

**751st Regular Meeting Minutes of the
SUNY Adirondack Board of Trustees**

Thursday, December 19, 2024
Bishop Community Conference Center
640 Bay Road
Queensbury, NY 12804

A Regular Meeting of the SUNY Adirondack Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 3:30 pm. Chair A. Gonzales called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Other Board members present were: B. Judge, J. Nolan, E. Fitzgerald, D. Palmer, T. Collins, C. McDonald, L. Braggs and Student Trustee, T. Brown. Also in attendance were President K. Duffy, VP J. Jablonski, VP J. Delate, CIO M. Hand, Chief Human Resources Officer M. Wilson, Executive Director R. Patten, Budget Analyst E. Conduzio, Associate VP Diane Wildey, Attorney, L. Paltrowicz, and Recording Secretary J. Chase.

Remote attendees were: Trustee, M. Davidson, Faculty Member, A. Hill, Office Specialist, Carrie Griffin-Yakush

101705 2024-2025 Goals, Kris Duffy

President K. Duffy provided a mid-year update on goals and shared key highlights, including the success of the men's basketball team and the fishing club, the publication of a new book by Dr. Sullivan, Professor of Social Science, the success of Instant Admit Days, Congressman Tonko's recent visit to the Saratoga campus, employee engagement activities, a presentation by Scott Valentine and recognition of Trailblazer inductees during the Investors Summit.

President Duffy provided an update on three strategic focus areas and the President's goals for 2025.

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

101706 Chair's Report

Chair A. Gonzales opened her report by highlighting the Investors Summit and congratulating the SUNY Adirondack Foundation for their outstanding work. She praised the event for bringing together business leaders and celebrating the induction of five Trailblazers. Gonzales also shared her appreciation for the annual Holiday Party, noting it had a wonderful turnout, engaging conversations, and an overall positive energy.

A. Gonzales provided an update on the National ACCT Legislative Summit, scheduled for February 9–12, which D. Palmer, A. Gonzales, and K. Duffy plan to attend. She also addressed the recent initiative by the NYCCT, which has retained the law firm Ingerman Smith to respond

to changes proposed by the SUNY Chancellor regarding presidential searches and employment contracts. Board Chairs from community colleges are working with Ingerman Smith to draft a resolution for submission to the Chancellor.

J. Nolan gave an update on the presidential search process. From a pool of 56 applicants, 16 were selected to participate in the semi-finalist interviews. Fifteen virtual interviews were completed and five finalists have been selected to advance to the next stage. The search firm will now conduct background checks. With the Search Committee's duties completed, the Trustees will oversee the remainder of the process. J. Nolan also noted the involvement of SUNY liaisons throughout the process.

The finalists will engage with the campus community during the week of January 27th -31st, with their visits including a variety of meetings with the campus. A final schedule will be forthcoming.

After the campus visits, the Board plans to narrow the selection to three candidates, who will then participate in interviews with the Chancellor. The Chancellor will provide feedback to the Board, which will consider this input before submitting a single finalist to the SUNY Board of Trustees for approval. Nolan expressed gratitude to the Presidential Search Committee and the search firm RH Perry for their exceptional work throughout this process.

101707 Consent Agenda

Chair A. Gonzales presented the following Consent Agenda items for Board approval.

5.0 Consent Agenda

- 6.1 Adoption of Minutes
 - 6.1.1 Adoption of October 24, 2024 750th Regular Meeting Minutes
- 6.2 Personnel Committee
 - 6.2.1 December 2024 Committee Report
- 6.3 Audit & Finance Committee
 - 6.3.1 November and December 2024 Committee Report
 - 6.3.2 Schedule of Bills (2): 10/09/2024 – 12/08/2024
 - 6.3.3 Statement of Net Assets September, October and November 2024
 - 6.3.4 Financial Statements October and November 2024
- 6.4 Academic and Student Affairs Committee
 - 6.4.1 November and December Committee Report
 - 6.5.1 Program Modification Recommendations **(Action - 3 Total)**
- 6.5 By-Laws, Policy and ERM Committee
 - 6.5.1 December 2024 Committee Report
 - 6.5.2 Section 8 Board of Trustees Policy Manual **(Action)**
- 6.6 SUNY Adirondack Foundation Liaison Report
- 6.7 Student Trustee Report
- 6.8 Trusteeship Committee Report

E. Fitzgerald reported on the By-Laws, Policy, and ERM Committee, highlighting a significant update to Section 8 of the Board Policy Manual, noting that while a weapon ban policy exists in the Student Handbook, it has yet to be included in the Board Policy Manual to include all campus constituents. This change permits Public Safety Officers to carry ammunition, reflecting a shift in policy to enhance campus security measures.

A. Gonzales shared updates regarding academic programs, noting that SUNY Cobleskill is actively recruiting for their Bachelors in Business degree program set to launch in Fall 2025. She also highlighted the impressive 18% increase in spring enrollment for the nursing program.

D. Palmer presented an update from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, focusing on the three program modifications. She highlighted the proposal for a new Individual Studies - Healthcare Studies Concentration, outlined revisions to the Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities program and detailed updates to the Mechatronics program, emphasizing a new elective structure that encourages students to pursue internships. These internships are designed to fulfill a technical elective requirement while fostering opportunities for employment in the field.

There being no additional items requested to move to the floor, a motion was made by Trustee C. McDonald and seconded by Trustee D. Palmer to approve the consent agenda.

101708 President's Report

K. Duffy expressed gratitude to the Board of Trustees for hosting the Holiday Party, noting the positive energy and high attendance at the event. She also remarked on the many photos taken, capturing the celebratory spirit of the gathering.

101709 New Business

On a motion made by Trustee E. Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee T. Collins, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Sabbatical Request for John Hampshire.

101710 Executive Session

On a motion made by Trustee B. Judge and seconded by Trustee J. Nolan, the Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to move into Executive Session at 4:12 p.m. to discuss personnel issues and other items as specified under New York State Public Officers Law, Article 7, Section 105.

101711 Return to Regular Session

On a motion made by Trustee T. Collins and seconded by Trustee B. Judge, the Board of Trustees moved back into regular session at 5:43 p.m.

101712 College Attorney Annual Contract

On a motion made by Trustee B. Judge and seconded by Trustee J. Nolan, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the College Attorney's Annual Contract.

101713 Appointed for Vice-President for Administrative Services and Treasurer (VPAST) position

On a motion made by Trustee E. Fitzgerald and seconded by Trustee T. Collins, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the appointment of Keith Kaplan for the Vice-President for Administrative Services and Treasurer (VPAST) position.

101714 Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee T. Collins and seconded by Trustee C. McDonald, the Board of Trustees moved to adjourn the December 19, 2024, 751st Regular Meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Chase