
General Faculty Meeting: Report From The President

Monday, April 28, 2025

4 pm – 5 pm

315 Park Hall

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National Higher Education Climate

Last Update to General Faculty – February 17, 2025

Federal Executive Actions Since January 20, 2025

As of **April 18, 2025**, the current administration has issued:

- **129 Executive Orders**
- **35 Presidential Memoranda**
- **33 Proclamations**

Additionally, **over 197 lawsuits** have been filed in response to these actions.

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National Higher Education Climate – Cont'd

Significant Implications for American Higher Education:

- **U.S. Department of Education:**
 - **Office for Civil Rights (DOE-OCR)**
Issued *Dear Colleague Letters* on **race, gender, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), and antisemitism** (notably on **February 14, 2025**, in the context of *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*).
- **Federal Research Funding:**
 - An **OMB-directed funding freeze** has led to the suspension or cancellation of numerous federal research grants and contracts.
 - A new federal cap limits **Facilities & Administrative (F&A) cost recovery**—also known as indirect research support—to **15%** for institutions of higher education.
- **Legal Challenges:**
 - Ongoing litigation in **federal courts at all levels** is testing the scope and legality of many of these executive actions.
- **Impact on SUNY Oswego**
 - We are **actively monitoring** these developments and assessing their potential impact on **SUNY Oswego**, in **close coordination with the SUNY System** and relevant higher education partners.

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Impact on SUNY Oswego...so far

Federal Research Grants – SUNY Research Foundation & ORSP

- **NIH funding cuts** affecting **2 active awards**.
- **Department of Energy** has adopted a **15% cap on indirect (F&A) costs**—mirroring NIH's earlier move. (**1 active award** impacted). This trend is expected to expand across federal agencies.
- **Department of State**: 1 previously frozen award has been **reinstated**.
- **AmeriCorps**: Regional-level **reductions in force (RIF)** reported.

International Students, Faculty & Staff

- No changes to **visa status** or **SEVIS records** as of now. Last Friday (4/25/25), DOJ reversed termination of visas for international students.
- SUNY's **Office of Global Affairs** and **OGC** continue to provide **guidance and resources**.

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Our Approach

Our Approach

- Our strategy remains unchanged since the last General Faculty update.
- As part of the **64-campus SUNY system**, we are guided by SUNY's founding mission: providing **high-quality, accessible education** to all New Yorkers.
- **SUNY Oswego's response** is rooted in our core values and the campus remains fully operational.
- We are **not engaging in anticipatory overcompliance** with federal directives.
- **All campus responses** to federal actions require **SUNY System review and approval**.
- No changes to grants, programs, or websites will proceed without that approval.
- SUNY is working in **close coordination** with the **Governor and Attorney General**.
- SUNY Oswego signed AAC&U's **Call for Constructive Engagement** with American Colleges and Universities.

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Questions/Comments?

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