

# **CUNY COALITION AGAINST THE CUTS**

## **Statement of Purpose**

The CUNY Coalition Against the Cuts is a student based organization that organizes students, faculty and staff from many CUNY and SUNY campuses, private universities and New York City High Schools. Our common goal is to stop the proposed budget cuts to public education and to fight for free and accessible quality education for all. The Coalition is non-sectarian and seeks to mobilize all students and individuals who want to fight against and stop these cuts. Since Pataki's and Giuliani's budgets directly target people from communities of color, women and working class youth the most, we strive for a coalition body that represents those communities.

While we do not discourage others from lobbying and letter writing campaigns, we believe that mass, militant action -- such as demonstrations, mass education, protest marches, and civil disobedience -- is the most effective way to stop this draconian assault on our futures. We are committed to non-violent protest for social change in the tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We are also committed to grass roots mobilizing on the campuses and to mobilizing mass actions in the streets that reflect our true numbers and which place maximum pressure on the political and economic system.

The CUNY Coalition sees the universal right to a quality education as fundamental to the creation of a just society. But we recognize that our current struggle against the budget cuts is not limited to education. Therefore, we seek to unite with all forces fighting budget cuts: especially labor and community based organization, whose power united with students has the potential to win this fight. Our goal is to encourage and coordinate the self-activity of large numbers of students and faculty throughout New York to channel their collective energies toward building a state-wide, student led movement that can stop the current attacks on education, offer information and educational on the crisis, and lead future struggles in the defense of free, quality education for everyone.

**STOP THE BUDGET CUTS!  
NO TUITION HIKES!  
RESTORE FREE TUITION AND OPEN ADMISSIONS!  
SAVE SEEK, HEOP, TAP, ESL, LITERACY PROGRAMS AND EOPS!  
NO RETRENCHMENT NO LAYOFFS!  
CANCEL THE DEBT!  
TAX THE RICH TO MAKE CUNY FREE!  
NO DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST PEOPLE FIGHTING THE CUTS!  
SHUT THE CITY DOWN!**

**THE CUNY COALITION AGAINST THE CUTS:  
212--642--2851**