

**Resolution on High Stakes Testing (Passed June DA, reaffirm)
Submitted by PSC-CUNY**

Whereas standardized testing has become a growth industry with too great an influence over classroom practice and curriculum; and

Whereas standardized tests have become a gatekeeper that unduly influence educational decisions; and

Whereas decisions based upon such tests may irrevocably direct the course of education for an individual; and

Whereas standardized tests have been criticized for more than twenty years as culturally biased against women and students of color; and

Whereas the increasing use of high stakes tests has provoked a backlash against standardized testing by parents, student advocates, educators and scholars who are calling for multiple measures of testing as well as fairness and accuracy in testing; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the New York State United Teachers seek to work with the New York State Department of Education to promote multiple assessments, including portfolios and other forms of authentic assessment, as fair and valid measures of students' academic achievement, and be it further

Resolved, that the New York State United Teachers seek State legislation to allow school districts to develop and implement alternative assessment procedures, and be it further

Resolved, that the New York State United Teachers, working with its affiliate the American Federation of Teachers, seek federal legislation that requires fairness, accuracy in high stakes testing, and alternative means of assessment.