



This Is a War on the American Dream: Statement by SUNY UFS President Simon 31 October 2025

On behalf of the State University of New York University Faculty Senate (SUNY UFS), I stand with the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), United University Professions (UUP), SUNY Upstate Medical University, and SUNY in support of the dedicated, hard-working Upstate Medical University environmental services employees who were detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) outside their immigration hearing on Wednesday. I stand with everyone—all individuals acting in good faith to finalize their legal status, along with their families, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and communities—whose lives have been devastated and disrupted by these kinds of actions.

On July 4th, ten current and former governance leaders of New York State’s public university systems [denounced](#) the Trump administration’s “assault on opportunity in the United States of America.” On October 13th, the SUNY UFS Executive Committee [opposed](#) the McMahon-Mailman mutual assured destruction compact for higher education in/and America. Today, on Halloween, I urge everyone to reject the Trump regime’s reign of terror and

- ☑ denounce this latest salvo in their war on the American Dream;
- ☑ contest their project to disappear, detain, and deport anyone they designate an enemy of the state; and
- ☑ oppose their attempts to nullify rights to free speech, due process, and protection from cruel and unusual punishment guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Dr. Bruce Simon, Ph.D.
President, SUNY UFS

Background

- [CSEA demands justice for SUNY Upstate Medical University workers detained by ICE](#). CSEA, 29 October 2025.
- [Statement from United University Professions President Frederick E. Kowal regarding a UUP Upstate Medical University Chapter member detained by ICE](#). UUP, 30 October 2025.
- [Two Upstate Hospital cleaning employees detained by federal immigration officers](#). WSYR, 29 October 2025.
- [Two SUNY Upstate Medical University employees detained by ICE, CSEA says](#). CNY Central, 29 October 2025.
- [2 SUNY Upstate Hospital workers are detained by ICE at immigration hearing, unions say](#). *Syracuse Post-Standard*, 29 October 2025.
- [ICE detains 2 SUNY Upstate Medical University workers](#). *The Daily Orange*. 30 October 2025.
- [Union leaders speak out after two SUNY Upstate employees detained by ICE](#). CNY Central, 30 October 2025.
- [Oppose the McMahon-Mailman Compact - a statement by SUNY UFS Executive committee](#). SUNY UFS, 13 October 2025.
- [The State of Shared Governance: Independence Day 2025](#). SUNY UFS, 4 July 2025.