

# CUNY Chancellor Reports (from front)

In the thirty-minute speech, the CUNY Chancellor specified what impact the looming budget crunch would have on the university, highlighted CUNY's increased enrollment, and expressed pleasure at the ratification of the faculty and staff contracts during his report to the CUNY Board of Trustees.

Chancellor Goldstein announced in his late September speech that the university filled most of the budget gap, which totaled \$68 million in state assistance to CUNY. Individual campuses felt only light tremors that resulted from the impact, he said.

"This administration was not sitting idly," said Goldstein. "The campuses did not see the effect of that because it did not really affect our core business at all."

CSI would face a \$1.7 million shortfall according to Vice President for Finance and Administration Milton Santiago in a previous interview with The Banner.

In addition to April's the \$18 million cut in state assistance, and August's \$50 million slash in aid, city funding decreased by \$8 million.

It's still unclear whether CUNY will face further cuts for the current fiscal year when Governor David Paterson releases his predicted budget around the third week of January. Chancellor Goldstein said that the governor might re-convene the state legislature for a special session to address budget concerns.

The decline in CUNY revenue reflects the overall economic woes that face the city and state during this financial crisis. The chancellor tried to deliver some words of comfort during this troubling time.

"I will assure all of you," said Goldstein, "we will get through this. It may be a little tough at times."

While CUNY copes with a revenue loss, it can take solace in the fact that enrollment has increased. Chancellor Goldstein pointed out the 4.3% increase in "head count" had boosted student populations. This fall's incoming students, he said, have the highest SAT scores in CUNY's existence.

"Students of a very fine ability are

looking at this university as a place to shape their professional goals," he said.

CUNY expects an enrollment of 270,000 students for continuing and adult education. He signaled that the college might follow the path for greater academic recognition. Two CUNY schools will be granted authority to award a PhD which Goldstein said he hopes will set an example for CSI.

"I hope the College of Staten Island [among others] will follow in that path."

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This article was accessed through the September 23 edition of the CUNY Podcast. To hear the live audio go to: [http://www1.cuny.edu/portal\\_ur/news/radio/podcast/chancellor\\_17.mp3](http://www1.cuny.edu/portal_ur/news/radio/podcast/chancellor_17.mp3)

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