

VANGUARD

Official Newsletter of the Adjunct Faculty Association at Nassau Community College
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ELECTION RESULTS**
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President - Scott Stark
 Vice President - Garry Ouellette
 Secretary - Rosemarie Tavitian
 Treasurer - Barbara Gregorio
 Chief Information Officer - Richard D. Erben

AFA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Ken Bellafiore
 Chris Enright
 Bob Femminella
 Paul Guadagnino
 Paul Schmidt
 Carl Vinas

AFA DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Accounting and Business Administration.....Caroline Falconetti
 Administrative Business Technology.....M. Debra DeSanto
 Africana Studies.....Vacant
 Allied Health Sciences.....Daniel Perrotto
 Art.....Paul Guadagnino
 Biology.....Vacant
 Chemistry.....Chris Enright
 Communications.....Mark Grossman
 Criminal Justice.....Paul Schmidt
 Economics and Finance.....Darleen Braunschweiger
 Engineering/Physics/Technology.....Richard Beck
 English.....Carl Vinas
 Health/Physical Education & Recreation.....Ed Mack
 History/Political Science/Geography.....Michael Zartler

Hospitality and Business.....Thomas Field
 Legal Studies.....Joseph Caruso
 Library.....Arthur Friedman
 Marketing/Retailing/Fashion Buying/Merchandising/Fashion
 Design/Interior Design.....Julie de la Lastra
 Math/Computer Science & Information Technology
Carmine Desanto
 Mortuary Science.....Vacant
 Music.....Vacant
 Nursing.....Mary Ann Hellmer-Saul
 Philosophy.....Philip Pecorino
 Physical Sciences.....Michael Zito
 Psychology.....Steven Greenbaum
 Sociology/Anthropology and Social Work.....Ruth Silverman
 Student Personnel Services - Instructors.....Chris Muller
 Student Personnel Services - Interpreters.....Vacant
 Student Services.....Diana Cannone
 Theatre & Dance.....Charles Albano
 Unattached Technical Assistants.....Diana Forbes
 World Languages and Cultures.....Vladimir Konovaliouk

AFA COMMITTEES:

Constitution/Bylaws.....Chair: Arthur Friedman
 Members: Philip Pecorino
 Elections/Qualifications.....Chair: Susan Mitchell
 Members: Nancy Seery, Carol Warmuth
 Grievance.....Chair: Garry Ouellette
 Political Action.....Chair: Garry Ouellette
 Health & Safety.....Chair: Ken Bellafiore
 Members: Carl Vinas, Chris Enright, Mary Ann
 Hellmer-Saul, Robert Femminella, Susan Mitchell
 Scholarship and Grants.....Chair: Milton Perez
 Members: Bonnie Fachler, Jan R. Figueira, Jim Hoyt

Parliamentarian.....Paul Guadagnino

Feature Columnist: Ruth Silverman
 Vanguard Preproduction - Grace LaPonte
 Vanguard Editor - Paul Guadagnino



Message from the President



Scott Stark

AFA Elections and the Work Ahead

The Adjunct Faculty Association has concluded its recent elections for Officers, Department Representatives, and a second election for the Executive Board. I want to congratulate all members who were elected to serve. I look forward to working with each of them, and with the full membership, as we continue the work of strengthening our union and advancing the interests of adjunct faculty across the college.

I also extend my thanks to the membership for the decisive vote of confidence they placed in Garry Ouellette and me during the officer election. We were elected with approximately 80 percent of the vote, and we take that mandate seriously. It represents both an affirmation of the progress the AFA has made over the past decade and a clear expectation that we continue that work with focus, transparency, and resolve.

Over the last ten years, the AFA has accomplished a great deal—improving working conditions, protecting contractual rights, and strengthening the collective voice of adjunct faculty. These gains were not accidental. They were the result of sustained effort, thoughtful leadership, and an engaged membership working through its elected representatives. I am eager to build on that foundation with our newly elected leadership team and to continue advancing the work already underway.

As president, I represent all members of the AFA, including the roughly one in five voters who supported other candidates in the officer election. Contested elections and differing perspectives are signs of a healthy organization. My responsibility is to advocate for every adjunct faculty member, regardless of how they voted, and to ensure that all voices are respected and heard.

During the campaign, there was frequent discussion about the need for “*change*,” often expressed through references to accomplishments the AFA has already achieved. That framing presents an important tension: many of the outcomes cited as evidence of the need for change were, in fact, the result of ongoing work carried out within the union’s existing structures. Under-

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Message from the President



Scott Stark

standing how progress is made—and engaging directly in that work—is essential if we are to move forward productively.

Many of those accomplishments were realized under the leadership of former president Stefan Krompiewski, whose instinct was always to elevate others and share credit generously. Even when he understood precisely where the work was being done, his approach was to encourage growth, collaboration, and collective ownership. That leadership style played a significant role in the successes often referenced during

the campaign, and it remains a model worth remembering.

Looking ahead, I want to emphasize the importance of open and transparent participation in the life of the union. The AFA is strongest when concerns, ideas, and criticisms are raised directly—through meetings, established processes, and honest dialogue—rather than expressed indirectly in ways that can foster division. Constructive engagement strengthens the union. It requires speaking up, not working around others, and contributing to shared solutions rather than individual positioning.

As we move forward, I am optimistic about what we can accomplish together. With a newly elected leadership team, an engaged membership, and a renewed commitment to openness and collaboration, I am confident that we will continue to build on the progress of the past decade and strengthen the AFA for the years ahead—and I remain committed to ensuring that our leadership is accountable, transparent, and focused on the collective good of all adjunct faculty.

Scott Stark
President
Adjunct Faculty Association

AFA Officer Election Results:

President: Scott Stark
Vice-President: Garry Ouellette
Treasurer: Barbara Gregorio (uncontested)
Secretary: Rose Tavitian

AFA Officers take office January 1, 2026

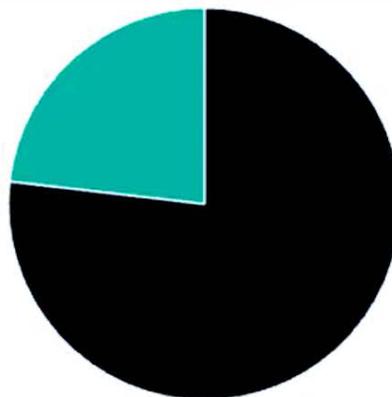
President & Vice President (contested)

Plurality 574 votes tallied and 17 abstentions

Scott Stark President & Garry Ouellette VP*
441 votes 76.83%

Bob Femminella President & Chris Enright VP
133 votes 23.17%

■ Scott Stark President & Garry Ouellette VP
■ Bob Femminella President & Chris Enright VP



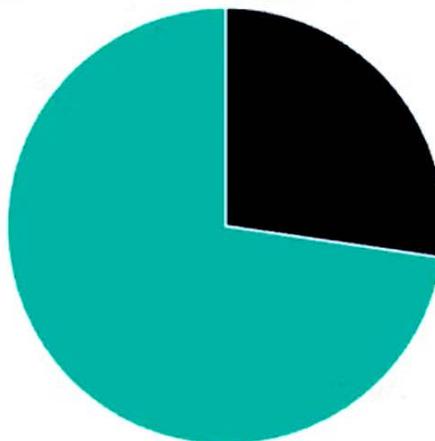
Secretary (contested)

Plurality 531 votes tallied and 60 abstentions

Ken Bellafiore 145 votes 27.31%

Rose Tavitian 386 votes 72.69%*

■ Ken Bellafiore ■ Rose Tavitian



AFA Department Representative Election Results:

AFA Department Representatives take office January 1, 2026

Accounting/Business: Caroline Falconetti (contested)

Administrative Business Technology: Debra DeSanto (contested)

Africana Studies: Vacant (Garry Ouellette)

Allied Health Sciences: Daniel Perrotto (contested)

Art: Paul Guadagnino (uncontested)

Biology: Robert Femminella (Relinquished Position)

Chemistry: Chris Enright (uncontested)

Communications: Mark Grossman (uncontested)

Criminal Justice: Paul Schmidt (uncontested)

Economics and Finance: Darleen Braunshweiger (uncontested)

Engineering/Physics/Technology: Richard Beck (contested)

English: Carl Vinas (uncontested)

Health/Physical Education and Recreation: Ed Mack (uncontested)

History/Political Science/Geography: Mike Zartler (uncontested)

Hospitality/Business: Tom Field (uncontested)

Legal Studies: Joseph Caruso (uncontested)

Library: Arthur Friedman (contested)

Marketing/Retailing/Fashion Buying/Merchandising/Fashion Design/Interior

Design: Julie de la Lastra (uncontested)

Math/Computer Science and Information Technology: Carmine DeSanto (uncontested)

Mortuary Science: Vacant (Garry Ouellette)

Music: Vacant (Garry Ouellette)

Nursing: Mary Ann Saul (uncontested)

Philosophy: Phil Pecorino (uncontested)

Physical Sciences: Mike Zito (uncontested)

Psychology: Steven Greenbaum (uncontested)

Sociology: Ruth Silverman (uncontested)

Student Personnel Services - Instructors: Chris Muller (uncontested)

Student Personnel Services - Interpreters: Vacant (Garry Ouellette)

Student Services: Diana Cannone (uncontested)

Theatre/Dance: Charles Albano (uncontested)

Unattached Technical Assistants: Diana Forbes (contested)

World Languages and Cultures: Vladimir Konovaliouk (contested)

Accounting/Business (contested)

Plurality 29 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

John DeSpagna 4 votes 13.79%

Caroline Falconetti 25 votes 86.21%*

Administrative Business Technology (contested)

Plurality 16 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

M. Debra DeSanto 11 votes 68.75%*

Binta Christopher 5 votes 31.25%

Allied Health Sciences (contested)

Plurality 30 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

Alan Hecht 13 votes 43.33%

Daniel Perrotto 17 votes 56.67%*

Engineering/Physics/Technology (contested)

Plurality 33 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

Richard Beck 21 votes 63.64%*

Ziaullah Durrani 12 votes 36.36%

Library (contested)

Plurality 8 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

Art Friedman 7 votes 87.50%*

Ken Bellafore 1 vote 12.50%

World Languages and Cultures (contested)

Plurality 14 votes tallied and 0 abstentions

Vladimir Konovaliouk 11 votes 78.57%*

Ute Hellebuyck 3 votes 21.43%

Unattached Technical Assistants (contested)

Plurality 24 votes tallied and 1 abstention

Geramie Hammer 10 votes 41.67%

Diana Forbes 14 votes 58.33%*

AFA Executive Board Election Results:

(Listed Alphabetically)

Rich Beck
Chris Enright
Art Friedman
Steven Greenbaum
Paul Guadagnino
Paul Schmidt
Carl Vinas

AFA Executive Board members take office February 1, 2026



Adjunct
Faculty
Association



AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

