NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of March 10, 2026

The six hundred ninety-third meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 in the College Center Building Room 252-253. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 5:32 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
Elliot S. Conway via videoconferencing, Lynne D'Agostino,
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, Joshua Hammer, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

Chair Boyden reported on the actions taken by the Senate at its February 12, 2026 meeting. The Senate approved dual enrollment for MATH 123 at Sewanhaka Central High School District, six deactivations of degree programs, and several new course proposals. The Senate also approved two new courses for the SUNY Civic Discourse Department, along with related changes to the supporting curriculum. At the next Senate meeting, the Honors Committee report will be presented. In addition, the Calendar Committee will present the academic calendars for the 2027–2028 academic year to the Senate for approval. Following Senate approval, the items will be forwarded to Dr. Conzatti.

At its most recent CWCC meeting, the Committee considered two proposals to revise the procedure manual to allow new degree programs to be proposed at 60 credits or between 60 and 64 credits, however, after a discussion, the committee voted to keep the procedure manual as it currently stands for the time being. In addition, the Senate Executive Committee will be meeting with the CWCC Executive Committee and the Chairs Committee. There was a meeting earlier today, and in principle he hopes to meet again the week after the break to determine the next steps for addressing the curricular issues. Chair Boyden will provide a full update on the Senate's progress at the April Board meeting.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion that pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the purposes: 1) discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation; and 2) to review the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 6-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
Elliot S. Conway via videoconferencing, Lynne D'Agostino,
John A. DeGrace, John R. Durso, Joshua Hammer, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

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1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of February 10, 2026. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Conzatti reported on the following items:

- WHPC won three awards from the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, including…
- Best Foreign Language Show - Lithuanian Landslide
- Best Show Intro - The Nassau Mix (edited by Justin Greenberg)
- and the best community college radio station in the nation, their fifth win in the past seven years.

- Congratulations to Dr. Nicole Simon and Dr. Nadine Hylton on being selected as SUNY Academic Momentum Fellows. The Academic Momentum Campaign is a systemwide initiative designed to strengthen retention, credit accumulation, and completion outcomes across SUNY by amplifying effective campus practices and supporting implementation of evidence-based strategies through campus action plans. As a Fellow, you have been selected based on your demonstrated expertise and leadership in one or more of the Campaign's focus areas.

- Sophomore Valeria Alfaro Rivera has been named the 2026 Norman R. McConney, Jr. Award recipient for Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Student Excellence, a statewide honor recognizing students who have overcome significant life obstacles to achieve academic and professional success.

Men's Wrestling Team finished 5th in the country/Women's Team finished 20th at the NJCAA Men's & Women's Wrestling National Championship.

- Mora Peterson, Sophomore, Physical Education Studies, Social and Behavioral Sciences, finished 6th in the country against DI & DIII, and earned All-American honors.

- Shane Dobbins, Sophomore, Physical Education Studies, Social and Behavioral Sciences, finished 7th in the country against DI & DIII, and earned All-American honors.

- Head Coach Vougar Oroudjov, was inducted into the NJCAA Coaches Association Men's Wrestling Hall of Fame. Vougar Oroudjov, longtime wrestling coach at Nassau Community College, has dedicated over 20 years to coaching at the NJCAA level, building one of the most respected wrestling programs in the country. His coaching success culminated in NJCAA Non-Scholarship National Championships and earning NJCAA Non-Scholarship Coach of the Year honors. Beyond team success, he is on the sport is deeply personal and far-reaching. A former world champion and Olympic bronze medalist, he brought elite-level experience and international perspective to the collegiate ranks. His commitment to excellence is reflected not only in championships, but also in athlete development, mentorship, and community engagement.

Indoor Track & Field

- Jeremaiyh Burch, freshman Electrical Engineering Tech, Sci, Tech, Engineering & Math, was 1 of only 2 DIII student-athletes who qualified and competed in the NJCAA Indoor Track & Field National Championship. He finished 23rd in the country (DI & DIII) in the 800m Championships.

Men's Volleyball team is currently ranked 3rd in the country.

Men's Basketball

- Freshman Glen Mcbeth Jr, Liberal Arts Sci Hum SocSci, Multidisciplinary Studies, earned Region XV First-Team All-Region honors.

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- Sophomore Matthias Martin, Marketing, Business Professional Studies, was named to the Region XV Sportsmanship Team.

Summer Registration began on Monday, March 9.

Speakers

Mary Lannon, Professor in the English Department, urged the Board to approve faculty promotions and sabbaticals. She noted that faculty are motivated by recognition of their work and performance. When promotions and sabbaticals are withheld, it demoralizes faculty and can reduce the energy and engagement they bring to their students.

Kimberly Wells-Bernard, Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences urged the Board to approve faculty promotions and sabbaticals, noting that they support faculty advancement, research, and innovative teaching while also strengthening student opportunities and the college's reputation.

Dr. Gardyn asked to take a moment to note that, while we are gathered here tonight engaged in the discourse and freedoms of higher education, there are members of our military who are currently serving in harm's way. In recognition of those who have fallen, and in honor of the brave men and women of our armed forces who continue to serve, he asked that we observe a brief moment of silence.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Board of Trustees' Committee meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. It is anticipated the Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Gardyn wished all members of our community a joyous Pesach, and a Happy Easter.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Hammer. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
Secretary Pro Temp

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