



General Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.
Los Angeles Convention Center

I. Call to Order

Dave Follick

- The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m.
- The June General Membership Meeting Minutes, September General Membership Meeting Agenda, 50/50 raffle information and today's slideshow are all available by scanning the QR codes on the tables.

II. Consent Agenda Items

Melissa Bellantonio

- Approval of June General Membership Meeting Minutes
- Approval of September Agenda
 - **Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items (June General Membership Meeting Minutes and September Agenda).**
 - 1st: Meghan DeMayo-Dalen
 - 2nd: Christina Lofaso
 - **Motion carries.**

III. President's Report

Dave Follick

- While viewing the slideshow on your phone, I would like to acknowledge the amazing volunteers that work tirelessly to keep our association afloat. These colleagues spend time doing the work that supports our vision which states: NYSACAC is at the forefront of providing professional development and leadership opportunities in college admission counseling.
 - They include three Presidents, four Vice Presidents, our Secretary, twelve regional representatives, and the co-chairs of fifteen committees. Please stand to be recognized for your service.
- We have a legacy of leadership here today that represents the best of NYSACAC. These are folks that dedicated years and years of service to our organization, culminating in their election to the three-year presidential cycle. We have fifteen current and former presidents attending NACAC this year. Will all those who currently or previously served as NYSACAC president please stand to be recognized; thank you for your service.
- We have a number of people throughout the state that continue to volunteer their time within NACAC as board members, committee co-chairs and committee members as well as the volunteers who help support the NACAC College Fairs. If you are currently serving on a NACAC Committee, please stand to be recognized.
- We are once again fortunate to have a member within NYSACAC who was selected for this year's NACAC Rising Star Award Winner. Tyree Vann from St. John's University was presented with her award yesterday at a NACAC event. While she is not here today, please give her some recognition.
- This is where we typically beg you to host the annual conference. I'm excited to announce that we have secured conference hosts between 2025 and 2027. If you are interested in hosting the 2028 conference, please feel free to come see Dave Follick, Heidi Green or Lauren Sangimino. It's a wonderful opportunity; all host institutions since the pandemic have raised money since the pandemic.

IV. President-Elect's Report

Lauren Sangimino

- As you know, our 2025 annual conference will be at Hartwick College. It is my pleasure to introduce our 2025 conference logo and theme, "Striking a Balance". We chose this theme for a couple of reasons: Hartwick College has positioned themselves to be a Life Balance college and our social will be at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. Our theme, "Striking a Balance," brings together the ideals of wellness, career readiness, and holistic student success with the determination and perseverance of the beloved game of baseball.
 - Mark your calendars for June 3-6. The Coming Together Conference (CTC) will be June 3-4, and the Annual Conference will be June 4-6.
- I would like to acknowledge our Steering Committee for their time and dedication and our host site coordinator, Bryan Gross. Bryan and the Steering Committee please stand so we can acknowledge you.
- Planning has been well underway since our last conference. Sponsorship opportunities have been added to our website. You can access them using the QR code on the save the date postcard from Hartwick. Colleges, someone will reach out about grants. CTC has already had meetings; planning is underway.
- We'll aim to have the call for session proposals out around December/January. Registration and the grant applications will open at the end of January/beginning of February, with the grant application deadline scheduled to be in March.
- Thank you Hartwick College for not only hosting the conference but the reception today.

V. Past President's Report

Heidi Green

- The immediate Past President has the glamorous roll of reviewing bylaws and running the nomination and awards processes.
- This year, we will be electing the below positions. Our timeline is that we will call for nominations in November and December and run the elections in February and March.
 - President-Elect
 - VP for Communications
 - Secretary
 - Secondary representatives
 - College representatives
- At the same time, we also run our awards process. The awards process depends on all of you, the members. If you have a colleague who has done great work for the organization, do not hesitate to nominate them. Our awards are: Distinguished Service Awards: College/HS/CBO, Inclusion, Access and Success Award, President's Award, Rising Star Award. NYSACAC's Rising Star award winner gets pushed forward to NACAC. When you see those calls for nominations, please put someone forward for one or more awards.
- You may remember that NACAC eliminated the delegate position; we now have twelve representatives across six regions. At this time, I would ask Haniya Mee, Meghan DeMayo-Dalen and any other representatives here to stand to be recognized for all of the great work they will do this year.

VI. Vice Presidents' Reports

- VP for Communications

Bryan Rothstein

- Thanks to our folks that are sending out emails, including Kate Gildard, who was sending out emails today. Please keep updated with your

emails, which we are working to pair down. Special shout out to Hannah Kingsley for all of the awesome social media posts. Please make sure to like us on social media (especially on LinkedIn).

- The NYSACAC Newsletter is now out and is in your emails, thank you to Brian Gleitsmann and Madison Morgan. Please consider submitting a newsletter article; if you had a great time this week please share that information with us.
- Thank you to Christina Lofaso and Brenna May, our technology folks who are also doing great work.

- VP for Finance

Christine Murphy

- As VP of Finance, oversee four committees as the role was restructured last year at GMM in Baltimore. These committees include: Membership, College Fairs, Scholarships, and the Finance Committee.
- Membership: The 2024-2025 membership cycle successfully launched in September thanks to the great work of Mike White and Alyssa Krawczyk. We were able to open the application earlier this year and with no technical issues. If you have not renewed yet, please do so.
- College Fairs: Thanks to the great work of Colette Montgomery and Steve Ostendorff, we are excited to announce that we are partnering with StriveScan. The fall fair dates are Wednesday, October 16 at Sarah Lawrence College and Wednesday, November 6 at Staten Island Academy. Registration is now open on the NYSACAC website. If you're a school counselor and interested in bringing students, please reach out. Anyone who is in the room and may be interested in hosting a future fair please let Christine know or reach out to collegefairs@nysacac.org.
- Scholarships: Last year the committee did a fantastic job generating sixty applications from all across New York State. The co-chairs Annemarie Cervoni and Meghan DeMayo-Dalen are already underway this year, starting with the raffle tonight.
- Finance Committee: NYSACAC has a fiscal year which is January 1 through December 1. We are underway with our planning for this year, committees are submitting their requests which will be reviewed and voted on by the executive board.

- VP for Inclusion, Access and Success

Danny Robinson

- Camp College: Tiarah Vergara and Marcelle Hicks. Camp had a successful first back in person program at SUNY Geneseo with twenty five students, nine mentors and great survey responses.
 - It was the first in-person Camp since pre-COVID. It was met with some challenges, but the co-chairs and committee are excited to start planning with the Geneseo team for next year. Thankful for the continued partnership with SUNY Geneseo. Please all save the date for Camp College 2025, which will be July 23-25.
- CBO & Opportunity Programs: Bill Short and Sihaya Moraleta. Happy to be onboarding two new co-chairs. They bring a nice balance with Bill having been long standing and active members of the committee and Sihaya who is new to the committee, but not to Opportunity Programs. They have already started meeting to start planning for this year to

continue the work and build upon the very successful programs that have been developed.

- Government Relations: Alex El Helou and Annie Stull. Starting planning early for Legislative Advocacy Day (LAD) and what the Government Relations session during the conference might look like for this upcoming year at Hartwick. Planning to do something new this year in the form of a workshop session in late October/early November around the theme of going out to vote.
 - In person LAD will be hosted on February 11 this year, please save the date and try to attend. The committee is also considering hosting virtual sessions again this year, likely on February 13.
- VP for Professional Development and Planning Rob Robinson
 - Rob Robinson was absent; Dave Follick shared the following report.
 - Professional Development: Cait Domagal and Anna Ragno held the first in-person Student Leadership in Admissions (SLA) Conference since before COVID on September 7, 2024 at St. John's University. It was a tremendous success with fifty one people in attendance! They are looking for an SLA host for September 2025, ideally in the Albany area. There are four spring Professional Development Forum events in the works for March 2025, hosted by St. Joseph's University - New York, Stony Brook University, Russell Sage College and Syracuse University. Dates and details will be posted on the website soon!
 - Summer Institute: Stacey Ledermann, Annemarie Cervoni and Haniya Mee are happy to share that they hosted another successful Summer Institute at Skidmore College in August. It was a great group of nearly sixty emerging professionals who came together for the week to discuss a wide range of admissions counseling issues in a mentor-based experience. We are grateful to Skidmore College for hosting this event for nearly forty years! Plans are underway for our Summer Institute in August 2025. Stay tuned for details on the campus location and exact dates. We'd love your help in promoting this highly unique professional development opportunity once details are finalized.
 - School-College Relations: Erica Doherty and Makenna Youngs had a successful first session in September and have another planned for November. Surveys were sent out after the September session and they received some great feedback from attendees on how to improve. Once the data is fully collected and reviewed, it will be used to inform the November session. If anyone has ideas for sessions they would like to see please let us know!
 - Winter Institute: Janna Bonacorsi and Nicole Radassao have had ongoing meetings this summer/fall to finalize the slate of sessions and speakers for the two events. They have confirmed St. Francis in January, but are still working on an upstate location. Any support from the larger group would be greatly appreciated. The plan is to open registration in November but in the meantime they are working with Kate Gildard to review and update the comm plan from last year for this years' events.
 - Middle Management Institute (MMI): Maria Jose Lascarro and Marguerite Lane have solidified that MMI will be held at Molloy University and St. John's Fisher during their spring break. Details are still being solidified

but the programs are set to be one-day events. Currently they are preparing surveys to be sent to previous attendees to request topics of interest and former presenters to see if they are interested in hosting a workshop again.

- Kudos to our Secretary, Melissa Bellantonio.
- The 50/50 raffle is continuing, we have over \$420 and will sell tickets until 7 p.m.
- Thank you again to Hartwick College who is sponsoring today's reception.

VII. Adjourn

Dave Follick

- **Motion to adjourn the meeting.**
 - 1st: Lauren Sangimino
 - 2nd: Bryan Rothstein
 - **Motion carries**, meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.