck getting tuitions to stay low.
156	Other	I think raising tuition to more than double in 10 years is too much. I agree that half of that amount or between \$5,000 and \$6,000 over 10 years is much more acceptable. I agree with the approach. The dollar amount is too high.
157	Master's	I think it is a bad idea. The tuition is already high and increases of about 8% is a bit too much to handle.
158	Master's	I feel that public education should remain just that...public. Privatization of areas of public education only serves the private sector.

Record #	Degree	Comments
159	Other	Unionization promotes mediocrity in every form of business in which it is found. It protects the mediocre to low performing worker and seeks to actively stifle the creative and independent energies of individual union members for fear that 'go getters' might be thought of as setting precedent that others will have to follow. While I have little faith in the SUNY Board of Trustees to accomplish much more than entangle the SUNY system in even worse red tape than it is already in, I do think that seeking partnerships with the private sector and allowing non-union workers to engage in work at the university level is highly desirable. As a former employee of your survey center, I would also like to point out that the phrasing of the questions was clearly meant to achieve a specific set of answers from respondents who are not particularly well informed on the issue. In particular, the assumption that non-union workers are somehow worse protected on a job site than union workers is based on a notion that cannot even be proven. More objectivity in the questions would hopefully serve your contractor better than this current set.
160	Other	I don't trust the NYS legislature any more than I trust the SUNY Board of Trustees. They all have their own agendas and it is to make sure they have all the money they want at everyone else's expense. I think PHEEIA is just another political ploy to get our money into their pockets instead of on our campus's for education. Until NYS cleans up its act, all of its political entities will be suspect of abusing their power and our money.
161	Other	N/A
162	Other	As a citizen who falls in the middle class, it really doesn't matter to me what you pass or don't pass. I have to figure out how I am going to pay the full tuition no matter what you change in the system. It's the same group of people who have to figure out how to pay for everything when costs go up and incomes stay the same.
163	Other	We should be trying to lower tuition, not raise it.
164	Other	Students should not have to pay more money for classes just because Stony Brook happens to be a university center.
165	Other	Stony Brook seems to be partnered quite substantially with industry at this point in time. I don't understand why it would need to be made easier to do so.
166	Other	I am not sure I understand the point of the program. There must be substantial reasons why the Union(s) would be against this program. I will research it further, even though I have taken the survey.
167	Other	None
168	Master's	I cannot wait for Governor Patterson to be out of office. I think the PHEEIA will make college incredibly unaffordable. Costs are already ridiculous.
169	Master's	it would have been different had it not been for the mentioning of teaming up with the private for profit colleges. The level of education offered in not really any different, just more costly. The SUNY system should stay clear of the private colleges and universities. Some tuition increments say for about 1.5% as you mentioned is very reasonable.
170	Master's	It is about time that tuition that is charged to our students remains on the campus to support those programs.
171	Master's	I don't have enough faith in President Stanley to vote "yes" on this measure. He has shown how greedy he is with the closing of SB Southampton and I know that he will raise tuition to astronomical amounts, making it impossible for people with lower incomes to enter the university. We can not let this happen. Education is a right, NOT a privilege.

Record #	Degree	Comments
172	Master's	How come I have read nothing about it. I read Newsday and the New York Times daily.
173	PhD	Unions are the demise of New York finance. There are many professors at Stony Brook and the focus should be on finding quality ones, not simply worrying about quantity and cost. Everything costs money and frequently higher quality is equal to increased cost. There has to be a balance but protecting unions is not the answer. SUNY belongs to NY State not to individual campus locations.
174	PhD	I am in the DNP program. All doctoral level students should receive a teaching stipend. This should not be required, but voluntary. My daughter is a Ph.D. candidate and she would prefer not to receive a stipend, but she is required to accept the paycheck. This situation does represent a sample of poor fiscal management. How can such examples be better managed?
175	Master's	no other comments
176	Master's	When it comes to tuition and what happens to moneys collected, I trust neither the Board of Trustees nor the state legislature. It's best if they are in conflict. It's best if the money is controlled (at least somewhat) by the voting public.
177	PhD	I understand that it's a moving target in terms of money that is going to be raised from PHEEIA and it might be hard for the administration to promise/guarantee better improvement for graduate students' life. However, in one issue, I'd like to get a more 'guaranteed' answer: will TA/GA/RAs pay the increased portion of tuition? My personal bet is definitely no, otherwise, it's going to be detrimental/horrible. I believe the administration will not do this too. So this should be an easy promise for them to make. If this issue is resolved with a promise of not paying any tuition like we do now, I'll go strongly to support PHEEIA.
178	Master's	Overall I believe PHEEIA is a good plan. I am concerned that it will not permit for equitable distribution of funds to all campuses thus creating inequalities in the educational offerings of the SUNY schools. The planning and allocation of monies needs to be approved within a "race to the top" framework.
179	Master's	On one hand, increasing the tuition for research university centers, such as Stony Brook, increases its degree value as other smaller SUNY colleges tuition's remain the same. On the other hand, it is not fair to compare one SUNY College, such as SUNY College at Oneonta - which is an excellent college but is not a "university center" to Stony Brook. If tuition is to increase, it should increase for all SUNY schools equally (except for the community colleges). However, I do recognize that by increasing Stony Brook's tuition because it is a university center, does indeed raise its degree value and put in par with more prestigious private universities. Regardless, the decisions should be made fairly and by the SUNY Board of Trustees and not the State legislatures which have neglected the SUNY system for far too long.
180	Master's	With the NY deficit and the bailing out of Wall Street, tuition is only going to go up, while the focus and level of education is going to go down. This defeats the whole point of academia. Therefore I support this Act strongly to keep tuition money for education.
181	Master's	The mismanagement of the finances at the state levels more than justifies decentralizing control.