

**CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
REGIONAL BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING  
AGENDA**

**DATE:** Thursday, May 7, 2026  
**TIME:** 5:30 p.m. Meeting  
**LOCATIONS:** Health Education Center

- 1- CALL TO ORDER
- 2- APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 3- APPROVAL OF MEETING [MINUTES](#) of March 26, 2026
- 4- CHAIR'S REPORT-*MICHAEL WAYNE*
- 5- PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REPORT- *Dr. FINLEY*
- 6- STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT-
- 7- CCC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION REPORT- *JILL KOSKI*
- 8- APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
  - 1- [Resolution #T4998-26 Appointments, Promotions and Separations](#)

REGULAR AGENDA

[CASS Committee](#)

1. [Resolution: #T4999-26-RBOT Excellence in Teaching Award](#)
2. [Resolution: #T5000-26-Notification of Student Guardian of Alcohol/Controlled Substance Violation Policy](#)

[EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Committee](#)

[FINANCE AND FACILITIES Committee](#)

- 1- [Resolution #T5001-26-Operating Report](#)

[HUMAN RESOURCES Committee](#)

- 9- OLD BUSINESS
- 10- NEW BUSINESS
- 11- EXECUTIVE SESSION: YES
- 12- ADJOURNEMENT

**CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
REGIONAL BOARD of TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 26, 2026**

In Attendance: N. Wightman, H. Reynolds, P. Chu, S. Jacoby Murphy, R. Allison, Joe Rowe, K. Early, S. Washington

Excused: M. Wayne, J. McKinney-Cherry

Senior Staff: President Finley and N. Ka-Tandia,

Guest: Brice Linton

**1-CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Trustee Wightman, the presiding officer.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to Approve: Heather Reynolds. Seconded: Ron Allison. The motion carried unanimously.

**3- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Motion to Approve as Amended: Ron Allison. Seconded: Heather Reynolds. The minutes were corrected to reflect Ron Allison' attendance and participation. The motion carried.

**4. CHAIR UPDATE:**

Trustee Wightman provided the chair report on Chair Wayne's absence and provided the following updates:

- Prompted condolence messages from the college to Assemblyman Christopher Friend on the death of his father, Charles, and to NYS Senator Tom O'Mara on the death of his mother, Ann.
- Spoke with Senator O'Mara in advance of the NYS Senate Higher Education Budget Committee meeting on February 24th, re: SUNY & CCC budget and program priorities.
- Participated in the NYCCT letter writing campaign to NYS Senate and Assembly leadership, in support of higher education budget initiatives.
- Sent a campus wide email on Friday, March 6th on Employee Appreciation Day. Later that day attended the employee appreciation luncheon (hosted by the Foundation) allowing me an opportunity to interact with faculty and staff.
- Been in communication with Dr. Finley, re: the Perry Hall financing situation and other student and employee issues.
- Encourage all Trustees to mark your calendars for Saturday, May 2nd for the student awards breakfast; and Saturday, May 16th for graduation. This is the perfect opportunity to congratulate our students on their academic successes, and our faculty for their efforts in getting our students across the finish line.

**5. PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE'S REPORT.**

Dr. Finley provided an extensive report on her first 60 days, focusing heavily on direct feedback gathered during his "Start, Stop, Continue" listening tour with students, faculty, and staff.

- Student Experience & Housing: Dr. Finley highlighted student feedback concerning the high cost and overall experience at Perry Hall, as well as dissatisfaction with the current dining services provided by American Dining. Students also strongly advocated for expanded athletic participation and a need for more programming on weekend and evening.
- Campus Facility Access: In direct response to student requests, the administration is implementing plans to extend library hours and open the gymnasium earlier, setting a target opening time of 7:00 a.m. to better serve the student body.
- Transportation Initiatives: Dr. Finley identified transportation as a critical barrier to student success. He noted that current bus services end at 5:00 p.m., restricting evening access. Trustee Lawrence added that nearly 50 percent of regional high school seniors lack driver's licenses
- Perry Hall Financial Partnerships: Reported on productive, ongoing meetings with key financial stakeholders, including Five Star Bank and Chemung Canal, alongside local legislators. These discussions aim to establish a sustainable, long-term path forward for the financing of Perry Hall.

**6. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT:**

No report

**7. CCC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC., REPORT.**

Report included in the pocket

**8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

RESOLUTION #T4991-26- Appointment, Promotion & Separation

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby ratifies the following employment actions to be taken. (J. McKinney-Cherry, R. Allison, Unanimous)

Name	Title	Department	Effective	Action	Grade
Dunham, Beverly	Payroll Coordinator	Finance	2/16/26	New Hire	D3
Knapp, Emilee	Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator	Health Ed - Nursing	3/2/26	New Hire	D1
Nightingale, Danny	Assistant Director of the Manufacturing Tech Program	WECE	3/9/26	Transfer	E1
Wesolowski, Bernadette	Bursar	Student Accounts	2/27/26	Resignation	F1

Name	Title	Department	Effective	Action	Grade
Higbie, Jacob	Building Maintenance Mechanic	Physical Plant-Trades	3/6/26	Resignation	305
Curtis, Daniel	Senior Groundskeeper	Physical Plant-Trades	3/13/26	Resignation	304

*\*Resumes of new hires are available in the HR folder as a supplement for the HR Committee agenda*

**Position Activity:** RESOLUTION #T4997-26

**WHEREAS,** Human Resources has reviewed and is recommending the actions indicated below,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby ratifies the following position management actions to be taken.

Title	Incumbent	Action	Effective	Background Notes (not included in the formal resolution)
Assistant Director of Manufacturing Technology (Grant-funded)	Adjunct	Reclassification	With Board Approval	After review of the position description, this position was reclassified to an Assistant Director title, Professional Grade E. This position is responsible for the creation, implementation and continuity of the College's non-credit Manufacturing Technician program and is the training facilitator for the program.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **CASS**

#### Academic Affairs:

The CASS report is included in the RBOT Redbook. Trustee Chu highlighted the following on Trustee McKinney-Cherry absence:

- The SUNY Academic Momentum Initiative (AcMo) Plan has been submitted to SUNY, and is advancing into implementation with coordinated efforts to operationalize key strategies for the fall semester. There was a mention of an early alert tool that shows evidence-based impact on student success and retention. Metrics indicate a shift from passive referrals to active, targeted interventions, emphasizing the importance of a tool that helps identify student needs and connect them with supports in real time. This tool

aligns with the strategic framework and will be shared publicly on a specified date.

- Another highlight is a strategic partnership with Arnot medical center Paramedic program, which has launched an initial cohort of 15 students with high academic performance and retention rates. One student was selected for a research presentation at a state conference. The program will be included in a statewide initiative expanding access to adult learners. A partnership with local emergency services is also being finalized to support EMT training, expanding pathways beyond nursing into paramedic education.
- The digital dome and Makerspace facilities are featured as community assets. Visitors in January was approximately 1,000, generating revenue and attracting new interest. The Makerspace recorded 155 users, including prospective students, and is collaborating on summer programs to enhance community engagement and visibility.
- The Women's Conference continues to see strong interest, with ongoing ticket sales and an impressive lineup of panelists. Attendees are encouraged to promote participation.
- Vice President Maarit Clay is working on a labor market study in collaboration with colleagues. The study aims to identify community needs, program considerations, and costs. Healthcare training needs are outpacing manufacturing needs, despite the latter's prominence. Efforts are ongoing to support the ACE program, with a call for advocacy from relevant committees and the full board.

Resolution No: #T4992-26-Involuntary Leave of Absence (SUNY recommended & based on SUNY template)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community Colleges hereby approves the Involuntary Leave of Absence (SUNY recommended & based on SUNY template). (P. Chu, M. Lawrence, Unanimous)

Resolution No: #T4993-26-Code of Conduct and Hazing Complaint Procedure (Rescinds 4963-25) (Revisions with legal included)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community Colleges hereby approves the Code of Conduct and Hazing Complaint Procedure (Rescinds 4963-25) (Revisions with legal included). (P. Chu, R. Allison, Unanimous)

Resolution No: #T4994-26-Anti-hazing Policy (Rescinds 4964-25)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community Colleges hereby approves Anti-hazing Policy (Rescinds 4964-25). (P. Chu, H. Reynolds, Unanimous)

## **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The report is included in the External Affairs Committee Packet.

Trustee Chu highlighted the following on Trustee McKinney-Cherry absence and noted there is no resolution on the agenda. She highlighted the following:

### **Development Foundation:**

- A key highlight is the forecast for funding opportunities, which looks very promising for this year. Notably, a pledge of \$430,000 from Corporate Community Impact over two years supports the Advanced Manufacturing Program, along with additional grants for collaborative online international learning. The Foundation also received a \$10,000 gift from a corporate partner. This totals nearly \$300,000 more than the previous year, which is a positive development. It's important to clarify that these funds are limited and restricted, not for general operational expenses.
- Another upcoming event is the Visiting Scholarly Event scheduled for April 21st, which has received a strong community response, with around 750 RSVPs anticipated, possibly exceeding capacity. The event is held at a CMoG, offering high visibility for the institution. Discussions included the strategic value of such events, considering the costs and potential return on investment, including community engagement and fundraising.
- Grant Funded Updates: it was noted that while the overall picture looks positive, metrics are needed to assess progress over time. Funding from federal, state, and foundation sources plays a significant role, and efforts are underway to evaluate which grants offer the best return on investment.

**Workforce education**, a notable cohort of students recently received diplomas and secured employment. The program maintains a high placement rate, over 90%. The current grant funding ends in 2026, with plans to continue the program through an advisory board and ongoing equipment upgrades.

**On marketing**, a new interactive campus map has been launched online. Feedback indicated some technical issues, such as difficulty navigating, which will be communicated to the relevant team for improvements.

**Regarding legislative updates**, there was no detailed report, but leadership has been in contact with legislators, who have expressed support for ongoing initiatives. The system has received positive signals from legislators, but final outcomes remain to be seen.

## **FINANCE AND FACILITIES**

Trustee Reynolds provided the highlights below and noted two resolutions on the agenda:

- Discuss efforts to recover receivables through payment plans, and the overall financial outlook, which remains stable despite enrollment challenges that have led to revenue losses.
- The quarterly FSA review indicated typical spending patterns, with utility costs higher than expected.
- Campus updates included preparations for a health fair and ongoing staff recruitment.

### **RESOLUTION #T4995-26-Operating Report**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby approves the Operating Report for the period ending January 31, 2026 (H, Reynolds, M. Lawrence, Unanimous)

### **RESOLUTION #T4996-26-Donation of Equipment for STEM Division**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Corning Community College Regional Board of Trustees hereby accepts the donation of the optical air bearing table, 2 microscopes, and benchtop water jet to be used at the College, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees expresses its gratitude to Corning Incorporated for providing this equipment for the College's use. (H, Reynolds, P. Chu, Unanimous)

## **HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Report is included in the HR Committee Packet.

Trustee Lawrence provided the highlights below

- Overview of the health insurance options, highlighting efforts to encourage enrollment in the high-deductible HSA plan, which offers cost savings for employees. Progress is gradual but steady, aided by education efforts.
- Recently, two new hires chose to switch to this plan after one-on-one discussions, indicating positive movement. The key advantage of the HSA is its portability and the ability to save without a use-it-or-lose-it clock like an FSA.
- Headcount report: February 2023 to February 2026. The data shows a reduction of approximately 20 positions from the total. While not a large percentage, it's important to recognize that remaining staff are managing increased workloads, which could impact morale and burnout. Leadership is mindful of this and values retaining good employees, understanding they have other options if overwhelmed.
- Discussed union agreements and their timelines. One agreement expires in August 2026, with negotiations beginning soon. Another agreement with a different union is also set for renewal in August 2026. A third agreement, involving faculty, remains active until August 2029.

NEW BUSINESS:

Indirect Cost Rate (ICR) Review: Trustee Joe noted that the college's current ICR on grants is surprisingly high at 39 percent.

- A debate ensued regarding whether this rate is negotiated at the SUNY system level or locally at the college level.
- ACTION ITEM: The Board requested that formal documentation be sent to all members to clarify the 39 percent rate, as it impacts grant competitiveness.

RBOT meeting adjourned: 7:10pm (P. Chu, Heather Reynolds, Unanimous)

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**HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**Appointment, Promotion and Separations**  
**Resolution #T4998-26**

**WHEREAS**, Human Resources has affirmed the eligible qualifications of hires, transfers and promotions;  
**WHEREAS**, Human Resources has verified the adherence to internal policy and procedures related to hires, transfers and promotions;  
**WHEREAS**, Human Resources has reviewed and confirmed the separation of current employees;  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby ratifies the following employment actions to be taken.

Name	Title	Department	Effective	Action	Grade
Champion, Kalyn	Technical Assistant	Physical Plant	4/6/2026	New Hire	C1

*\*Resumes of new hires are available in the HR folder as a supplement for the HR Committee agenda*

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CASS COMMITTEE

RBOT Excellence in Teaching

Resolution #T499-26

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby approves the following:

**The 2026 Regional Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award is presented to:**

**Professor, Dr. Jennifer O'Hara, Business Law & Government Coordinator and Faculty Professional Development, LAPS Division**

**BACKGROUND NOTES:**

Each year, faculty members are invited to nominate a faculty colleague for the Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award. The nominee must have five years of full-time teaching experience at SUNY Corning Community College and show undisputed excellence in all five of the criteria areas: Teaching Performance, Scholarship and Professional Growth, Student Services, Academic Standards and Requirements for Student Performance, and Curriculum Development and Instructional Improvement. The Vice President/Dean of Academic Affairs convenes a selection committee; each academic division appoints a faculty member who has previously been awarded a Trustee's Award for Teaching Excellence to serve on the committee. The awards committee selects no more than three candidates to be recommended as recipients of this award. The Vice President/Dean of Academic Affairs recommends the candidates to the President. The President, therefore, makes the following recommendation for the Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award.

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**CASS COMMITTEE**

**Resolution #T5000-26**

**Notification of Student Guardian of Alcohol/Controlled Substance Violation Policy**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Corning Community College hereby approves the Notification of Student Guardian of Alcohol/Controlled Substance Violation Policy for SUNY Corning Community College.

This written policy regards the notification of a student's parent(s), guardian(s), or emergency contact(s) when a student under the age of 21 is involved in certain alcohol- or controlled substance-related violations or incidents. Notification decisions are made by authorized institutional offices and are guided by considerations of student health, safety, and welfare, as well as compliance with applicable federal and state laws.

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**FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION #T5001-26**

**Operating Report**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Board of Trustees of SUNY Corning Community College hereby approves the Operating Report for the period ending March 31, 2026.

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