

SUNY Delhi.

Senate Meeting Minutes September 7, 2026

Present: Cheri Rossi, Doug Holub, Barbara Davies, Heather Schwartz, Genevieve Salerno, Shannon Shoemaker, Lisa Tessier, Jack Tessier, Marc Evans, Rachel Seeber, Erin Wagner, Beth Boyd, Dan Gashler, Kari Haugeto, Nathan Tweedie, Erica McKee, Michael Tweed, Nazely Kurkjian, Lori Tremblay, Sue Cornelius, Shawn Brislin, David Brower, Mary Bonderoff, Max Dehne, Chelsea Matthieu, Nicole Myatt, Sanum Shafi, Shai Butler, Francesca Donancricchia, Carrie Fishner, Abby BW, Dan Davis, Eva Vega

Proxies: Lisa T. for Alice Krause

Meeting begins at 4:33 PM

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

Approval of August 24, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion to approve made by Lisa T., second Beth B.

Discussion: none.

Vote taken: 16 yes; 0 no. Minutes approved.

Updates: President; Presider

President Mary B.: Appreciate all that you are doing to engage the students and each other. Thank you for joining me at the President's House for the event last week. SUNYs are doing this as well as a cost saving measure. Some challenges around having our own fleet. We cannot afford the cost of replacing all of our vehicles. Too many to replace. Governor has charged SUNY campuses with moving to electric vehicles. With the challenge of replacing a fleet and having them be electric puts us in an interesting situation so we are working with Enterprise in order to establish a process so we can save on the wear and tears and having to purchase new vehicles. We are working to get out athletes to the events they need to be at. If you are having challenges with renting vehicles, please interface with Chelsea M. and team to get situation settled.

Lisa T.: Student field trips and experience with field trips. How does it work if you need a certain passenger van to accommodate a certain number of people? Is there a guarantee on what you will order. Could put a particular pressure on courses that rely on transportation for their courses.

Mary B.: We still have vans in our fleet too.

Erica M.: Working with Hertz and enterprise in Oneonta to make sure we have what we need, relaying the need for 12-passenger vans. If anyone is trying to book a specific 12-passenger it might be easier to work specifically through me or the travel office as we are interfacing with the managers on a regular basis. Very helpful if vans and vehicles are reserved as far out as possible, a month or more. There are also campus vans that are still in use, which you can still book through EMS. If those are not available, then people are advised to move through the rental agencies.

Heather S.: Question about electric vehicle component and if there is infrastructure support in rural areas. Is there any consideration being given for that?

Mary B.: We are hoping to use Enterprise and the rental option until the infrastructure is there to support us like you have noted.

Jack T.: Will there be information sessions across campus so more detailed questions can be asked regarding this?

Erica M.: I will be at Academic Council on Wednesday to give an overview and give basic understanding. Delhi Today will have the dates and locations of the trainings that will be taking place across campus. Travel Office is also there for one-on-one questions or trainings.

Max D.: Who will cover the cost of the rentals? Will it be coming out of the club costs?

Erica M.: It is covered under the transportation fee that students pay.

Max D.: How would someone who needs to use a vehicle earlier than the rental agency is open? How would they get the vehicle.

Erica M.: It depends on the exact place you are going and potentially building that into what you are asking.

Doug H.: Any consideration regarding long term rentals? Is there enough need for month long rentals?

Mary B.: I think we have done that previously with admissions.

Chelsea M.: We are exploring that for certain areas, such as Admissions and Athletics and we continue to explore that.

Lisa T.: If a program needs to rent regularly, it could pose an individual hardship on faculty and staff if they have to continually go back and forth between pick up and return. It would be helpful if that is also looked at when making these decisions.

Mary B.: SUNY Delhi's sustainability for the long term continues to be looked at. We have ended in a very small surplus, but when we look out in the out years in the plan we have to return to SUNY we find we are back in a deficit because of the deficit we are operating under. VPs have been charged with a 2% cut in each of their areas in this year 2026-2027. We will need your feedback and your involvement in these discussions. We have asked for reps on APAC for this. Each VP will be working with their teams to develop cost saving measures so we can show SUNY that we are moving forward in being fiscally sustainable in the future. Fireside Chat at 4 PM on this Friday Sept. 11 131 Bush and on Teams will have more details.

Lisa T.: 2% cut in budget, right? Or will this also be workers?

Mary B.: We are still working on the model of attrition so when folks leave we are looking at how to continue the work without filling those roles. The largest part of our budget is people and we continue to look at options that will help us with the deficit we are facing.

Barbara D.: Representing student life, will there also be a 2% decrease there as well?

Mary B.: Yes. All VPs have been charged with this.

Max D.: Is tuition being looked at as a potential stream? How are all the other SUNYs schools going to keep up with inflation and enrollment drops without this?

Mary B.: The challenge is the governor and chancellor are not supporting an increase in tuition. We have gotten lots of different monies, but those are very clear on where those funds can go. We have gotten more money from them than we have in decades, but we still need to look at grants, etc.

Rachel S.: As it relates to the enrollment versus budget cuts- is there a corresponding goal for growing enrollment v. cutting revenue? Will there be a % of admin staff/non-faculty v faculty given the consideration of need to increase enrollment (specifically online) but looking at that concern of decreasing \$ for faculty and courses yet knowing we have a need and a real effort to increase online enrollment where we can grow but not without increasing \$ for teaching which of course pays for itself with increased enrollment- will the 2% be re-evaluated for those program areas where this revenue increases?

Mary B.: We want to grow online and in graduate programs as well. The Reconnect program can be a great opportunity for this, as well as in Cyber and Business. We would love to see people embracing that and coming up with ways to grow online. Fireside chats are ways for us to give updates and evaluate where we are headed throughout the year.

Francesca D.: Is there a specific place where fundraising funds can only be used. What are the specifics with that?

Mary B.: It depends on the donor. We are encouraging people to donate in areas of their interest and to have some manner of flexibility in their giving to make things a little easier for us. For example, for things that are a little more specific for academics can also help with the sustaining of equipment.

We hope you will be able to make the Fireside Chat and will continue to engage with us. It's not something we take lightly. I know we Delhi has done things that are difficult before and I know we can do this in a way that does not negatively impact you, the campus or the students. Friday is the 25th Commemoration of 9/11. It will be at 8:30 AM at the flagpoles.

Presider Doug H.: I have been visiting the different areas on a listening tour. If there is an area I have not contacted, and if there is someone who wants me to come visit, please let me know via email. I also stay on at the end of these meetings in case someone wants to stay on and speak with me. Our next Executive Board meeting with the President and Provost will be next Monday.

Old Business

None.

New Business

College Senate Bylaws Change Proposals (first viewing) -

Curriculum Committee - Erin W.: Across three different policy sets that oversee curriculum, we realized there are some idiosyncrasies that we wanted to match up and we wanted to build back some of the communication that may have dropped off when we moved to Curriculog. So based on that, we made some changes.

Nazely K.: Is there a mechanism within the bylaws or process to alert Marketing and Communications as it pertains to website changes and such?

Erin W.: Josh can see any changes and I also tell him if there are curriculum changes that may effect the websites, etc. We can see if there is a place to put a step in place for that.

Nazely K.: We are finding that sometimes information is not getting to people, especially around the website, so we want to make sure the website is updated in a timely fashion.

Erin W.: Who would you like the updates to go to?

Nazely K.: Riika would be great.

Lisa T.: Some areas are really discreet and they get one, but some of the other areas seem more grouped together but they also only get one. Were they able to provide feedback on this?

Erin W.: I can look into whether people want more representation and will abide by the Senate's decision on that.

Cheri R.: This is a campus committee so the committee itself decides on the representation. Senate won't decide on this because it is not a Senate Committee. This is not inconsistent with other bylaws as far as representation.

Erin W.: I will bring this by the committee to see if they have any thoughts about the representation as well.

Assessment Committee - Marc E.: Changing representation to align with our current academic structure. Mainly membership changes having to do with seats remaining unfilled or redefining assessment areas.

One Academic and one Non-academic College Senator For Budget & Planning Committee

- Doug H.: Is there anyone interested in running for one of these seats? Please take it under consideration and Cheri R. or myself know. Jack T. can tell you about the responsibilities involved as he is the chair of that committee.

Budget & Planning Committee Library Representative: Bylaws require Academic

Librarian- Library Professional instead? Doug H.: Bylaws require an academic librarian. There are currently two of them on campus. The ask is to have an exception and overrule the bylaws to allow a library professional to serve on the budget and planning committee.

Carrie F.: The two academic librarians currently have tier plates full with multiple committees so we are asking that one of the three library staff professionals sit in on this Committee? They do not have as high a committee load as the academic librarians.

Doug H.: Motion to make exception to allow for library professional instead of academic librarian?

Motion made by Heather S., second by Shannon S.

Discussion: None.

Vote taken: 19 yes, 0 no. Motion passes unanimously.

From the floor:

Erin W.: Curriculum Committee is asking Senate to look at two curriculum changes out of order. Nursing self study and accreditation changes.

Motion to allow proposals made by Barbara D., second by Lori T.

Discussion: none.

Vote taken: 19 yes, 0 no. Motion passes.

Erin W.: Two nursing post grad certificates: Nursing Admin Advanced Certificate and Nursing Education Advanced Certificate. New accrediting body requires these certificate outcomes to match the grad program outcomes so this proposal just makes the outcomes the same as what existed for those grad degrees.

Motion to approve proposals made by Cheri R., second by Beth B.

Discussion: none.

Vote taken: 19 yes, 0 no. Motion passes.

Announcements

- 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.
- APAC is requesting a Faculty representative from each school.
- One Academic College Senators For Budget & Planning Committee Needed
- College Senate Representatives (senators) needed from the following areas: LA&S and Finance & Administration
- Online Instruction Committee needs additional members. Please contact Paul Rogan if you are interested/have questions.
- Sanum S.: Week of Belonging starting next week: Tues democracy day, Wednesday will be who am I art project, Thursday will be Open Catskills, Friday will be Y2K party and we need some volunteers

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

Adjourn Meeting 5:54 PM