



Many Voices, One Call
Spring 2026 Institute Week

January 12-16, 2026

Monday, January 12

Time	Event	Location
8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	College-Wide Breakfast	Van Curler Room
9:15 - 10:15 a.m.	Opening/Welcome/Update on Presidential Search <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ann Fleming Brown, Chair, Board of Trustees Dr. Steady Moono, President Paula Ohlhous, Executive Director for Human Resources 	STK 101
10:15 - 11:30 a.m.	Rethinking Neurodiversity: A Modern Framework for Teaching, Supporting, and Engaging Today's Student This session provides a clear overview of neurodiversity, highlighting the varied ways students process information, communicate, and participate in academic life. Faculty and staff will learn how everyday practices can either support or unintentionally restrict student success, offering a practical, low-barrier approach that aligns with emerging expectations for neuroinclusive learning and campus culture. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura McAnulty, Exec Director, Neurodiversity Employment Network of Philadelphia 	STK 101
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own	
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	From Classroom to Career: Neuroinclusive Teaching Practices That Prepare Students for What's Next This session explores how differences in processing, communication, executive functioning, and sensory experience show up in the college classroom and how small instructional shifts can meaningfully improve engagement for neurodivergent students. Faculty will learn adaptable strategies that strengthen learning environments and mirror the inclusive practices employers increasingly expect in the workplace. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura McAnulty, Executive Director, Neurodiversity Employment Network of Philadelphia 	STK 101

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	<p>Listening Session with Faculty – What do you want to see in a revised “Early Alert”?</p> <p>We invite faculty to an open conversation about the Early Alert system. Your feedback on what you value, what you find difficult, and what improvements would better support your teaching, and students will guide the redesign.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacquie Keleher, Director of Library Services • Jessica Gilbert, Dean of Learner Support • Grace Ferris, IPS 1, Library 	Back of Begley Learning Commons
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Tuesday, January 13

Time	Event	Location
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	<p>Conflict Resolution 1: Communication Climate and Causes of Conflict</p> <p>This training is designed to enhance employees' skills in conflict resolution by delving into the root causes of workplace conflicts. Participants will explore the distinctions between conductive and detrimental communication climates. This training will equip participants with the capabilities for effective communication, enabling them to facilitate constructive resolutions to workplace conflicts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented by Capital EAP and Human Resources 	STK 101
10:00 - 10:45 a.m.	<p>Electronic Information Technology Accessibility Policy: Information Session</p> <p>Join us to learn more about the Electronic Information Technology Accessibility (EITA) Policy. This information session is designed to familiarize members of the campus community with the new policy, compliance considerations, and the campus EITA supports that are available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catia Laird de Polanco, Associate Professor & Chief Diversity Officer • Susanna Adams, Coordinator for the Disability Resource Office & EITA Officer 	STK 101

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	<p>Start Strong, Stay Strong: Faculty Strategies for Day One and Beyond, Faculty Workshop Retreat (ATD)</p> <p>As we continue our cycle of collaborative professional learning, this spring gathering centers on what matters most: our students and the teaching practices that help them succeed. Together, we will explore and exchange effective approaches for early engagement, building meaningful connections, and sustaining momentum throughout the semester. Through collaborative discussion, faculty-led sharing, and brief demonstrations of strategies that work, participants will identify practical ideas they can use on day one...and well beyond!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cayla Gaworecki, Associate Professor 	Back of the Begley Learning Commons
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch On Your Own	
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	UFP Meeting	STK 101
2:30 - 3:15 p.m.	<p>SUNY Schenectady's Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs)</p> <p>ILOs differ from Course or Program Outcomes and they mirror the SUNY General Education Outcomes. As we prepare for Middle States, we invite faculty/staff to understand ILOs and how they align with the College's mission/goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tim Konhaus, Dean of Liberal Arts • Dr. Mark Meachem, VPAA 	ELS 240
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	<p>Adjunct Orientation</p> <p>Topics include Accessibility, policies, Brightspace, and general SUNY Schenectady guidelines from the Deans. At 5:45 p.m., there will be a discussion of SEIU policies, and information from the SEIU leadership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division/School Deans • Sean Collins, SEIU representative 	Teams/STK 101

Wednesday, January 14

Time	Event	Location
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Digital Accessibility Working Session Drop in with your laptop, digital documents, and questions. Your SUNY Schenectady Digital Accessibility Team will be on hand to help you fix accessibility issues in existing files, build new accessible documents from scratch, and pick up quick tips and best practices. We'll also introduce you to the Digital Accessibility Hub, our campus go-to space for tools, templates and guidance. Come get one-on-one support and leave with documents that are accessibility-approved. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Susanna Adams, Coordinator for the Disability Resource Office• Daniel Van Buren, Educational Aide for the Disability Resource Office• Catia Laird de Polanco, Associate Professor	STK 303
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Presidential Search Committee Meeting For members of the Search Committee only	BLC 213
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.	New Student Orientation	

Thursday, January 15

Time	Event	Location
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Shared Governance 101 Please join this interactive session where we'll discuss the nuts and bolts of shared governance including why it's important, how it's different from the various unions on campus, and your role in Academic Senate meetings. All are welcome! <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rae Doyle, Chair, Academic Senate	ELS 240

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	<p>Updates from the Office of College and High School Partnerships</p> <p>Faculty and Staff are invited to learn about program structures, eligibility requirements, and the benefits these initiatives bring to students, schools, and the College community. The session will highlight enrollment trends, academic outcomes, and our strategies for supporting student success. The presentation will also address some of the ways in which SUNY Schenectady collaborates with local school districts, how these programs align with SUNY Schenectady's mission, and how they contribute to future student pathways for higher education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suzanne Neary, Director of College and High School Programs • Kayla Pallas, Project Director of College and High School Programs 	ELS 240
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own	
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.	<p>Take the Mystery Out of Scholarships</p> <p>An opportunity for faculty and staff to learn about the scholarships that are available and the process to follow, so faculty and staff can advocate for students to apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leanna Liuzzi, Stewardship Officer, SUNY Schenectady Foundation • Nicole Grant, Assistant Director of Financial Aid 	ELS 240
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	<p>Division/School Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Christopher Brelochs, Dean, Music • Dr. David Brough, Dean, HCAT • Dr. Tim Konhaus, Dean, LA • Dr. Hope Sasway, Dean, MSTH 	MUS 215 ELS 100 ELS 130 ELS 240
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	<p>Collegewide Social</p> <p>After a snowstorm postponed our Holiday Social, please join us for fun, fellowship and a celebration of the New Year.</p>	Van Curler Room

Friday, January 16

Time	Event	Location
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	<p>Middle States Update The Tri-chairs will provide updates on the work done during the Fall Semester and offer a look at the work ahead this Spring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hope Sasway, Dean, MSTM • Mark Evans, Associate Professor • Cayla Gaworecki, Associate Professor 	STK 101
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	<p>From Burned Out to Fired Up Today's students face many challenges - and so do we in our attempt to provide them with a meaningful education. Many feel frustrated by the lack of student engagement, with incidents in class and common spaces, or with students' uncritical use of AI as a cheating tool. We are burned out, overwhelmed, stretched thin, and frustrated.</p> <p>This session provides an open forum for all educators (faculty, student support staff, librarians, Deans etc.) to share challenges and strategies. We will facilitate. You bring your experiences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babette Faehmel, Professor, Liberal Arts • Dan Holz, Assistant Professor, MSTM • Rae Doyle, Professor, Liberal Arts • Jacquie Keleher, Director of Library Services 	BLC 208
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<p>Committee Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Policies Committee • Curriculum Committee • Professional Policies, Nominations and Awards Committee • Community and Cultural Events Committee • Student Affairs Committee • Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee • EITA Committee 	ELS 240 ELS 245 ELS 301 ELS 130 STK 101 ELS 132 ELS 134

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.	<p>ATD Steering Committee, Working Group Chairs, and the Data Coach Spring Kickoff Session.</p> <p>Please feel free to bring your lunch as we review key data and metrics. In this interactive session we will talk data and have a discussion around our current working group metrics—where we stand, where we want to be, and whether our measures still align with our goals. (This session is for the Steering Committee and the Chairs of the working groups.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Gilbert, Dean of Learner Support 	ELS 132
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	<p>Prepare for the Spring Semester</p>	