

## **SUNY Delhi College Council Meeting – Hybrid**

**February 18, 2025**

### **Approved Minutes**

**In attendance:** Jack Schoonmaker, Ray Pucci, Jeanne Ellsworth, Tahirah Clark, Seth Blocker, Julia Rios.

**Absent:** Wayne Oliver

**Guests:** President Mary Bonderoff, Chelsea Mathieu, Doug Holub, John Padovani, Andrea Dibble, Michael Sullivan, Lisa Tessier, David Brower, Lou Reyes, Ruth Ehrets, Nazely Kurkjian.

#### **Part 1 – Call to Order/Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

#### **Part 2 – Approval of Minutes**

The December minutes were approved with a correction. Motion made by Seth Blocker and seconded by Jeanne Ellsworth. Motion carried.

#### **Part 3 – Chair's Comments**

Happy New Year!

#### **Part 4 – President's Comments**

Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado & Congressman Josh Riley on campus today and met with 11 incredible students and staff in the O'Connor Center with a focus on the community service our students do, and very impressed with what we do at Delhi. We have been increasing outreach to government relations, to visit campus. I spoke to Antonio Delgado at the State of the Union, so was pleased he took us up on the invitation to visit us.

Julia Rios is interning in the Presidents and Provost's office. It has been great to get a student perspective at the table and will include her in as many things as we can. Julia will be rotating through each of the leadership offices to get a varied perspective on all the work that we do to manage the institution.

Kicked off the semester with Assessment Day, Opening Forum, and in the midst of our Strategic Plan, so we have created committees and Alice Krause is assisting with getting it into motion, and Nazely is helping behind the scenes.

Groups signed up to create tactics for the strategic plan which we will collect for the end of the semester and share them out with the campus. We are working on values and Abby Brannen Wilson has been helpful in leading conversations on campus to collect top values for us as an institution and will compile to get feedback from the campus community on what those will look like moving forward.

Fiscally on track with our plans and still meet with SUNY on a regular basis. Nazely moved into the rolls around enrollment, recruitment & retention, and we are trending above where we were last year with over a 1,000 more applications than we had last year, which was our highest enrollment ever.

Planning for our fundraising campaign which we are rolling out and will use inauguration to kick start it. I do hope you'll join me at giving at a leadership level because it's important we set an example for the institution, we are really hoping to support scholarships as well as faculty & staff professional development, and emergency funds so students have access to resources when they need them.

Regional Innovation Council met around housing – addressing and discussing issues. Great turnout, thank you Ray for bringing your folks lots of great conversations. The County putting forward a taskforce to pursue state funds and grants that are out there, so we can address the housing shortage here in Delhi and the greater Delaware area.

Regional Economic Development Council – extremely insightful, and helpful with networking across the state. In Binghamton tomorrow for an update on the budget and working with people from Empire State Development as well as the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council.

Hope that role can help us get a clear vision on how we obtain these grants and work collaboratively in Delaware County to put together some strong proposals to address housing and other issues that we are facing.

To address the pending shortage of housing with more students, and last year there were a lot of triples, so you have any solutions for the near term?

Residence Life working on some solutions including marketing triple rooms with a cost savings. Last year students were given a cost adjustment of \$1,000 off housing bill and we will maintain that, and there may be returning students looking to save money and want to room with their friends. Little less stringent on requests to live off campus so that opens up some spots as well, plus housing options outside the Delhi community to offer other options to live outside campus. Looking at other options well such as other modalities – are students taking online classes, more local students that don't need to stay on campus.

We have requested SUNY to do an analysis of waitlists across the system so we can have a better sense of if we have X numbers on a waitlist, and there's other waitlists, if we left the application open, what's their best analysis on how many students we might get added to a program that closes out? We're just trying to get an idea on what that number might look like so we plan for it. 2025 is the year high school graduate numbers start to decline but we are still showing strong interest.

## **Part 5 – Staff Reports Highlights**

### **David Brower:**

Priorities for academic affairs this semester:

Academic program optimization initiative (APAC), continuing to evaluate all program offerings we have on campus to ensure they are as cutting edge as possible using the “strengths calculator” that identifies those that are excelling, doing well and those that need additional help to grow.

Science and nursing faculty drafted a health studies degree to launch soon for the students interested in the nursing program, but who are currently redirected into biology degree, so this would be a more logical flow for them.

Maximize enrollment and expand online programs into direct admit rather than transfer only, students can enter into those programs as first year students, specifically program in Business, Hospitality and

possibly CJ.

Program planning with SUNY Oneonta to offer a jointly registered degree in nursing, RN to BSN dual degree program and the Oneonta Provost and I will be meeting with representatives from SUNY on Friday to discuss this further.

In January we hosted our first group of apprentices in groundskeeper program. Seven students on campus, hybrid format with lecture course content online and then come to campus for an intensive hands-on week. We have a number of programs that align nicely with the apprenticeship program that are approved by NYSDOL and SUNY have identified.

Still working on getting Microcredentials approved locally on campus and through the SUNY system so we can promote them. Microcredentials are short credentials that stack into a degree program.

Searches still ongoing for Director of Academic Advising and Student Success, Director of Access and Opportunity Programs (both filled by interims) and the PRODiG+ Fellowship – financially supported by SUNY – discipline is biology/chemistry to support growth in that area.

Prior Learning Assessment – credit for previous experience (individuals military experience or on the job experience) that can be put towards a degree.

Finalizing modest organizational structure with the intent of centralizing advisement functions; new student schedules, academic recovery initiatives (probation, reboot), Purchasing functions, and adjunct/ES contract functions.

National Institute of Student Success – received email today about next steps for implementation. Grant funded, two-part process, diagnostic (informs what recommendations are included in the playbook) and then playbook. They review our programs and provide recommendations.

Articulation Agreements & concurrent enrollment - would like to get that up and running again. Met with Carey Shultz, Delaware Academy to get that started again. We had a CAO Tech Sector mtg last week– met with Phil Ortiz, our SUNY Liaison – great ideas and helpful documents on service areas as each campus has a designated service area and since we haven't been doing much, there has been some encroachment from community colleges.

Grant funding:

NYSERDA – HVAC microcredential

Draft for the Department of Justice – CJ virtual reality simulator

ECMC (Educational Credit Management Corporation Foundation) – funding to support the expansion of the Bronco Reboot/academic recovery programs and the development of the learning commons in the Resnick Library/Achievement Center. Thank you to Julia for student insight.

IITG – Three proposals have been submitted (AI/virtual reality generative applications, OER, Artificial Intelligence)

Professional Development:

The Pedagogy of Real Talk – crucial conversations with students.

Artificial Intelligence Symposium (Collaborative efforts – SUNY Delhi, Oneonta, Cobleskill); Conversations in the Disciplines funding.

New Faculty Academy – prolonged orientation for faculty so they have a better understanding of the campus, policies and procedures.

Continuing with the Academic Open Forums and our next one is February 19<sup>th</sup> and we will be talking about the integration between Enrollment/Admissions and Academic Affairs.

**John:**

This past fall, 94% of our student-athletes were in good academic standing, with a department GPA above 3.0. Resident Assistant GPAs at the end of the fall 2024 semester were among the highest we have ever seen, with a 3.38 semester average for the staff and ten members achieving a 4.0 GPA.

Eight members of the CADI team attended the SUNY Auxiliary Services Association's annual conference in January. We competed in the Battle of the Chef's competition against seven campuses with the featured ingredient, lentil, and their dish, Persimmon Red Lentil Pudding with a yellow lentil tomato sauce.

CADI has contracted with Sodexo to provide management services to our current dining operations, catering functions, and operating Bluestone Seven members of the CADI management team have joined Sodexo as part of this process. All other CADI employees remain CADI employees, and there are no plans for any other positions to be changed to Sodexo this semester.

We have implemented Pharmedex for prescription medications provided to our students. This company utilizes a pharmacist to fill pre-ordered prescriptions.

The Healthy Vending Machine has proved to be very popular and is being filled three times a week. We will be adding another machine to be located in Farrell Center.

Annual Winterfest this past week with a "Western theme" that included cowboy hat decorating, BBQ, bull riding and disco.

We are continuing to plan for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Campus-wide Mental Health Summit to be held on March 27, with presentations by the University of Buffalo's School of Social Work's Institute on Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care (ITTIC) and a panel discussion with students, faculty, and staff.

Collaborative conversations have begun to offer all students Self-Defense workshops this March, to expand the offering of self-defense beyond the Women's Self-Defense Course.

Student Life Leadership awards will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Created a 'Smoking Impact Survey' focusing on cannabis, smoking gazebos, and covered smoke detectors, and collected 821 residential student responses.

We welcome Alex Devine, Head Track & Field coach, and Samantha Schmidt as the Women's soccer head coach and Michael O'Donnell has been appointed our new Chief of Police.

Athletics has applied to SUNYAC for full membership, and we have a site visit scheduled for March 12, 2025.

**Louis Reyes**

Collaboration with Academic Affairs, Student Life & CDO offices to offer the Pedagogy of Real Talk. Kick off was February 12<sup>th</sup> when Dr. Hernandez came to campus and gave two presentations to two cohorts; instructional & non-instructional. This is a professional learning experience designed to foster authentic connections with students, create inclusive and purpose-driven learning environments, and enhance student success. The program focuses on cultivating a sense of belonging, with measurable outcomes tied to student academic performance.

The Institute is a three-year commitment, during which staff will engage in a three-day summer professional learning experience. two four-hour coaching sessions and four meetings per semester (eight total per year).

Each year, up to 10 staff members will be invited to join a new cohort. This initiative is participant-led, sustained, and scaled, with support from college leadership, and is a collaboration with SUNY Oneonta.

The Campus Climate Survey results are in. After careful consideration, we are working with Insight Viewfinder to analyze the data and produce dashboards. 14% of our students and 36% of our faculty/staff completed the survey. We are awaiting benchmark data from Alfred State, and SUNY's Canton, Cobleskill and Morrisville. Updates will be given when analysis and benchmark data become available.

MOSAIC student assistants are actively building their skills through bi-weekly team meetings, each featuring a professional development session designed to enhance their leadership, event planning, and cultural competency. These sessions cover essential topics such as Fundamentals of Event Planning, DEI Education, Hosting Culturally Sensitive Events, and Graphic Design Basics.

The MOSAIC team continue building on the Men of Distinction program and are looking to host three guest speakers on the importance of higher education and leadership.

Prism Conference: MOSAIC co-sponsored a trip to SUNY Oneonta for students to attend this important event in March.

Compassion conversations started in the fall semester. Christina Wood presented to Residence Life staff and assistants and it was received and we will continue with this programming.

Advanced Title VI trainings to help with the bias response team. Still very engaged with Racial Equity Justice Institute and helping us provide tools for our equity council and campus community.

Can Title VI training be shared with College Council members? Yes, we can and Lou would be happy to share what he has available. Andrea to request Delhi email addresses for College Council members.

The President's award for diversity inclusive excellence has been revived, so we can celebrate, congratulate, encourage and foster more groups, individuals and more campus community partners to put together effective programming with regard to DEI. There was an application process, and we received many which we narrowed down to five winners; one community organization, one faculty member and three students.

**Chelsea:**

We are in the second year of our fiscal stability plan which is being monitored by SUNY System Administration bi-weekly and are pleased to share we continue to make good progress towards our overall goals.

CIS once again is employing 15-17 students. Most work within the help desk answering calls and emails and providing some Tier 1 support. Students are also able to provide support after 5pm and on weekends. In addition, we have a student working with the PC support group, assisting with computer moves, set ups as well as other daily tasks. This semester CIS is also hosting an intern for the first time in several years. Zach is a senior student in our Applied Communication program. The Grounds Dept. has multiple students that are working at shoveling snow from areas that cannot be plowed. Additionally, we have a student worker that assists Grounds with moves and minor outdoor tasks which will continue throughout the spring.

Human Resources have participated in meetings with the Chief Diversity Officer learning about Executive Order (EO) 31, which is New York State's commitment to being a model employer for people with disabilities, and our commitments under the strategic plan created for us. As part of SUNY Delhi's EO31 Strategic Plan, all job postings will include language stating that "persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply" in addition to traditional non-discrimination language.

Effective January 9, 2025, Title IX (TIX) requirements under the 2024 rules implemented effective August 1, 2024, were vacated, with prior 2020 rules going into effect. Websites are presently under revision to accurately reflect policy and grievance procedures.

Since May 2024, OneStop has had over 2,500 in-person appointments and has fielded over 6,000 telephone calls.

We will be going live with Scholarship Universe from CampusLogic at the end of January 2025 for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year. Scholarship Universe will allow us to manage the entire scholarship cycle, including applying, reviewing, awarding, and reporting, as well as donor management in one place.

The platform uses advanced algorithms to match students with relevant and vetted SUNY Delhi scholarships as well as external scholarship opportunities from a vast database of scholarships. Ensuring students have numerous opportunities to find funding that matches their needs.

The 2025-26 FAFSA went live in late November and so far, based on recent high school filing events, seems to be going smoother than 2024-25.

Financial Aid is gearing up for the 2025-26 aid year working on setup and loading 2025-26 FAFSAs so that 2025-26 award letters can be sent out as soon as possible.

All Banner and related servers were migrated in October to Linux 8 (over fall break) most jobs and processes generated in Banner needed to be converted.

Campus has reached 100% completion with Security Awareness training.

CIS has migrated to new next generation fire walls which was a requirement under SUNY IT's security policies. There were supplied at no cost though the SUNY Digital Transformation Project and we

received a redundant set of firewalls, one year of licensing support, maintenance and professional services at zero cost to the campus, which saved us about \$75,000.

The college was able to leverage an existing SUNY contract with NYSERNET. In addition to the faster internet connection the college will also gain access Internet2, a high-speed, secure network designed for research and education as well as access to a Direct Content Delivery Network which also for more rapid access to frequently visited sites and networks such as Google, Microsoft, and SUNY.

Over winter break the third-floor classrooms in Evenden Tower received new presentation equipment, and the team continues to streamline processes across campus.

Evenden Tower Elevators; this project is to replace all three elevators in Evenden Tower. At this time, elevators 2 and 3 have been completed and elevator 1 is scheduled to be finished by early summer.

The project to remodel the Science labs is underway. The sixth floor has been vacated and abatement and demolition has begun. I would like to extend a special thank you to Karen Teitelbaum, Noel Tarrants and Lauren Sloane for all of their hard work in moving out of the sixth floor so that the project could stay on schedule.

Facilities Master Plan (FMP) Moving into Phase 5. Campus leadership are working with the Construction Fund and consultants to evaluate project impact and cost in order to prioritize what items are highlighted over the next 10 years).

**Michael:**

We have put a real focus on increasing our government relations work over the last 18 months, and in addition the campus visit on February 18, we have been present at the State of the State Address, meeting with state officials and representatives from SUNY. We attended the Friends of SUNY legislative forum, and we will be going back to Albany for the Legislative Alumni Breakfast. We remain committed to being in front of working with our elected officials.

Congressmen Riley's staff announced a week ago that he is serving on the Science Space and Technology Committee and Mary has been appointed to the advisory committee for that group.

Collaboration with Academics Affairs and EOP, to kick off the alumni student engagement and networking activities scheduled for the end of April. We will have a panel of graduates and professionals from Criminal Justice and EOP to meet with current students to talk about career pathways and things they experienced here that help them succeed, and to create some connections and mentorship opportunities.

A successful retirement event was held at Bluestone in November, and the majority were Bronco Athletics alumni. The Bob Backus Fund for Excellence in Track & Field was created to commemorate the retirement of the former Coach and Director of Athletics. Comments, remarks and reflections shared by alumni spoke very fondly of Bob, who have remained in contact over 30 years.

This spring, we are hosting a mini fundraising campaign for athletics, calling it "Back the Broncos" looking to take advantage of the March Madness energy in college athletics and do some targeted fundraising for our athletic programs and teams.

Great call with our Athletics Hall of Fame members asking them to engage with us and be champions this program and do some challenge gift opportunities to help us kick that off. We are working closely with the athletic coaches and the student athletes have already put together some videos with a lean on peer-to-peer format; video & personal message heavy. First time we have done this, it's exciting and we hope that it will be successful and we get the model right so we can copy and apply to other programs.

College Advancement collaborated with the faculty of the Student Research and Achievement Day Committee for the December StAR Day alumni guest speaker. Dr. Lisa Russell Knode '02, Associate Director of Laboratory Operations at Eurofins Central Laboratory. This is a great event for Alumni to share their experiences.

We are working on plans and dates for spring and summer 2025 alumni event(s), more to follow and we hope to offer a trip to Yankee Stadium!

Homecoming & Family Weekend will be held September 26 & 27 in collaboration with Student Life, and we will be encouraging as many alums, family and friends to come back.

Our digital marketing campaign with Umbrella Digital ended on January 31. This campaign started on October 1 and focused on promoting our online graduate degrees (criminal justice and the two masters in nursing). We are evaluating the results of this campaign and deciding on whether to continue our contract with Umbrella with a new campaign focusing on campus-based programs.

We completed a professionally produced promotional video for online nursing degrees (RN-to-BSN, MS in Nursing Administration, and MS in Nursing Education) in late November. The video was shared and well received on all social channels and the online nursing program pages. Snippets of the video were also used in the digital marketing campaign for online graduate degrees.

A new promotional video for our on-campus nursing program is currently in production. The video will include faculty and student interviews and b-roll showcasing hands-on learning experiences in the nursing lab.

The college's social media platforms are growing and continue to engage various stakeholders with stories about student life, academic programs, and campus imagery. We have hired a student content creator for Spring 2025 to increase student-generated content, which is popular on social media.

Several press releases were sent out to share positive news about the college, resulting in a number of press mentions. SUNY further shared some of our news, including the nursing program's excellent licensure pass rate averages and Shelly Jones being selected for the SUNY Accessibility Fellowship program.

The aggregated campus calendar is now live and on our homepage. Campus offices are able to feed their individual office calendars into this public-facing master calendar to allow both the campus community and the public to view key academic dates as well as campus activities and events.

Campus committee working on the Presidential Inauguration to be held on Thursday, April 3, 2025.



Electronic invitations have been sent out and the printed invitations are going out soon. Formal ceremony to start at noon with a reception afterwards in the Clark Field House. Fundraising gala dinner in the evening in Farrell Commons for up to 225 people. Our culinary students and chefs will be catering the dinner. We hope that College council, alumni, foundation members will be able to join us for the inauguration. A webpage has been created that contains information about the upcoming ceremony and related events that we will be hosting during the week.

**Nazely:**

Campus calendar on the homepage, still a work in progress, prominent events and meetings for the campus and local community have been added. Will promote widely over the next academic year.

Charged with leading the three-year strategic enrollment management (SEM) plan to be implemented through various departmental collaborations and working groups. Working towards bridging recruitment and retention efforts.

Senior Council (larger shared governance body) this year is focusing on the student journey. Faculty and staff and connecting various touch points from different places along the college experience, from first hearing about Delhi all the way through transitioning into the workforce as a proud alumnus. We are regularly gathering and analyzing data, implementing proactive and reactive interventions and exploring ways to share this information broadly across campus.

Goal is to create a culture of practice to accelerate equitable student outcomes. Outcomes are what prospective students and their families want to know about, so they can make informed decisions about what college they are sending their child too. This is reflective of a consumer trend that has shifted from a return-on-investment model to a prove your worth model.

We are actively working with marketing & academic affairs to effectively promote our value proposition.

Today, 2,739 enrolled, up 48 new students this semester compared to last semester (up on first-time-full-time, first-time new transfers.) We are up over 1,00 applications from this time last year, over 900 accepts, up over 100 deposits which if we look at the rest of the tech sector colleges, we have been excelling over the last three years and we are still very competitive.

Overall, fall 2025 applications as of February 14<sup>th</sup>, we are leading in the tech sector and also for fall 2025 freshmen and for fall 2025 transfers we are a little behind. Exciting to see how much work is being done between recruitment, operations with increased collaboration.

**Doug:**

College senate continues to work with shared governance, and we continue to provide input from staff.

**Julia:** Student Senate now has a full membership. New budget structure passed, and hopefully to be more fiscally responsible and less chaotic.

SUNY SA conference last semester took nine students, and we are taking 10-12 this semester, two will try to run for two SA seats.

**Lisa:**

We did attend the SUNY Plenary which was two days; no resolutions passed this time. Next plenary in April.

**Part 6 – Old Business**

No old business

**Part 7 – New Business**

No new business

**Part 8 – Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Seth Blocker and seconded by Julia Rios to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm. Motion carried.

Next meeting scheduled for May 6, 2025.