

Dear Members of the SUNY Maritime Campus Community,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we have officially started the process to identify the next President of SUNY Maritime.

### **Search Committee**

The committee held its first meeting on October 31, 2023, during which SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr. charged the group with its task to find SUNY Maritime's next leader.

### **Presidential Search Committee**

SUNY Maritime's Presidential Search Committee will conduct the search in accordance with SUNY's Presidential Search Guidelines.

The Search Committee is an essential representation of the great work that happens at SUNY Maritime every day, and we are committed to the future success of the college. The search committee makeup is consistent with [SUNY Presidential Search Guidelines](#) and as the search chair, I am honored to preside over this 18-member committee that consists of the following colleagues:

### **College Council**

**Tom Higgins**, Chairperson, College Council

**Deborah Kravchuk**, College Council Representative

**Christina Liviakis**, College Council Representative

**Matt Nolty**, College Council Representative

### **Faculty**

**Joseph Breglia**, School of Engineering

**Ernest J. Fink**, School of Maritime Education and Training

**Kathryn Gosselin**, School of Engineering

**Caterina Panzeca**, School of Business, Science and Humanities

**Peter Vecchio**, School of Maritime Education and Training

**Shmuel Yahalom**, School of Business, Science and Humanities

### **Academic Dean**

**Rao Kowtha**, Dean of Business, Science, and Humanities

### **Professional Staff**

**Morgan McManus**, Master of Empire State

### **College Foundation**

**William F. Austen**, Retired President and CEO, Bernis Company, Inc.

### **Alumni Representative**

**Steve Carbery**, President of SUNY Maritime Alumni Association

**Student Representative**

**Hubert Kuchta**, Student Government Association President

**Graduate Representative**

**Howard Wyche**, OMBG Founding Member and Treasurer

**Regimental Commander**

**Rushawn Henry**, First Class

**Chancellor's Representative**

**Aaron Gladd**, Chief Strategy Officer & Sr. Advisor for Operations & Management

**Non-Voting**

**Lu-Ann Plaisance** College Liaison (non-voting)

**Zulaika Rodriguez-Awoliyi**, Chancellor's Liaison (non-voting)

**Presidential Search Website**

We have also launched the Presidential Search website to keep the campus community informed about the process. The website contains information about the search process, search committee, and the search firm, [RPA Inc.](#), which has been retained to guide the search for Maritime's next president. A schedule/timeline that highlights monthly progress of the search will be added in the days to come.

The website will also contain a presidential search prospectus and advertisement for the position at SUNY Maritime. For all information on the position and process, please continue to visit SUNY Maritime's presidential search website for updates where you will find the following:

- An archive of public presidential search-related announcements to date.
- Search Timeline
- Advertisement for the position (coming soon)
- Campus Prospectus (coming soon)
- Search Committee Membership

**Presidential Search Website Link:** <https://www.sunymaritime.edu/maritime-presidential-search>

Please refer anyone with questions about the search process to the website. If you have any questions or wish to nominate someone for the presidency at SUNY Maritime, please email [Zulaika.Rodriguez@suny.edu](mailto:Zulaika.Rodriguez@suny.edu).

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

**Tom Higgins**

Presidential Search Committee Chair

College Council Representative