

SCEDIT Meeting Minutes 2025-10-24

The meeting was convened by Cynthia Davidson at 3:00 p.m. on October 24, 2025.

News

- Welcomed Brenda Anderson as our new liaison to the University Senate.
- Matt Reuter will be SCEDIT's representative for Amy Cook's faculty group discussing AI in teaching and learning.
- Guest speaker Lav Varshney, newly appointed to lead the AI Institute on campus, shared his vision for the AI Institute and proposed a project with OpenAI. Special guest Rachel Brown from the economic research team at OpenAI also joined.
 - Lav gave a summary of what the SBU AI Institute's function is as a campus-wide Institute will not be to offer programs, but work with the departments and schools and colleges to help support ideas around kind of AI education as well as thinking about AI and education to encourage the diffusion of AI across industrial, societal, and scholarly sectors and drive research in those areas. "The Institute will not offer programs ourselves, but working with the departments and schools and colleges to help support ideas around kind of AI education as well as thinking about AI and education...One is the teaching of AI itself, and then the other is how AI involves education across any discipline and how to maintain and be true to the disciplinary course that are there."
 - Lav and Rachel presented the potential collaboration between Stony Brook and OpenAI. "The first of its kind, a longer research term, and a larger scale. Some of the project's goals include understanding the long-term impacts of using AI technologies on educational outcomes. It could lead to equity among students as far as the AI technologies they are using and can use. OpenAI would provide campus-wide access to new technologies, such as their study mode model, which is designed for educational purposes. It's meant to help students study rather than give them the answers. The data governance terms should include administrative controls, contractual privacy protections aligned with FERPA, and automatic settings to prevent training on sensitive data, among other measures. No student or no instructor would be forced to use any of these technologies, but that would be part of the natural variation that would be studied... and things like grit, self-efficacy, perception of self-determination, well-being."
- After the presentation, SCEDIT members had many thoughtful questions for Lav and Rachel, which they responded to, and were invited to send more questions their way after the meeting.

Committee Updates

- CELT reported that OEA purchased 100 Mathpics licenses. All deans will be reaching out to their spaces to see if anyone needs a license.
- CELT now has AbbyyFineReader, which will help with PDF remediation.
- CELT purchased GrackleDocs, which is not yet publicly available.
- SUNY is piloting an AI tutor bot with a bunch of different campuses and the goal would be that we would go to RFP for this and eventually individual campuses would be able to buy into a tutor bot where the faculty would put their own information in their documents and then the students would have, you know, would just have access to that information for those courses. They're piloting with like seven or eight different companies; hopefully, we'll have more details in the spring.
- The AI Subcommittee reports that a draft of on-campus AI guidance will be ready for the committee's review by mid-to-late November. The finished document will then be shared with the Senate. ALL SCEDIT MEMBERS SHOULD REVIEW AND ADD SUGGESTIONS/EDITS, IF NEEDED. Or join the subcommittee and work on the draft.
- No updates from the AJ subcommittee.
- It was recognized that SCEDIT meeting minutes from 2025 have been shared on the standing committees webpage. This will be rectified ASAP.
- DoIT reports that almost two years ago, the SUNY Chancellor announced that he had secured \$200 million for digital transformation and had asked all campuses to submit proposals. Stony Brook put forward about five or six different proposals. One specifically encouraged SUNY to think about creating a virtual large computer lab.
 - 40% of students are Pell-eligible, and not all of them also live on campus. A mechanism to provide students with access to all the necessary technologies and software packages for success, whether they reside on campus or elsewhere, is something to consider.
 - An RFP has been written to identify a partner that we can work with, with Stony Brook leading the charge, to create the largest virtual computer lab for all of SUNY. It is in the RFPs in its final stages. DoIT will keep SCEDIT updated.
- No Data Governance update. Saving for the next meeting.
- At the last coordinating council meeting attended by the co-chairs, it was learned that any committee wishing to share information for the Senate's review can present it to the full Senate.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2025

The meeting was adjourned by Cynthia Davidson at 4 pm.