



**ROCHESTER RADISSON
FRIDAY APRIL 7th, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order 8:09 pm on Friday, APRIL 7th, 2017 by President Marc Cohen.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by COS for Student Affairs Drumm. There is quorum. 86 delegates we have quorum.

In attendance:

		52	
Albany Undergrad	60	Stony Brook Undergrad	
Albany Undergrad	61	53	
Albany Undergrad	61	Stony Brook Undergrad	
Albany Undergrad	63	54	
Binghamton Undergrad		Stony Brook Undergrad	
1		55	
Binghamton Undergrad		Upstate Medical Undergrad	
2		Albany Grad	59
Binghamton Undergrad		Albany Grad	
3		Binghamton Grad	
Binghamton Undergrad		Buffalo Grad	110
4		Downstate Medical Grad	
Buffalo Undergrad	43	ESF Grad	
Buffalo Undergrad	44	Optometry Grad	
Buffalo Undergrad	45	Polytechnic Grad	
Buffalo Undergrad	46	Stony Brook Grad	
Buffalo Undergrad	109	Upstate Medical Grad	
Downstate Medical Undergrad		Brockport	70
50		Brockport	71
ESF Undergrad		Buffalo State	8
32		Buffalo State	
Polytechnic Undergrad		Buffalo State	
56		Cortland	66
Stony Brook Undergrad		Cortland	102



Empire State		Adirondack	68
93		Broome	
Empire State		7	
101		Broome	
Empire State		8	
Fredonia	74	Cayuga	
Fredonia	75	Clinton	
Geneseo		78	
Geneseo		Columbia-Greene	73
New Paltz	48	Corning	
New Paltz	49	81	
Old Westbury		Dutchess	
97		Dutchess	
Oneonta	13	Erie	24
Oneonta	14	Erie	25
Oswego		Erie	26
16		Erie	27
Oswego		FIT	86
17		FIT	87
Plattsburgh	99	FIT	88
Plattsburgh	100	Finger Lakes	28
Potsdam	11	Finger Lakes	29
Purchase	30	Fulton-Montgomery	18
Purchase	31	Genesee	34
Alfred	36	Genesee	35
Alfred Ceramics		Herkimer	40
		Hudson Valley	
Canton		89	
15		Hudson Valley	
Cobleskill		90	
Cornell		Hudson Valley	
Delhi	12	91	
Farmingdale	20	Hudson Valley	
Farmingdale	21	92	
Maritime		Jamestown	37
Morrisville	98	Jefferson	33



Mohawk Valley		Orange	
Mohawk Valley		83	
Monroe		Rockland	
23		Rockland	
Monroe		Schenectady	67
105		Suffolk	
Monroe		64	
106		Suffolk	
Monroe		65	
107		Suffolk	
Nassau		69	
Nassau		Suffolk	
Nassau		76	
Nassau		Suffolk	
Nassau		77	
Niagara		Sullivan	
Niagara		94	
North Country		TC 3	
41		Ulster	84
Onondoga	5	Westchester	9
Onondoga	6	Westchester	10
Onondoga	108	Westchester	103
Orange		Westchester	104
82			

PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

President Cohen: Is there anyone from the public who wishes to make a comment?

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – 2017 SPRING CONFERENCE

Motion by 97 to amend agenda to include three new resolutions, Tuition Policy, Reaffirmation and Water Quality seconded by 89



Opposition 1

Discussion:

Nick Ferrara: We have a 10 hour business meeting, there was a deadline and that wasn't met, so all of us as student government leaders, we don't do that when we are passing resolutions. We do that in workshops and through networking. We need to be passing things that we can bring back to our campuses and our constituencies.

12: I want to comment on what he said, I know a lot of us who are leaders, would you tell a student "I'm sorry you missed a deadline to make your voice heard?" As student leaders you are entitled to voice your opinion, we have a right to be heard.

20: I agree with what you said and networking, if someone has something they should bring to the table then we should do work because that is what we are here for.

107: I'm opposed. I was wondering why we even have a deadline if we are going to allow it?

Vice President Doyle: Last year you will remember there were a lot of resolutions that our constituency couldn't view prior to coming and they vote on them without their bodies, but didn't have time to approve them on their campuses. That is why we have the deadline so we can take that into consideration.

93: I am in favor--again while I do support what Nick said with deadlines, not only are we students, and if all of these had been submitted before the deadline we would have reviewed them no question, but we should at least hear from the authors why they wrote the resolutions.

Ferarra: If someone brought me something at Binghamton I would absolutely meet with them, but I would not put forward something before a body....if we talked about everything on the earth we could accomplish more important things.

12 opposed

**Passes with majority
Resolutions added to the agenda**

31: Just because I know people have expressed concern with time on presenting these resolutions, can I have these resolutions put at the end of the agenda?



31 motions to approve agenda, 89 seconds approval of agenda

**1 opposed
2 abstentions
Agenda Approved
Passes with overwhelming majority**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – 2016 FALL MINUTES

5 motion to approve 2016 Fall Conference Minutes, seconded by 106

**opposed 0
abstentions 2
Minutes Approved
Passes with overwhelming majority**

REPORTS

Marc Cohen, *President, Student Assembly*

As part of my role I serve on the SUNY Board of Trustees and it has been some of the most important responsibilities I have had... since I was sworn in on June 1st, I've met with countless student leaders on their own campuses. It was my honor to welcome many of you to our second presidential summit in Albany....this would not have been possible without the past leadership of tom mastro.... voted six times against a tuition increase; want to thank SGA Presidents and EC for disagreeing with me for my decisions; want to take a moment to thank Liz Droz for all she has done and Andy for all of their work; want to give a special thank you to b doyle for her conference chairing; pat g who has done far more who has done far more than anyone you could imagine; and finally who is writing down all of the words that I am saying, worked hard on her campus....; want to thank my team, my COS who have worked to ensure my EC holds together and without them I would be lost; and Carolyn who is my DCOS who puts countless hours into making sure I am doing all of my tasks; my last thanks is to my EC who are in the back, please stand if you are in the room. So this last year serving as your president brings with it a new journey and a new experience, many of you are friends and some I am first meeting; the chancellor left out one thing from her statement which is that we are the best at getting better; as the largest group of student leaders in the country we wouldn't have such support if we weren't making the state univ of ny the best that it can be; i want to thank you all for your dedication and support to make suny



the best it can be; turn the floor over to b doyle

Bridget Doyle, Vice-President, Student Assembly

This conference that you see is the bulk of what we have been working on for the last year and fall conference; this never would have happened without Darren and thank you so much for all of your work; I'm very very proud to say I promised to bring issues like sexual assault to forefront and we partnered with It's On Us.

Patrick Gareau, Treasurer, Student Assembly

I've reported extensively throughout this conference on our financial plan...I mean look at all those numbers, looks pretty good right? That is the bulk of what I have been working on, which we will go over extensively and in greater detail later on in the business meeting.

Margaret Ketchen, Interim Secretary, Student Assembly

The past two months as Secretary the Office of the Secretary has worked on a number of things, including organizing the drive, updating the website, and keeping track of and recording all minutes and documents related to SUNY SA in the drive. My report is in the drive and I am happy to go over anything if anyone would like, but in the interest of time does anyone have any questions for me? Feel free to find me sometime this weekend and I would love to get to chat.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Cohen: I could entertain a motion to move elections of officers to kick off the business meeting tomorrow morning?

Motion to postpone elections until Saturday, April 8th, at the start of business meeting by 36, seconded by 93

Passes unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

1617-051 Committee Quorum

This is a proposed by law change to allow us to meet quorum within our meetings to be more productive and get things done.

President Cohen: I wanted to expand our committees this year, such that we could conduct business without directors having to stall their progress. We are not in any way decreasing transparency.

Motion to approve 1617-051 by 82, seconded by 89

Discussion:

Arthur: I strongly oppose this resolution. Additionally I think that while we have seen more students join the committees, if you aren't going to show up regularly, then maybe you shouldn't be a voting delegate on the committee.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: In judgment of the chair, is it legal for us to introduce this resolution and if so why?

President Cohen: I think the Board of Trustees would look favorably upon this resolution and I will articulate why this is a necessary step....thanks for the question.

66: Hello everybody my name is Mike Braun, when I first got elected Marc told me about all of the opportunities to join committees so I reached out to as many people as I know. You have to set expectations because they are representing your college and your sga. It's not like they have an agenda they want to push forward. Rey Muniz for example....it



is our duty to elect people who will put checks and balances on the chairmen. With this policy we will be able to get more things done.

31: I am opposed--hello everyone so when we brought this to our SGA, students at Purchase didn't agree with it ...just doesn't seem right.

97: Hi everybody I am the Director of Academic Affairs, but I am here to discuss Suny Old Westbury's opinion on the matter. I think we need to proceed with our resolutions and not get blocked with committee members not showing up. I think it should be 20% of committee membership is quorum on committees.

97 motion to amend resolution to 20% of membership makes quorum for committees, seconded by 69

Arthur: While I think that is a step in the right direction, I think that it would have to be further amended because if there is a committee that only has four members than 1 member would make quorum. I think it should be if the number is above a certain number than it is 20% but below it is three.

62: Point of information, where is this number of three coming from?

President Cohen: I sat on a committee and saw that in order to push things through we determined that three people would be sufficient.

62: Follow-up question, what was the committee?

107: I will admit I'm on those committees and can't always make it, it is on the members of the comm who are not showing up, if you want a say then you need to show up

point of clarification: arthur= there are also provisions in Article 17 that allows Chairs to remove members who are not showing up to their meetings, at discretion of chair (except for reps)

1: opposed it is always hard to get people to join these committees and it makes it easier to get people involved in SUNY SA, but making it 20%the whole thing, it doesn't matter how the committee works....

20: thank you, what I am having a hard time getting my head around is, why if no matter what the committee decides, why is there a purpose for committees? if the problem is having people attend the committees, select people who actually want to do work



Motion Fails
Fails with Overwhelming Majority

Cohen: We are back to the main motion to approve the resolution.

1: Yield

101: not here

93: not here

46-29-8
Resolution Fails

1617-052 Bylaw Revision – Article VIII (Committees)

Arthur: Hi everyone it is Arthur again. This is a relatively straightforward resolution, standing committees....this proposed resolution would keep Rules, Community Colleges, and State Operated Campuses as the three standing committees. This has been discussed by EC twice and has been passed by Rules a third time; it will streamline our operations.

97 motion to approve 1617-052, seconded by 20

Discussion:

61: Can we clean up the language in the second whereas?

Cohen: It is a grammatical thing?

101: Leave that at total discretion of president, I trust that there are ad-hoc committees there now that someone could say are not important, and I think it is a dangerous precedent to set.

30: I do want to say I am in opposition to this because I didn't know government relations was struck out and it is critical to be included and getting rid of it is not something our campus could support.

Cohen: yield to Rey

Muniz: Hi I'm Director of Legislative Affairs, let's eliminate it. It should not be a standing



committee...when you move into spring semester, the committee can often times strike you down, please vote in favor of this.

66: Question for Arthur, the reason I like the committee is because it does grasp the ideas and perspectives of outsiders of SUNY SA, how can you guarantee that...?

Arthur: These are specifically designed to be harder to change, the EC as a group felt that these three were essential to the basic operations of the organizational structure; along with

amendments to by-laws; there is a safeguard we trust incoming administration knows what they are doing with a new structure, the reason why removing government relations; as Rey mentioned that sometimes it is essential to have that committee and sometimes it slows down the work and progress of the committee.

Cohen: To summarize the President can affirm whatever he or she sees fit, we have had sub-committees and just because they are not listed doesn't mean.

1: Strongly in favor and giving more discretion as to how this works, we have a lot of debate on by-laws changes; i don't see anything helping the students we represent by changing the by-laws.

30: I still remain opposed to this resolution because of the structure of government relations, it is just re-writing the by-laws to address this issue. At times it can be very difficult for SUNY Central to reach out and this is in no way trying to bash the current administration; if there is an issue with the soundboard...we should make the by-laws more flexible, we can change them so that we can do this.

Arthur: Government relations does very important work and many of their members care what we have to say, let's not make it a mandatory committee because it is not integral to the structure.

101: Rey you changed my mind and I call to question.

101 motion to call to question

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**



1617-068 Safety and Support of Undocumented Students

Conner: Good afternoon everyone. I'm going to give a brief overview of what this resolution is calling for.

Cohen: I'm going to give the Chair to Bridget.

Conner: Here are the other co-authors: Omar who majors in biochemistry at Oswego, Vrinda from Plattsburgh and am Rob Drumm, I've been here too long. We are excited to bring this to conference today and the dozens of students who helped draft this resolution to present today.

Omar: The actual is to...undocumented international students and having been signed by more than fifty of our campuses, more than 5,100 students signed this petition for undocumented students to affirm their safety. We are here to call on the Board of Trustees to not allow on our campuses without a warrant; to refuse campus police to enforce police interrogation, etc.; support in-state tuition rates to students with DACA statuses. What this is is that they have to support undocumented international students and make sure that all 64 campuses abide by this; knowing that my university has those policies and will protect me, which SUNY values its mission statement and pursue my education.

Vrinda: We have students from 65 countries, we passed a resolution in our senate and exec board, and we presented to faculty senate and university senate. We would like to affirm and extend that no matter what religion and you identify with...them agreeing with this resolution just affirms and reinstates our belief in the SUNY system.

Bridget stepped down as chair and Marc took spot as chair

Conner: This resolution...time and time again as the SUNY Board of Trustees have said the SUNY to be an inclusive institution. The State University of New York is to provide the same opportunities to all students; education is a basic human right that should be accessible to everyone. The Board of Trustees has outlined policies to protect this right, but we are calling on the Board of Trustees to sign on with this petition.

102 motion to approve 1617-068, seconded by 32

Discussion:

97: Jeanette informed me that she has been in contact with all of authors of this resolution and that we passed this in our general assembly. It is important to every campus, regardless of who you are.



48: I am student trustee at SUNY Broome, I took an oath to support the constitution, which is why at SUNY Broome we passed a welcoming resolution in past month.

9: Henry--thank you for your work on this resolution, WCC fully supports this resolution. We are a very diverse community college, and I was proud to sign a resolution two months ago that fully supports the efforts of this bill. I am in full support of it.

32: I've seen a lot of sanctuary campus bills over the last 8 months, this is something we have discussed on my campus and many places, I feel the room is in support.

32 motion to call to question seconded by 30

**Motion Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

Cohen: I would entertain motion for recess.

74 motion to recess for a ten minute break, seconded by 2

Passes Unanimously

***Recessed at 9:34 and will continue at 9:45pm.
Meeting recommenced at 9:51pm.***

1617-82 Budget Request & Financial Plan

Pat: Can everyone hear me? So this resolution was presented to EC at Schenectady. It represents a comprehensive plan; it passed before state budget passed which still officially has not. What it asks for is however much money the state allocates to system wide student govts, we want SUNY to bump that as much as they can; which was cut by 2% this year. It is incredibly inadequate to fund us and asks SUNY to give us as much money as they possibly can. It outlines a plan for SUNY to work with SUNY SA to work to increase budget as much as possible; it is a very complex structure and it is calling on SUNY to give us a major increase in funding this next upcoming year and for funding for the upcoming years to increase our budget drastically for upcoming years to years. It was unanimously passed by our EC; the numbers laid out in this; It is mostly non-committal and we are asking SUNY to give us as much money as they possibly can which is where our budget comes from, and despite them reaching an agreement in the



last hour or so, it has not officially passed; this gives reason for why we need a drastic increase in funding and call count them to work with us on the upcoming year and plus; work on the mission we are tasked with. It would be great if we had adequate funding to be more visible on your campuses and make sure you have the resources you need to advocated on a state level; that is what this resolution calls for, so that we may become a strong advocacy organization in the state the number of students we represent; just to lay out what the budget process looks like; the suny bot passes a budget which goes to executive branch in november which is passed and presented in January; then three month long process where budget is worked out and passed and from there, they go through a department level process, that hasn't started yet for this year; SUNY student assembly finds out what they... it's is a long process and we need to be out in front of it and drastically increase our budget; over the budget request process, when we will request s larger budget. Our finances are small in amount but any questions?

101 motion to approve 1617-82, second by 97

Discussion:

31: Point of information: how does the budget currently work and how does it currently work now?

Pat: The way that process works is that the suny board of trustees works to... SUNY SA is lined in that budget request and we are by far the smallest line, which is offensive in my opinion. Negotiates with the governor on the final state budget, which it seems like either tonight or tomorrow that that is going to happen; we go through a budget process to ask SUNY to give us an increase as much as they possibly can where system wide student government; there are limitations on how much they can move around money based on what was passed in state budget; going to go into a phase where....we are going to try to get in early on the next round and ask for an increase next year; separate from our research account; we pay upfront costs for

30: For an organization that represents 64 campuses...

18: My name is Imran Suhail and I would like to say I sat in at the meeting and I think that this is a great idea.

97: I was also at that meeting, we have the lowest funding suny program and the next lowest is approx \$500,000 which is a big difference; it would allow representatives to attend their campuses, yield to Muniz.

Muniz: This was the result of an incredible process and many people were brought into this process; this is going to put next year's Treasurer and Director of Legislative Affairs in a strong position for advocacy.



89: Call to question.

89 motion to call to question, seconded by 13

Passes Unanimously

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

1617-FC03 Black Lives Matter

31 motion to postpone 1617-FC03 to bottom of agenda, seconded by 9

Discussion:

93: Opposed to postponing, we already approved the agenda and this resolution has been looked at by at least three dozen people since fall conference.

Majority Opposed

Doyle: Talked about what the subcommittee did; more input and feedback on what this resolution does and changed it around entirely; culmination of your thoughts and what you want to see SUNY SA adopt; last five months since fall conference.

Danny: Basically we are back at this again, we have gone through the stipulations of what the Student Assembly wanted, we made very progressive movements in the resolution...a parent who didn't have a student who attended that college, it made them feel uncomfortable; we have done everything that the body asked us to do.

Doyle: Called for in the fall to adopt a formal partnership; we decided that in any situation that it is inappropriate for suny sa to formally align with any movement, not because we disagree with this movement; calls for SUNY SA to battle systemic racism and police brutality on their campuses.

18 motion to approve 1617-FC03, seconded by 62

Discussion:

7: I want to say that I think the resolution is great and you mentioned we wouldn't feel



comfortable affixing SUNY SA's resolution.... we should change the title.

Danny: A potential resolved that this document in no way affiliates the organization of SUNY SA to the political affiliations that the Black Lives Matter movement does, other than the fact that we mutually agree that Black Lives matter, police brutality is wrong, and we should start calling on the New York State government to start looking to reforming their criminal justice laws so that everyone has a fair chance to making a happy life here.....

31 motion to amend seconded by 7

Amendment Passes Unanimously

Discussion:

15: I agree with the language I just wondered why the title didn't change?

98: I want to say I appreciate all the hard work that you guys put into this and some time has passed since this was originally brought up; please don't forget what it felt like the first time was brought up.

98 motion to call to question, seconded by 9

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

1617-FC13 Standardization of the Term "Veteran"

21 motion to postpone until tomorrow morning, seconded by 85



NEW BUSINESS

1617-SC01 SGA Listserv Accessibility

Presented by Alex George and Nicole Pereira on behalf of State Ops Committee

George: Campus presidents have access to listervs to send out information, we believe that sga presidents should have the same access in order to keep their student informed and participation in general.

Nicole: Our committee felt that a campus email from a president is just as important and we want it to be as accessible as possible.

George: It is very important that these emails not to be censored by administration.

7 motion to approve 1617-SC01, seconded by 11

Discussion:

62: While I agree with the whole sentiment I do think it could be a problem for a random student body president to send something out that could be harmful.

George: This is for official SGA business and it is in the resolution.

60: Yield

61: So although I completely agree, we often see a big problem with the overflowing of student listervs that I get six to seven emails each morning that I instantly delete and this entices students to open that email, such as the morning weather report.

66: How many student governments does this apply to and how many have autonomous email? So I think that is an issue. We send out emails not only to release a statement, why should the students have to... we are here as elected officials of the students body, not by administrative officials. if you send out something controversial... it should be what the students want to hear you say.

56: I have access to the listerv and it is great, last fall our president was indicted, and I felt I needed to send out some emails to the students body; I find it difficult to believe there is....and shouldn't be allowed.

56 motion to call to question, seconded by 66

Passes with Overwhelming Majority



**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

1617-SC04 Access and Resources for Students

Devin Bonner: One of my platforms was to critically analyze what we could do better on and we put out a suggestion box and how many of yours are actually filled? RIT brought forth this amazing platform called paw prints. For those of you who aren't familiar, you log into your campuses database and you can write a petition, people can log in and sign your petition; you can actively survey your students. We got our code and we will be implementing it this summer so our first batch of freshman students can use it; this calls on your campuses to look into such resources and surveying the majority of our campuses and students....with this legislation it calls on you to pursue it, just note that the coding is available for free, so finances are out of it.

106 motion to approve 1617-SC04, seconded by 105

Discussion:

106: We love this, I got to pick this up from RIT years ago and we are still trying to get it through. This is really going to test every facet of the student government so be in tune of that because we will be on the level with our students; we like this idea that now this is free and it gives us the ability to know what our constituency wants.

48: This is a great idea and I'm going to repeat what Blake said, we brought this up to our admin two weeks ago and they loved it, but it is a great way to be in tune with our constituents.

89: I absolutely support this which is why I motion to call to question.

89 motion to call to question, seconded by 60

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**



The State University of New York
Student Assembly

Office of the Secretary
secretary@sunysa.org
State University Plaza, N501
353 Broadway, Albany, NY 12246
P: (518) 320-1288 | F: (518) 320-1557
www.sunysa.org

Mastro: I am going to outline the election process for caucuses and then you all will go to your designated caucuses.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45pm.



**Saturday April 8th Meeting
Called to order at 9:41AM**

Roll Call: 87 delegates in the room, we have quorum.

In attendance:

		Brockport	71
Albany Undergrad	60	Buffalo State	8
Albany Undergrad	61	Buffalo State	
Albany Undergrad	61	Buffalo State	
Albany Undergrad	63	Cortland	66
Binghamton Undergrad	1	Cortland	102
Binghamton Undergrad	2	Empire State	93
Binghamton Undergrad	3	Empire State	101
Binghamton Undergrad	4	Empire State	
Buffalo Undergrad	43	Fredonia	74
Buffalo Undergrad	44	Fredonia	75
Buffalo Undergrad	45	Geneseo	
Buffalo Undergrad	46	Geneseo	
Buffalo Undergrad	109	New Paltz	48
Downstate Medical Undergrad	50	New Paltz	49
ESF Undergrad	32	Old Westbury	97
Polytechnic Undergrad	56	Oneonta	13
Stony Brook Undergrad	52	Oneonta	14
Stony Brook Undergrad	53	Oswego	16
Stony Brook Undergrad	54	Oswego	17
Stony Brook Undergrad	55	Plattsburgh	99
Upstate Medical Undergrad		Plattsburgh	100
Albany Grad	59	Potsdam	11
Albany Grad		Purchase	30
Binghamton Grad		Purchase	31
Buffalo Grad	110	Alfred	36
Downstate Medical Grad		Alfred Ceramics	
ESF Grad			
Optometry Grad		Canton	15
Polytechnic Grad		Cobleskill	
Stony Brook Grad		Cornell	
Upstate Medical Grad		Delhi	12
Brockport	70	Farmingdale	20



Farmingdale	21	Monroe	
Maritime		105	
Morrisville	98	Monroe	
Adirondack	68	106	
Broome	7	Monroe	
Broome	8	107	
Cayuga		Nassau	
Clinton	78	Nassau	
Columbia-Greene	73	Nassau	
Corning	81	Nassau	
Dutchess		Nassau	
Dutchess		Niagara	
Erie	24	Niagara	
Erie	25	North Country	41
Erie	26	Onondoga	5
Erie	27	Onondoga	6
FIT	86	Onondoga	108
FIT	87	Orange	82
FIT	88	Orange	83
Finger Lakes	28	Rockland	
Finger Lakes	29	Rockland	
Fulton-Montgomery	18	Schenectady	67
Genesee	34	Suffolk	64
Genesee	35	Suffolk	65
Herkimer	40	Suffolk	69
Hudson Valley	89	Suffolk	76
Hudson Valley	90	Suffolk	77
Hudson Valley	91	Sullivan	94
Hudson Valley	92	TC 3	
Jamestown	37	Ulster	84
Jefferson	33	Westchester	9
Mohawk Valley		Westchester	10
Mohawk Valley		Westchester	103
Monroe		Westchester	104
23			



Elections:

Mastro: We ready to do this thing? Okay, so the process that we are going to be using...I will read over how we are going to do this real quick. All candidates have three minutes to introduce themselves and their platforms, then we pick four random delegates to ask questions, candidates get two minutes to respond to the questions. You guys can decide if you want to candidates to stay in the room, etc. We are going to open the floor for nominations, just hold up your placard and say who you are nominating and what they are being nominated for.

Any nominations for President? Seeing none. Vice President? None. Secretary? None. Treasurer?

36: I would like to nominate Austin Ostro.

Mastro: Katherine Holmok nominates Austin Ostro.

9: I would like to nominate Michael Braun.

Mastro: Henry nominated Michael Braun.

101 motion to close nominations, seconded by 13

Cohen: ...

Simons: ZIP IT!

Cohen: So good morning everyone, I know we haven't gotten....you have heard me talk about why I want to be your president and what the organization has accomplished in the last year....continuity and leadership is....with the new chancellor and so many things up in the air calls for a continued leader and we need to be successful. One thing I am looking forward to as another year as President....you're all able to move forward with a continued sense of leadership in your student governments, I look forward to doing it with you and your successors.

Questions:

15: What form of continuity are you planning on giving back for next year?



49: What are some of the challenges you can face in your Presidency and how can you overcome them?

109: What have you done or what will you do to make sure that people of color and marginalized communities have their voice heard?

17: Each of our campuses, how are you going to build an individual relationship with these leaders and create a tailored relationship of resources between us?

Motion made by 17 to enter executive session for debate, seconded by 24

13 motion to exit executive session, seconded by 41

Pereira: My name is Nicole Pereira and I am running for Vice President. This past year I served as the student government president at SUNY Oneonta... in SUNY SA in the State Operated Campuses Committee I took over as chair. Yesterday, we were able to pass through an important resolution that we had been working on.... want to make conferences more catered to our student governments and be able to bring together more leaders from across the system. I have experience event planning through...help me with planning EC meetings and conferences.

Questions:

12: What value do you see in your position?

101: If you were a tree, what would you be and why?

11: How are you going to work with Marc and the other E-Board members to tailor suny system central to work with the entire system as a whole in getting the resources from the system itself for more rural campuses like Potsdam?

107: Can you name a time that you overcame a challenge or an obstacle and how that will allow you to fulfill your role as Vice President?

Treasurer

Delgado: The budget is not about the numbers, it is about finding those resources we can allocate to enhance our budget and make our goals possible....system administration will work in collaboration.



Braun: potential of SUNY SA is,... encouraging...increasing financial literacy to individual campuses to talk about not only the importance of shared governance...our reps going regionally; we don't have funding for reps to go to their campuses and use the resources available to help internal workings of the student government associations; there a lot of positives that; we are representing the students across the system; if we can go out and....

Ostro: SUNY SA needs a large budget increase which we can accomplish through fundraising...allowing for travel for representative to their campuses and better legislative advocacy. We need to be able to compete on a statewide level and get our foot in the door with legislation and we can make that possible with better funding...I have a strategic plan on your table for all of you.

20: Each of you says we need to fix the budget, all I hear is we need to pay the EC more money, off the backs of the students when you are to advocate for the rights of studnets. How do you justify charging the students so that you can do your jobs as opposed to finding the funding resources to do this?

Delgado: A long term proposal ... main goal to increase our fundraising...send representatives to campuses and have more engaged legislative advocacy.

Braun: I don't think stipends is a priority, being involved in unions, right now the issues that we are facing, whether it is the federal or state branch, it is something that is a full time job; those incentives only encourage us to work harder to advocate for the issues and SUNY SA should be compensated for higher education across the state... we will work as hard as we can to lobby for higher ed across the system.

Ostro: Like I said on the last ...I've heard all of this conversation about creating a fee, which is a huge process; we need to grow our budget through suny admin and take the money and put it back into student programming; we spend our entire budget on EC meetings and conferences; we should be independent and focus on this type of programming and be the connector for our system; we are failing in that mission.

Motion made by 95 to add one more question, seconded by 97

95: It is easy to ask for more money, but hard to determine what to do with that money, I want to test your financial literacy, what would you do if SUNY decided right now that they would give us 1 million dollars for advocacy, what would you do with that money?



Braun: Needs to be relationship with SUNY Administration, create...combined effort towards advocacy efforts of our student government associations.

Ostro: I would take \$900,000 and put it in a bank account and not touch it, overnight we can't implement and need to gradually; we don't have institutional infrastructure to manage such a large budget; gradually increasing our budget while investigating feedback about the fee as a responsible way to grow our budget and that is what I am committed to.

Delgado: I would hire a lawyer first thing; I ensure that our partnership with the SUNY student life office was strong; accept how that funding; gradually implement it over the years; dehydrating and killing the Student Assembly.

104 motion to add another question, seconded by 17

Motion Approved

104: How would you separate your own interests and political agenda from serving the student body and represent your constituents?

Ostro: We represent diverse interests and how does Treasurer play into it? May not seem like a position that comes off the board and they are an influential opinion in decision making process; we should orient all of our policy making around student interests and we should limit ourselves to some degree... and I know that that is vague but I shouldn't of the bat be deciding what our elements.

Delgado: The budget is in itself its own policy issue and finances and numbers don't have political motives; in regards to that i sitting on the E-board...the overall thing is that I need to get an increased budget, and while I will be... my job is to make sure the budget is handled appropriately and effectively.

Braun: I work for the students and not for myself, but for each one of you; I would develop a committee to get information for CFOs from all campuses to get input that I could use as CFO; with the Exec Order from Trump on Immigration ban, we openly opposed the ban; we had an advocacy day where we called out representatives



because it impacted directly over 300 students across the SUNY System; I am going to use each one of you as a resource to do so.

26 motion to enter executive session, seconded by 17

17 motion to exit executive session, seconded by 65

17 motion to bring in Austin Ostro to ask a question, second by 65

No opposition.

36: As the person who nominated you I wanted to offer you a chance to explain yourself about the ethics violation that was brought up?

Ostro: Sometimes it gets personal, and in our student government we have an ethics committee so that people can anonymously submit a report and automatically gets investigated; lots of drama that has resulted in may people...the records were kept confidential and I don't know what was written down.

17: So from what I understand, you resigned from your position, if you did not feel guilty, why did you choose to resign?

Ostro: I was the Chair of the Board of Fincance, pretty much from the get go the board did not' work well together, every meeting turned into a fight and it became clear to me that I wasn't the person for that job, and sometimes a good leader needs to take responsibility and step aside.

9: Yield

1: In general, could you elaborate on the specifics about what the accusations that were against you and we heard a lot of about records against you, what things were there that people said you did and your response to those?

Ostro: The gist of this stems from the board not working together.. I think there was a lack of good feeling and rather than seeing this play out and I'm proud to have the endorsement of the UAlbany Student Association President, and just because I have a



particular opponent who follows me around and I...

1: You dodged my question.

Ostro: A lot of it got away from me in the process due to anonymity, it is not unique or particularly special.

2 motion to add another question, seconded by 17

Discussion on motion:

95: I wanted to make everybody aware to make sure we aren't wasting our time on one candidate, let's not waste time.

**27 in favor
27 opposed**

Motion Fails

2 enter executive session, seconded by 3

93 motion to leave seconded by 28

Motion Passes

40 motion to call to question, seconded by 9

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

Recess to lunch at 12:08pm.



Recommended from lunch at 2:09pm.

Roll Call:

84 delegates; quorum

Secretary Election:

Ketchen: It's critical that all the documents are being made available and also publicize the online publication, COBALT. At Schenectady, I served as President of the Student Government Association, balanced working a part-time job and being actively involved in the Student Assembly in a number of capacities throughout the year. I have done a lot including drafting and passing a new constitution at Schenectady...and hope to gain feedback from all campus Executive Board to create a network of communications officers throughout the system.

Robles: I am not a politician, I didn't come here for a prearranged speech. I honestly want to represent students. This means that representing 1,800 student in my school but if I got elected for this position I will be representing 600,000 students. If I am elected, it will start with getting a list of all the secretaries. I think one of the problem this year is people don't know about SUNY SA and we should get the word out.

56: How are prepared to hit the ground the running and ensure the successful transition between ...

93: What would you think will be the biggest different between the work of Secretaries and the work of Director of Communications?

Ketchen: You will keep everything updated and oversee the communication department. They are two different things but you are responsible for both.

Robles: Secretary get the information while the Director of Communication...

107: Clearly the role of Secretary is a big role in SUNY SA, what qualifies you both for this position?

Robles: My experience working with my student government on my campus and serving as Editor of the Press on my campus really qualifies me for the position and while....I want to work with secretaries from across the system to collect all of the minutes.

Ketchen: I have served in a number of different positions and have the experience of



documenting minutes. It is important that we reevaluate the process. During my time as Director of Communications, I oversaw our social media platforms...and as Director I worked with other members to update our website in addition. I have served as Secretary for the past two months and have done some re-arranging in the drive which I look to continue to do if I am elected.

26: How can we improve SUNY SA and SGA communication to better demonstrate to student the added value that those respective organizations provide them?

Ketchen: Also highlighting what students are doing in SGAs. If we can highlight it in Cobalt and other social media. As the Chief Communication Officer...create a network of officers, potentially a Facebook page to collaborate on ideas and work to spread our advocacy efforts on a statewide level.

Robles: It's unacceptable that no one of you that know what SUNY SA does. It is really important to show people that communication is really important ...

17 motion made to enter executive session, seconded by 72

107 motion to exit executive session, seconded by 74

107 motion to call to question, seconded by 75

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

1617-FC13 Standardization of the Term "Veteran"

Jake: They are afraid there is a negative connotation that comes with it and there are stereotypes that they would like to conquer....not to divide themselves as veterans and with this resolution that we can apply it to all campuses.

36 motion to call to question, seconded by 62

Passes with Overwhelming Majority



Resolution Passes Passes with Overwhelming Majority

1617-SC02 Veteran Training Attendance Policy

Jake: Attendance policy for...want to ensure that students within the military community especially with service, that they can get the academic opportunities that they want; we want people who have current responsibilities in the military and we want to make sure that as they pursue, professors won't disregard their absence, varies on professor and university and how

they treat attendance policies; want them to not suffer negative consequences because of their role in the military; end up missing a deadline or a test that this is essentially what we need.

9 motion to approve 1617-SC02, seconded by 3

Discussion

9: Motion to call to question.

9 motion to call to question, seconded by 74

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

**55-4-13
Resolution Passes**

1617-SC03 Restrictive Class Meeting Times

Jake: Very strict policy as to when they have to work their daytime jobs with their academic roles as well...quick story that inspired this resolution; had to require classes that they had to take at the same time and we don't have the resources immediately to offer that class more than one time,, because of it it caused a severe inconvenience on her part; being out of her busy schedule and doing research on behalf of the institute for a student who wasn't able to do this....one of the last bullets we talk about is that we require classes for majors and going forward for all programs for all schools; it is ambitious i know and this is something we focus on in our committees, it is almost the emotion of this; inspired by our experience in military affairs and the research that we did there.



93 motion to approve 1617-SC03, seconded by 97

Discussion:

93: yield to 48

48: So my issue with this is are veterans focused more on their academics or being active in the military? We are clearly accommodating one section of people, can it be amended to include other populations, like nontraditional students...so like i just want to know do you want to be active in the military or be pursuing your education?

Jake: I want this forward as a kickstarter and this is something that we first found and if we don't support that then.

98: I can understand not wanting to have this pertain to just members of the military, but I don't think it excludes people who aren't in the military, lots of students in the guard are using that to pay for college; you can go to jail or be court marshalled and I mean that in no disrespect to any other population, but if this starts the process and opens up the discussion.

97: You said the reason why the classes can't be offered all the time is because of a lack of resources, but I have that on my campus; so are you telling the military to let them go to class or are you telling the college to add another class?

Jake: Chief solution to this would be online classes and that could be a very good resource to try to solve a problem like this.

97: Can you include that in the resolution? So can't we just tell them to take online classes as opposed to telling the school to find the resources to make a class happen?

Cohen: The idea again for athletes is that you take precedence for classes and you get to register earlier so you know that your classes you are enrolling in will definitely fit your schedule.

99: Quick comment I think that supporting this resolution is the least that we can do for supporting those who serve ur country and it is the bare minimum that we could do.

81: In favor of all but one point, I really love this and the way it is worded together, but when you say you want to make lofty goal, for my campus it is not plausible and as much as I would like it to be it just is not; I would love to be able to have two full time



classes for everything.

70: Yield

73: We have a nursing program and one problem is that these classes are only offered on Thursdays, I even think for our college, even though I don't know the resources to achieve this.

Cohen: Round of applause for Will Maskray.

9: Our Student Trustee is currently in the national guard and i've seen how his commitment affects his academics firsthand; it is a big big commitment, my brief time in the national guard I got a brief understanding of that as well; I yield.

89: Yield to Chair.

107: I think that the idea of this resolution is awesome and great, but you said this will allow them to register with high honors and athletes, I just think that this is really unclear, could we motion to amend it or table it back to committee....resolved that the SUNY Student Assembly recognizes one way in which we can help accommodate this community of students is by offering them priority registration for classes.

107 motion to amend, seconded by 78

**Amendment Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

Discussion:

101: Can we change in action requested to those who serve in the military not work for the military ?

30: Motion to call to question.

30 motion to call to question, seconded by 32

Passes with Overwhelming Majority



Resolution Passes Passes with Overwhelming Majority

1617-080 Black Solidarity Day

Omar: Students marched...Caribbean students...they are leveraging celebrating this because quizzes or monday exams and they have to attend classes and stay absent to see if they can be absent from society; particularly in case of Oswego's campus and that is not right, we can't change a day because you are held by adjacent things offered on that day so that we can allow students to serve...for the diverse dialogue that here is no platform for this and our campuses to celebrate BSD, in that manner we offer an opportunity not just for minority groups but to increase diversity and...on our campuses.

Jarius: I want to talk about the practice that is in place at UAlbany; a lot of the topics and minority groups we have to come together and make sure the programming is made available and add that to the sentiment.

Victoria: Many ask why should we implement this? DEI held a workshop at the fall that based on the lack of diversity that this could cause, there was hate speech in bathroom stalls on my campus and I'm sure you have all seen articles published regarding hate speech on campuses throughout the system, though that is the emphasis of it; the day is dedicated to all of us to unite in solidarity to celebrate culture and show the impact that we have; we are marginalized but we are no minority at all.

48 motion to approve 1617-080, seconded by 36

Discussion:

48: BSD I went my freshman year and it completely changed my life and I joined....and again it is a great day it shows solidarity and the power that black students have on their campus, so we pay for students to congregate in a black owned space, there are no religious ties; we have keynotes and workshops to discuss what makes up our culture; the not having things do that day is extremely important to show that if you are absent that it matters and please consider the resolution because this day...I encourage everyone to vote.

Sasha: I first saw this over the summer at Binghamton's website and I presented it to my black student union which transitioned us from a club of four to a club of twenty; we do this big thing where it is cafe after hours and we cook our own food in the library and open discussion panels and not be able to turn in an assignment and have to take a test makes the big day where you don't have to stress; I hope you guys pass this resolution because the educational purpose that it holds is critical in, we have slaves delivering our food; you have to keep fighting and show what it is, I really appreciate if someone would



advocate for this.

98: I totally support this and I think my campus needs this, one concerned question, but nursing, it is at a school says you have to be in class, it is an accreditation certification, but things like clinicals it is very difficult to implement a rescheduling structure, so how could we handle that? I yield to 48.

48: BSD is completely voluntary, you decide to be absent from class, it just would affect if anything was due that day.

98: I don't want students to miss out on this because the nursing program is ridiculous.

30: Fantastic job on the res i will support it except for the subject line needs to be changed .

Be changed to unrepresented or changed to marginalized community.

95: I am from a small rural community college but I am not sure this would be supported by admin on campus because we have funding issues and i was wondering how this would impact community colleges;

Jarius: In regards to BSD it is up to the students to get the faculty support and the presence of marginalized student groups, at the end of the day it is about...the biggest overarching and last year resolutions were the day before election day and you had the opportunity to really understand the power of your vote and that is very important.

95: I believe you said it best Marc, we have a platform here, I have learned more on the historical context of Africa, in the context of BSD it is important to get inspired by a different culture.

101: Motion to close speakers list and call to question.

101 motion to close speakers list and call to question, seconded by 5

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**



1617-SC06 Encouragement of and Support for Open Access Publication

Rufrano: All it does is support UFS prior resolution on the matter.

Arthur: Hi everyone so Evan and I worked on this and they will be discussing a current report and for students it means you can access high quality research at no cost; I strongly recommend you support this, and it is supported by the general core by keeping...publish in open access public journals.

15 motion to approve 1617-SC06, seconded by 36

Discussion:

15: Arthur you mentioned this is almost identical to something passed by the faculty assembly, was it the language or for the students?

Arthur: Please switch over to the appendix that is in the drive, now back to the resolution and show resolved clauses; this is us the SA recommending the same thing.

15: Is that access in general or is it just SUNY students and faculty of SUNY.

Arthur: Primarily designed for that but would benefit the public at large.

59: I am very in support of this resolution and, I motion to call to question.

59 motion to call to question, seconded by 97

Passes with Overwhelming Majority

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

101 motion to amend agenda and go to 1617-SC08, seconded by 13

Passes Unanimously

1617-SC08 Tuition Policy Reaffirmation & Update

Conner:...student is required to



89 motion to approve 1617-SC08, seconded by 74

Discussion:

17: Amend the resolution to include two whereas clauses (sent to Margaret).

17 motion to amend resolution to include two whereas clauses, seconded by 107

**Amendment Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

**Resolution Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

1617-SC07 Water Testing

Presenter: The admin did order follow up testing and upon learning about the scope of these tests we met with admin to see what...our green team club rallied on our mall with banners and a megaphone and marched to President's office demanding drinkable water out of all of our faucets on campuses; the President did decide to order tests, but it would not have occurred without direct action from the students; they are showing elevated levels in student housing; students were ensured that these things would be changed before the end of their lifetime; this will hire an engineer to find out where the lead is coming from; the purchase college admin decided to follow epa public guidelines....

7 motion to approve 1617-SC07, seconded by 74

Discussion:

7: Water is life, I call to question.

7 motion to call to question, seconded by 97

Passes overwhelmingly



Resolution Passes Passes with Overwhelming Majority

1617-SC09 Enfranchisement of Parolees

Danny: We have done the Ban the Box and the Divestment from Cor craft and now we have passed the Black Lives Matter movement; some of this leads us to this; we hope to get past this and we decided the best way to go about this was advocating for student voices and having the right to vote; misdemeanors and control of substances and...this number may not be a lot, but however in 2010 it was estimated that 5.5 million people in NY couldn't vote because of a misdemeanor; go to exhibit c now, during our research we found out that there was a bill that was introduced and go to exhibit d; for those who may be curious, it was voted by the election law committee and rules committee also voted almost unanimously in favor of this and there are already talks of this that are occurring; just so that we are in the same understanding of this, a crime that is punishable by death or term in county or local jail, a crime carrying a term of less than one year or more can be served in a county jail.

Presenter: The theme of this conference is DEI and we must advocate for proper support and access to proper support...disadvantaged populations.

Danny: Mention one last thing; how does this relate to the student body? I searched around and if there is no data, then we are not paying attention to it and we should pay some attention to this important issue.

Andy: Hold on, I am consulting my boss.

97 motion to approve 1617-SC09, seconded by 102

Passes Overwhelmingly

Discussion:

97: Yield to Sandy.

Sandy: I am all about giving people a second chance, and this includes violent crimes, is it all inclusive for violent crimes or just nonviolent crimes?



Danny: I attended a conference and participated in a conversation that....no punishment or reprimand, but there are sexual offenders who have the right to vote on college campuses already.

101: I currently serve as the Executive Board of Directors for Elections for Herk County and my opinion is that I am not in favor of this because you are on parole and then you go to probation; automatic reg does not happen in NY because a lot of times you relocate to your original county, not in favor as currently written.

17: Move to amend the resolution at the first resolved seconded by 12..... resolved that the student assembly votes to endorse allowing felons who have been released from prison to vote and register to vote regardless of their parole status and finally be it.

Sasha: Just because someone comes out after sexual assault, and just because you served your time doesn't mean... same rights and privileges

Sasha motion to amend the amendment to say “nonviolent felons,” seconded by 97

Discussion:

98: I know when you say nonviolent we are talking about specific crimes, and that includes drug crimes, which includes heroin and I have a problem with that.

93: Call to question on calling to question.

93 motion to call to question, seconded by 98

Passes Overwhelmingly

**Amendment to Amendment Passes
Passes with Overwhelming Majority**

Discussion:

60: Motion to call to question.

60 motion to call to question, seconded by 106



Passes Overwhelmingly

Amendment Passes Passes with Overwhelming Majority

Discussion on Resolution:

15: You said the way this pertains to SUNY SA is that it provides data on Ban the Box.

Danny: No this isn't to collect data on parolees, it is for giving those who are attending college campuses the ability to voice their opinion and have a vote; diversity and inclusion and equity is real we all love it.

93: While I support what the res asks for, I think this is not the appropriate forum to consider this res, it allows for campuses to affirm...this is not a student issue, while students can be affected by this it is not the appropriate forum to address this one issue.

98: I understand the issues you are trying to address with this but you have to be very careful how you word things, marijuana being illegal and DUI felonies, you know heroin is nonviolent, and I know what ave you are trying to go down.

98 motion to call to question, seconded by 60

Resolution Fails Overwhelmingly

Joint Statement on Shared Governance

Pete: So to give some sense of where this comes from, our campus governance meeting, ... last night you heard her say she would welcome such a statement and so we wanted to take advantage of this opportunity. What has allowed this ... including the work of the student trustees, and that needs to move forward and make them happen. As the chancellor is told, we do not want to back the new chancellor into this order; we are asking you to adopt it and my body will do the same in two weeks.

Cohen: This is among the first documents that the new chancellor will read and that we



are codifying the new FCC and UFs to have shared governance with the SGAs and SUNY SA. The EC passed it, but what more powerful way to show the new chancellor?

93 motion to approve Joint Statement on Shared Governance, seconded by 89

93 motion to call to question, seconded by 17

Passes Unanimously

**Resolution Passes
Passes Unanimously**

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Bonner: Hi all, I'd just like to share a bit about something that works at Brockport that I think would be helpful for all SUNY student governments. Brockport is part of Rochester Intercollegiate Council (RICC), which is an organization that meets monthly on a rotating basis (between campuses) to discuss regional issues amongst student governments. We've found this to be an extremely valuable organization because we're able to learn from other institutions (both private and SUNY). I have shared the constitution and bylaws template for regional councils with Arthur, SUNY SA Director of Communications and he will be posting them for your disposal. Also on the SUNY SA website, will be the recommended geographic councils map so that you all can create your own communities of SGA leaders within your geographic location. If you have any questions, please contact me at dbonn1@u.brockport.edu.

93: First, I want to congratulate the newly elected E-Board and looking forward to seeing what you do in the future. Yield to the Chair.

30: I wanted to say thanks to everyone for your hard work, and especially for the water initiative, and we will see you next year.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Cohen: I have had five or six conferences that I have been to, this is one where we have dealt heavily in policy, and....we didn't have any social media bullying, and we worked towards positive goals....heard from it. Governor and chancellor, this was



outstanding. We still have caucuses tonight; the work we have done to show that we have...honored to stand at podium and thank all of you for your hard work and entrusting me with another year of being President.

Doyle: Thank you all for making this my last...housekeeping things.

Cohen: At dinner we will have update on going through rep elections and budget update.

ADJOURNMENT

60 motion to adjourn, seconded by 68 at 4:50pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.