

MINUTES

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-FOURTH MEETING

October 16, 2025

Trustees Present

*Robin Burns-McNeill, Chair
Jaqui Lividini, Vice Chair
Mona Aboelnaga Kanaan
Richard Anderman
Judy Byrd
Joan Hornig
Gabrielle Fialkoff
Beverly Mack
Denise Magid
Elizabeth Peek
Sally Singer
Isabella FitzSimmons, Student Trustee*

Trustees Absent

Nina Garcia

Officers

*Dr. Joyce F. Brown, President
Sherry F. Brabham, Treasurer, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Stephen P. Tuttle, General Counsel and Secretary of the College*

A quorum was present

The chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 am

5.1 Approval of Minutes of the Board: Action Without A Meeting, June 25, 2025

495.1

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the board: action without a meeting on June 25, 2025, are hereby approved.

5.2 Transition of Current Masters of Art in Exhibition and Experience Design Degree to a Masters of Fine Arts in Experience Design Degree

495.2

RESOLVED,

A. The Board approves the transition to the Master of Fine Arts in Exhibition and Experience Design, effective Fall 2026, to replace the current MA program and to position FIT at the forefront of graduate education in experiential design and interdisciplinary creative leadership;

B. The President has secured required approvals in accordance with the Education Laws of the State of New York and shall take all necessary actions to secure the standards set forth by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and as substantially described in the "Program Summary: Master of Fine Arts in Exhibition and Experience Design" previously distributed to the Board and attached hereto as "Addendum."

C. The program will leverage existing resources, facilities and faculty expertise within the School of Graduate Studies to deliver a curriculum that is rigorous, industry-responsive and supportive of FIT's mission to develop future-focused professionals in art, design, business, and technology.

5.3 Correction of a Scrivener's Error in Resolution Number AI3 / 06.25 revising the Tuition Rate for Lower Division Part-Time Non-Resident Students 495.3

RESOLVED, that A scrivener's error in Resolution Number AI3 / 06.25 is hereby corrected so as to accurately reflect the cost per credit for Lower Division Part-Time Non-Resident students as \$684 (a full and accurate version of said schedule of Tuition and Fees reflecting said correction has been attached as an Addendum and made part of this Resolution.

5.4 Conferral of the Title Professor Emerita upon Professor Judith Ellis 495.4

RESOLVED, that Professor Judith Ellis is hereby awarded the title of Professor Emerita of the Fashion Institute of Technology, effective immediately.

5.5 Conferral of the Title Professor Emerita upon Professor Katherine Michaelsen 495.5

RESOLVED, that Professor Katherine Michaelsen is hereby awarded the title of Professor Emerita of the Fashion Institute of Technology, effective immediately.

5.6 Certificates of Permanent Tenure 495.6

RESOLVED, that Certificates of Permanent be issued to:

Junghyun Ahn
Assistant Professor
Science and Math
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Carla Edwards
Assistant Professor
Fine Arts
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Andrea Vazquez de Arthur
Assistant Professor
History of Art
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Huipu Gao
Assistant Professor
Textile Development and Marketing
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Anita Clipson
Assistant Professor
Illustration and Interactive Media
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Dobriana Gheneva
Assistant Professor
Fashion-Apparel
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Hilary Davidson
Assistant Professor
Fashion and Textile Studies
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Subhalakshmi Gooptu
Assistant Professor
English and Communication Studies
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Ramona Dunlap
Assistant Professor
Fashion Business Management
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Daiyan Hossain
Technologist C
Gladys Marcus Library
Tenure Date: September 12, 2025

Anthony J. Hicks
Counselor Associate
Career & Internship Services
Tenure Date: June 6, 2025

Kyong Hwan Lee
Assistant Professor
Interior Design
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Samantha Levin
Special Collections Associate
Gladys Marcus Library
Tenure Date: August 23, 2025

Chloe Marie Martin
Assistant Professor
Social Sciences
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Julia Romano
Non-Classroom Faculty - Assistant Professor
Enrollment Management and Student Success
Tenure Date: August 1, 2025

Miyo Sandlin
Assistant Professor
Gladys Marcus Library
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Julian Silverman
Assistant Professor
Science and Math
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Yiwen Wang
Assistant Professor
Gladys Marcus Library
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Mahoganie Washington
Administrative Assistant
Enrollment Management and Student Success
Tenure Date: July 5, 2025

Joshua Whitehead
Assistant Professor
Communication Design Pathways
Tenure Date: August 22, 2025

Minutes of the Executive Session

For discussion and vote were the following three personnel matters during the executive session that took place on October 16, 2025:

1. Action on the college administration and the board's appointed trial committee to terminate the employment of a tenured employee charged with multiple counts of misconduct and violations of college policies. The board, having considered the full record of the proceedings and the recommendations the college administration and the trial committee, determined that just cause existed to terminate the individual's employment. The vote of the trustees to authorize the termination of employment was unanimous.
2. Action on the selection and appointment of Jason Schupbach to succeed Dr. Joyce F. Brown as the next president of the college. Upon consideration of the respective qualifications of the finalists identified after an extensive search process lasting several months the board reached agreement on Jason Schupbach and voted to submit his name and credentials to SUNY's Board of Trustees for approval. The vote of the trustees was unanimous.
3. Action on the naming of the newly completed academic building (located on West 28th Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues) as the "Joyce F. Brown Academic Building." The vote of the trustees was unanimous.