

Statement from the SUNY University Faculty Senate on the Suppression of Human Rights in Iran

We all watch with dismay the events that have been unfolding these past weeks in Iran. There is [no justification](#) for the Islamic Republic of Iran's violent suppression of basic human rights of the people of Iran. Our thoughts are with the people of Iran protesting the 16 September killing in Tehran of 22-year-old Mahsa (Zhinah/Jina) Amini and calling for [basic human rights, freedom, and dignity for all Iranians](#).

We abhor the Iranian regime's use of violence in contravention of international norms, to crowds of men, women, and children. We condemn the arrests of peacefully protesting students and faculty from Sharif University of Technology, the closing of universities across the Kurdish region of Iran, and the broader crackdown on institutions of higher education in Iran. We decry the suppression of open debate and inquiry and the long-standing inequitable treatment of women in Iran. We ask our members to consider voicing their support for the people of Iran through the actions of [Amnesty International or similar organizations](#). We endorse SUNY Buffalo President Satish K. Tripathi's [solidarity statement and invite similar statements from other SUNY leaders and governance bodies](#). And we ask the Chancellor of SUNY System Administration, as well as individual campuses, to support our Iranian and Iranian-American students, faculty, and staff during this time of strife and struggle in Iran by:

Advocating

with the U.S. Department of State to grant visas to students and scholars from Iran accepted at SUNY schools.

Offering

in-state tuition to our students from Iran, as has been done in the past for other groups of students affected by crises at home; and providing assistance as needed to students from throughout the region, particularly those of Kurdish descent.

Considering

providing remote positions for Iranian and Kurdish refugee scholars.

Showcasing

the scope and value of research, expertise, and scholarly debates within SUNY on Iran.

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The University Faculty Senate is concerned with effective educational policies and other professional matters within the University and is committed to social justice. As educators and professionals, we are concerned with the free and open exchange of ideas.