



# Faculty Association Suffolk Community College Executive Council APPROVED MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, November 13, 2025  
**Time:** 3:45 pm  
**Location:** via Zoom

## 1. Approval of Minutes from October 9, 2025, EC Meeting

- **D. Morelli:** Calls meeting to order at 3:47 pm. Welcome to new EC rep David Price who now represents adjunct English faculty. David, adjunct associate professor of English, has been at SCCC since 2008, starting at Grant and currently at Eastern, and teaches at Farmingdale as well. Congratulations on your election!

Are there any corrections to the October minutes? None.

- **Motion to approve October 9 minutes made by J. Sadowski and seconded. Motion is approved 16/0/3.**

*Secretary's note: One EC rep entered meeting after this vote.*

## 2. Bookkeeper

- **Motion to enter executive session made by L. Behkne and seconded; motion is approved 20/0/0.**
- **Motion to exit executive session made by K. Giaccone and seconded; motion is approved 20/0/0.**

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

## 3. Negotiations team

- **D. Morelli:** Our current stipulation of agreement goes through August 31, 2026, so we are in process of assembling our negotiations team in adherence with [FA Constitution & Bylaws](#). If you are interested in serving on the team, contact me and I'll add you to the list for consideration.

## 4. Food pantries

- **D. Morelli:** Food banks on Long Island seeing longer lines due to federal actions regarding SNAP benefits. Each year the FA donates to the three campus food pantries, and we're going

shopping on Monday to make [FA donations to all three campuses](#).

## 5. Member Excellence Awards nominations

- **D. Morelli:** We encourage EC reps in particular and all FA members to consider nominations for the four [FA Member Excellence Awards](#); nominations aren't due until March but please start thinking about deserving colleagues now for Excellence in Community Outreach & Social Justice, Excellence in Outstanding Mentoring (of students and/or colleagues), Excellence in Adjunct Service, and Excellence in FA Service.

## 6. Political update

- **D. Morelli:** The FA did well with our [Suffolk County legislative endorsements](#). 17 of 18 endorsed candidates won their elections, all of whom were incumbents. In Legislative District 1, we had endorsed Catherine Stark but Greg Doroski won so I immediately called him and offered my congratulations. Thanks for our members for their support of these elected officials who support labor and public education.
- I made a call at our last meeting to solicit VOTE COPE contributions, and three of you responded. Thank you so much; this is meaningful to the union as it helps us advocate in the county when it comes to negotiations, for capital projects such as the new automotive building, and at the state level it helps us with Fix Tier 6.
- At the No Kings Rally in PJ on October 18, Courtney, Kevin, Joan Cook, Mary Griffin, and I attended. Our attendance was not about Democrats vs. Republicans but about supporting our students and pushing back against fed actions and cuts that hurt us. When federal funding it cut, it has impacts at the state level and right now there is concern from NYSUT about the upcoming budget cycle and whether there will be enough money. Also, as a reminder, in 2017, the FA held an anti-Trump rally at the Grant Campus.

## 7. EC Rep Issues

- Tutoring centers at Grant Campus were told about cuts that are coming, and the writing center coordinator was told they're no longer allowed to call in subs so they've had to cancel entire time blocks instead. Enrollment is up, and we've heard we're at nearly 90% utilization right now, so why the cuts? This is a problem for faculty sending their students for extra help. — We haven't heard this from Ammerman or Eastern, but we will find out about other the campuses. We will find out what we can from administration.
- A constituent sent a seven-part question about counseling memos to faculty? — We are well aware of the member, who believes they were helping a student, and the issue at hand. we'll follow up about proper process for putting such memos into member personnel files; we have a few questions for administration.
- I received an inquiry about how handicapped parking at the Huntington Library seems to have been placed off limits. Faculty are using spots near Islip Building, but there are issues with parents and friends doing drop off? — The issue with library parking spaces has been discussed several times, and the Senate Quality of Life committee has met with college

regarding parents in parking lots issue so we will follow up.

- A constituent came to me about contract negotiations because they some suggestions, such as about the number of advising hours. Do I collect those and send them to you? Another person is upset that the president got another raise; they think it seems the college has a lot of money but then they claim to have no money for faculty. — EC reps can collect constituents' suggestions and send to us all at once or simply forward emails to [info@fascc.org](mailto:info@fascc.org). We've heard this too regarding the president's raise but that is a Board of Trustees decision.
- My constituents are upset about the credentialing manual. Since you just mentioned contract negotiations, maybe that's what I could suggest to my constituents? — Members are encouraged to communicate to us what changes they'd like to ask the negotiations team to consider. We're also happy to meet with constituency groups if that helps.
- A constituent wants to know where to find list of all FA committees with memberships; is this on FA website? Also how to gain membership to one of the committees? — Not on website because we have a variety of committees. Some are called into being in the contract, some in Constitution & Bylaws, some *ad hoc*; also some are open to all members, others are positional, others are appointed by FA president and approved by EC, etc. For several we do not reveal names, e.g., we don't name members of sabbatical committee because we don't want unsuccessful sabbatical applicants to contact individual committee members to ask why. Questions should be directed to committee chairs.
- Why do early end classes in spring 2026 end during spring recess? That doesn't seem student friendly? — We remember there was a conversation about this and that the end date during spring recess was unavoidable; question could go to Matt Okerblom.

## 8. Officers Reports

President Dante Morelli reports the following:

- [At last Board of Trustees meeting](#), they went into executive session and President Bonahue received a 4.9% raise; we will work to ensure our members are also fairly compensated for what they do.
- Last weekend was [2025 NYSUT Community College Conference](#); thank you to everyone who attended. There, we received a letter that we'll distribute to EC reps asking Governor Hochul to sign bill to add nonvoting community college staff member to Board of Trustees. NYSUT needs signed paper copies, however, so we will be in touch about how to do this.
- EC reps, please join us at Miller's Ale House in Lake Grove on Thursday, 11/20, at 5 pm for a meet and greet with new hires and mentors; food will be provided.
- We are putting new [all-employee memos on FA website regarding EMHP](#); one is about getting our mental health provisions to have parity with other coverage. Also, Suffolk County budget's largest increase, \$42 million, is due to increases in prescription drug costs—mostly related to costly GLP-1 medicines..

Executive Vice President Courtney Brewer reports the following:

- Promotion process winding down for candidates who are in it. I greatly appreciate those of you serving in CPC roles. Currently scheduling meetings with executive deans, CPC reps, and me. Remember that service on FA committees (like CPC) counts for service for promotion.
- I wrote about [student course experience surveys in \*The WORD\*](#), so read that. Admin is piloting survey in all 15-week courses in December but still unsure on what date they'll be distributed. Survey questions are at end of *WORD* article, and you and your chair will see your results next semester, long after grades are in. We'll be signing MOA about what surveys can be used for; if concerns come up please bring to our attention.
- Please do join us at Miller's Ale House; we'd love to see you there.

**Secretary Cynthia Eaton reports the following:**

- Please read the November *WORD*: [Dante's cover story](#), plus pieces on [Beacon](#) and on [Yeshiva decision](#), are designed to help members better appreciate how hard the FA is working for them all the time and help clear up misinformation and misunderstandings we're hearing.
- [FA Policy on Candidate Campaigning](#) is completed and posted.
- Prior to October 15, I spent hours providing individualized feedback on sabbatical applications. Members know process is more competitive than ever, so I did my best giving suggestions so they could submit strongest applications possible. Those were due October 15 and the committee is scheduled to review applications December 15.
- Annual [FA/Guild retirement workshop](#) on Friday, October 3, was resounding success with 137 participants from FA, Guild, and AME. We thank presenters Gerry McGahran (Stacey Braun), Sue DiFiore and Maggie Brown (EMHP), Mary Kaffaga (FA Benefit Fund), and Angelica Rivera and Bridget Haller (HR). Links to [retirement materials are in November \*WORD\*](#).
- Kudos to Joan Cook for being team captain again for [Making Strides on Saturday, October 4](#). We had 35 people walking between Team FA, Teresa Noto's crew, and Grant Campus Rotaract Club. At Community College Conference, Joan said we'd raised a little over \$2,900 but then incoming Grievance Officer John Capurso donated \$100 which put our team into record territory with over \$3,000 raised this year. Thank you, John! Others can still donate here: [Team FA Making Strides](#).

**Treasurer Pete DiGregorio reports the following:**

- Review of treasurer reports for both September and October, noting 389 full-time members (100% membership rate) and 957 adjunct members (~86-87% membership rate). Additional monies expended these months are due to fall election (redo of grievance officer election plus one EC rep position) and NYSUT Community College Conference.
- VOTE COPE balance as of October 30 is lowest we've seen so please consider donating or increasing your donations. VOTE COPE is voluntary contributions from members for political engagement. Money goes to NYSUT for state-level advocacy, we request 20% back then request another 20%, for a total of 40% back from NYSUT for local advocacy.
- Dues for adjunct members started early October and we were paid today so there's one more dues deduction for adjuncts (unless doing late start assignments).
- Board of Elections filings are coming to an end; Dante and other officers have been attending a lot of events to represent FA interests.
- Other: Training new bookkeeper, monitoring our CD so our reserve money continues to earn for us, and new firm will start audit on November 19.

**Grievance Officer Kevin McCoy reports the following:**

- Exceptionally busy in past few months with four administrative meetings, nine Title IX meetings, five observations, and four post-observation meetings.
- We've had four people taken off seniority list: two for just cause and two we're still investigating.
- Situation with the counseling letter needs to be investigated; it appears the member did not have chance to respond to allegations so we will follow up.

**Adjunct Coordinator Kim Ng Southard reports the following:**

- As Kevin mentioned, an exceptionally busy time of year so I've been speaking with members for long periods of time on the phone or in person.
- Hosted adjunct promotion workshops in September; thanks go to Donna Krompinger and Courtney Brewer for their participation in those as well.
- Serving as peer observer and doing post observation meetings, one of which was very tricky. Special thank you to Victoria Pendzick who is generous in also serving as a peer observer.
- Issue with a member that's been going on since December 2022 is resolved, and thanks go to Kevin McCoy. Some issues unavoidably take a while to resolve.
- Please read [November adjunct update in \*The WORD\*](#) for timely info and reminders.
- Issues with Brightspace should go to [Center for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#) or [Information Technology Services \(ITS\)](#).
- Other: I emailed adjunct members about Title VI trainings with reminder about extended deadline, I'm serving as a CPC rep, and one of the adjunct offices needs serious attention so working on that.
- My perennial reminder: No NORA means no assignments, so please fill that out!

**9. Old business**

- None at this time.

**8. New business**

- None at this time.

**9. Adjournment**

- ➔ Motion to adjourn made by N. Edwards and seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 4:51 pm.

## Attendance: Members present on November 13, 2025

### Officers

- [Dante Morelli](#), President
- [Courtney Brewer](#), Exec VP
- [Cynthia Eaton](#), Secretary
- [Pete DiGregorio](#), Treasurer
- [Kevin McCoy](#), 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 Karahalos](#): 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

## Guests

- [John Capurso](#): Grievance Officer Elect