



ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Government Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September, 10, 2026

1. Opening of Meeting

1. Call to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. Pledge of Alliance: Conducted
3. First roll call (Key: X absent, O present)
 - President Isingizwe O
 - Vice President Osman O
 - Executive Assistant Iten O
 - Chief Justice Lundblad O
 - Chair Ethan Steinman (Fee Allocation) O
 - Chair Dahlke (Senate Finance) O
 - Chair Dahlberg (Legislative Affairs) X
 - Chair Bhandari (Tech Fee) X
 - Senator Zarnecki (Athletics) X
 - Senator Schoonover (Campus Services) O
 - Senator Burson (DEI) X
 - Senator Igabaneza (International Students) O
 - Senator Knight (At-Large) O
 - Senator Kirton (At-Large) O
 - Senator Kumar (Campus Involvement) Resigned
 - Senator Dahal (Legislative Affairs) Resigned
 - Senator Olson (At-Large) Resigned
4. Approval last meeting minutes: Approved
5. Approval of today's agenda: Approved

2. Open Gallery 1: Dr Linda Butenhoff

1. MN Supreme Court Oral Arguments, at the Tech College, October 14th.
2. Seating allocation: SCSU – 100 seats; College of Arts & Sciences – at least 50; Business – 20; Health & Human Services – 20; Tech College – 100 seats; remaining seats to District 742. Allocations may flex if more seats are needed.
3. A dinner with the justices will be held the evening of October 13 in the ballroom; cost is \$25, with the university working to secure a student subsidy.

4. Transportation from campus to Tech and back is being arranged; carpooling is a backup option.
5. Volunteer attorneys will brief interested students beforehand on the case (a drug case), likely the Thursday before Oct. 14; students in relevant programs may find this especially useful.
6. A sign-up form is being finalized; sign-ups will be first-come, first-served, and attendees will need to pass a background check (valid ID needed). The form is pending Provost's Office approval due to the personal information it will collect.

3. Hearings

1. Senate Finance Hearing
 - a. No report

4. Internal Election

1. Issac Arellano
 - a. Background: International Relations major, senior; Secretary of the International Relations Club; International Court Justice for Model UN; Treasurer of Pi Kappa Delta (Speech & Debate).
 - b. Candidate statement: emphasized listening to students, leadership experience, and wanting to better understand how government works at the local level.
 - c. Unanimously voted in.
2. Fatuma Hassan was not present due to a work conflict; she has been in contact with the Senate and will attend next week's meeting.

4. Plenary Session I

1. New Business — Joining the United States Student Association (USSA)
 1. President Isingizwe presented a resolution for SCSU's SGA to join the United States Student Association (USSA), a 50+ year old national student advocacy organization representing over a million students nationwide.
 2. Cited benefits: advocacy training and materials, support and networking with other student governments, experience influencing Boards of Regents/Trustees elsewhere, and no monetary cost to join.
 3. USSA's current priorities noted include permanent funding for the Pell Grant and defending institutional accreditation processes.
 4. The resolution affirms commitments to affordability, access, diversity/equity/inclusion, and elevating student voice, and commits SGA to collaboration with USSA on advocacy efforts.
 5. As new business, no vote was taken; the resolution (shared via Teams) is open for review and proposed edits, with a vote expected at the next meeting. Sponsors are being sought, and chairs are welcome to co-sponsor.

5. Officer Reports

1. President

1. Received resignation from Senator Milan Dahal; two additional senators have also resigned, shrinking the Senate and increasing the need for recruitment.
2. Received communication from Andrea Maroney, new Coordinator for the Office of Equity and Access and Interim Director for Title IX.
3. A request has come in for a student representative on the Academic Calendar Committee.
4. Met with two representatives from Students United regarding campus needs.
5. Met with a Community Leadership Fellow regarding reports of mold issues at other university campuses, and asked senators to share any information about mold in SCSU residence halls.
 - a. *Discussion during this report: multiple senators/chairs reported significant, longstanding mold problems in Mitchell Hall (including a partially collapsed ceiling and a gutted bathroom), leading to the partial shutdown of the third floor. Senators encouraged pursuing additional maintenance funding and noted Residential Life is exploring solutions (e.g., addressing a leaking pipe). The Vice President for Student Affairs and the university president are scheduled to attend the meeting on the 24th, where this can be raised further; a student may also be asked to testify on the issue's effects if needed.*
6. President Tomso has signed approval confirming Dr. Linda Butenhoff as SGA's official advisor, effective September 9.

2. Vice President

1. Reported a healthy number of new candidates for Judicial Council, Senate Finance, and Senator positions from tabling at Main Street.
2. SGA has been contacted by SOTA, a voter-engagement organization looking to hire students (domestic students only, due to restrictions on international student involvement); interested students can reach out to the VP or President.
3. SGA has been in contact with UTVS about live-recording and broadcasting Senate meetings to the local community; student organizations with events they'd like broadcast can also reach out to UTVS.
4. Reported an increase in student health insurance premiums for international students; the President, VP, and Senator Knight met with Systems Office Director Keswick Joyner over the summer, and are following up with Legislative Affairs Chair Riley Dahlberg, who has a connection to State Senator Omar Fateh.

3. Chief Justice
 1. Developing training materials and documentation for committee chairs and members.
4. Executive Assistant
 1. Organizing SGA's physical and Teams-based archival files; asked committee chairs to upload their meeting minutes to Teams.
 2. Proposed reviving a past (2018) anonymous feedback form for students to raise campus concerns.
 3. Suggested an outreach email to the student body to recruit new senators.

6. Committee Reports

1. Tech Fee (Chair Bhandari Absent)
 1. No report.
2. Fee Allocation
 1. A prospective vice chair, Senator Burson, has expressed interest; a formal nomination will be brought forward once he is present.
 2. Reaching out to Dr. Amy, Dean/Head of the Accounting Department, as a prospective committee faculty advisor; she has expressed interest and the committee is finalizing details.
3. Senate Finance
 1. A prospective member-at-large has connected the committee with another interested student from the Cybersecurity Competition Club; the committee flagged a preference for broader representation across campus clubs going forward.
 2. Still recruiting for the internal vice chair position.
4. Legislative Affairs (Proxy: Senator Knight)
 1. No report, though Chair Dahlberg has reportedly remained active behind the scenes.

7. Senatorial Reports

1. Senator Zarnecki (Athletics) - report given by Executive Assistant Iten
 - a. Has not yet completed formal training but plans to do so soon.
 - b. Plans to meet with athletics faculty to introduce herself, outline goals, and discuss how the athletics department can support her role.
 - c. Aims to build communication pathways between SGA and student-athletes; several interested athletes were identified while tabling at Main Street.
 - d. Vice President Osman is exploring, with executive board members, whether to establish a dedicated Athletics Committee.

8. Last Call for Business

1. Chief Justice Lundbald
 1. Proposed a check-in/check-out form for office hours to reduce the Executive Assistant's tracking burden; to be circulated on Teams.

2. Developing standardized forms for committee/chair reports and for senator reports; input from senators is welcome.
3. Introduced interest in a new, non-parliamentary-code motion type referred to as "SOLVED," intended to streamline how senators pass motions originating from chairs; a fuller explanation will follow at a later meeting.

9. Closing of Meeting

1. Last roll call (Key: X absent, O present)
 - President Isingizwe O
 - Vice President Osman O
 - Executive Assistant Iten O
 - Chief Justice Lundblad O
 - Chair Ethan Steinman (Fee Allocation) O
 - Chair Dahlke (Senate Finance) O
 - Chair Dahlberg (Legislative Affairs) X
 - Chair Bhandari (Tech Fee) X
 - Senator Zarnecki (Athletics) X
 - Senator Schoonover (Campus Services) O
 - Senator Burson (DEI) X
 - Senator Igabaneza (International Students) O
 - Senator Knight (At-Large) O
 - Senator Kirton (At-Large) O
 - Senator Arellano (At-Large) O
2. Adjournment – Adjourned at 6:15 p.m.