

SUNY Delhi.

Senate Meeting Minutes April 27, 2026

Present: Genevieve Salerno, Doug Holub, Barbara Davies, Heather Schwartz, Brian Bean, Kari Haugeto, Carrie Fishner, Elizabeth Pratt, Shannon Shoemaker, Erin Wagner, Ben West, Nazely Kurkjian, Alice Krause, Beth Boyd, Amber Boulay, Rachel Seeber, Dan Davis, Sanum Shafi, Michael Tweed, Mary Wake, David Brower, Max Dehne, Eva Vega, Jason Cash, Lou Reyes Jr., Lori Tremblay, Barbara D'Anna, Dan Gashler, Mary Bonderoff, Lisa Tessier, Karen T., Shai Butler, Nancy Winters, Francesca Donanricchia

Proxies: Lori T for Lisa Tessier

Meeting begins: 4:33 PM

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

Approval of April 13, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion by Barbara D., second by Jason C.

Discussion: none.

Vote taken: 18 yes. 0 no.

Updates: President; Presider

Update from Provost David B - Budget conversations continue. Thank you for the feedback and leading ideas for revenue generation and cost cutting efforts across campus. Capital Campaign kicks off tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing how the foundation can help us. Diane Pollard will share more details with us. The committee is led by graduates which lends this operation a sense of pride and commitment that makes it really special. Chancellor's award winners will be announced on Appreciation Day. Title II compliance deadline has been extended by one year but to ensure we reach that compliance the mandatory training will still launch towards the end of this semester. Series of training via Deque University and KnowBe4 platforms. Training requirements will be coming out via email. Thank you to those who have signed up for Commencement. Still in need of qualified folks.

APAC Update: We meet weekly and are now getting into identifying the programs that need more planning. More information will be shared at campus conversations meeting at 11:00 tomorrow. Pres. Bonderoff is available for questions.

Pres. Bonderoff: Great event honoring our students. Happy to answer questions folks may have.

Questions: Reach out to Amanda Holland if you are interested in participating in commencement. Announcements in Delhi Today as well. Two separate meetings tomorrow. One will be about the APAC and the other will be related to course caps. Discussion about getting representation from all schools on APAC. Budget discussions and balancing academic enterprise discussion as well as shared governance.

Alice K.: Topic of course caps has been brought up before but was not brought forward as something that was definitely happening. The decision seems to have already been made and even though that is management prerogative, it is disappointing to see that there was no shared governance consultation.

Mary B. : Important for us to not work under a deficit, if folks have a better idea of how that might work, of course we want to hear it but the challenge with this deficit is employees. I am trying to keep us from having someone come to campus who will just tell us what to do. Trying to keep SUNY from coming to our campus and if there is a way for shared governance to work under this timeframe of July, I would love to hear it.

Erin W.: SUNY is giving a different narrative to each campus and whatever seems to create a crisis. Academic enterprise is not the same language being used on other campuses. There is concern about losing more FTE later because of this. If dialogue is still an option, part of what is difficult is not having the advantage of every line item in our budget. It would be good to see what is being spent on everything so we can truly be creative. Also, when we are talking about adjuncts, we are still talking about people. Smaller class sizes are linked to better student retention.

Mary B.: We do have shared governance with all of the reviews of what we are spending money on. We also have faculty and staff representation there. We can look at fireside chat and what we are sharing out. I don't know what other campuses are calling it. We are using SUNY language. Could be because they are not focused campuses like we are. Attrition in staff areas brought people in from all areas to discuss the work we are doing. Perhaps there are ways to have conversations about this from the course offering/faculty perspective.

Lisa T.: Expanding amounts of training can be hard for us to track. Also, I think these decisions are getting told to us without any conversations. It seems like SUNY is already telling us what to do. Does not seem like a conversation piece happening.

Mary B.: SUNY will actually send a person to campus to tell and lead what is happening on campuses and that has already happened on campuses. That has not happened on our campus yet.

Doug H.: Mary stated that E-Board was consulted on the caps. But I do not have a recollection on that. We were informed that there would be conversation on the course caps.

Mary B.: Yes it was informal.

Heather S.: When we developed our questions for the Chancellor at UFS at this recent spring plenary, our primary request was to make sure that faculty and staff were included earlier in the development of initiatives. And the Chancellor agreed that and he said that that sounded like a feasible thing to accomplish. Time has passed and I think some decisions have been made that

did not include faculty and staff. I understand the time period and that we needed to move fast. I hope there is some wiggle room even with these competing mandates. Concerns about creating quality classes and quality content with the increase in students. We want to be part of the solution.

David B.: Writing intensive courses will stay at 24. Other courses that have an intensive oral component will also be taken into consideration.

Erin W.: This was already spoken on. I would just like to throw in that I've been doing research into class sizes. For example, the association of departments in English, which sets standards in the discipline says that 15 to 20 is a good number. Engagement leads to more retention. We need to keep students here. It seems like all SUNY wants is to decrease FTE.

David B.: Courses with co req remediation approach will have smaller numbers and will be discussed further. Part of the consideration.

Mary B.: We advocate with SUNY and if I get a directive, I have to follow that directive. We are doing the best we can but we have a responsibility to be fiscally responsible. We have to make that happen. We are trying to look at all of the solutions for this issue.

Doug H.: To keep somewhat on time I would like to keep the questions down to something that can be addressed here. If it's something that can be addressed tomorrow during the course cap discussion tomorrow, please bring it there.

Heather S.: Wanted to say in answer to your question, I am not sure if your research takes into account synchronous or asynchronous etc. Three credit courses condensed into five weeks is already unwieldy. The matter of logistics.

Lisa T.: Caps are 25. Deans have the ability to override by two and can make really big classes.

Genevieve S. Point of order can we make time for this conversation at a later time to keep us moving forward.

Doug H.: Thank you all, please come to the discussion.

Doug H.: Faculty UFS Senate met and there was some discussion but there was not very much discussion about academic enterprise across campuses.

Nazely K.: It depends on how campuses are communicating it because the language is similar.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Curriculum Proposals – Erin W. - Changes to hospitality courses.

Motion to approve made by Elizabeth P. and seconded by Michael T.

Discussion: none

Vote taken: 20 yes. 0 no.

Erin W.: Applied tech had 22 proposals but most of them were very similar. Coreqs and pre-reqs removed if irrelevant or inappropriate for the class. Updates for electrical vehicle stuff.

Motion to approve by Lisa T., second by Barbara D.A.

Discussion: Questions about ARCH classes.

Vote taken: 18 yes. No 0.

Erin W.: CJUS changes, diversity courses added, oral communication guidelines added.

Motion to approve made by Mike T., second by Carrie F.

Discussion: none.

Vote taken: 19 yes. 0 no.

Erin W.: Vet sci course updates on pre-reqs.

Motion made by Barbara D., second by Michael T.

Vote taken: 17 yes. 0 no.

Uniform Syllabus Template (First presentation): Ben W.: New task for this year was to review and update the campus uniform syllabus template. Presenting this to all today and we hope you go back to your areas with this for some feedback collection. We are hoping we do not have to make substantial changes every year. ADA standards have been met and the document has been set to make sure you don't accidentally change stuff that you should not change.

Discussion about changing some words and the addition of an AI policy portion of this template and movable parts to the template itself. New editions to this template will be shared out.

Nazely K.: AI is covered by academic handbook via integrity and we talked about bringing this to this group or the other policy committee and it seems like it would be good to not have a separate policy. Also, we are working on improving and expanding communication with students, including those over the summer. To make them aware of what to buy and when I'd like to know when syllabi are available so we can help students be ready for the first day of class. This information can be hard to find on the websites. Looking for some help figuring that out.

Doug H.: I think that question is not for Ben, but maybe for the Provost. Hold on. Any other questions for Ben regarding this template.

Ben W.: As a group we talked about having AI built into our academic integrity policy but that is a conversation we need to have on campus.

David B.: I think we can look at all the different ways to communicate with students. Syllabi are not posted until the first day of class. Faculty have to share what textbooks they are going to be using with the college bookstore so students can contact the bookstore and learn what they need that way. I will communicate with Nazely and the other areas about this.

Associate Presider and Secretary Elections - Doug H. - The election will be run by Max D. We have one candidate for Associate Presider. Is there anyone who wants to self nominate for the associate presider position?

Doug H.: Seeing none, I will read the statement provided by the associate presider who is running again.

It has been a privilege serving as the assoc. Presider. I look forward to continuing this role and continuing to serve the senate and its constituents in any way I can.

We also have one nominee for the secretary position. Is there anyone who wants to self nominate for the secretary position. I will ask Genevieve.

Genevieve S.: Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to run again for secretary.

Max D.: The results are in: Asso presider 18 yes 0 no. Genevieve S. 16 yes and 2 nos.

Alice K.: Cheri has been serving in this role for multiple times now and she is an excellent colleague and is so conscientious. Happy she put her name in. And Thank you Genevieve, secretary is a difficult role and its important to have good notes.

Heather S.: Thank you so much for all the work you do.

Announcements

Heather S.: UFS Spring Plenary report will be completed and uploaded by May 11, 2026 and I will present the oral report and resolutions on May 18, 2026. June 1st will be when we vote to endorse them or not.

Carrie F.: StAR Day is next Thursday starting at 4pm in the Library/RAAC - come see all the amazing things our students have done this semester! May 7, 2026.

Lori T.: Agate reception is next Wednesday 5/6/2026 at 6 PM at Bushel.

o Looking for faculty to call accepted students that are interested in the faculty member's discipline. Please contact Nazely Kurkjian if you are interested in helping with this valuable recruitment tool.

o Call for faculty participation on Calendar Committee. Matters other than spring break are being considered (e.g. fall break(s) and Finals Week)

o SUNY Transfer Policy Feedback Requested Regarding Grades and Exams: Public Comment and Feedback – SUNY Transfer Equivalency Platform

- o Financial Fireside Chat: Tuesday, April 21 at 1 pm 131 Bush and Zoom.
- o Applications for the College Senate Student Scholarship are being accepted until April 30. Please encourage eligible students to apply. <https://delhi.scholarshipuniverse.com/>
- o APAC (Academic Program Assessment Committee) seeks a Senate Faculty representative and Faculty members to join the committee.
- 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 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 April 24th, 11am: “Sustainability in Action: Approaches to Applied Learning”
- o Registration is available at the Center for Professional Development webpage.
- o Adjournment 6:14 PM