



MEMORANDUM

September 15, 2020

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Jim Malatras, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Commendation of Upstate Medical University

Action Requested

The proposed commendation of Upstate Medical University for their work on a pooled surveillance testing program for the State University of New York,

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas in August of 2020, SUNY Upstate Medical University collaborated with Quadrant Biosciences to develop a pooled surveillance testing program capable of testing 10-25 students at one time and analyzing more than 15,000 samples per day at SUNY Upstate's Neuroscience Research Building; and

Whereas later that month, SUNY Upstate Medical University developed a saliva diagnostic test to rapidly identify positive COVID-19 cases on SUNY campuses, which was quickly approved by the NYS Department of Health, making 100 percent testing capacity possible for every student on campus every two weeks; and

Whereas in September of 2020, Chancellor Jim Malatras announced that all SUNY colleges and universities will implement these testing programs to detect and monitor COVID-19 cases on campuses; and

Whereas in addition to these initiatives, SUNY Upstate Medical University has begun offering the public opportunities to participate in clinical trials for vaccines and treatments, and

launched research into testing wastewater to detect early signs of COVID-19; and

Whereas the remarkable innovations designed by SUNY Upstate Medical University's world-renowned faculty, lab technicians, and administrators have revolutionized SUNY's ability to track COVID-19 cases in a cost-effective and rapid manner; and

Whereas SUNY Upstate Interim President Mantosh Dewan's swift action to advance technological and scientific research related to COVID-19 diagnosis has ensured the ability of SUNY campuses to continue providing world class education and student services in the face of a global pandemic; and

Whereas the members of the SUNY Upstate Medical University community have demonstrated their steadfast commitment to keeping our students, campuses, and communities safe; and

Whereas the brilliant scientists at SUNY Upstate Medical University exemplify the academic excellence found across all facets of the SUNY system; now, therefore, be it

Resolved the State University of New York Board of Trustees commends the State University of New York Upstate Medical University and Interim President Mantosh Dewan for their exceptional leadership in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.