



STUDENT LABOR ACTION PROJECT

A joint project of Jobs with Justice and the U.S. Students Association.

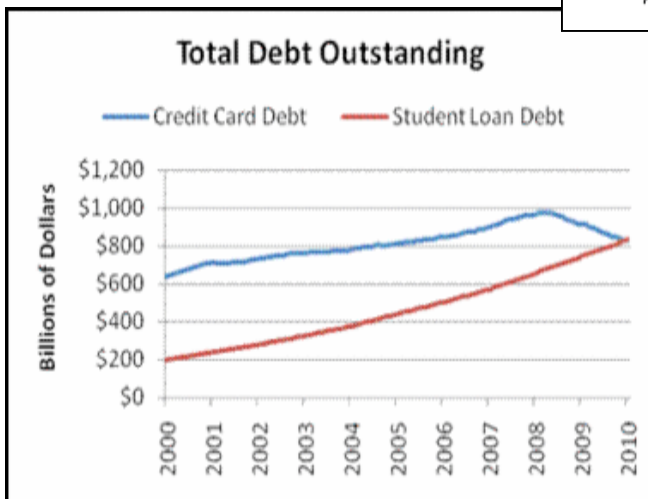
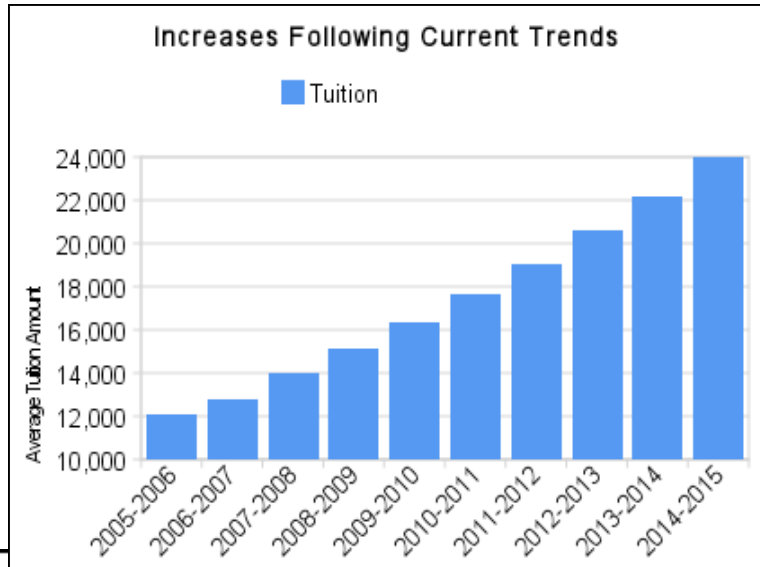


The Youth fight for Affordable Education & A New Economy that Works for Everyone

Today millions of Americans are finding themselves caught in the poverty cycle, where due to inflation of tuition fewer young people are able to attend higher education forcing them into a bad job market where the cycle continues. This has been amplified by student debt recently becoming the number one source of debt in the United States, surpassing credit card debt.

Rising tuition:

- On average college tuition rates increase about 8% a year nationally; an 8% tuition rate increase means that **the cost of college doubles every 9 years**
- In 2005 the average tuition price was \$12,000; if current trends continue, by the 2014 school year, average tuition will be at \$24,000
- With this continued increase in tuition, more and more students are unable to obtain higher education



The above chart shows that, using the average 8% increase figure, where tuition rates are likely to go for 4 year public universities over the next few years.

Student Debt:

- Student debt is now \$830 billion as compared to credit card debt which is at \$827 billion as of 2010 surpassing it for the first time
- **About \$300 billion in new student loan debt has been made in the last four years**
- New federal student loan volume will exceed \$100 billion for the first time in 2010-2011

With low income levels, access to higher education become more difficult, and thus the quality of employment remains low as well. It's time to end this poverty cycle! Access to higher education should be achieved through more grants and less loans. The increased barrier to a good education is a problem for an economy that will rely on a greater percentage of jobs that will require a college degree in the future. This is why access to higher education needs to be affordable if we are to have good jobs for everyone.

SLAP works to break the poverty cycle by fighting for access to higher education and the human right to form a union for all. Join SLAP to help us expand and build this movement! More information at <http://www.studentlabor.org>