

MINUTES OF  
FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
November 4, 2025

Associate Professor of Chemistry Julien Panetier, chair of the Faculty Senate, called the Full Faculty meeting in Old Union Hall to order at 11:45. He then introduced our eighth new President, Anne D'Alleva, for a few comments.

President D'Alleva began by expressing her gratitude to the campus community for its support and engagement over the past few months as she transitions into her role as Binghamton University's new President. She emphasized that whenever national discussions about higher education take place, Binghamton University should be recognized as a leading institution—one that is innovative, distinctive, and an outstanding example of a public university striving for continued growth and excellence.

She went on to share her vision for the months ahead, highlighting the *Listening to Lead Tours: Charting the Path Ahead*, through which she will meet with members of the campus community—including faculty, staff, students, alums, community partners, and elected officials—as well as with meeting with alums donors and industry partners across the United States to help shape a shared vision for the university's future. President D'Alleva also mentioned that she has asked Provost Hall to lead a new strategic planning process in the spring semester, building on the insights gained during the listening tour.

She then opened the floor for questions from the entire faculty.

Chair Panetier asked about the opportunities she sees for Binghamton University to grow, and what changes she foresees in higher education.

President D'Alleva explained that, regarding growth, the need to consider through our strategic planning process how to expand undergraduate and graduate student numbers, faculty and staff, as well as research productivity and research expenditures. There is a need to build Binghamton University's national profile. She added that Binghamton has the capacity to grow, but carefully, so as not to undermine our quality of education.

Prof. Gail Rattinger, Pharmaceutical Sciences, inquired about Governor Hochul's attempt a few years ago to elevate SUNY schools to resemble the UC system. What was her perspective on how to protect that as we approach the governor's election?

President D'Alleva expects that the governor of New York State will recognize the impact and value of the SUNY system. There is a lot we can do to work as a system and to build strength, which is one of our incentives, and we should embrace that leadership role. Any state leader should recognize the value of the SUNY system.

Prof. Gladys M Jiménez-Muñoz, Sociology, inquired about her stance on Academic Freedom and how we can advance and protect our opinions and academic freedom.

President D'Alleva emphasized that academic freedom is the foundation of our excellence. She pointed out that the current problem is the misinterpretation of what academic freedom truly is. We must recognize that higher education needs to take the lead in clearly explaining our value so that everyone can engage, understand, and support us. At this moment, this is our central work.

After no further questions or discussion, the Full Faculty meeting was adjourned.

Chair Panetier called the second Faculty Senate meeting of the 2025-2026 academic year to order at 12:10 p.m.

1. Minutes

The minutes from the September 30, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved.

2. Obituary Notices

Chair Panetier informed the body that Professor Emeritus Kenneth Jacobs (Cinema Department co-founder) had passed away. After speaking about our colleague, Chair Panetier requested a moment of silence in his memory.

3. Reports

- a. Report from Prof. Laura Fine Hawkes, Theatre, chair of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Prof. Hawkes began by noting that the FSEC met 27 times during the 2024-25 academic year, 7 times over the summer (for the Presidential search), and 9 times this fall semester. She shared highlights on the following topics and University areas: Research Prominence and Funding, Support for Faculty Promotion, Undergraduate Education, Graduate Education, Academic Program Developments, Campus Climate, and UFS Resolutions.

Prof. Hawkes provided highlights of business covered during the 2024-2025 academic year and this fall semester, which included:

- The Required Reading Days Proposal passed in the Faculty Senate in May 2025
- Participation in the Presidential Finalist Sessions Summer 2025
- Partnering with the Provost's Office:
  - Joint Task Force on the Advancement of Associate Professors Fall 2025 Launch
  - Participation in Campus AI Initiatives
  - Joint Task Force focusing on AI and Undergraduate Education
  - Upcoming Panel Session aimed at Faculty Research and Creative Activity in Relation to AI (date to be announced)

- Review of University Faculty Senate Resolutions
- Participation in Position Searches: (In accordance with Faculty Senate Bylaws, FSEC participated in the appointment of faculty representatives to search committees for multiple administrative positions. FSEC, as a body, meets with candidates during campus interviews.)
  - Academic Year 2024-25:
    - Vice President of Advancement, Executive Director of the Binghamton University Foundation, Chief Advancement Officer
    - Vice Provost of Enrollment Management
    - Director, School of Computing, Watson College of Engineering and Applied Science
  - Fall 2025:
    - Vice President of Research
    - Director of Financial Aid
- FSEC, in partnership with the Provost's Office, has participated in launching and/or completing the charges of the following Joint Task Forces across 2024-25:
  - Joint Task Forces in the 2024-25 academic year:
    - Global Interdependencies Task Force
    - Task Force on AI/Civic Discourse
    - Task Force on Credit for Prior Learning
    - Completion of the Task Force on Teaching Evaluations
  - Joint Task Forces in Fall 25:
    - Task Force on the Advancement of Associate Professors
    - Task Force on Undergraduate Education in the Age of AI
    - Task Force on ADA Compliance

Chair Panetier thanked Prof. Hawkes for her report.

b. Report from Prof. John Starks, SUNY University Faculty Senator

Prof. Starks provided a brief update on the Fall SUNY UFS plenary, held at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) on October 9-11, with four Binghamton senators, 2 elected senators, 2 elected alternates, our Binghamton Faculty Senate Chair, and the Professional Staff Senate chair all leading by representing the university.

He announced one area of support we were able to offer the Faculty Senate Chair at Buffalo before the plenary. She was very thankful that we provided a much-needed template of our new presidential search implementation process from last year to support the on-campus redevelopment of their own process in the earliest stages of Buffalo's presidential search. The recent presidential searches at Stony Brook, here,

and at Buffalo are clearly crucial to all of us, especially now in this period of significant challenges to and within higher education.

He then provided highlights from plenary business:

The SUNY UFS Q&A sessions with the chancellor and his report continued to voice unwavering support for some of our strongest values, including all available measures to sustain existing programs and policies advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion across communities in the system. Another takeaway was his re-statement of general principles: hold to the status quo to the greatest extent possible with state education law and policies when federal overreach occurs, avoid pre-compliance, and utilize the full extent of the law when necessary to support SUNY missions and values. Other than these broad, but welcome, strokes in support of our ideals, the chancellor's understandably necessary answer to many direct requests for system support was a cautious look forward to the next two years of what likely will be very challenging budget decisions at the state level due to the withdrawal of federal funding from our vital social compact.

Since four of our approved SUNY UFS resolutions will be brought forward for Binghamton's consideration under New Business, Prof. Starks summarized the remaining resolutions passed by the UFS. In light of an administrative action at Nassau Community College that by every reasonable appearance thwarted and undermined shared governance, the UFS passed a resolution entitled "Support the SUNY Faculty Council of Community Colleges: Defend Foundational Shared Governance Principles," affirming the centrality of shared governance, defending the right of elected faculty and professional staff to represent their colleagues free from intimidation, interference, or obstruction, and condemning administrative actions that diminish these principles.

Likewise, the body of the Senate endorsed two statements opposing the McMahon-Mailman Federal Compact for Higher Education and charged UFS President Bruce Simon, a Professor of English from Fredonia, to sign two petitions calling for higher education to resist pressure from the federal government. New UFS President and SUNY Trustee Simon has been a prolific advocate for shared governance, affirming faculty integrity, authority, and freedom of expression and thought.

Finally, a resolution from the floor, "Safeguarding Free Expression, Peaceful Assembly and Privacy that calls for SUNY-wide refinement of content-neutral time, place, and manner policies to enhance the protection of participants in lawful assembly and protest was referred to the Executive committee for action by November 21, 2025.

Chair Panetier thanked Prof. Starks for his report.

4. New Business

- a. Faculty Senate meeting time to better align with the new class schedule

Chair Panetier proposed changing the Faculty Senate meeting time to 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., 15 minutes earlier to better align with the new class schedule.

He then asked the Senate for comment. Since there were no comments from the Senate, he moved to approve the new meeting time.

A motion was made and seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

The new Faculty Senate meeting time is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and will start in the spring semester of 2026.

b. Curriculum Deactivation/Discontinue requests

Chair Panetier reviewed the deactivation and discontinuation requests from the Program Review Committee, which the Faculty Senate Executive Committee has approved.

- [Master of Science in Education \(Education, MEd\):](#)  
Reason: Removal of the ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) track from the MEd program in Childhood and Early Childhood Education. Enrollment in the program has been very low. There were no students enrolled in the program in either Spring 2025 or Fall 2025.
- [Math BA and Electrical and Computer Engineering MS 4+1:](#)  
Reason: Discontinuation. There have been no students in this program since 2023. Enrollment in the program was closed in Spring 2023, and the program has been deactivated.
- [Professional Science Management Certificate:](#)  
Reason: Interest in the Professional Science Management advanced certificate has remained low since the program's creation in 2009. Only five students have enrolled since fall 2016 (as far back as our records go), and only 1 earned the advanced certificate. A second student plans to complete their degree in Fall 2025 and will also earn the advanced certificate. Per SUNY policy, if this student stays another semester, the program will remain open until the student graduates.

The Program Review Committee (PRC) and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) have recommended to the Faculty Senate (FS) for approval the deactivation and discontinuation of these programs and the certificate.

Chair Panetier asked the Senate if there were any comments or questions regarding the deactivation and discontinuation.

With no comments or questions from the Senate, Chair Panetier called for a motion to approve the three program deactivations and discontinuations.

A motion was made and seconded, and the motion carried with two abstentions.

c. SUNY University Faculty Senate Resolutions

Chair Panetier reported that all resolutions are available on the Faculty Senate website and at <https://ufs.suny.edu/>. He reviewed the resolutions approved by SUNY UFS at the Fall Plenary in October. He added that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee reviewed the resolutions, but they were not unanimously endorsed. The Diversity Committee had also reviewed the resolution before today's meeting. He then explained that the Senate would vote today on whether to endorse or not endorse the following resolutions.

201-02-1: [Safeguarding Due Process and Privacy](#)

- Abstract: A resolution in response to the University of California providing personnel data to federal authorities. This resolution aims to resist federal attempts to use personnel files and other campus-maintained information to suppress opposition.
- Background: Recent federal investigations into higher education institutions have bypassed traditional due process and threatened funding based on alleged misconduct.
- Resolution Requests: The SUNY University Faculty Senate urges the SUNY Board of Trustees and the Chancellor to safeguard due process and privacy rights for all personnel and students.

This resolution urges Chancellor King to reaffirm his commitment to defending academic freedom and shared governance across the SUNY system.

Before voting, Chair Panetier explained that there were three ways to vote on the resolutions: by paper ballot, by hand, or by voice. The Senate agreed on a voice vote.

With no comments or questions from the Senate, Chair Panetier called for a motion to endorse the *Safeguarding Due Process and Privacy* resolution.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

201-03-1: [Increased Support for Title II Preparations](#)

- Abstract: A resolution calling for more support to campuses (training, personnel, resources) to comply with Title II regulations regarding digital accessibility.
- Background: This resolution requests increased support for Title II compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). New regulations require all SUNY institutions to ensure their websites and online content are universally accessible by April 24, 2026.

- Resolution Requests: Provide system-level resources for training, personnel, and tools to meet accessibility requirements without financial or workload burdens on campuses.
- Prioritize support for campuses facing the greatest challenges, such as budget deficits or limited personnel resources.

The goal is to ensure equitable access to resources and compliance with Title II regulations across all SUNY campuses.

Chair Panetier noted that the FSEC had not endorsed it because they were concerned with two specific items of this resolution. The FSEC expressed concern about SUNY overreach, unclear or problematic language (esp. sections 3A–3E), and risk of centralized policy control (e.g., Brightspace implementation).

Prof. Scott Craver, Electrical and Computer Engineering, commented that he shares the FSEC's reservations. Part one: Additional resources to support small campuses are fair. However, he expressed concerns about part three (a-e), which he finds problematic and misaligned with the message we want to convey at Binghamton. Specifically, regarding part a, he discussed the role of metrics such as the Ally score in Brightspace in determining compliance. The risk is that if we ask SUNY to set standards such as accessibility, based on our experiences so far, the main message we see is that ensuring the accessibility of our content—considering our unique documents and issues—should not be dictated by SUNY through a top-down approach.

Prof. Gladys M. Jiménez-Muñoz, Sociology, asked for clarification on our concerns with the request for additional resources, part one.

Prof. Craver clarified that parts 1, 2, 4, and 5 are budgetary issues that would require the Chancellor to request additional resources. Part 3 would be to ask SUNY leadership/SUNY Legal Counsel to clarify legal policy matters regarding extra resources.

Prof. Gladys M. Jiménez-Muñoz, Sociology, commented that we cannot stop the services we need. Adding it is a budget issue.

Prof. Jennifer Stoeber, an English professor, commented on part 3 that if there are to be consequences, they should be clearly explained and transparent.

Provost Hall explained that non-compliance would lead to a complaint to the Office of Civil Rights for investigation. This is the mechanism for addressing non-compliance issues related to the Disability Act. Regarding the budget, we are doing well, but the main point of this resolution is to urge the Chancellor's office to provide resources to campuses that are unsure how to proceed. He supports endorsing parts 1, 2, 4, and 5, except for part 3.

Prof. John Starks, MEAMS, SUNY UFS representative, clarified that Binghamton was not asked to support this resolution. Therefore, the Senate could choose to end the discussion without further action, since SUNY UFS had not requested endorsement.

Chair Panetier noted that he would still proceed to call for a motion, as members could vote against or abstain from the resolution.

No motion to endorse the resolution was made.

201-05-1: [Defending Shared Governance in Texas](#)

- Abstract: Following the Executive Committee statement, “Defending Foundational Shared Governance Principles in Texas,” this resolution authorizes and directs various actions in support of shared governance in Texas, New York State, and nationwide.
- Background: This resolution expresses solidarity with Texas faculty, particularly those affected by laws undermining academic integrity and the teaching of gender and sexuality studies.
- Resolution Requests: The resolution urges SUNY Chancellor John King to collaborate with CUNY (The City University of New York) Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez to reject harmful governance policies.

This resolution also charges the president of UFS to engage with various educational bodies to support Texas faculty and advocate for New York State as a model for protecting academic freedom and governance principles.

Prof. Cláudia Nogueira Hora Marques, Biological Sciences, Diversity Committee Chair, stated that the Diversity Committee was unclear whether this resolution applies only to private or public spaces on campuses. A definition is needed.

Chair Panetier explained that this resolution related to another campus, not to other campuses specifically.

With no further comments or questions from the Senate, Chair Panetier called for a motion to endorse the *Defending Shared Governance in Texas* resolution.

A motion was made and seconded, and the motion carried with one abstention.

201-07-1: [SUNY-wide Doxxing Policy and Photography and Recording Policy](#)

Before Chair Panetier reviewed the resolution, Prof. Hawkes mentioned that she and Chair Panetier met with Kevin Hayden, Chief Campus Counsel, regarding the SUNY-wide Doxxing Policy and the Photography and Recording Policy resolution. FSEC voted to endorse this resolution. The FSEC had some legal questions about whether this conflicted with any existing campus policies. There is a New York Senate Bill, S7646, that has not

yet passed and addresses this issue. We do have a campus policy on harassment, but this resolution urges the Chancellor to consider a policy specifically addressing doxxing. Kevin is not entirely clear on the definition of doxxing, but he did not think it was enough reason to avoid looking into the doxxing policy. He noted that enforcing it would be difficult, but did not see a direct conflict with existing campus legal policies.

Chair Panetier explained that a policy was established in 2021-2022 regarding the definition of doxing and the establishment of a crime of doxing an individual.

Chair Panetier then reviewed the SUNY-wide Doxxing Policy and Photography and Recording Policy resolution.

- **Abstract:** A resolution calling for a SUNY-wide policy protecting faculty, staff, and students from doxxing and establishing rules for the permission, use, and disposal of recordings or photographs in a classroom setting.
- **Background:** Current SUNY policies on recording vary, and there is no unified policy on doxing, which undermines the safety and support for students and faculty.
- **Resolution Requests:** The resolution urges the Chancellor and Board of Trustees to collaborate with various stakeholders to create a policy that:

Affirms instructors' authority to prohibit unauthorized recordings in classes and private spaces, with exceptions for verified accommodations.

Protects academic freedom and the privacy of students and faculty, and establishes clear procedures for authorized recordings and responses to violations.

After no comments raised from the Senate, Chair Panetier asked for a motion to endorse the SUNY-wide Doxxing Policy and Photography and Recording Policy resolution.

A motion was made and seconded, and the motion carried with three abstentions.

##### 5. Spring 2026 Faculty Senate meetings

Chair Panetier announced that there will be two Faculty Senate meetings in the spring: March 24, 2026 (Full Senate), and April 21, 2026.

After no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Present: Meaghan Altman, Ming An, Elizabeth Anderson, Laura Anderson, Nathanael Andrade, Reethee Antony, Michael Armstrong, Christina Balderrama-Durbin, Elizabeth Casteen, Sungdai Cho, Rosemary Collier, Robyn Cope, Anne D'Alleva, Tara Dhakal, Marvin Diaz, Kristina Donders, Gregory Evans, Elise Ferer, Mikhail Filippov, Anthony Fiumera, Heather

Fiumera, Sasha Frizzell, Cullen Goldblatt, Robert Guay, Donald Hall, Tiffany Keller Hansbrough, Matthew Harrick, John Havard, Laura Fine Hawkes, George Homsy, Kimberly Jaussi, Gladys Jiménez-Muñoz, Barry Jones, Douglas Jones, Joseph Keith, Rebecca Kissling, Ahyeon Koh, Michael Lawler, Meg Leja, Emily Leppien, Shuxia (Susan) Lu, Jeffrey Lum, Colin Lyons, Adam Mathews, Andre Mathis, Debi Mishra, Vladimir Nikulin, Nikiru Nzegwu, Julien Panetier, Andreas Pape, Erin Pauling, Sabina Perrino, Mark Poliks, Xingye Qiao, Gail Rattinger, James Rea, Erin Rushton, Anton Schick, Manuel Smeu, John Starks, Jennifer Stoever, Jodi Sutherland, Cyma Van Petten, Bogum Yoon, Denise Yull

Excused: Ramaesh Bhagirat, Peter Borgesen, Michael Buck, Kenneth Chiu, Sidney Dement, Mateo Duque, Yang (Jenny) Guo, Melissa Hardesty, Tom McDonough, Tarek Shamma

Absent: Prabhu Anil Bhor, Jeremy Blackburn, Paul Chiarot, Weiyang Dai, Komla Dzigbede, Adriane Lam, J. Koji Lum, Surya Parekh, Olga Shvetsova, Timothy Singler, Sofia Theodore-Pierce, Melvin Whitehead