



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Board of Trustees Annual Meeting
March 20, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.
24 Marshall Hall/Zoom

MINUTES

Voting Members in Attendance:

Chair John Bartow, Vice Chair Rick Fedrizzi, Trustee Vita DeMarchi, Trustee Daneil Fitts, Trustee Stephen Sloan (virtual), and Trustee Daniel Vera.

Absent: Trustee Linda Brown-Robinson

Ex-Officio: Dereth Glance, Representing Amanda Lefton, DEC Commissioner

College Personnel/Students in Attendance:

Mark Lichtenstein, Board Secretary; Nichole Dougherty, Joanie Mohainey, Baylee Woods, Lauren LaTray, Amy Brown, Ragan Squire, Lindi Quackenbush, Kitty McCarthy, Seth Thompson, Tyler Dorholt, Sarah Yurka, Aaron Rounds, Ruth Yanai, Jenn Webb. Matt Millea, Sam Gilvarg.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome

Chair Bartow called the meeting of the ESF Board of Trustees Governance Committee to order at 11:56 a.m. With five voting members of the Board present in person, a quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Fitts motioned to approve the agenda; Trustee Fedrizzi seconded. 11.3. Possible discussion and Action on Forest Properties. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the December, 2025 Meeting

Trustee Fedrizzi motioned to approve the minutes; Trustee Fitts seconded. Motion carried.

4. Appointment of Board Secretary: President recommend N. Dougherty. D. Vera motioned, V DeMarchi seconded. Thanked Mark.

5. Chair Report: Difficult, lots of work around financial stability plan. Requests for retreat, separate meeting or part of September meeting.

6. Committee Reports:

6.1. Facilities: Townhall 2/17. Rustan will be more active with committee.



- 6.2. **Finance Committee:** Met today, recorded. Stability, VSP, Budget, and Org Charts.
- 6.3. **DEI Committee:** Met 2/19, Brown-Robinson wait for next DEI meeting. Will schedule a meeting with new organizational, before May
- 6.4. **Gov Meeting:** Met Feb 19 and March 20: Annual Deep Dive in Bylaws, Education law, etc. Set an agenda for a deeper dive. Ex-Officio voting rights and quorum considerations. SUNY report. Discussed annual self eval. Another meeting will be scheduled.

7. **President's Report:**

President Mahoney noted that her State of the College Address from the previous day, March 19, 2026, would serve as her report and will be uploaded to the Board of Trustees website.

8. **Student Reports:**

8.1. **MOSA Update by Daniel Vera:**

Off Campus Compost working group –

MOSA voted in support of the proposed Forest Property and Athletics Fees

Reviewed Upcoming Events: All invited: MOSAIC Fest, Spring Market, Solar Awards

8.2. **GSA Update by Sam Gilvarg VP, PHD Candidate in SRM:**

Spring Semester Plan: Edge Events SciPi, R Status, and writing groups (Peer:Peer)

Reviewed Upcoming Events: CNY Conference 3/27 and 3/28, 2026, Spring Picnic, Honors Awards and Elections

Operational Changes: GSA is Embracing Flexibility, noted that changes could be communicated better, sited an example that a recent Business Office retirement required that GSA hire a bookkeeper, could have been better prepared for the unexpected expense, Facility Challenges: Research and space: Power outages can lead to loss of graduate student research, which could impact ESF's R2 status.

Generators for sensitive equipment is being explored.

9. **Academic Governance:**

Aaron Rounds thanked the Trustees for increasing participation, noting it has helped students connect with administrative staff.

Reviewed Successes: Stability Planning Advisory Committee meets weekly, townhalls, public feedback, AI Council has been meeting weekly, grateful for IDEA committee Lived Name and Gender Policy. Forest Properties Fee resolution.

Concerns: Faculty/Staff Fatigue, Pay increases/adjustments to be handled fairly, faculty and staff position backfills.



Old Business: None

New Business: Trustee Fedrizzi motioned to support the Forest Properties and Athletics fees. Trustee Vera seconded, all approved.

Motion to adjourn: Trustee Vera motioned to adjourn, Trustee DeMarchi seconded. All Approved. Meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nichole Dougherty.

DRAFT