



**NYSOBBA Annual Conference**  
**Aloft Buffalo Downtown**  
**500 Pearl Street, Buffalo, NY 14202**  
**June 7 -10, 2026**

**Sunday - June 7, 2026**

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm      **Welcome Reception/ Networking Event**  
Location: Spare Lanes, Aloft Buffalo Downtown

**Monday- June 8, 2026**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm      **Conference Registration**  
Location: TBD

8:00 am – 11:30 am      **Business Partner Set-up**  
Location: TBD

***Pre-Conference Sessions (Open to All Conference Registrants)***

*Concurrent Sessions*

10:00 am -11:30 am      **Session I: Bridging the Gap: Campus-Based and Alternative Student Loan Solutions in a Changing Policy Landscape**

*As federal student loan programs continue to evolve and institutions face increasing financial aid gaps, colleges and universities must explore alternative funding solutions to support student access and success. This workshop will examine campus-based loan programs, private and alternative lending options, and emerging state-level initiatives designed to address unmet financial need. Participants will also discuss the recently introduced New York State Loan-Based Program in the Assembly and consider how institutions can adapt their financial aid strategies to help students bridge funding gaps while maintaining responsible borrowing practices.*

Presenter(s):      Maria Livolsi, SUNY Student Loan Service Center;  
Chris Stompanato, ECSI; Karen Reddick, NCM

Location:              TBD

**Session II: Financial Aid for Bursars**

Presenter(s):      Katie Kocsis, Niagara University & Amy Masters, SUNY Geneseo

Location:              TBD

**Monday- June 8, 2026 -Continued**

11:30 a.m. **Welcome/Opening Remarks, NYSOBBA President/Business Partner Intros**

11:45- 12:30 **Lunch**

Location: TBD

*General Session*

12:30 -2:00 p.m. **Keynote: From Anxiety to Agency: Reframing Our Climate Response**

*This keynote invites New York State’s Bursars and Business Administrators to view sustainability and climate action not as an added mandate, but as a practical leadership mindset grounded in fiscal stewardship, risk management, and long -term institutional resilience. Drawing on lessons from the University at Buffalo and the operational realities facing higher education, the talk explores how reframing climate challenges can reduce resistance, manage uncertainty, and unlock financially sound, scalable strategies that strengthen institutions while positioning them to thrive in a rapidly changing environment.*

Presenter(s): Ryan McPherson, SUNY University at Buffalo

Location: TBD

*Concurrent Sessions*

2:00 – 3:00 **Session I: Artificial Intelligence**

Presenter(s): Dave Ghidui, Finger Lakes Community College

Location: TBD

**Session II: Bursar Forum**

*This session is designed for those new to student accounts, student financial services, the higher education workplace or those that want a refresher on the core responsibilities of the student accounts area. This will be a safe space to ask questions and connect with other colleagues new to the industry.*

Presenter(s): Jacob Kopera, Niagara University

Location: TBD

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. **Refreshments with the Business Partners**

Location: TBD

**Monday- June 8, 2026 -Continued**

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

**General Session: Therapy 101 A Roundtable on Navigating Difficult Student Accounts Conversations**

*Working in Student Accounts means navigating complex, high-emotion situations everyday. From irate parents and students disputing charges to threats of legal action, policy challenges, stolen credit card information, and students in genuine financial distress, these conversations are rarely straightforward and are often deeply personal. Participants will engage in facilitated discussions at small tables. Each table will be given a real-life scenario drawn from common Student Accounts experiences. Participants will discuss how they would approach each situation, share strategies that have worked in their offices, and learn from the perspectives of colleagues across institutions. The goal is to highlight that while we all encounter similar challenges, there is no single “right” response. This session is intended to normalize the emotional complexity of Student Accounts work, foster connection among peers, and reinforce that the challenges we face are shared across institutions. Attendees will leave with new perspectives, practical ideas, and reassurance that they are not alone in navigating the hardest conversations on campus.*

Location: TBD

7:00 p.m.

Dinner on Your Own

**Tuesday, June 9, 2026**

7:30 am - 8:30 am      **Breakfast & Introduction to Partner Organizations**  
*COHEAO, NACUBO: Bryan Dickinson; ABB: Kathy Meehan, EACUBO: Laura Hubbard*

Location: TBD

8:00 am - 5:00 pm      **Conference Registration**

Location: TBD

*General Session*

8:30 am - 9:30 am      **General Session: Leading with Resiliency**  
Presenter: Audrey Culver, M&T Bank  
Location: TBD

9:30 am - 10:00 am    **Refreshments with Business Partners**  
Location: TBD

*General Session*

10:00 am - 11:00 am   **Washington Update**

*We are one year into the second Trump administration, and midterm elections are just around the corner. Will we see more legislation that impacts colleges and universities? How should institutions prepare for new regulations being promulgated at the Department of Education? Learn what's happening in Washington—both on the Hill and at the federal agencies—that might affect your office and your campus.*

Presenter(s): Bryan Dickson, NACUBO  
Location: TBD

*Concurrent Sessions*

11:00 am - 12:15 pm    **Session I:      Birds of a Feather- Public**  
Moderator:      TBD  
Location:        TBD

**Session II:      Birds of a Feather-Private**  
Moderator:      TBD  
Location:        TBD

**Session III:     Birds of a Feather- 2-Year Public**  
Moderator:      TBD  
Location:        TBD

**Tuesday, June 9, 2026 -Continued**

12:30 pm -1:30 pm      **Lunch and Business Meeting**  
Location: TBD

*Concurrent Sessions*

1:30 pm -2:30 pm      **Session I:      Managing Student Workers Roundtable Discussion**

*Higher education is experiencing a severe staffing crisis characterized by high turnover, burnout, low pay, not being able to work from home and recruitment difficulties. This may result in institutions to rely more on student workers to fill operational gaps. But is this a good idea? What about confidentiality? Let's talk about it!*

Presenter(s): Kelly Loss  
Location: TBD

**Session II:      Solving the AR Puzzle: Best Practices for In-House Recovery**

*Are your internal collection efforts hitting a wall? Join this interactive roundtable to pull back the curtain on how different institutions manage their in-house accounts receivable. This session is designed for higher education accounts receivable professionals to exchange best practices on topics including effective communication strategies, the right time to place accounts with a third party, internal payment plans and more.*

Presenter(s): Teresa Major, SUNY Brockport; Elizabeth Gorall, SUNY Brockport;  
Abby Berry, Colgate University

Location: TBD

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm      **Refreshments with Business Partners**  
Location: TBD

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm      **Session I: PCI Compliance**  
Presenter(s): Scott Manley, Touchnet & School Partner

Location: TBD

**Session II: Student Accounts & Business Office Relationship**

Presenter(s): Robyn Meyer, Daemen University

Location: TBD

**Tuesday, June 9, 2026 -Continued**

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm      **Session I: Life Cycle of a Financial Wellness Program**

Presenter:      Arbol & School partner

Location:

**Session II: Three Forces Shaping Financial Aid & Student Payments**

Presenter(s): Ellen Last, Illumia/Transact, Mercy University

*Financial aid and bursar offices face rapid change—from evolving payer expectations and rising fraud to AI's growing influence. This session explores three trends impacting how students access aid and pay for college. Learn where friction occurs in the aid-billing journey, how to reduce fraud risk while maintaining compliance, and how AI may support operations and student engagement.*

Location: TBD

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm      **Cocktail Reception**

Location: TBD

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm      **Banquet Dinner and Entertainment (Raffle Winners Announced)**

Location: TBD

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026**

8:00 am - 9:00 am      **Conference Registration**  
Location: TBD

8:00 am - 9:00 am      **Breakfast**  
Location: TBD

*General Session*

9:00 am - 10:00 am    **General Session: HESC Updates**  
Presenter: Lisa Simpson  
Location: TBD

*Concurrent Sessions*

10:00am – 11:00 am    **Session I: Reaching Students, Communications from Student Accounts**

Presenter: Laura Stevens, SUNY University at Buffalo  
& Christy Guzman, SUNY University at Buffalo

Location: TBD

**Session II: Leveraging Generational Differences in the Workplace**

Presenter(s): Erik Andersen, SUNY Stony Brook; Julia Barth, Trocaire College;  
Marisa Hoogkamp, SUNY Plattsburgh;  
Jesse Decosse, SUNY Plattsburgh;  
Corinna Sutherland, Vassar College;  
Susan Andrade, SUNY University at Buffalo

Location: TBD

11:00 am – 11:15am    **Conference Wrap-Up & Giveaways**-Final Vendor and/or large ticket items  
giveaways on last day. Must be present to win!!

12:00pm                Hotel Checkout