

## Resolution on Assessment

Resolution AA5 – 2008-09

**WHEREAS** all SUNY community colleges are subject to rigorous accreditation standards for The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and for professional organizations; and

**WHEREAS** MSCHE expects institutions to assess student learning, it does not prescribe a specific approach or methodology. Instead, it requires institutions to be responsible for determining their expected learning outcomes and strategies for achieving them at each level (institutional, program, and course), assessment approaches and methodologies, sequence and time frame (See Characteristics of Excellence, Standard 14: Assessment of Student Learning); and

**WHEREAS** compliance with MSCHE accreditation standards ensures that our students are “acquiring a knowledge base of sufficient depth and breadth and are fully prepared to meet the standards for advanced study, the qualifications of professional careers, and the needs of contemporary society;” and

**WHEREAS** the SUNY assessment mandate is therefore redundant; and

**WHEREAS** the value of SUNY-mandated assessment processes is not in proportion to the time and resources devoted to them and are, therefore, not cost effective; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that SUNY campuses should receive assistance from SUNY System Administration in complying with the requirements from MSCHE and the various accreditation agencies; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that SUNY-mandated assessment is not necessary and that System Administration redirect time and resources toward providing that assistance.

**Passed March 28, 2009**