

SUNY New Paltz Council Meeting November 14, 2024

Voting Members Present: Mr. Basch, Mr. Bettez, Ms. Noble (remote), Mr. Uchitelle, Mr. Morell (Student Association [SA] President) and Mr. Scott-Childress (remote; non-voting alumni representative).

Campus Administration Present: President Wheeler; Vice Presidents Halstead, Pacheco Dunn, Marks (remote), Turk and Wright; Interim Vice President Lieblich. Guests: Scott Cline, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management; Megan Smailer, Director of Facilities Design & Construction.

Interim Chairman's Report:

- Mr. Basch called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.
- Mr. Basch proposed approving the minutes from the September 16, 2024, meeting. Mr. Uchitelle moved on the motion and Mr. Morell seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- Mr. Basch welcomed Council members to the meeting and introduced the president.

President's Report:

- President Wheeler said the women's soccer team defeated SUNY Cortland to win the SUNYAC championship last weekend. They compete in the first round of the NCAA championship this weekend.
- The president said that strategic planning is well underway. He hopes the Council has received multiple points of contact asking for participation, as their input is appreciated. He added that there were 90 people in today's student experience session.
- President Wheeler said the University continues to focus on culture and climate on campus as one of the three priorities this year. This semester has been – by and large – quite calm on campus in terms of large-scale protest activities. We held a number of pre- and post-election events (e.g., tabling, dinner and discourse, Honors Program/Student Association gathering, Counsel Center activity). President added that we will continue to monitor for any indications of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia or other conditions that might promote hate or hate speech.
- The president noted that the University continues to monitor its fiscal sustainability (another priority this year). SUNY has identified the campus's need to reduce its budget by \$3 million or grow revenue by 2029 to reach a balanced budget.
- On academic programs, President Wheeler said that the curriculum for a nursing program has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty Senate. The University will now engage an external consultant and begin to move the program through external approvals with the goal of having an approved curriculum by the end of 2024, ideally.
- President Wheeler spoke about construction activities on campus, including the space outside of the Sojourner Truth Library. He added that students, faculty and staff are enjoying it.
- Ms. Noble asked if the University has had to respond to the local wildfires and air quality. The president said not to his knowledge and that we have received updates

through the police and environmental health, among others. The police continue to monitor the situation.

Construction Update:

- See attached PowerPoint slide.
- Assistant Vice President Cline highlighted upcoming construction between 2025 and 2029. In 2025, the University will reopen Mohonk Hall. The renovated hall includes an additional fourth floor and expanded residential capacity of 70 beds.
- Between 2025-2029, the assistant vice president described three main projects:
 - Renovate and gut rehab Peregrine Dining Hall. The University is working through swing space options right now for when the hall goes offline.
 - Recapitalize College Hall in a two-part project.
 - First, the demolition of the existing College/Shango Hall that allows for the construction of a new College Hall on that same site. This will decrease residential capacity by about 225 beds. But when factoring in fourth floor residential additions in Awosting and Mohonk Halls, the assistant vice president said that the University is down about 85 beds from pre-COVID levels.
 - Then, the construction of a new College Hall that will be fully academic, including the Music Department.
 - Renovate Elting Gym and Pool. Assistant Vice President Cline said the existing pool and systems in the facility will be replaced. The Athletic & Wellness Center facility is not part of the project.
- After 2029, Assistant Vice President Cline said the University will look to be guided by a new Facilities Master Plan. Will start the plan next year.
- Mr. Basch asked if there will be a tent for the gym. The assistant vice president said that is one of the options we're looking at, a tent, bubble or something similar.
- Mr. Basch asked if the pool will be drained and redone. The assistant vice president said yes. Vice President Halstead added that the existing pool's expiration date was about 30 years ago and that it has been problematic in the recent past.
- Mr. Uchitelle said he was a student here when there was investment in capital facilities at the same time there were cuts to the operational budget. He said it's important to message clearly the difference between capital budgets and operations.
- Assistant Vice President Cline said all of the listed projects, with the exception of Mohonk Hall, are capital funded from the SUNY Construction Fund. Mohonk is a DASNY project funded by student room rents.
- President Wheeler spoke about how the capital and operational discussion has occurred within the context of the campus's fiscal sustainability plan. He also said the University has demonstrated how it continues to invest in its core mission despite a tight fiscal market. And these conversations have been presented to student leaders as well as at joint cabinet meetings.
- Mr. Basch said the University has to make up the difference of lost residential capacity. Vice President Turk said we have to look at other student populations, not just residential ones. President Wheeler said that we continue to work with the town and village to see what other housing options are available. Mr. Bettez said the county is pushing for increased housing, including accessory dwelling units.

- Ms. Noble asked if there are design standards or specs that the University is building to, so the facilities are more efficient and provide operational savings. Assistant Vice President Cline said buildings meet energy code requirements and that all three of the listed projects have green elements (e.g., ground source heat pumps). Director Smailer said that Facilities meets the Construction Fund's building code that goes above and beyond code in Ulster County.

Budget Update:

- See attached PowerPoint slides.
- Vice President Halstead said she would share updated year-to-date revenue & expense data; provide current cash balances & trend analysis; and relay budget forum feedback & next steps.
- The vice president said the year is 33% completed and we're 99% to revenue target; and 18% with state support, which is on target. On expenditures, the vice president said we're a little ahead to date on the target. The vice president said we're seeing a rebound on filling personnel positions post-COVID.
- Vice President Halstead highlighted all-funds cash balances and said that the University is trending where we should be.
- Vice President Halstead said the campus's challenge is that our overall cash balance is decreasing with expenditures exceeding revenues. The fiscal stability plan will bring cash balances to a stable state, largely informed by increases in enrollment and belt tightening on expenditures. She added that we need to think of other enrollment streams to support the enrollment line.
- The vice president said this data was presented to the campus at an October budget forum, where the community offered feedback on saving options (e.g., catalog and consolidate software; pursue farming/sustainability initiatives; provide more weekend/evening/online delivery of courses; have professionals teach; among others).
- Vice President Halstead said we're looking to attract a greater mix of students, including those who don't need housing.
- The vice president said we will take the community's feedback and align it with campus pillars and priorities and work through potential implementation, if warranted.
- Mr. Basch spoke about the immediate and long-range planning needs around this process. Vice President Halstead said that we have to plan for the future to help keep up with students.
- President Wheeler said this is a focus across all the VP divisions. He asked all units to follow this type of planning process. He added that we have to bring data in, be intentional in our selection of data and integrate, implement and evaluate on a regular basis. The president said he wants to make sure all seven divisions are speaking to each other, keeping aligned so that no one VP is out of sync with the others.
- Ms. Noble asked what does "have professionals teach" mean from the budget forum recommendations. Vice President Halstead said she is not fully sure and thinks it's mostly about getting professionals to engage more in the student experience.

Wrap-Up:

- Mr. Basch said the next meeting is March 12. He wished everyone a wonderful holiday session and new year.
- Mr. Basch made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Uchitelle moved on the motion and Mr. Morell seconded.
- Mr. Basch adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Winters". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Richard Winters
Deputy Chief of Staff and
Director of Community & Government Relations

Construction Update

- In 2025:
 - Reopen renovated Mohonk Residence Hall
- Between 2025 and 2029:
 - Renovate Peregrine Dining Hall
 - Recapitalize College Hall
 - Renovate Elting Gymnasium and Pool
- After 2029:
 - Guided by new Facilities Master Plan

SUNY NEW PALTZ COUNCIL

MICHELE HALSTEAD, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

November 14, 2024



Today's Goal



Update year-to-date
revenue & expense data

Provide current cash
balances & trend analysis

Relay budget forum
feedback & next steps

FY 2024-2025 Status of Core Instructional Budget

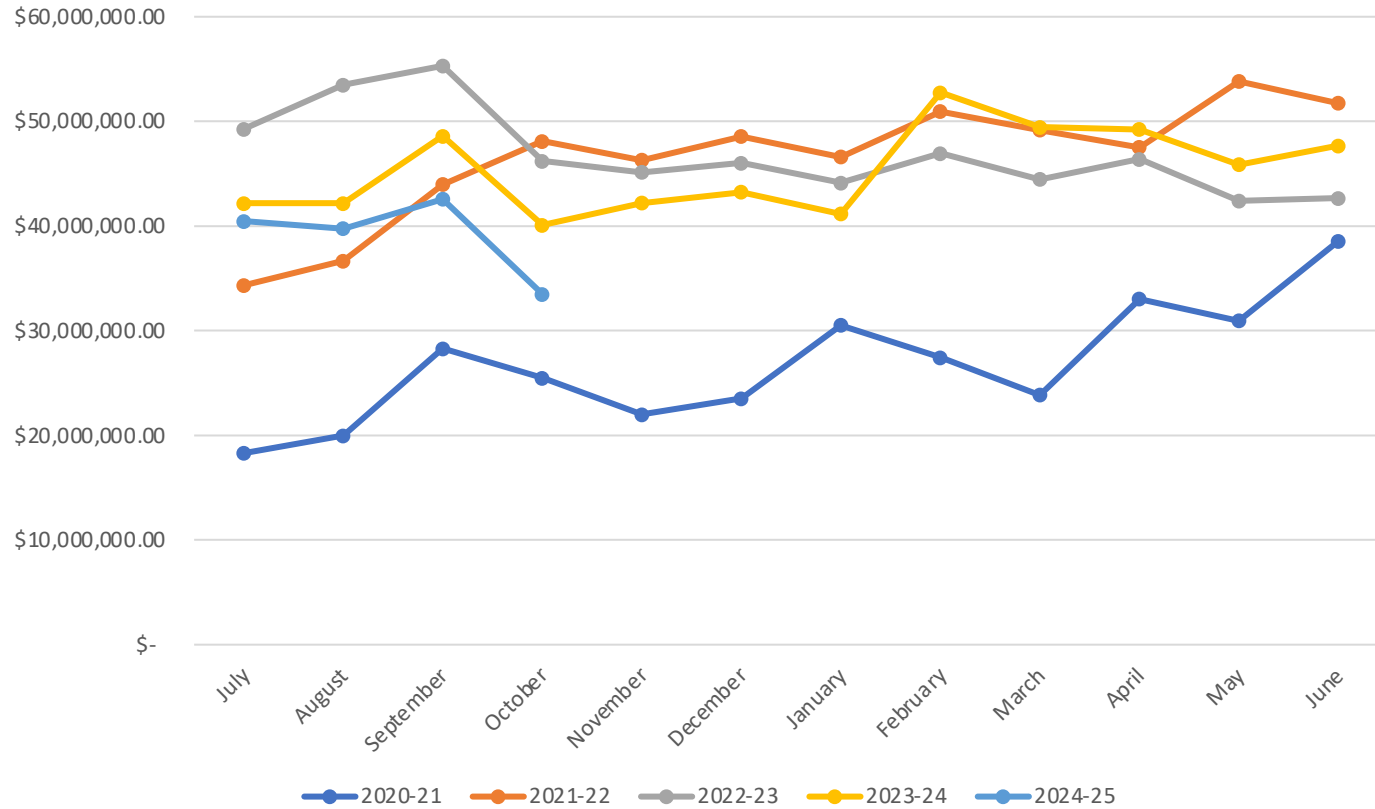
October 31, 2023 compared to October 31, 2024

33% of year completed

REVENUE

	Last Fiscal Year 2023-2024			Current Fiscal Year 2024-2025		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 10/31/23	<u>% to</u> <u>target</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 10/31/24	<u>% to</u> <u>target</u>
Fall Tuition & Fees	\$ 24,510,214	\$ 24,324,805	99%	\$ 25,277,389	\$ 24,993,333	99%
Spring Tuition & Fees	\$ 22,885,935		0%	\$ 23,672,884	\$ -	0%
Total Generated by Campus Activities	\$ 47,396,149	\$ 24,324,805	51%	\$ 48,950,273	\$ 24,993,333	51%
State Support	\$ 19,151,600	\$ 3,394,583	18%	\$ 21,419,600	\$ 3,799,167	18%
Total Revenue	\$ 66,547,749	\$ 27,719,388	42%	\$ 70,369,873	\$ 28,792,500	41%
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>						
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 10/31/23		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u> 10/31/24	
Personal Service	\$ 61,140,133	\$ 17,859,040	29%	\$ 65,138,358	\$ 20,414,641	31%
Temporary Service	\$ 5,602,376	\$ 1,327,686	24%	\$ 6,026,031	\$ 1,564,249	26%
Utilities	\$ 3,272,096	\$ 417,421	13%	\$ 3,272,096	\$ 466,694	14%
Other than Personal Service	\$ 5,100,533	\$ 1,188,441	23%	\$ 4,849,560	\$ 949,383	20%
Total Expenditures	\$ 75,115,138	\$ 20,792,588	28%	\$ 79,286,045	\$ 23,394,967	30%

All-Funds Cash Balances



Trend similar to past two years – with total balance decreasing year over year

October 16, 2024

Budget Forum Feedback

Catalog and consolidate software

Pursue farming/sustainability initiatives

Provide more weekend/evening/online delivery of courses

Develop continuing education credit programs

Increase efforts to attract more local students (commuters)

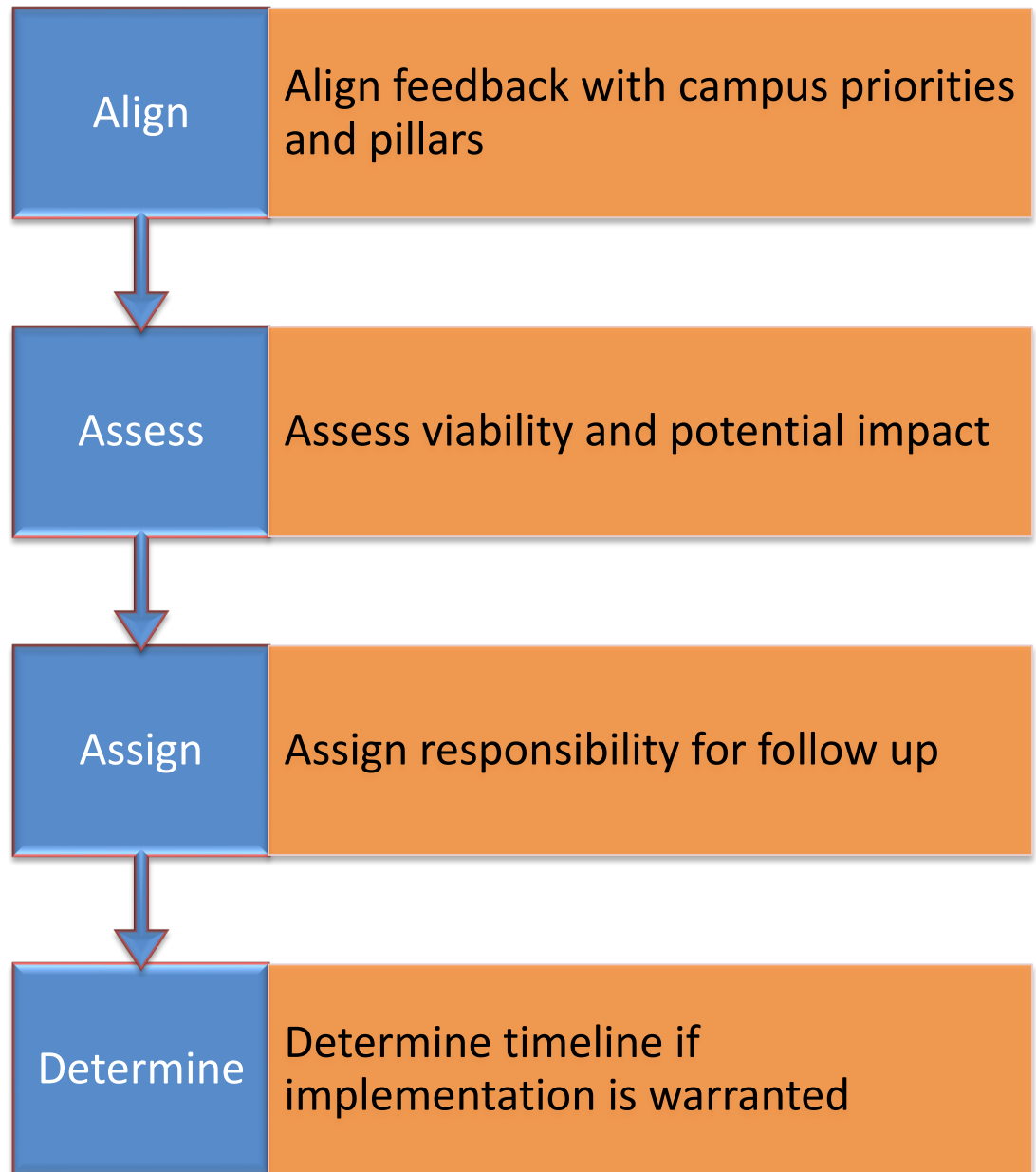
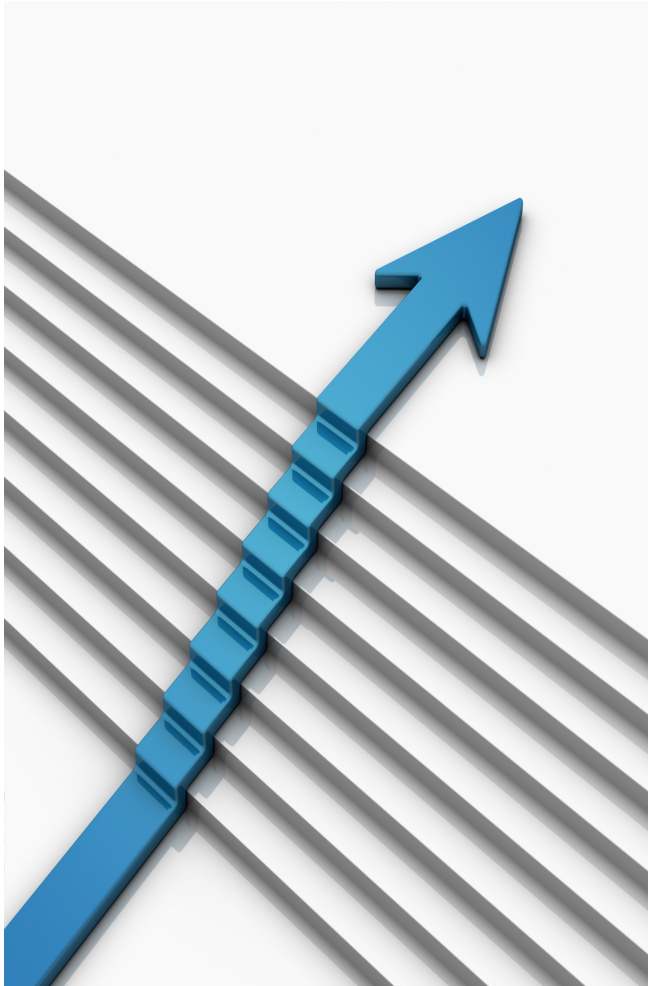
Engage in workforce development

Waive fees for Veterans

International program cost comparison – reinstate recruiter position

Have professionals teach

Next Steps



QUESTIONS?

