



**Minutes of Meetings**  
**The Board of Trustees of The State University of New York**  
**October 28, 2025**

Pursuant to a notice of a meeting duly given on October 23, 2025, by the Office of the Secretary of the University, the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York met on October 28, 2025, at SUNY System Administration, 353 Broadway, Albany, and via videoconference.

**October 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**

**Trustees Present:**

Chairman Tisch  
Vice Chairman Perales  
Trustee Belluck  
Trustee Burke  
Trustee Corngold  
Trustee Crespo  
Trustee Duffy  
Trustee Haddon  
Trustee Katz  
Trustee Lewin  
Trustee Litow  
Trustee Rallis  
Trustee Simon  
Trustee Spiro  
Trustee Staller  
Trustee Vacin

**Trustees Not Present:**

Trustee Varlack

**Others Present:**

Dr. John B. King Jr., **Committee Liaison**, Chancellor  
Kyle Adams, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Marketing & Creative Strategy  
Nisha Atre, Executive Director, SUNY Impact Foundation  
Cassie Barron, Assistant Secretary of the University  
Beth Berlin, Senior Vice Chancellor for Operations and Management and Chief Operating Officer

Lisa Castillo-Richmond, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Deputy for Student Success  
Valerie Dent, Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges  
Jamie Frank, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Access Initiatives  
Gary Ginsburg, Chief Communications Officer  
Aaron Gladd, Chief Strategy Officer and Senior Advisor for Operations & Management  
Bart Grachan, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management  
Christa Grant, Interim Chief Diversity Officer  
Valerie Grey, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Health and Hospital Affairs and Chief Hospital and Healthcare Operations Officer  
Robert Haelen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Capital Facilities  
Cheryl Hamilton, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Life, Opportunity Programs and Student Advocate  
Adam Haney, Deputy General Counsel  
Julie Hartley-Moore, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Juliana Hernandez-Commisso, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Deputy Chief of Staff  
Donna Linderman, Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Success  
Kapil Longani, Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel  
Robert Megna, President, Rockefeller Institute of Government  
Jennifer Mero, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Amy Montalbano, University Auditor  
Melur K. "Ram" Ramasubramanian, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost  
Ian Rosenblum, Senior Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Chief of Staff  
Josh Sager, Chief Financial Officer  
Shadi Sandvik, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Economic Development  
Cara Palumbo Schrantz, Deputy General Counsel  
Will Schwartz, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations  
Carter Strickland, Chief Sustainability Officer and Executive Director of Climate Action  
Jay Urwitz, Senior Deputy General Counsel for Special Projects  
Christopher White, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Upward Mobility

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## **CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Vice Chairman Perales convened the Public Meeting at 10:00 a.m., held at SUNY System Administration, 353 Broadway, Albany, and via videoconference. The Vice Chairman asked the Secretary of the Board, Jennifer Mero, to call the roll of the members at which time a quorum was confirmed.

## **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT:**

Chancellor King provided a brief update on major developments across SUNY. He highlighted strong media coverage this fall, driven by student success initiatives,

research achievements, and statewide programs such as Governor Hochul's College Application Month and the continued momentum of SUNY Reconnect. He noted progress in expanding completion and retention programs, including ASAP and ACE, and the launch of new cohorts of the Empire State Service Corps and Civil Discourse Fellows.

He also underscored recent research milestones, including the Governor's \$300 million investment in the Quantum Research and Innovation Hub at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and \$10 million for the SUNY Brain Institute, as well as celebrating SUNY alumnus Dr. Omar Yaghi's Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Chancellor King summarized systemwide activity, including campus visits, statewide events, and engagement with students, faculty, staff, and legislators. He emphasized SUNY's commitment to shared governance, thanked Trustees for their leadership at recent faculty plenaries, and reaffirmed the System's dedication to academic freedom. He also recognized the inaugurations of new presidents at Genesee Community College, SUNY Optometry, and SUNY Sullivan.

Chancellor King noted SUNY's strong recent rankings and reaffirmed that "SUNY is on the move," previewing committee updates on ASAP/ACE expansion, financial sustainability, student life and DEI initiatives, and progress toward ensuring every undergraduate receives an internship or experiential learning opportunity. He also highlighted ongoing System initiatives, including scaling credit for prior learning, embedding career certificates, expanding AI partnerships, guaranteeing internships for EOP students starting Fall 2025, launching the next DEI Professionals Institute cohort, and implementing federal digital accessibility requirements.

The Chancellor concluded his remarks and returned the meeting to the Vice Chair.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to adjourn

Motion by Trustee Litow

Seconded by Trustee Spiro

Vice Chairman Perales declared the meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

## **October 28, 2025, at 12:45 p.m.**

### **Trustees Present:**

Chairman Tisch

Vice Chairman Perales

Trustee Belluck

Trustee Burke

Trustee Corngold

Trustee Crespo

Trustee Duffy

Trustee Haddon  
Trustee Katz  
Trustee Lewin  
Trustee Litow  
Trustee Rallis  
Trustee Simon  
Trustee Spiro  
Trustee Staller  
Trustee Vacin

**Trustees Not Present:**

Trustee Varlack

**Others Present:**

Dr. John B. King Jr., **Committee Liaison**, Chancellor  
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Aaron Gladd, Chief Strategy Officer and Senior Advisor for Operations & Management  
Bart Grachan, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management  
Christa Grant, Interim Chief Diversity Officer  
Valerie Grey, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Health and Hospital Affairs and Chief Hospital and Healthcare Operations Officer  
Robert Haelen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Capital Facilities  
Cheryl Hamilton, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Life, Opportunity Programs and Student Advocate  
Adam Haney, Deputy General Counsel  
Julie Hartley-Moore, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Juliana Hernandez-Commisso, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Deputy Chief of Staff  
Donna Linderman, Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Success  
Kapil Longani, Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel  
Robert Megna, President, Rockefeller Institute of Government  
Jennifer Mero, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Amy Montalbano, University Auditor  
Melur K. "Ram" Ramasubramanian, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

Ian Rosenblum, Senior Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Chief of Staff  
Josh Sager, Chief Financial Officer  
Shadi Sandvik, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Economic Development  
Cara Palumbo Schrantz, Deputy General Counsel  
Will Schwartz, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations  
Carter Strickland, Chief Sustainability Officer and Executive Director of Climate Action  
Jay Urwitz, Senior Deputy General Counsel for Special Projects  
Christopher White, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Upward Mobility

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### **CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Vice Chairman Perales convened the Public Meeting at 12:15 p.m., held at SUNY System Administration, 353 Broadway, Albany, and via videoconference.

### **CONVENING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 12:45 p.m., Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion for an executive session and noted that Secretary Mero confirmed that there was a quorum.

Vice Chairman Perales then asked for a motion to convene in executive session

Motion by Trustee Duffy

Seconded by Trustee Corngold

It was unanimously agreed upon to convene an executive session

During the executive session, Vice Chairman Perales asked the Chancellor to read the campus naming resolution. The Chancellor presented the following resolution:

**Resolution:** Naming of Endowments Funds and a Rehearsal Room at the State University College at Potsdam

**Whereas** Mrs. Marilyn A. Horner recognizes the deep impact of music education on her life as well as those in her family; and

**Whereas** The Crane School of Music at the State University College at Potsdam consistently demonstrates national excellence in performance and music education programs; therefore, be it

**Resolved** that, in recognition of the philanthropic commitment by Mrs. Marilyn A. Horner, the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Scholarship, the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Fund, and the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Rehearsal Room in The Crane School of Music are hereby approved at the State University College at Potsdam.

(2025 – 58)

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to approve the resolution and declared the resolution was approved.

## **RECONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

At 12:45 p.m., Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to reconvene the Public Meeting. It was unanimously agreed upon to convene the Public Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was unanimously agreed upon to adjourn the Public Session. Vice Chairman Perales declared the meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

## **October 28, 2025, at 3:40 p.m.**

### **Trustees Present:**

Chairman Tisch  
Vice Chairman Perales  
Trustee Belluck  
Trustee Burke  
Trustee Corngold  
Trustee Crespo  
Trustee Duffy  
Trustee Haddon  
Trustee Katz  
Trustee Lewin  
Trustee Litow  
Trustee Rallis  
Trustee Simon  
Trustee Spiro  
Trustee Staller  
Trustee Vacin

### **Trustees Not Present:**

Trustee Varlack

### **Others Present:**

Dr. John B. King Jr., **Committee Liaison**, Chancellor  
Kyle Adams, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Marketing & Creative Strategy  
Nisha Atre, Executive Director, SUNY Impact Foundation  
Cassie Barron, Assistant Secretary of the University  
Beth Berlin, Senior Vice Chancellor for Operations and Management and Chief Operating Officer  
Robin Burns-McNeill, Chair of the Board, Fashion Institute of Technology

Lisa Castillo-Richmond, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Deputy for Student Success  
Valerie Dent, Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges  
Jamie Frank, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Access Initiatives  
Gary Ginsburg, Chief Communications Officer  
Aaron Gladd, Chief Strategy Officer and Senior Advisor for Operations & Management  
Bart Grachan, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management  
Christa Grant, Interim Chief Diversity Officer  
Valerie Grey, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Health and Hospital Affairs and Chief Hospital and Healthcare Operations Officer  
Robert Haelen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Capital Facilities  
Cheryl Hamilton, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Life, Opportunity Programs and Student Advocate  
Adam Haney, Deputy General Counsel  
Julie Hartley-Moore, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Juliana Hernandez-Commisso, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Deputy Chief of Staff  
Donna Linderman, Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Success  
Kapil Longani, Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel  
Jennifer LoTurco, Deputy to the President, Fashion Institute of Technology  
Robert Megna, President, Rockefeller Institute of Government  
Jennifer Mero, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Amy Montalbano, University Auditor  
Melur K. "Ram" Ramasubramanian, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost  
Ian Rosenblum, Senior Vice Chancellor for Policy Implementation and Chief of Staff  
Josh Sager, Chief Financial Officer  
Shadi Sandvik, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Economic Development  
Cara Palumbo Schrantz, Deputy General Counsel  
Jessica Robin, Office Head of the Office of International Science and Engineering at the National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Zulaika Rodriguez, Associate Vice Chancellor for Executive Recruitment & Leadership Development  
Jason Schubach, Dean of Drexel University's Westphal College of Media Arts and Design  
Will Schwartz, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations  
Carter Strickland, Chief Sustainability Officer and Executive Director of Climate Action  
Jay Urwitz, Senior Deputy General Counsel for Special Projects  
Christopher White, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Upward Mobility

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## **CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Vice Chairman Perales convened the Public Meeting at 3:40 p.m., held at SUNY System Administration, 353 Broadway, Albany, and via videoconference. The Vice Chairman

asked the Secretary of the Board, Jennifer Mero, if there was a quorum, at which time a quorum was confirmed.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Vice Chairman asked Secretary Mero to present the minutes from the last Board meeting. The Secretary of the Board noted that the Trustees were presented with the minutes from the September 16, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting. The Secretary asked if any of the board members had edits or corrections to the minutes and none were made.

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to approve the minutes  
Upon motion by Trustee Lewin  
Seconded by Trustee Spiro  
Vice Chairman Perales declared the minutes approved

The Vice Chairman asked for the Secretary to read the names of the resolutions on the consent agenda. The following resolutions were read:

#### **Resolution: 2025/26 Master Capital Plan Report**

**Whereas** Chapter 678 of the Laws of 1988 authorized a new capital construction financing program for State University educational facilities and enacted NYS Education Law §355(13) to require that the Board of Trustees approve and submit an annual report of the Master Capital Plan (the “Report”) to the Chairs of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and to the Director of the Budget; and

**Whereas** Chapter 59, Part NN, of the Laws of 2004 amended Section 355(13) to require that the Report include, in addition to information regarding future planned capital program and project activities over the succeeding five years, certain types of financial information on educational facilities capital projects that are underway, as well as additional information as required under the statute; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved** that the State University 2025/26 Master Capital Plan Report, be, and hereby is, approved; and, be it further

**Resolved** that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is, authorized to submit the State University 2025/26 Master Capital Plan Report to the Chairs of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and to the Director of the Budget in accordance with Section 355(13).

(2025 – 59)

**Resolution: Acquisition of Real Property – Schenectady County Community College**

**Whereas** NYS Education Law §6306(4) provides that a community college may acquire real property suitable for carrying out the programs and purposes of the college; and

**Whereas** the regulations of the State University of New York, set forth in 8 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) §603.5(a), provide that real property may be acquired for community college facilities by purchase only after i) an appraisal has been prepared and ii) the State University of New York Board of Trustees has approved the selection of the site, the educational value of the property, and a capital budget which includes the acquisition costs; and

**Whereas** the Schenectady County Community College Sponsor, the County of Schenectady (“Sponsor”), has passed resolutions approving the acquisition of the 14 properties (“Site”) as well as a 15th parcel related to an isolated roadway connecting the Site that is being acquired at no cost; and

**Whereas** the Schenectady County Community College Board of Trustees has also passed resolutions approving the acquisition purchase of the Site in question for a new aquatic center; and

**Whereas** the Site consists of 14 parcels to be acquired comprising approximately 2.28 acres and a 15th area related to a roadway connecting the Site, for a total of 2.43 acres located adjacent to the college’s main campus on State Street, Schenectady, New York; and

**Whereas** to ensure the Site was available for the college prior to a final decision on use, the college Sponsor has already purchased such properties for a price of \$4,345,000 and put it in trust for college use and purposes; and

**Whereas** Schenectady County Community College has obtained two appraisals of the properties, both completed within the past year; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved** that for purposes of 8 NYCRR §603.5(a) i) the value of the Site is determined to be \$2,959,929 per the higher market valuation, and ii) the Site is approved from an educational value perspective; and, be it further

**Resolved** that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is, authorized to transmit the determination as to the value of such real property to the NYS Director of the Budget for appropriate action.

(2025 – 60)

**Resolution:** Acquisition of Real Property – Cayuga Community College

**Whereas** New York State Education Law §6306(4) provides that a community college may acquire real property suitable for carrying out the programs and purposes of the college; and

**Whereas** the regulations of the State University of New York, set forth in 8 New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) §603.5(a), provide that real property may be acquired for community college facilities by purchase only after A) an appraisal has been prepared, and B) the State University of New York Board of Trustees has approved the selection of the site, the educational value of the property, and a capital budget which includes the acquisition costs; and

**Whereas** the College's sponsor, the County of Cayuga, has passed a resolution approving purchase of the property ("Site") in question; and

**Whereas** the College's Board of Trustees passed a resolution approving the purchase and use of the subject property adjacent to the college for non-student-facing services; and

**Whereas** the subject real property consists of approximately 7,080 square feet and a building of approximately 1,100 square feet, three bedrooms, two baths, and a garage located at 231 Franklin Street, Auburn, New York; and

**Whereas** the College Sponsor has already purchased such property for a price of \$200,000 and put it in trust for college use and purposes; and

**Whereas** the College has obtained two appraisals of the property, both completed within the past year, both for \$190,000; confirming the price paid by the College was reasonable; and

**Resolved** that, contingent upon the completion of an environmental assessment by the College or College Sponsor, and resolution of any findings thereto, the acquisition of the Site be, and hereby is, approved, pursuant to the requirements of NYCRR §603.5(a); and, be it further

**Resolved** that the value of the Site for purposes of section §6304(1)(c) is determined to be \$190,000; and, be it further

**Resolved** that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is, authorized to transmit the determination as to the value of such real property to the New York State Director of the Budget for appropriate action.

(2025 – 61)

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to approve the resolutions on the consent agenda

Upon motion by Litow

Seconded by Trustee Staller

Vice Chairman Perales declared the resolutions approved

The Vice Chairman then asked the Chancellor to present the two appointments. The Chancellor introduced to the Board Dr. Jessica Robin, the candidate for Vice Chancellor

for Global Affairs. Vice Chairman Perales asked the Secretary to read the following resolution:

**Resolution:** Appointment of Dr. Jessica Robin as Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs

**Resolved**, that the appointment of Dr. Jessica Robin as Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs, effective on or about January 27, 2026, be, and hereby is, approved. Dr. Jessica Robin will receive a salary of \$250,000 per year.

(2025 – 62)

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to approve the appointment resolution

Upon motion by Litow

Seconded by Trustee Spiro

Vice Chairman Perales declared the resolution approved

Dr. Robin thanked the Chairman, Chancellor and Trustee Litow and all of the SUNY staff who took the time to meet with her during the selection process. She also thanked the SUNY System for her education and shaping her career and looks forward to representing SUNY on the world stage.

The Chancellor also introduced to the Board Mr. Jason Schupbach as the presidential candidate for the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT).

Robin Burns-McNeill, Chair of the Board of the Fashion Institute of Technology extended her deepest appreciation to Chairman Tisch for attending the ribbon cutting ceremony for FIT's new Joyce F. Brown Academic Building. She also thanked Chancellor King's counsel during the presidential search process. Ms. Burns-McNeill said she was honored to present FIT's choice, Mr. Jason Schupbach, to lead FIT.

Vice Chairman Perales asked the Secretary to read the following resolution:

**Resolution:** Appointment of Jason Schupbach as President of the Fashion Institute of Technology

**Resolved** that, contingent upon approval by the Chancellor or designee of the terms and conditions of his employment contract as required by SUNY Board Resolution 2024-60, the appointment of Jason Schupbach, as President of the Fashion Institute of Technology, by the Fashion of Institute of Technology Board, at a salary of \$625,000, effective on or about January 15, 2026, be, and hereby is approved.

(2025 – 63)

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to approve the appointment resolution

Upon motion by Litow

Seconded by Trustee Spiro

Vice Chairman Perales declared the resolution approved

Mr. Schupbach thanked FIT's Chairman Robin Burns-McNeill and the whole Board, the search committee and the search firm on the presidential search process. Mr. Schupbach looks forward to working with Chancellor King and SUNY colleagues and to collaborating with everyone on the continued success of FIT.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Perales asked for a motion to adjourn

Motion by Trustee Lewin

Seconded by Trustee Spiro

Vice Chairman Perales declared the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.