



Suite 350 Student Union Amherst, New York 14260
(716) 645-2950 fax: (716) 645-2112 www.sa.buffalo.edu

University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. Senate Meeting

September 2, 2026 - 5:00 pm

Student Union Room 330, University at Buffalo North Campus
Amherst, NY 14260

Present

William Dong, SA Vice President for Events; **Na'Dia Carter**, SA Vice President for Advocacy; **Laron Gresham Fomby**, SA Treasurer; **Aidan Thomas**, Senate Chairperson; **Aeaad Alawaad**, Senator; **Adam Bilali**, Senator; **Cole DeVantier**, Senator; **Sierra Fernandez**, Senator; **Michaelangelo Fontana**, Senator; **Usman Haque**, Academic Council Coordinator; **Connor Carey**, Engineering Council Coordinator; **Dev Bakshi**, Hobby Council Coordinator; **Isaac Hunter**, People of Color Council Coordinator; **Lisa Bueters**, Sports Council Coordinator.

Asterisk (*) indicates member arrived late or left prior to adjournment.

Absent

Pranavan Balachandran, SA Vice President for Clubs; **Joshua Brodsky**, Senator; **Arya Dixit**, Senator; **Rima Saeed**, Senator; **Piyush Ohri**, Senator; **Joe Pawelczyk**, Special Interest Council Coordinator.

Call to Order

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, calls the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, proceeds to call the roll.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Present
William Dong	Present
Na'Dia Carter	Present
Pranavan Balachandran	Absent
Aidan Thomas	Present
Aeaad Alawaad	Present
Adam Bilali	Present
Joshua Brodsky	Absent
Cole DeVantier	Present

Arya Dixit	Absent
Sierra Fernandez	Present
Michaelangelo Fontana	Present
Piyush Ohri	Absent
Rima Saeed	Absent
Usman Haque	Present
Connor Carey	Present
Dev Bakshi	Present
Isaac Hunter	Present
Joe Pawelczyk	Absent
Lisa Bueters	Present

14 Present, 6 Absent

Finding a quorum is present, the Senate proceeds with the order of business.

Approval of Minutes

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces May 1, 2026 Senate Meeting Minutes for consideration.

Motion to approve May 1, 2026 Senate Meeting Minutes by Aeaad Alawaad; second Sierra Fernandez.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

****Result: May 1, 2026 Senate Meeting Minutes are approved.****

Old Business

None.

New Business

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#1 ("Limitations on Meals and Travel") for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#1 by Sierra Fernandes; second Laron Gresham Fomby.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Yes
William Dong	Yes

Na'Dia Carter	Yes
Aidan Thomas	Yes
Aeaad Alawaad	Yes
Adam Bilali	Yes
Cole DeVantier	Yes
Sierra Fernandez	Yes
Michaelangelo Fontana	Yes
Usman Haque	Yes
Connor Carey	Yes
Dev Bakshi	Yes
Isaac Hunter	Yes
Lisa Bueters	Yes

14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#1 passes 14-0-0.

****Result: Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#1 is approved.****

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#2 ("Repeal of Staff Per Diem Policy") for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#2 by Aeaad Alawaad; second Sierra Fernandez.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Yes
William Dong	Yes
Na'Dia Carter	Yes
Aidan Thomas	Yes
Aeaad Alawaad	Yes
Adam Bilali	Yes
Cole DeVantier	Yes
Sierra Fernandez	Yes
Michaelangelo Fontana	Yes
Usman Haque	Yes

Connor Carey	Yes
Dev Bakshi	Yes
Isaac Hunter	Yes
Lisa Bueters	Yes

14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#2 passes 14-0-0.

****Result: Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#2 is approved.****

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#3 ("Amendment to SA Inventory Policy") for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#3 by Michaelangelo Fontana; second William Dong.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Yes
William Dong	Yes
Na'Dia Carter	Yes
Aidan Thomas	Yes
Aeaad Alawaad	Yes
Adam Bilali	Yes
Cole DeVantier	Yes
Sierra Fernandez	Yes
Michaelangelo Fontana	Yes
Usman Haque	Yes
Connor Carey	Yes
Dev Bakshi	Yes
Isaac Hunter	Yes
Lisa Bueters	Yes

14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#3 passes 14-0-0.

****Result: Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#3 is approved.****

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#4 (“SA By-Laws Amendment Regarding Suspension or Termination of Professional Staff”) for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#4 by Sierra Fernandez; second Laron Gresham Fomby.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Yes
William Dong	Yes
Na’Dia Carter	Yes
Aidan Thomas	Yes
Aeaad Alawaad	Yes
Adam Bilali	Yes
Cole DeVantier	Yes
Sierra Fernandez	Yes
Michaelangelo Fontana	Yes
Usman Haque	Yes
Connor Carey	Yes
Dev Bakshi	Yes
Isaac Hunter	Yes
Lisa Bueters	Yes

14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#4 passes 14-0-0.

****Result: Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#4 is approved.****

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#5 (“By-Laws Amendment Regarding Senate Meetings and Agenda”) for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#5 by Aeaad Alawaad; second Laron Gresham Fomby.

Laron Gresham Fomby	Yes
William Dong	Yes
Na’Dia Carter	Yes
Aidan Thomas	Yes

Aeaad Alawaad	Yes
Adam Bilali	Yes
Cole DeVantier	Yes
Sierra Fernandez	Yes
Michaelangelo Fontana	Yes
Usman Haque	Yes
Connor Carey	Yes
Dev Bakshi	Yes
Isaac Hunter	Yes
Lisa Bueters	Yes

14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#5 passes 14-0-0.

****Result: Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#5 is approved.****

Aidan Thomas, Senate Chairperson introduces open discussion.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the Senate meeting by Aeaad Alawaad; second Sierra Fernandez.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

****Result: Meeting is adjourned at 5:55 pm.****



University at Buffalo Student Association Inc.
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Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#1

Subject: Limitations on Meals and Travel

Proposed By: Na'Dia Carter, Acting President; Laron Gresham Fomby, Treasurer;
Aidan Thomas, Chairperson of the Senate

Be It Resolved, that the following section shall be added at the end of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. ("SA") Encumbrance and Expenditure Policy:

Limitations on Meals and Travel Expenditures

All plane and train travel must be economy/coach, except to the extent that a reasonable accommodation is required under the Americans with Disabilities Act or other law.

SA funds cannot be used to purchase meals for SA Officers or persons other than UB undergraduate students except for: (i) at bona fide SA events that are open to at least 10 undergraduate University at Buffalo students (which may include, without limitation, SA staff), or (ii) if said meals are included in the price of an SA Officer or SA professional staff member attending a conference, or (iii) as necessary to meet SA's contractual obligations with respect to performing artists who are performing at UB.

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution may only be amended or repealed by the SA Senate itself, subject to any requirements of the SA By-Laws; and this Resolution, may not be amended or repealed by the Executive Committee; however, this paragraph shall not prevent the Executive Committee from amending or repealing other provisions of the SA Encumbrance and Expenditure Policy; and

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall not prevent the President and Treasurer, or the Executive Committee, from adopting or amending any policy related to per diem payments for travel by members of the SA professional staff, or invalidate any existing policy(ies) related to per diem payments for SA professional staff travel (if any); and

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.



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Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#2

Subject: Repeal of Staff Per Diem Policy

Proposed By: Na'Dia Carter, Acting President; Laron Gresham Fomby, Treasurer; Aidan Thomas, Chairperson of the Senate

Be It Resolved, that the Staff Per Diem Travel Policy (also sometimes referred to as the "Staff Per Diem Policy") originally adopted by the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. ("SA") Senate on or about October 1, 2025, and any subsequent amendments thereto, are all hereby repealed;

Be It Further Resolved, that any future policy regarding per diem payments directly to SA Officers and/or Senators for travel on SA business, may be adopted only by the SA Senate, and may not be adopted by the President and Treasurer, or by the Executive Committee;

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution may only be amended or repealed by the SA Senate itself, subject to any requirements of the SA By-Laws; this Resolution may not be amended or repealed by the President and Treasurer, or by the Executive Committee;

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution is not intended to, and shall not be construed to, prevent authorized SA Officers from approving reasonable expenditures for transportation and accommodations for any individual(s) travelling on SA business, so long as all such expenditures are reasonable and follow all SUNY policies concerning the use of student activity fees and all applicable SA policies;

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall not prevent the President and Treasurer, or the Executive Committee, from adopting or amending any policy related to per diem payments for travel by members of the SA professional staff or members of the SA student staff who are not SA Officers or Senators, or invalidate any existing policy(ies) related to per diem payments for SA professional staff travel (if any); and

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.



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Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#3

Subject: Amendment to SA Inventory Policy

Proposed By: Na'Dia Carter, Acting President; Laron Gresham Fomby, Treasurer;
Aidan Thomas, Chairperson of the Senate

Be It Resolved, that the following is added at the end of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. ("SA") Inventory Policy:

Room Access: The Administrative Director and Operations Director shall have access to all SA offices and rooms. Either the Administrative Director or Operations Director may issue or revoke access to any SA offices and rooms to other members of the professional staff. The SA President and Treasurer shall have access to all SA offices and rooms, except each other's offices. The granting and revoking of all other access to SA offices and rooms for other SA officers and student staff shall be determined by the President and Treasurer together in writing. The SA professional staff may revoke access to any SA offices and rooms for anyone who is no longer a SA officer or staff member or who has been suspended from their SA position.

All access to any SA website, software or computer hardware must be approved by and may be revoked by the SA Operations Director or another member of the SA professional staff designated by the SA Operations Director; without limitation, the SA Operations Director or their designee may deny access (even to an SA officer) to any SA website, software or computer hardware, where the request is unreasonable or there are reasonable security concerns. If there is no SA Operations Director or the SA Operations Director is unable to act, the SA Administrative Director or their designee may fulfill the functions of the SA Operations Director under this paragraph.

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution may only be amended or repealed by the SA Senate itself, subject to any requirements of the SA By-Laws; and this Resolution, may not be amended or repealed by the Executive Committee; however, this paragraph shall not prevent the Executive Committee from amending or repealing other provisions of the SA Inventory Policy.

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.



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Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#4

Subject: SA By-Laws Amendment Regarding Suspension or Termination of Professional Staff

Proposed By: Na'Dia Carter, Acting President; Laron Gresham Fomby, Treasurer; Aidan Thomas, Chairperson of the Senate

Be It Resolved, that the following shall be added as Section 5.02(g)(iv) of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. ("SA") Bylaws:

iv. Any suspension or termination of a member of the SA professional staff shall only take effect if approved by the SA President, SA Treasurer and one of the following, and must also comply with all relevant policy(ies) and contractual requirements (if any):

1. SA's Operations Director, so long as that individual has been in the position for at least one (1) year;
2. Unanimous consent of the SA Vice Presidents (excluding any vacant positions); or
3. The SA Senate (the SA Executive Committee may not act on behalf of the SA Senate for this purpose).

Be It Further Resolved, that the current Section 5.02(g)(iv) of the SA Bylaws shall be renumbered 5.02(g)(v);

Be It Further Resolved, at the beginning of the second last sentence of Section 5.02(g)(iii) of the SA Bylaws, the word "Appointees" shall be replaced with the following words: "Except where otherwise stated in these By-Laws, appointees"; and

Be It Further Resolved, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.



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Resolution - 2026-2027 - S#5

Subject: By-Laws Amendment Regarding Senate Meetings and Agenda

Proposed By: Na'Dia Carter, Acting President; Laron Gresham Fomby, Treasurer; Aidan Thomas, Chairperson of the Senate

BE IT RESOLVED that the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. ("SA") By-Laws are amended, such that Section 4.01(d)(i)(2) is replaced as follows, without quotation marks:

“ 2. Additional Special Meetings of the Senate may be called by the President, the Chairperson of the Senate, or by written petition of a majority of the Senate, upon at least 72 hours notice. Notice of Special Meetings shall be emailed to Senators and posted on SA's website, and shall include the date, time and location of the meeting.”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SA By-Laws are amended, to add the following new additional sentence at the end of Section 4.01(d)(vii), without quotation marks: “In the absence of anyone authorized to chair a duly held meeting of the Senate, the Senate may elect a Senator to chair that particular meeting, until such time as the Chairperson of the Senate, the President, or the Vice President for Advocacy (if that person has been designated by the President to chair the meeting) arrives.”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SA By-Laws are amended, such that the following text is added as the new Section 4.01(d)(ix), without quotation marks:

“(ix) Without limitation to any other provision of these By-Laws, if a written petition to place a particular resolution on the Senate's agenda is signed by a majority of the Senate and delivered to the Chairperson of the Senate or to the President, then such person shall place such resolution on the agenda for the next meeting of the Senate. The previous sentence shall not eliminate any requirement for any of the SA Officers to recommend or request particular actions before the Senate may vote upon them, to the extent provided for in these By-Laws.”; and

BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution is effective immediately.