



# Northeast Board of Regents Minutes

January 29, 2026

12:00 p.m. EST

**In attendance:** Heath Barret, IOM, CCE; Susan Spears, IOM; Cereto Bean, IOM; Jessica Capistrant, IOM, CAE; David Falchek, IOM, CAE, CMP; Richard Gordon, IOM; Mary Griffin, IOM; Iman Hannon, IOM; Ashley Walton, IOM; Danica Williams, IOM; Karyn K. MacRae, IOM, CAE, CMP; Cecilly Francisco, IOM, CDP; Nathan D. Graham, IOM; Samuel S. Kolb

## I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes

The group was welcomed and minutes from the October 9, 2025 and October 10, 2025 meetings were approved with no changes.

## II. Staff Update

- Winter Institute Recap:
  - 249 attendees, including 90 first-years.
  - Positive feedback and excitement noted.
  - Recruitment and retention efforts are ongoing.
- Registration Launch:
  - Registration for Northeast Institute opens February 25, 2026.
  - Hotel room block at the Radnor will open concurrently.
- Faculty Office Hours:
  - Designed for graduates, current attendees, and prospective participants.
  - Provides an informal platform for discussions with faculty.
  - Next session taking place on February 6, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern.
  - Attendance has been low; regents are encouraged to promote and attend themselves.
  - Idea to schedule site-specific sessions during which attendees can learn more about each assigned site from members of the board.



- Scholarship and Prepay Updates:
  - 23 applications received to date.
  - Deadline is Friday, February 6, 2026.
  - Committee members will review applications anonymously to ensure fairness.
  - 7 prepaid attendees, including 1 first-year.

### III. Retention Opportunities

- Year-Round Communications/ABNYR List
  - Members are encouraged to reach out to their assigned contacts and share social posts.
  - Follow-up emails and calls are ongoing – various responses received thus far.
  - Suggestion to connect with attendees on LinkedIn for better engagement.
  - Conversations with prospects through leadership programs, particularly on the association side.
  - Request time on state conference agendas, when possible.

### IV. Regent Updates and Discussion

- Site Culture (Jessica, Cereto, Iman)
  - Committee members to meet offline and share ideas.
  - SWAG merch ties into site culture.
- Scholarships and Fundraising (Mary, Andrea, Ashley (merch), Jessica (merch))
  - Merchandise Options:
    - Proposed items include T-shirts, sweatshirts, quarter zips, and Yeti-style drinkware.
    - Design includes a heather purple color and branding with latitude/longitude coordinates and the slogan “Leadership Lives Here.”
    - Primo or local vendor.
  - Sales Strategy:
    - Merchandise will be available for pre-order during registration.
    - Items may also be available for auction on-site.



- Day 1 Flow of Events (Tamara, Jessica, Mary, Cereto, Danica)
  - Suggested changes included streamlining events to one location (Driscoll or Villanova Room).
  - Registration/IOM Expo → Reception/Kickoff → Homeroom.
  - Consider adding live music.

V. Other Business/Adjournment

- Task Forces and Marketing Updates:
  - Marketing: Ashley; Recruitment: Cheryl and Tamara; Volunteer Pipeline: Jessica
  - Focus on reframing the program as a “four-week journey” rather than a “four-year program.”
  - Emphasize inclusivity and flexibility in messaging.
- Pipeline for New Board Members:
  - Reference to Joey and Jennifer.
  - Current board composition deemed sufficient for now.
  - Regents encouraged to share recommendations for future candidates.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2026, and committees were encouraged to meet offline and be ready to report back to the group.

There being no other business, the call was adjourned.