

SUBJECT: A Message from the Student Government Association: Campus Safety

Hello, my fellow Roadrunners,

As the President of the Student Government Association (SGA), I write to you on behalf of the SGA regarding the [domestic violence incident on October 13](#), and growing concerns about campus safety & security. A heinous act was committed to one of our own, and I am beyond devastated that a member of our community would do this to another student. The SGA stands beside Alexis, the survivor, and wishes her the best in the aftermath of this incident. While we recognize that the perpetrator has already been suspended from campus, we expect the College to pursue the fullest disciplinary action possible, sending a message to all who may even consider doing something like this again. To all of our students, we hear you loud and clear: our campus needs to be a secure and safe environment for our collective success, and the SGA is committed to your safety.

The SGA has already been in communication with Sharon McLaurin, Director of the Department of Public Safety, to see what is being done and what more can be done. I appreciate Director McLaurin's commitment to collaboration and open communication as we work on making this campus safer. Already, Public Safety & Facilities have begun the process of expanding camera views across campus, particularly in our parking lots. An external consultant has begun assessing where additional cameras would best be utilized. Additionally, regular audits of the camera system & emergency callboxes ("blue lights") have already been implemented to ensure working equipment, and all emergency phones are now working across campus. Last night, the SGA Senate passed [Senate Bill 2022-1](#), codifying SGA support for increased campus safety measures, and formally calling upon Public Safety to continue its mission of "creating a peaceful and safe environment, as free as possible from threats to safety and well-being" through transparency and communication. We look forward to advancing this partnership with Director McLaurin and the Department of Public Safety and thank them for the work that they do.

It is not up to one sole person or one group of people to make changes on this campus. When one of us is hurt, we all are hurt, and only through respectful collaboration and an all-hands-on-deck approach can we prevent further incidents such as this one. I ask you all to join myself and the SGA in participating in programming hosted by the [Office of Violence Prevention](#), especially the annual [Take Back the Night event](#) this Thursday at 6 pm, in support of survivors of sexual violence. Only together can we make real change, and lessen the number of violent incidents perpetrated on our campus.

I encourage everyone to seek help should you need it. I will echo the [previous communication from President Jebb](#) and link helpful resources below.

- [Office of Violence Prevention](#), call 201-684-7430, or ovp@ramapo.edu

- [Title IX & Dating Violence](#)
- Through the [Department of Public Safety, a safety escort service](#) is available by calling 201-684-6666 for individuals who may feel unsafe traversing the campus
- [Anonymous incident reporting](#). The account is checked during business hours and is for non-emergencies
- The [Rave Guardian Safety App](#) (a free download)
- 40+ [Emergency “Blue Light” Call Boxes](#) are located throughout our campus and they connect directly to the Department of Public Safety.
- [Counseling Services](#), call 201-684-7522 (24/7)
- [healingSpace](#), YWCA Northern New Jersey, call 201-487-2227 (24/7)
- [Mahwah Police Department](#), 911 or non-emergency, call 201-529-1000

The overwhelming support for Alexis after Thursday’s incident has been inspiring, and I am proud to be a part of a community that cares for each other. As your SGA President, it is my pleasure to serve you and continually be your voice. Be sure to [contact the SGA](#) directly if there’s anything you need from us. Please take care of yourselves as we work together to ensure the safety of our community.

Best regards,

the Student Government Association Executive Board
sent on behalf of the Student Government Association

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