

SUNY Delhi.

Senate Meeting Minutes March 9, 2026

Present: Genevieve Salerno, Doug Holub, Barbara D’Anna, Shannon Shoemaker, Barbara Davies, Carrie Fishner, Elizabeth Pratt, Lou Reyes, Jr., Cheri Rossi, Peter Brusoe, Lisa Tessier, Sanum Shafi, Beth Boyd, Max Dehne, Jason Cash, Michael Tweed, Brian Bean, David Brower, Mary Bonderoff, Heather Schwartz, Shai Butler, Kari Haugeto, Lori Tremblay, Alice Krause, Lacey Williams, Amber Boulay, Chelsea Mathieu , Rachel Seeber, Marc Evan, Nazely Kurkjian

Proxies: Sanum S. for Dan Gashler

Meeting begins at 4:31 PM

Welcome! We hope everyone and their families are healthy and safe – please mute.

o Approval of February 16, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Jason C., second by Lisa T.

Discussion: none

Vote taken: Yes, 17 yes, 0 no.

o Updates:

Provost - David Brower - Discussion about new academic programs to be presented to campus soon. Regarding health professions and some additional name changes. Programs that are not strongly enrolled may need help in certain ways and one of those ways could be a name change. Some deactivations and discontinuations also in the works. Forward momentum is making work of progress. Academic momentum initiatives moving forward. Working groups continue to move forward. Many initiatives will be rolled out by the Fall 2026 semester. Still have not received word from SUNY greater on whether we are on the right track and should keep going as though program has been approved. Prior Learning Assessment group has put forward a draft policy that includes procedures for context. Will be able to attract potential students that have strong work histories. Serving as Campus Co-lead with Shawn Brislin in the AI and advising pilot study group which will hopefully make processes easier. Will potentially allow us to adhere more to a case management model. Submitted a number of grant requests, two ITG grants submitted, and a Community Project Funding Request to help us expand plumbing and electrical labs with the help of HUD as well as a grant to help instal an indoor pole yard with help of DCEC.

ADA title 2 compliance trainings to be rolled out in April of 2026 in a gradual way through the KnowBe4 application in order to keep track of who has completed them. Today is deadline for the second cohort of the Pedagogy of Real Talk.

Noon on Wednesday Academic Open Forum to talk about the Academic momentum as well as some Open Houses coming up.

Registrar's Office is currently staffed by three members of the campus. A revised final exam schedule will be issued to correct scheduling issues, particularly to reduce the number of late Friday exams.

Discussion:

Appreciation was expressed for restoring access to JSTOR, which faculty noted has been highly beneficial for research and teaching.

Concerns over security of sensitive student information voiced regarding use of AI programs in advising.

Terminology around terms like "deactivation" and "sunsetting" for programs mentioned in the beginning of Provost's presentations needed clarification. Deactivation and discontinuance to two programs. Deactivation means that no new students will be accepted into a program and students already enrolled in the program will get the classes they need to graduate.

Question about renovation and rehabilitation of spaces in the community for teaching skills and upskilling training for industry as well as the construction of a facility at the Lower Valley Campus for climate controlled indoor poles.

Committee updates:

CADI Update- Peter B. - CADI leadership reported progress in improving campus dining and student services.

Appreciation was expressed for the work of Interim Executive Director Diane Williams in identifying operational efficiencies and supporting student success initiatives.

Evening dining service is expected to return to Farrell Hall during the next budget cycle in response to student feedback.

The campus is exploring an unlimited dining access plan, which would allow students to enter dining facilities throughout the day instead of relying on a limited number of meal swipes.

This model aligns with dining systems used at other SUNY campuses and is intended to better match student eating patterns and improve competitiveness in student recruitment.

The current mini-grant program remains available through the end of the current budget year.

Beginning June 1, funds previously allocated to mini-grants will be reallocated to divisional vice presidents, who will determine how resources are distributed within their divisions.

Historically, mini-grant funding was designed to decrease annually for repeat requests in order to encourage programs to transition to other funding sources.

Discussion:

Senators raised concerns regarding maintaining a clear, transparent process for requesting funding. Ensuring faculty and staff without budget authority can still access funds for campus programming and innovative initiatives. The importance of campus-wide communication explaining how the new funding process will work.

CADI leadership indicated that support for campus programming will continue, though the mechanism for requesting funding may change.

A question was raised regarding funding for free emergency contraception (Plan B) provided through campus health services.

It was clarified that these funds come from a separate CADI allocation, not the mini-grant program, and therefore are not expected to be affected by the changes.

Equity Council - Sanum S. - Leadership transition following the departure of one co-chair. Sanum is now sole Chair. The council is currently reorganizing its subcommittee structure, with focus areas including religious programming and LGBTQIA+ initiatives. Equity Council members are also participating in a book club focused on equity-related topics.

Discussion:

None.

o Old Business

None.

o New Business

Resolution Request: The Delhi Eradication of Plastic Objects & Seeking an Improved Trash Stream Act of 2026 - Lori T. - This reduction will be in line with our sustainability goals and students will be able to get the deposits back on the bottles and cans of beverages they purchase on campus.

Motion made to move this request to the Resolutions Committee by Elizabeth P., second by Barbara D.

Discussion:

Discussion about the amount of deposits and the context of where this resolution came from. Came from discussion in ECON 300 class. Question about if this is a CADI thing as opposed to an Administration issue which would justify the creation of a resolution. By writing the resolution, the senators that are also on the CADI board would potentially advocate to the administration for purchasing a deposit machine. Also discussion of using grants or our garbage company, as well as our sustainability coordinator.

Vote taken: 10 yes, 0 no. Resolution request passes.

o Bylaws Revision (First viewing)- Cheri R. - Revision to Bylaws from the Budget and Planning Committee Membership. VP representation changed and some scaled down to reflect restructuring changes. The Membership section also has adjustments based on that change. CDO and Marketing VPs are now moved to “at-large” staff instead of “area” staff.

o Phased approach to transitioning campus to a smoke-free and tobacco free environment - Lacey W. - We have been working on becoming a tobacco or smoke free campus for almost four years. We promote health education on this campus so this is a sensible move. Researched other schools that have gone smoke and tobacco free. We also did a lot of assessment to see what kind of support, and what kind of use is out there. The biggest impact seems to be on the residential side of campus. Proposing a first phase to go smoke free in the residential areas, athletic areas and Foreman Hall. Three smoking gazebos available in those sections. Working on how to reuse those spaces, moving the gazebos, or other options. Parking lots in those areas would also be unavailable for those activities. The ultimate goal would be to become completely smoke free by moving available gazebos outside of the campus area. This proposal focuses primarily on tobacco products but the verbiage is loose enough to also be interpreted as marijuana smoke if necessary.

Already a policy in place that does not allow cannabis on campus so the hope is to make the tobacco policy less adversarial and more in line with our health initiatives. Numbers in cannabis use have dropped since UP provided education and documentation in October. The phase approach is also sensitive to the needs of staff and faculty who currently smoke and may require support for smoking cessation, working in harmony with Union and the budgetary considerations.

Discussion about unintended consequences and outcomes or the potential to be viewed as forcing people to do something they do not want to do. Also discussion about the Capital Project funding and how it can be used to beautify the spaces that may be formerly occupied by the gazebos. Call to be sensitive to the needs of the greater community was made as well, as smokers could move off campus grounds to smoke and potentially disrupt residents of Delhi.

Please bring this back to your constituents for feedback within the next month.

o Announcements

o The College Senate Presider, Associate Presider, and Secretary seats are up for election this year. Please consider self-nominating for one of these rewarding positions!

Presider seat first meeting of April. Secretary and Associate Presider will be last meeting of April. Presider position is voted on first because if it is faculty, than Assoc. Presider will be staff and vice versa. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let Cheri R. know.

- o In need of two Faculty Senators and one Staff Senator for Budget & Planning Committee

- o Meeting Minutes Availability: <https://www.delhi.edu/academics/college-senate/minutes/index.php>

- o The AI for the Public Good Fellows will offer three webinars:

- o February 23rd, 1pm: “Back to Fundamentals, Using, creating, and sharing information ethically in the age of AI”

- o March 23rd, 12noon: “AI Across the Sciences: Connecting Teaching, Learning, and Research”

- o March 30th, 2pm: “AI and the Evolving Research Lifecycle: Multidisciplinary Perspectives”

- o Register for the AI webinars at the Center for Professional Development webpage.

- o The Sustainability Faculty Fellows are offering a webinar series titled “SUNY Sustainability Faculty Series: From Foundation to Practice.” This is a four-part professional development series supporting SUNY faculty in integrating sustainability across General Education. Each session features interactive activities, disciplinary applications from across General Education, and practical implementation tools. Whether you're new to sustainability education or looking to deepen your practice, leave with ready-to-use resources, a growing community of practice, and confidence to make sustainability relevant in your courses.

- o March 6th, 11am: “Sustainability in the Arts, Humanities, History, and DEISJ”

- o April 2nd, 11am: “Sustainability in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics”

- o April 24th, 11am: “Sustainability in Action: Approaches to Applied Learning”

- o Registration is available at the Center for Professional Development webpage.

- o **Adjournment at 5:59 PM**