



The State University
of New York

Office of the Chancellor

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MEMORANDUM

April 28, 2026

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. John B. King Jr., Chancellor
SUBJECT: Appointment of Distinguished Teaching Professors

Action Requested

The proposed resolution appoints the faculty members listed below to Distinguished Teaching Professor, constituting a promotion in rank or an honorific distinction.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the Board of Trustees has proudly established a historic tradition of acknowledging and honoring extraordinary faculty achievement through appointment to the Distinguished Faculty Rank; and

Whereas the appointment to the Distinguished Faculty Rank at the State-operated campuses is both a system-wide distinction and a promotion in rank; and

Whereas the SUNY Board of Trustees has the authority to bestow system-wide distinctions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that each faculty member listed below be, and hereby is, appointed to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor at the State-operated campus indicated, effective April 28, 2026:

Professor William Dean, State University of New York College of Technology at Alfred;

Professor Sarah Lam, State University of New York at Binghamton;

Professor James Spiller, State University of New York Brockport; and

Professor Aaron Steinhauer, State University College at Geneseo.

Background

The Distinguished Teaching Professorship is conferred upon faculty who have achieved a distinguished reputation for commitment to teaching. Faculty must consistently demonstrate teaching mastery. They must contribute to the discipline and to the University, the State of New York, or the nation by the use of innovative pedagogy and the sustained application of intellectual skills drawing from the candidate's scholarly and research interests.

Further, to be eligible for nomination, a faculty member must have attained and held the rank of full professor for at least five years, have completed at least three years of full-time teaching on the nominating campus, and must have regularly carried a full-time teaching load, both in terms of the number of semester hours taught and the number of students served, as defined by the campus for full-time faculty.