

SUNY Delhi.

Senate Meeting Minutes August 24, 2026

Present: Doug Holub, Barbara Davies, Genevieve Salerno, Rachel Seeber, Katharine Palm, Lori Tremblay, Cheri Rossi, Barbara D'Anna, Shannon Shoemaker, Lisa Tessier, Beth Boyd, Brian Bean, Monica Liddle, Mary Bonderoff, Michael Tweed, Max Dehne, Heather Schwartz, Carrie Fishner, Jason Cash, Alice Krause, Elizabeth McGee, Nathan Tweedie, Shai Butler, Kari Haugeto, Nicole, Myatt, Diana Pollard, Sanum Shafi, David Brower, Nazely Kurkjian, Dan Gashler, Eva Vega

Proxies:

Mtg begins at 4:32 PM

o Welcome! We hope everyone and their families are healthy and safe – please mute and keep your camera on.

o Approval of June 1, 2026 meetings minutes

Motion to approve made by Sanum S., second by Jason C.

Vote taken 19 yes, 0 no. Minutes are approved.

o **Updates: President Mary B.** - Welcome back. Nice to see students. CPASS students have been stopping in all day and that has been wonderful. We would love to see you on campus to participate in the orientation program and to help with move-in day, as well as the pep rally tomorrow at 4 PM. Updates have been emailed out today. Feel free to reach out with any questions about what has been shared. So many wonderful things have been happening, so please take the time to look at all of that. Thank you to all who have participated in bringing the good work to fruition.

APAC is going to be a joint Senate committee, hoping to get some senate representation on that. Will help make relationships clear while we review academic programs. Search committee review process is set to begin shortly. Meeting to be set up in September to get that work going. This Falls cohort of students ins the group ACO will be using to review the benchmarks around retention and completion. So this cohort will be followed very closely by us and SUNY to make sure we see the progress that we know is critical to success. Excited to have additional support for ASAP and ACE for the addition of another counselor. We have over 3300 students right now. October 2, 2026 we have been invited to participate in UFS for a shared governance pilot. Exciting opportunity to participate in this programming. We will continue to work on

budget. Academic enterprise ended on a very small surplus. Looking at inflation and utility costs, as well as extra pay period this year, so we will monitor our finances closely through it. Targets will be put in place for the Vice Presidents. Fireside chat on September 11, 2026 will be on this subject.

September 3, 2026 at 4 PM at President's House I will be hosting an event for Senators. I hope you can join us.

Provost Updates - David B. - Thank you all and welcome back. Major element of Fall semester is SUNY Reconnect. Most of the information in the presentation I have created is taken from the SUNY Reconnect Website. SUNY Delhi is included in the SUNY Reconnect process, which was originally designed for the community college system if they met the criteria, to allow students to earn an associate's degree free of charge if they met certain requirements. The program covers the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies. Students must be enrolled in a high demand field. As a last dollar scholarship, Reconnect is meant to cover the costs of the things that tuition assistant, NYS TAP and other forms of funding have been unable to cover. Students must be between 25 and 55 years old, no college degree, planning to study full or part time in an eligible program. Eligible for aid up to 10 semesters. A number of our programs are approved for this funding source. Challenges arise when programs change over time and are no longer aligned with the SIPcode's they are originally linked to.

Questions?

Barbara D'Anna: Are all three nursing levels approved?

David B.: No, it is only for the two years program. But we are hoping that in the nursing space, we will be able to get them in to the pipeline and will want to stay with us longer.

Elizabeth M.: To clarify, our BSN students can receive this funding while they are working on their associate's programming.

David B.: Beyond SUNY Reconnect, the academic portfolio optimization is a priority for my office this year. It is an important initiative and will be important for people to know where we are at in the process. As mentioned with the budget, we are going to have to make decisions that should be informed, and shared governance is crucial for this. Review of CIP codes, non traditional delivery methods, and potentially some executive style delivery are all options that are being looked at, as well as looking for program delivery offsite. Final exam schedule will be produced by the start of classes. It has to be reviewed to make sure there are no serious student conflicts.

Dean's Council is now going to be called the Provost's Council, all deans, associate deans, and Nazely K. as AVP of enrollment management and strategy. And the Academic Council is my direct reports and director level direct reports. It's a big council, and Doug H. will be sitting at the table as well.

Discussion about content of Provost's Council meetings and Academic Council meetings. Provost's council meetings could include things like academic programs, and day-to-day operations level conversations. Whereas the Academic council includes individuals from ASAP

ACE, the registrar, etc, more broad topics. IR, One Stop, and other individuals who participate in academic affairs in a more broader sense.

AcMo Lead Monica Liddle - Last semester, eight working groups dealt with suggestions from the NISS report. Each came up with an action plan to be implemented this Fall. Two different advising groups dealt with the process of advising and training for advising. Starfish becoming an important aspect of retention for us, so please use starfish as much as possible. First Year Seminar and orientation working group looked at the information being told to students in welcome week and what kind of info is being told to students in first year seminar courses. Resources have been shared and we will be continuing to work on ways to tie orientation and welcome week together. Meta majors working group discovered we already have a few meta majors already, such as hospitality. Arc of Delaware County, headstart and others have given us great advice on what they need from graduates from Delhi and so we are developing a human services major for those who still want to help people but don't necessarily enjoy biology. Gateway working group focused on math and English and those first year courses students struggled with. Math and English departments have some strategies they are planning on putting into action this fall. A cohort model has been created so we can keep track of them much easier.

Tracking of DFW rates ties in to this as well. Lots of data to look at so if anyone wants to help with looking at this and helping us brainstorm ways to help students succeed or guide them in a different direction where they will be successful, please reach out to me.

Questions?

Discussions about the basic needs working group and what that group focuses on, balancing basic needs such as bed sheets, and textbooks. Discussion about OER is still a viable option with textbooks. What is available has expanded, wide variety of what's available and SUNY has access to all of that.

Barbara Davies: Welcome week sign up sheet. Starting tomorrow and going through the rest of the week, there are different activities for folks to sign up for, most of them have been filled, but we still need some help with the residence hall and the traffic flow tomorrow morning.

Presider Updates - Doug H. - A deliberate effort is being made to make everyone aware of the benefits and pitfalls of shared governance. I have been added to the academic council, which is great. APAC is now a joint committee between provost and senate. We are looking for faculty rep from each school to join that, as well as a college senate faculty rep. The senate rep would be tasked with bringing information and updates back to the senate itself in order to make sure everyone is aware of changes coming and have room for conversations, provide input and so forth. We are also part of the Shared Governance and Excellence Institute. We are paired up with SUNY Farmingdale during these discussions. We will be bringing the products of those discussions back to the group to continue to work on our shared governance. A new calendar is being created that will extend three years out. We have a need for representatives from academics. If you are associated with an academic area, the calendar committee needs you! Ed Sites (communication platform) is being piloted and this differs from starfish and slate in that it provides two-way texting communication between students and faculty. One page documents

will be posted regarding hybrid meeting best practices. E-board has advocated for this and there will be an opportunity for presentation on this.

Nazely K.: Homesickness, academic engagement, well being, and many other topics are available to discuss with the Ed Site chat bot. Even though it is a chat bot to begin with, there are people who will be scanning these exchanges on the campus to help triangulate the best supports for students. It works in tandem with Starfish.

The executive board meets with Mary and David once a month at least and we do have the ability to make arrangements to meet with them more than that. There are also Friday morning open office hours in Mary's office, which I am able to use to meet with her if there is something pressing going on. If there are items you would like brought up, please reach out to a member of the executive board and we will present your questions or concerns to them and try to work on resolutions, advocate as necessary, and get answers back to you.

Discussions are ongoing about the student course evaluation response rate and what could be done to increase the rate of response and that is something that is still being worked on, but we do not yet have an exact item to be tried. Continuing to work on new employee mentors. A New Faculty Academy in the works.

o Old Business - none.

o New Business

o College Senate Faculty APAC Rep. - Doug H. - No one has volunteered for this yet. You must be able to meet on Tuesdays at 9 AM.

Looking for two academic college senators for academic budget and planning committee. One person has already put their name in. Is there anyone else who is interested in this committee? Two faculty are needed. If interested please reach out to Doug. Rachel Seeber put her name in for this position.

Rachel S.: My background is well suited to be an active participant and provide meaningful dialogue between all parties. Have been a chairperson to county board of supervisors and of our local finance and personnel committee.

Vote administered via Teams Ballot.

Congrats to Rachel Seeber!

o Announcements

David B.: First academic open forum will be this Friday at noon in centennial hall (August 28). If you are able, please join us in person, but hybrid option is also available for those who cannot attend in person.

o Call for faculty participation on Calendar Committee. Matters other than spring break are being considered (e.g. fall break(s) and Finals Week). Goal is to establish a 3-year plan that can be easily extended into the future.

o APAC is requesting a Faculty representative from each school.

o Sep. 3: Administration/Senate Social

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

Next meeting September 7 at 4:30 PM

Adjourn Meeting 5:50 PM.