

SUNY Adirondack  
Board of Trustees

761st Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Bishop Community Conference Center

640 Bay Road

Queensbury, NY 12804

101824      Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the SUNY Adirondack Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. Chair Amie Gonzales called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Gonzales welcomed attendees and recognized College faculty and staff in attendance.

101825      Roll Call

Trustees Present:

Amie Gonzales, Chair

E. Fitzgerald

D. Palmer

B. Judge

J. Nolan

C. McDonald

M. Davidson

J. Camarena, Student Trustee

Trustees Absent:

T. Collins

College Administration and Staff Present:

Anastasia Urtz, President

Keith Kaplan, Vice President

Diane Wildey, Associate AVP

Mary Hand, Chief Information Officer

Laura Lincoln, Chief Advancement Officer and Executive Director, SUNY Adirondack Foundation

Marc Guise, Faculty Representative

Eric Conduzio, Budget Analyst

Lori Dester, Director of Business and Financial Affairs

Marc Morin, Executive Director of Facilities  
K. O'Sick, Dean of Student Affairs  
Larry Paltrowitz, College Attorney  
Jennifer Chase, Recording Secretary

Remote Attendees:

R. Triller, Director of Marketing and Communications  
H. Bradley, Assistant Director of Student Life

#### 101826      [Public Comment](#)

No public comment was received.

#### 101827      [Annual Audit Presentation – Sarah M. Hopkins, CPA, Lumsden & McCormick, LLP](#)

Ms. Hopkins presented the results of the College's audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2025.

The auditors issued an unmodified, or "clean," opinion on the financial statements, with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies identified. There were no findings under Government Auditing Standards and no findings in the Uniform Guidance single audit of the Student Financial Assistance Cluster.

Ms. Hopkins also noted the issuance of a continued "No Material Weaknesses" management letter and explained required GASB adjustments related to OPEB and TRS/ERS. These accounting entries affect financial statement presentation but do not reflect operational deficiencies.

Ms. Hopkins commended the College for its strong financial oversight and internal controls.

No questions were raised by the Board.

A complete copy of the presentation is available in the office file.

#### 101828      [Faculty Student Association Audit Update](#)

Keith Kaplan, Vice President for Administrative Services and Treasurer, presented the Faculty Student Association audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2025.

The audit resulted in a clean, unmodified opinion. The FSA reported total assets of \$26.2 million, including \$16.4 million in net building and equipment primarily related to the Adirondack Housing Association residence hall. Debt associated with the residence hall totaled \$19.5 million, and net assets were reported at \$5.4 million.

Previously identified internal control weaknesses have been substantially remediated, and updated policies and procedures will be formally approved by the FSA Board.

Trustees requested clarification regarding the difference between the building's depreciation schedule and the debt amortization schedule. The administration will review this matter and report back to the Board with additional information.

A complete copy of the presentation is available in the office file.

#### 101829      Swearing-In of Student Trustee

Joyce Camarena was administered the Oath of Office by College Counsel Larry Paltrowitz and was formally seated as Student Trustee.

#### 101830 Appointment of Student Liaison

The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Joyce Camarena as Student Liaison to the Adirondack Housing Association LLC Committee.

#### 101831      Chair's Report

Chair Gonzales reported on the National ACCT Legislative Summit held February 8–11, 2026, which she attended with President Urtz. The summit brought together more than 1,200 community college leaders and over 115 students and focused heavily on federal workforce initiatives.

A consistent theme was the emphasis on measurable outcomes and accountability, particularly as community colleges are increasingly positioned as primary workforce engines. Workforce Pell will move from advocacy to implementation on July 1, with heightened expectations related to program approval, data tracking, compliance readiness, and demonstrated employment outcomes.

Chair Gonzales noted that federal policy shifts may reassign certain programs among agencies, including the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. Expanded apprenticeship participation and short-term workforce credentials remain national priorities.

While bipartisan support remains for Pell Grants, TRIO, and related programs, future funding is expected to be closely tied to demonstrated workforce results. Institutions must ensure programs align with labor market demand, maintain strong compliance systems, and effectively track student outcomes.

Chair Gonzales and President Urtz also attended the New York Community College Trustees Legislative Breakfast, where they continued advocacy efforts for increased community college base aid.

## 101832 Consent Agenda

### 6.1 Adoption of Minutes

#### 6.1.1 Adoption of December 18, 2025 – 760th Regular Meeting Minutes

### 6.2 Personnel Committee

#### 6.2.1 January and February 2026 Committee Report

### 6.3 Audit and Finance Committee

#### 6.3.1 January and February 2026 Committee Report

#### 6.3.2 Annual Audit (Action Item)

#### 6.3.3 Faculty Student Association Audit (Action Item)

#### 6.3.4 Laptop Donation from SUNY Plattsburgh (Action Item)

### 6.4 Academic and Student Affairs Committee

#### 6.4.1 January and February 2026 Committee Report

#### 6.4.2 Program Modification Recommendations (4 Action Items)

### 6.5 SUNY Adirondack Foundation Liaison Report

### 6.6 Student Trustee Report

### 6.7 Trusteeship Committee Report

There being no requests for removal, upon motion by Trustee Davidson and seconded by Trustee Nolan, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

## 101833 Governance and Faculty Update

Faculty Representative Marc Guise reported on faculty participation in Middle States accreditation work and representation on the search committee for the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

Three VPASA finalists visited campus and participated in open forums with campus stakeholders. The SUNY Academic Momentum Initiative action plan was endorsed by the Faculty Caucus on February 6, 2026 and forwarded to SUNY Central.

The Faculty Caucus also voted to direct the AI Implementation Team not to develop standardized syllabus language regarding artificial intelligence.

Mr. Guise recognized faculty accomplishments including Clint McCarthy's community presentation, Evan Sullivan's scholarly publication, Stephanie Drotos's selection as a U.S. Department of State English Language Specialist, and John Hampshire's inclusion in an upcoming exhibition.

## 101834 President's Report

President Urtz presented the Enrollment and Institutional Update.

Spring 2026 enrollment is flat overall, reflecting a 1 percent decrease compared to Spring 2025. Full-time enrollment declined while part-time enrollment increased.

SUNY Reconnect students comprise 36 percent of total enrollment and the program will expand in Fall 2026 to include Early Childhood Education, Adolescent Education (Mathematics), and Health Sciences.

Retention rates remain steady at 80 percent for full-time students and 58 percent for part-time students.

President Urtz also reported on Community College Advocacy Day, participation in the Empire State Service Corps, and expected expansion of the Accelerated Study in Associate Programs.

Workforce collaborations continue with Regeneron and with the construction and healthcare sectors.

A full copy of the President's presentation is on file.

## 101835 Old Business

There was no old business.

## 101836 New Business – Emeriti Nominations

The following faculty members were nominated for Emeriti status:

Dr. Kathleen McCoy, Distinguished Professor of English  
Nancy White, Distinguished Professor of English  
Holly Ahern, Associate Professor of Biology and Microbiology

Upon motion by Trustee McDonald and seconded by Trustee Judge, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the nominations.

## 101837 Executive Session

Upon motion by Trustee Nolan and seconded by Trustee Palmer, the Board of Trustees entered Executive Session at 4:39 p.m. to discuss real estate matters, the attorney contract, and personnel matters as permitted under New York State Public Officers Law, Article 7, Section 5.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

**101838**      **Return to Regular Session**

Upon motion by Trustee McDonald and seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald, the Board returned to Regular Session at 5:33 p.m.

**101839**      **Adjournment**

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Nolan and seconded by Trustee McDonald, the Board of Trustees adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Chase  
Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees