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**Old Westbury Senate Resolution
In Opposition to the Bush Administration's Plan for War against Iraq
October 18, 2002**

Whereas, the Bush administration's plan for a 'preemptive' US war on Iraq to attain a 'regime change' is a violation of several provisions of the UN Charter, among them Article 1, Section 4, which states that "all members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state," and

Whereas, a US military invasion would result in the killing of countless numbers of Iraqi civilians and deepen the already existing humanitarian crisis in Iraq, and

Whereas even if Iraq has biological and chemical weapons and is developing a nuclear weapon, this, in itself, is not a clear and immediate danger to the United States justifying war, and

Whereas, there is no substantiated evidence that the government of Iraq aided the September 11 attacks or is currently aiding al-Qaeda, and

Whereas, the proposed war would destabilize the Middle East and jeopardize world energy supplies, and

Whereas, the US-British rationale of 'preemptive self-defense' sets a dangerous precedent for any nation to attack another that allegedly has weapons of mass destruction, and

Whereas, war might trigger an escalation of the very terrorism that the Bush administration claims that it is trying to prevent, and

Whereas, a primary underlying motive for war might well be the expansion of US power and control of Mideast oil, and

Whereas, war would divert hundreds of billions of dollars from funds for domestic healthcare, prescription drugs and education,

Therefore,

Be it resolved that we, the Faculty Senate of SUNY College at Old Westbury, go on record, along with a mounting number of people internationally and in the United States, as expressing our ardent opposition to the Bush administration's plan for a 'preemptive' war against Iraq; and

Be it further resolved that we call for a peaceful resolution of any differences between the United States and Iraq; and

Be it further resolved that we support SUNY College at Old Westbury President Calvin Butts III for publicly opposing the US plan for war against Iraq; and

SUNY Be it further resolved that we back the resolution passed by United University Professionals, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, against a US military invasion of Iraq; and

Be it further resolved that we voice our disapproval of New York Senators Charles Schumer and Hillary Clinton for their endorsement of President Bush's authority to wage war on Iraq, and we urge them to reconsider their position.

Attachment: UUP resolution in opposition to the US plan for war on Iraq