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Uncivic center

To the Editor:

President O'Leary's latest attempt at self-aggrandizement involves the proposed Civic Center. As a SUNYA faculty member and as a resident of the neighborhood he plans to victimize, I am outraged by his proposal.

Who's going to pay for the consequences of O'Leary's edifice complex? He has admitted to a cost of \$25 million, and that figure doesn't include the inevitable cost overruns. Regardless of whether the Civic Center is financed by the federal state or local government, it is the already overburdened taxpayer who will pay. Also, I wouldn't be surprised to see students eventually forced to assume some of the costs.

The proposed Civic Center is one more illustration of the low priority O'Leary places on education at SUNYA. Our students are forced to take large lecture classes and are closed out of courses because we don't have enough teachers, we have a shortage of classroom space, our library is understaffed and doesn't have enough books, while O'Leary is trying to get \$25 million for a Civic Center.

Most of the people in my neighborhood are vehemently opposed to the Civic Center. We know that we're going to suffer from the noise, the crowds, the traffic congestion and the automobile pollution. And to add insult to injury, as taxpayers we'll be forced to help finance the destruction of our neighborhood. SUNYA has always enjoyed good relations with the surrounding community. Why spoil that now?

— Carol Waterman