

December 8, 2021

Chair Dr. Merryl H. Tisch Vice Chair Cesar Perales & Members of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York SUNY System Administration H. Carl McCall SUNY Building 353 Broadway Albany, NY 12246

Dear Chair Tisch, Vice Chair Perales and Trustees of the State University of New York,

We, the undersigned members of the New York State Assembly, call upon the Board of Trustees of The State University of New York to terminate the Chancellorship of James Malatras, to appoint an interim replacement, and to initiate a national search open to all qualified candidates including women and people of color.

Chancellor Malatras has lost our confidence that he has the credibility or character to lead the nation's largest public university so vital to the educational aspirations of hundreds of thousands of SUNY students. We agree with his recent statement, issued to the SUNY community, in which he admitted being responsible for "failing to live up to the standards that leadership of this institution entails". He described his behavior as "inappropriate, disrespectful and wrong". Actually, his reported comments, included in transcripts released last week by New York's Attorney General were misogynistic, abusive, and irresponsible.

The SUNY system, which we all strongly support, deserves better. The students, faculty, and staff deserve better. The alumni, whose careers are impacted by the reputation of the system, deserve better. New York State deserves better.

The time to act is now.

Sincerely,

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT, AD 76

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Alicia L. Hyndman



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CHARLES BARRON, AD 60

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EMILY GALLAGHER, AD 50

Deharah J. Shel DEBORAH J. GLICK, AD 66

JESSICA GONZALES-ROJAS, AD 34

JO ANNE SIMON, AD 52

TAYLOR DARLING, AD 18



NATHALIA FERNANDEZ, AD 80

PHIL STECK, AD 110

NILY ROZIC, AD 25

AMANDA SEPTIMO, AD 84

RON KIM, AD 40

DIANA RICHARDSON, AD 43



RODNEYSE BICHOTTE HERMELYN, AD 42

ANNA KELLES, AD 125

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cc:

The Honorable Kathy C. Hochul Governor State of New York