

University Council Meeting 20252026



Voting Members in Attendance:

Name	Email
Daniel Green	Daniel.Green@downstate.edu
Shivasuryan Vummidi	Shivasuryan.Vummidi@downstate.edu
Hend Heikal	hend.heikal@downstate.edu
Isaac Vingan	Isaac.Vingan@downstate.edu
Gelila Hawthorne	Gelila.Hawthorne@downstate.edu
Serina Abdul Satter	Serina.AbdulSatter@downstate.edu
Jasmine Yu	Jasmine.Yu@downstate.edu
Lianlen Joy Distor (until 7:21 pm, proxy: Isaac)	LianlenJoy.Distor@downstate.edu
Thomas Sanford	Thomas.Sanford@downstate.edu

Voting Members not in Attendance:

Name	Email
Tobi Somorin (proxy: Daniel Green)	Tobi.Somorin@downstate.edu
Shaquille James	Shaquille.james@downstate.edu

Non-voting Members in Attendance:

Name	
Jeffrey Putman	
Schuyler Hooke	
Adam Burgman	
Laure Raymond	

Agenda

- **Call to Order at 6:09 pm by Dan, seconded by Hend**
- **Budget Voting:**
 - Vote to approve new clubs (\$250 each)
 - Black Men in White Coats (FSA account needed)
 - Voting on the 2025-2026 UC budget sheet
- **Budget Requests:**
 - DINE
 - Requesting \$300 for honoraria
 - Showed up to budget meeting
 - Vote: motion proposed by Dan, seconded by Isaac, and voted unanimously
 - Transfer \$300 from Programs & Projects to DINE
 - Block Party
 - Requesting a transfer of \$1500 extra from Programs & Projects
 - Vote: motion proposed by Shiva, seconded by Dan, and voted unanimously
- **New Business**
 - Introduction! New Year, New UC
 - What do you want from this year?
 - **Thomas:** Continue maximizing opportunities through SUNY SA
 - **Shiva:** Sponsor more events and manage existing clubs effectively
 - **Isaac:** Step in where needed, build relationships with faculty and staff, and keep UC results-focused
 - **Lianlen:** Organize more research-oriented events across schools, not just COM
 - **Serina:** Centralize initiatives so all programs feel more connected
 - **Galila:** Make the most of the UC experience
 - **Hend:** Strengthen collaboration and ensure student voices are represented
 - **Daniel:** Increase visibility through more events like coffeehouses and the multicultural fair
 - **Jasmine:** Build stronger connections among students across programs
 - SUNY SA application:
 - Thomas is the current SA Rep
 - A second representative is needed for this year
 - Application request will be sent out between this meeting and the next meeting
 - Schedule Espresso Your Thoughts Meeting
 - **Date:** TBD (Proposed: Tuesdays in October)
 - SAF Staffing (9/11)
 - Dan, Isaac
 - Block party staffing (9/9)
 - Dan, Isaac
 - UC BIOS have been updated
 - **Voting**

■ **Budget Voting:**

- Vote to approve new clubs (\$250 each)
 - Black Men in White Coats (FSA account needed)
- Voting on the 2025-2026 UC budget sheet

Motion passes to approve Black Men in White Coats with transfer of \$250 from Programs & Projects (FSA Account# 40-70173-016-30001) to Black Men in White Coats (account needed)

Motion passes to approve 2025-2026 UC budget sheet

■ **Budget Requests:**

- DINE
 - Requesting \$300 for honoraria
 - Showed up to budget meeting

Motion passes to approve budget request for DINE

■ **Block Party**

- Requesting a transfer of \$1500 extra from Programs & Projects
- Vote: motion proposed by Shiva, seconded by Dan, and voted unanimously

Motion passes to approve transfer of money from Programs & Projects (FSA Account# 40-70173-016-30001) to Block Party (FSA Account# 40-70391-016-30001)

■ **Old business**

- New Constitution - passed!
- Mental Health Days...
 - Tobi submitted an executive resolution to the SUNY executive committee (per past SA pres Gio's instruction) haven't heard anything since. Would like to invite a member (preferably president, to discuss these other issues we would like on the SUNY SA state. Thomas to possibly help coordinate)
- New Budget (Shiva to discuss again)
 - Notes: This year clubs were able to get funding from 2-3 councils but moving forward they will only be eligible for funding from only one council. In this new layout, UC will oversee funding of only 13 clubs. Clubs used to be allocated a minimum of \$100 each but now we are hoping to increase that initial budget. The new budget outlines specific allowances for the various clubs.
 - Budget Request Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSen1IBUttl6HStYm_roKBzfpjyX6HHIMGcxPIIvYOS53kq9cw/viewform --> we will see if we can get access to Microsoft Forms to unite everything under 1 system.
- UC Guidelines for funding
 - Update guidelines to standardize how clubs are funded across all councils
 - Accepted med council budget in interim
 - Vote: motion proposed by Isaac, seconded by Dan, passed unanimously

	Prior Funding	New Funding	Suggested Changes
Block Party	\$1000	\$1000	No

BFC	\$2000	\$2000	No
MC Fair	\$3000	\$3500	No
SUNYSA	\$1500	\$1600	No
Student Org Leadership Training	\$2000	\$2000	No
Thanksgiving dinner	\$2000	\$2000	No
UC meeting Dinner	\$2500	\$2500	No
Winter/Spring Events	\$4000	\$4000	No
13 Clubs	Various allocations		No

- COM Orientation
 - went very well
 - Many students approached Tobi to learn more about UC
- **4th Hearing about Downstate**
 - Follow up with students who attended
 - Governor visited and announced funding allocated to the outpatient surgical center
 - Confirmation that the hospital will not be closed
- **Advisor Updates**
 - Every UC member should be at every UC meeting
 - Dietary restrictions - email Hend or Dan
 - Invitations for Administrators
 - President Riley
 - Alicia Goodrich (Director of Government Relations)
 - Nicholas Cromie (Director of Accessibility Services and Resources)
 - Patricia Napolitano (Asst VP for Student Affairs)
 - Dr. Carla Boutin-Foster (Assoc VP for Institutional Equity)
 - SUNY SA Executive Board (at least one member, preferably Luca Rallis – President)
 - Host meeting? Saturdays
 - Dr. Seth Langley (Assoc VP Academic Student Services) and/or members of his team.
 - James Minto (VP for Facilities) and/or members of his team
 - **Kudos and Concerns Implementation**
 - Expansion to other programs is still in process
 - Expected to be ready by this summer
 - **Health Insurance**
 - United Healthcare were selected, coverage same, cost same
 - **ENGAGE Platform**
 - Central hub for student organizations

- Students can browse and sign up for clubs
- Clubs can promote their organizations and recruit members
- Student Center Repairs: Currently undergoing renovations to upgrade the HVAC and facilities
- **Program Updates**
 - COM:
 - COM 26:
 - Graduation date will be announced within the next month
 - AOA selection committee is meeting this week; Gold Humanism results pending
 - Senior week planning
 - COM 27
 - Ongoing delays in obtaining Kings County IDs despite students completing requirements in advance, leading to late starts or unfinished rotations without IDs. Dr. Lazar will follow up
 - COM 28/29
 - No new issues reported
 - CON:
 - New cohort plans new events
 - Graduate students report issues with placement sites
 - SOHP:
 - White coat ceremony held on 8/27/25
 - No budgets available for PA-specific events
 - SPH: Update later
 - GS:
 - Orientation starts this week - Mini gatherings will be hosted to help students connect.
 - Annual research day 10/19
 - SUNY SA:
 - E-board elections were last semester; graduate rep position is unfilled, waiting on special election.
 - College Council:
 - Hasn't met yet

- **Open Floor**

- N/A

- **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Isaac at 7:50pm. Seconded by Dan

Minutes officially submitted on 09/17/2025 by Hend Heikal

Hend Heikal

UC Secretary 2025-2026