



Faculty Association Suffolk Community College Executive Council APPROVED MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2026
Time: 3:45 pm
Location: via Zoom

1. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2026, EC Meeting

- **C. Brewer** calls meeting to order at 3:50 p.m. and notes Dante would like to share quick hello.
- **D. Morelli:** I'm on my way to Board of Trustees meeting so Courtney will run today's EC meeting. See you all at Commencement or, if not, at the June EC meeting.

C. Brewer: Any corrections to April minutes? More detail requested regarding inquiry about Beacon syllabus exchange as well as regarding summer library coverage.

➔ **Motion to approve April 9 minutes as emended made by A. Darini and seconded. Motion is approved 18/0/4.**

2. Final financial statement 9/1/2024 to 8/31/25

- **C. Brewer:** Steven Schlapp was at our last EC meeting to discuss 2024-25 financial statement with you. It was re-attached to today's meeting agenda for your review and needs to be accepted into the record. Any discussion?

➔ **Motion to accept financial statement of 2024-25 prepared by Steve Schlapp from our auditing firm made by L. Behnke and seconded. Motion is approved 22/0/0.**

Secretary's note: Two EC reps entered meeting after this vote.

3. Treasurer position appointment

- **C. Brewer:** At our March 12 EC meeting, P. DiGregorio announced intent to resign effective June 8, 2026. Article V in the FA Bylaws states that when there's a vacancy in any officer position other than president and more than one year has elapsed since the election of the outgoing officer, the president notifies the EC, appoints a search committee, and presents candidates to the EC for approval.

Dante invited interested EC members to join a search committee to identify candidates and asked you all to help spread the word. The April issue of *The WORD* included a call for applicants for the treasurer position. At our April 9 EC meeting Dante again reminded you of the upcoming

treasurer vacancy and reiterated the call for search committee participation.

We received inquiries from three interested parties, all members in good standing. They each submitted a statement of interest, then were interviewed by the search committee on Thursday, May 7, in the FA office. There was a lot of discussion because all three are strong candidates and active unionists. It was determined to bring only one of the candidates forward today, which is Kerry Carlson, librarian at the Grant Campus.

- ➔ **Motion to choose Kerry Carlson to fill the remainder of the current treasurer term made by J. Wolfson and seconded. Motion is approved 22/0/0.**

Thank you, we are happy to be working with Kerry, and Pete will help with the transition.

4. SCC Foundation Annual Golf Classic

- **C. Brewer:** On June 8 is this annual event run by the college Foundation to fund student scholarships and academic initiatives. Most years we participate as a sponsor; we make a donation and get invited only to the cocktail hour. This time, however, we'd like to participate more fully throughout the day, as it gives us a chance to network with colleagues as well as members of the local business and labor communities. The event will honor William "Bill" Hennessey, President of ILA Local 342, so other local labor leaders will be there as well.

To have a foursome representing the FA, we need a motion for a re-allocation of \$1,100 from Membership Services to Publications & Public Relations. We have already allocated money for the golf outing, but that was before we decided to have a foursome. The foursome would include Dante Morelli, John Capurso, John Brush, and a fourth FA member in good standing (awaiting replies from a few invitees).

- ➔ **Motion to reallocate \$1,100 from Membership Services to Publications & Public Relations to support the SCC Foundation for a total of \$2,600 for a foursome made by A. Atwood and seconded. Motion is approved 20/0/1.**

5. Election certifications

- **C. Eaton:** As chair of Elections Committee, I present the following status of the spring elections as they were announced in [the February WORD](#). All positions with a nominated candidate were unopposed, so no election needed to be held as per FA Constitution and Bylaws. For several positions, the current EC rep either didn't respond by deadline or indicated intent to not run for the position again. Thank you to our outgoing EC reps Mary Sierra, Naomi Edwards, and Kailyn Giaccone for their years of service. We are sorry to see you go but understand other things need your attention. Thanks and congrats to our continuing EC reps who are listed below.

Full-time EC Reps: Ammerman

- Music, Visual Arts, Theater, Philosophy, Women's Studies, Business, Accounting, Legal Studies — [Alex Nohai-Seaman](#)

- Nursing, Health & Human Services, Physical Education — [Marlene Kellner](#)
- English — [Emily Lauer](#)
- Engineering, Computer Science, Industrial Technology — **vacant**
- Communication, Languages, Reading, TV/Radio/Film — [Carl Corry](#)

Full-time EC Reps: Eastern

- Library, Humanities, Counseling — **vacant**

Full-time EC Reps: Grant

- Nursing, Health Science, Physical Education, Veterinary Science — [Josh Wolfson](#)
- Library, Counseling, Media, ETU Coordinator — [Tara Fagan](#)
- Humanities — **vacant**

College-wide EC Reps

- Technical Areas, Instructional Centers — [Ed Champ](#)

Adjunct Executive Council Representatives

- PAs & Specialists - Skills Centers — **vacant**
- PAs & Specialists - Instructional Labs — **vacant**
- Social Sciences — [Renee McClean](#)
- Foreign Languages, ESL, ASL, Reading, Library — **vacant**
- Business, Accounting, Legal Studies, Communication Studies, Telecom, Criminal Justice — **vacant**
- Nursing — **vacant**
- Physical Education, Health Sciences — [Jen Champagne](#)

➔ Motion to certify results of spring 2026 as listed above made by M. DeMayo-Dalen and seconded. Motion is approved 22/0/0.

6. Negotiations update

- **C. Brewer:** We're ready to tell administration negotiations team wants to begin bargaining process. We hosted four contract forums, one per campus plus one on Zoom. Thanks to all who attended. We've also created a contract negotiations survey to solicit more feedback from membership, conducted by NYSUT for member anonymity. We sent revisions last week to NYSUT and believe it will be distributed early next week. Tell your constituents and colleagues to complete and submit the survey before deadline of Friday, June 12.

7. Anita Greifenstein retirement

- **C. Brewer:** We held a lovely "open house" style celebration for our longtime administrative assistant Anita Greifenstein who will be retiring effective August 31. Thank you to everyone who

was able to stop by and wish her well, including EC reps Ed Champ, Christina Bosco, Marlene Kellner, Lisa Behnke, Sharadha Sambasivan, former EC rep Rich Lauria, and others. Anita deeply appreciates the well wishes.

8. EC Rep Issues

- A constituent reminds me daily of the inflation rate and wants me to tell FA to keep it in mind as part of negotiations. — Thanks, we can do that. The FA keeps all such financial information in mind during negotiations.
- A member is ready to retire soon and questions the college contribution to their 401k; is that only based on their regular load or also includes overload? — Fairly certain it's both but they could compare pay stubs when they do and don't have overload and/or they can call Payroll.
- In one department, adjuncts are declining assignments. What are the rules for staying on seniority list if an adjunct is offered a class but then declines it? — If an adjunct does not complete an assignment for six semesters, they can be removed from seniority list. If they decline an assignment in any semester, they no longer have seniority and are at bottom of B list for that same semester. The following semester, they're back to regular seniority standing.
- Members of two constituencies felt excluded from campus executive dean search because they were not invited. — We can bring that forward to admin, but those interviews were not meant for all campus constituencies; direct reports and Cabinet members were part of the process.
- We have done "rollover" contracts in the past, which is fine, but some of the language is a bit antiquated so wondering if it can be updated (example is in bereavement day language it says *spouse* but not *domestic partner*)? — Yes, good attention to detail; we will inquire about that.
- How is constituency membership determined in this EC; need to ensure equitable distribution of reps across the campuses? — Membership of EC is set by FA Constitution and Bylaws and based on number of constituents in each area. The membership just passed an EC-approved Constitutional revision last year to address inequities among constituencies.
- An EC member indicates they've been in touch with FA about advocating for a PA to be reappointed.

9. Officers Reports

Executive Vice President Courtney Brewer reports on behalf of President Dante Morelli:

- Thanks to student affairs and counseling members for helping boost fall enrollment numbers
- We're engaging with admin about chair elections which did not happen this spring
- NYSUT Community College Conference will be November 6-8 this year at Fort McHenry in Lake George; EC reps should contact Dante if interested because it's a great conference
- Don't forget to send EC summary to constituents
- See you at EC meeting in June or, if not, have a wonderful end of semester.

Executive Vice President Courtney Brewer reports the following:

- Regarding promotion deadlines: Admin did not send out eligibility letters which led to confusion; there are supposed to be individual notifications but that did not happen. We discussed extending deadlines, but agreement isn't uniform across three campuses

- The deadline for promotion cover sheet is tomorrow; if anyone feels uncertain just submit your cover sheet tomorrow because you can't submit a package without doing that first. Typically entire promotion package is due June 15, but I will send an email to all full-time faculty.

Secretary Cynthia Eaton reports the following:

- Thanks for certifying the spring '26 election results and we appreciate any assistance with identifying potential candidates for fall vacancy elections
- Faculty development & retraining committee was slated to meet on May 20 to review this year's applications; it was nudged back to May 29 which is too late because one application is for a project beginning May 25. Working with co-chair to put meeting back to next week to be fair to members applying for summer funding
- In addition to working hard to get contract negotiations/membership survey revised and ready for NYSUT, now shifting my attention to June issue of *The WORD*; also, I continue assisting members with peer observations, distance ed, and other issues.

Treasurer Pete DiGregorio reports the following:

- April treasurer report has costs associated with NYSUT RA and membership recognition celebration as well as the current full-time and adjunct membership numbers
- Entering info based on spring adjunct promotions and will do same for fall FT promotions
- Other financials: Received first 20% VOTE COPE reimbursement (next one should be in June), adjunct dues deductions are done for academic year and full-time dues done in two weeks, and will reinvest our CD
- Now that EC has approved Kerry Carlson, I'll work to help transition her into the role.

Grievance Officer John Capurso reports the following:

- My fellow FA officers and I continue fielding daily concerns of members: some are contractual while others are not
- Of the two current grievances on improper observations, one is at stage 4 (Director of Labor Relations) for which they requested extension to end of May; the second is currently at stage 5 (arbitration) with date set for August 12 so working on preparations for that
- A previously discussed grievance regarding an adjunct not receiving their contractual right to interview was resolved at stage 1; while awaiting written response from admin, we understand adjuncts are now getting contractually guaranteed interviews.

Adjunct Coordinator Kim Ng Southard reports the following:

- I've attended three observations and post-observations plus all related conversations
- Fielding many questions on seniority as well as bereavement and benefits, among other issues
- Certification requests used to be on a form but no longer; adjunct faculty should contact appropriate chairs or supervisors but remember that—even if you are qualified—if there's no demand for more faculty to be certified for that work/course, certification may not be granted

- Deadline for ADA compliance for all courses and related materials was pushed back for a full year to April 26, 2027, so you have time over the next year to continue working on compliance.

10. Old business

- None at this time.

8. New business

- None at this time

9. Adjournment

- ➔ Motion to adjourn made by A. Darini and seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 4:38 p.m.

Attendance: Members present on May 14, 2026

Officers

- ☐ [Dante Morelli](#), President
- ☒ [Courtney Brewer](#), Exec VP
- ☒ [Cynthia Eaton](#), Secretary
- ☒ [Pete DiGregorio](#), Treasurer
- ☒ [John Capurso](#), Grievance Officer
- ☒ [Kim Ng Southard](#), Adjunct Coordinator

EC Reps: Ammerman Full Time

- ☐ [Alex Nohai-Seaman](#): Accounting, Business Administration, Business Information Systems, Legal Studies, Music, Visual Arts, Theatre, Philosophy, Women's Studies
- ☒ [Sharadha Sambasivan](#): Biology, Physical Sciences
- ☐ [Carl Corry](#): Communication, Languages, Reading, TV/Radio/Film
- ☒ [Meghan DeMayo-Dalen](#): Counseling, Cooperative Ed
- ☐ [Stephanie Taboada](#): Engineering, Computer Science/Industrial Technology
- ☒ [Emily Lauer](#): English
- ☒ [Deb Provenzano](#): Library, Central
- ☒ [Alexander Atwood](#): Math
- ☒ [Marlene Kellner](#): Nursing, Health and Human Services, Physical Education
- ☐ [Christina Bosco](#): Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences

EC Reps: Eastern Full Time

- ☒ [Mary Sierra](#): Library, Humanities, Counseling
- ☒ [Nic Pestieau](#): Science, Math, Social Science, Business, Nursing, Culinary, Physical Education

EC Reps: Grant Full Time

- ☐ [Eric Weinstein](#) — Business, HVAC, CIS, Technology, Social Sciences
- ☒ [Naomi Edwards](#) — Humanities
- ☒ [Tara Fagan](#) — Library, Counseling, Media
- ☒ [Anabel Darini](#) — Natural Sciences, Math
- ☒ [Josh Wolfson](#) — Nursing, Health Science, Physical Education, Vet Sci

EC Reps: PAs & Specialists Full Time

- ☒ [Lisa Behnke](#): Programmatic
- ☒ [Jonathan Sadowski](#): Instructional Labs
- ☐ [Ed Champ](#): Technical Areas/Instructional Centers

EC Reps: Collegewide Adjuncts

- ☐ [Brian DeMasi](#): Business, Accounting, Communications, Telecom, Criminal Justice
- ☐ [vacant](#): Counseling, Education, Freshman/College Seminar, and Professional Disciplines*
- ☒ [David Price](#): English
- ☐ [vacant](#): Foreign Languages, ESL, ASL, Reading, Library
- ☐ [Steve Clark](#): Guild
- ☒ [Dean Karahalidis](#): Humanities, Arts, Music, Philosophy
- ☐ [vacant](#): Math
- ☒ [Jennifer Champagne](#): Physical Education, Health Sciences
- ☐ [vacant](#): Nursing
- ☒ [Kailyn Giaccone](#): PAs/ Specialists in Skills Centers
- ☐ [Cathy Bondi](#): PAs/Specialists in Instructional Labs
- ☐ [vacant](#): PAs/Specialists in Programmatic Areas
- ☒ [Mary Griffin](#): Sciences
- ☐ [Renee McClean](#): Social Sciences

* Professional disciplines are those that offer A.A.S. degrees or are more vocationally focused including Engineering, Automotive, Drafting, HVAC, Electrical Technology, Culinary, Interior Design, Fire Science