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## WNED-AM 970 NEWS

### Simpson says Assembly Cuts Jeopardize UB 2020 Plan

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*Chris Caya (2010-03-29)*

**BUFFALO (WNED)** - A major expansion plan for the University at Buffalo is in jeopardy of falling apart, according to UB President John Simpson.



UB's 2020 plan is expected to have a major impact on the WNY economy.

Simpson says the State Assembly has cut the higher education reform bill that is needed to make the UB 2020 plan a reality. The plan is expected to create nearly 7,000 direct jobs and 20,000 construction jobs and have a \$2 billion impact on the Western New York economy.

"We've come too far to lose these jobs and this plan. Our moment is now. After six years, we're so very close," said Simpson.

Simpson says the public can help get the bill passed by contacting their representatives in Albany.

"We need everyone in Western New York to tell our elected officials that now is the time for action and we can not let this moment pass. If it does, then our plan...will be lost," urged Simpson.

Simpson says UB is not asking for state funding, but rather the tools that it needs to grow which are contained in the higher education reform bill.

The legislation has the support of the Senate, Governor David Paterson and the SUNY Board of Trustees.

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