

Whereas West Virginia University has just announced the elimination of 32 programs, including all of their foreign language and literature programs, with the resultant loss of 169 faculty positions, and

Whereas the justification for the decision is entirely financial, based on rising budget deficits and

Whereas there is mounting evidence that West Virginia University's deficits are the direct result of [administrative mismanagement](#), including the inability to meet ever-increasing enrollment targets and the excessive debt taken on for this failed growth strategy, along with bloated administrative costs and

Whereas the playbook of the West Virginia University—promising [increased enrollments](#), particularly of out-of-state and foreign students through the construction of new programs—is remarkably similar to that of many public universities and

Whereas the New York Times [reports](#) that West Virginia University sees itself as “a sign of the future of many public universities,” and

Whereas, the Albany chapter has itself experienced similar cuts in 2010, and strongly asserts the intellectual importance of the affected programs,

Be it resolved, that the Albany UUP chapter strongly condemns these proposed cuts, standing in solidarity with other academic workers and the students who will be affected by them. We reaffirm the principle that publicly funded state universities must offer a full range of academic programs, including those in languages and area-studies, as part of a broader curriculum that includes strong departments in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Anything less undermines the principle of the modern university, and amounts to a second-tier education for those students who cannot afford elite private university education;

Be it further resolved that UUP Albany Chapter President, Paul Stasi, shall send a copy of this resolution to West Virginia's President and Provost, along with relevant faculty and student unions or organizations at WVU working to overturn this disastrous administrative decision, and

Be it further resolved, that the Albany UUP chapter urges our administration to publicly oppose these cuts as well, and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to UUP President Fred Kowal and the members of the UUP Executive Board for consideration and that it be taken up for consideration by the assembled UUP delegates at the next UUP Delegate Assembly.