

10/19/2022 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 10/19/2022]

Meeting called to order on [10/19] at [1:05pm] in Friends Hall

I. Roll Call & Introductions

- a. **President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya**
- b. **Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy**
- c. **Secretary David Lopez**
- d. **Treasurer Noe Ramirez**
- e. Chief of Staff Zenobia Ahsanuddin (Excused)
- f. **Secretary of Academic Affairs Rachelle Ludder**
- g. **Secretary of Commuter Affairs Stephen Raymond**
- h. **Secretary of Delegate Affairs Shannon Decicco**
- i. **Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Ritika Dawadi**
- j. Secretary of Fraternity & Sorority Life Samantha Savercool (Excused)
- k. **Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal**
- l. **Secretary of Programming Christine Defeo**
- m. **Secretary of Public Relations Paige Duell**
- n. Secretary of Service Pranish Khanal (Excused)
- o. **Secretary of Sustainability Bella Weeks**
- p. **Chief Panelist Victor Oluwagbemi**
- q. **Senate President Ashley Gomez**
- r. **Senate Vice President Aime Lara**
- s. **Senate Secretary Leyla Merhi**
- t. **Graduate Senator Andraya Annucci**
- u. **ASB School Senator Daeun Mun**
- v. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah**
- w. HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta (Excused)
- x. **TAS School Senator Samikshya Pokharel**
- y. **Senator Bibhu Bhatta (Excused Late)**
- z. **Senator Vincent Bollota**
- aa. **Senator Kristina Hollosi**
- bb. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian (Excused)
- cc. Senator Shanel Lopez (late - unexcused)
- dd. Senator Ivonne Ovalles (Excused Late)
- ee. **Senator Daniel Rajakumar**

ff. Senator Brandon Rivera (Excused)

gg. **Senator Abigail Rojas**

hh. **Senator Prashant Shah**

ii. Senator Shubhashree Shahi (Excused)

jj. Senator Riley Stein (Excused)

kk. Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich (Excused)

ll. **Senator Madison Weeks**

i. Present:

ii. Late: Shanel Lopez, Ivonne Ovalles

iii. Excused: Zenobia Ahsanuddin, Samantha Savercool, Pranish Khanal, Andrew Taranta, Patricia Kalaidjian, Brandon Rivera, Shubhashree Shahi, Riley Stein, Evelyn Voitsekhovich

iv. Absent:

II. **Mission Statement** - (Read by Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal)

The Ramapo College Student Government Association serves as the persistent voice of the student body. While representing the student body and the ideals of Ramapo College of New Jersey, the Student Government Association, through unity in diversity, embraces student leadership in all forms.

III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

a. [Minutes from 10/5/2022](#)

b. 12 - 0 - 0

IV. **President's Announcements**

a. Oktoberfest = 22/10

b. October is Queer and Trans History, Disability Awareness Month, & Domestic Violence Awareness Month

i. [Women's Center & LGBTQ+ Services](#)

ii. [Office of Specialized Services](#)

iii. [Office of Violence Prevention hosts Violence Awareness Week](#)

iv. [Enactus hosts Women's Entrepreneurship Week](#)

c. **Fall New Jersey Student Government Conference:** Saturday 10/22, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm, Drew University

i. Registration closed; We have a van; Look out for an email

- d. We Care Program's Food Drive: Oct 17 - 31
 - i. Items: snacks, canned fruits, canned vegetables, spices, non-perishable microwavable items, hygiene products, paper towels, and toilet paper.
 - ii. SGA Contest:
 - 1. Please put all of your donations in the SGA Office clearly labeled with your name. The member to donate the most items to the pantry wins a special prize. The deadline is 10/31 when all items will be donated to the CSI Front Desk
- e. Outreach:
 - i. **Nicole Videla, Director of EOF & Academic Success**: connecting with the new Assistant Director of First-Generation Student Center on first-gen initiatives.
 - ii. **Kat McGee, Director of Title IX, & Kathleen Hallissey, Director of Student Conduct**: student concerns/misunderstandings regarding disciplinary procedures
 - iii. **Nicole Jones, Manager of Business Services**: Questions/Concerns regarding Facilities
- f. Save the Dates
 - i. [Upcoming Events](#):
 - 1. **Village House of Horrors**: Wednesday 10/19, 7 - 10 pm, Thomases Commons
 - 2. **Take Back the Night**: Thursday 10/20, 5 - 9 pm, Alumni Lounges
 - 3. **Light the Night**: Friday 10/21, 7 - 11 pm, Pavilion
 - 4. **Halloween Bash**: Saturday 10/22, 7 - 10 pm, Friends Hall (Volunteer time TBD)
 - ii. **Founders Day**: Wednesday 11/2, 1 pm, Learning Commons Plaza
 - 1. Setup: 11:30 am
 - iii. **Black Solidarity Week**: 11/7 - 11/11
 - iv. **First-Generation College Celebration Day Proclamation**: 11/16, 12 pm, Arch
 - v. **Alternate Student Trustee Presentations**: General, 11/16
- g. Reminder: Please read Daily Digest & In The Loop for upcoming events!
 - i. [First-Gen Student Meet & Greet](#): Thursday 10/20, 1 pm, SC-156
- h. Updates from 10/18 Meeting w/ President Jebb
 - i. Discussion on 10/13 Incident, Campus Safety, Legislation, Support, Collaboration
 - ii. Discussion about Graduate Students & building community

V. Cabinet Reports

- a. Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy
 - i. **New Clubs**: If anyone is interested in starting a club please contact sgaclubs@ramapo.edu with the name and a brief description.
 - ii. **Club Process Committee**: we will be meeting next Wednesday, October 26th at 3pm in A-221. There is NO meeting today.
 - iii. **SGA Star**: May have noticed something new on the side office door closest to BSU. We have an SGA Star where we will be displaying members who have done outstanding work either in their

SGA role or across campus. If anyone wants to recommend an SGA star please reach out to leadership. Make sure to congratulate our current recipient Christine for all of her amazing Oktoberfest work.



- iv.
- v. **Voting:** Please allow for new members to move and second motions in both in Senate and General Meetings - goal is to give them an opportunity to become comfortable and experienced with that process.
- vi. **General Reminder:** If you're attempting to get in contact with other individuals of SGA please reach out to them directly through groupme DM or email. We want to make sure that we're using our group chats for relevant information (and sometimes some funny or uplifting things). Otherwise, please do not contact others through text or phone call unless you received a phone number from that person individually. We want to encourage a separation of work and your personal lives so we would appreciate your collaboration with this.
- b. Secretary David Lopez
 - i. Nothing to Report
 - ii. Office supplies have been ordered - if you ever notice something missing that we need to order please reach out.
- c. Treasurer Noe Ramirez
 - i. Requisition Form system Update
 - ii. Co-Sponsorship Budget Update
- d. Chief of Staff Zenobia Ahsanuddin
 - i. EXCUSED
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs Rachele Ludder
 - i. I have moved the academic affairs committee to Tuesdays every other week at 8pm in a-218.
 - ii. I have begun working on a survey about faculty advisement
 - iii. I plan on working with Bibhu for the academic task force and Shanel to advertise the services of the library and learning commons to the students

- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Stephen Raymond
 - i. Commuter Affairs/ Leadership Programs: Project L.E.A.D: Treat Yo Self Care happened on Thursday 10/13 and was successful! 15 students came out to enjoy snacks, talk about self-care, and get engaged on campus.
 - ii. October 27th: Trunk Or Treat will take place from 5pm-7pm in the Tennis Court Parking Lot- It's a Big event for the RCNJ commuters, thanks to SGA for signing up their car for the event. Everyone is encouraged to go out to this event and give candy to the elementary school students in attendance
 - iii. October 31st: 10/31: Commuter Focus Group Halloween Edition: Commuter Affairs is hosting a Commuter Focus Group Halloween edition for commuter students. Any student who arrives in costume will be entered into a raffle for a major prize and will receive a free candy bag. This event will be happening on Monday, October 31st at 1pm in A-101.
- g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Shannon Decicco
 - i. At last night's meeting we discussed the new safety bill along with ideas the delegates have regarding safety on campus.
 - ii. Next meeting on 11/1 we will be having Megan Johnston and 2 WIN peers coming in to speak about mental health and stress. If you would like to be there please fill out [Delegate Affairs Talk Sheets](#) with your name so I can give a headcount to Megan. Our meetings take place 7-8pm in A226
 - iii. If you know someone either on or off campus who is motivational and/or a good leader please let me know so I can invite them to talk to the delegates.
- h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Ritika Dawadi
 - i. I will be meeting my liaison, Rachel Sawyer, tomorrow to talk about diversity and inclusion issues on the campus.
 - ii. The committee of Diversity and Inclusion will be meeting in the SGA office Biweekly every wednesdays from 5:30-6:30pm. The starting date for the meeting will be Oct 26.
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Samantha Savercool
 - i. EXCUSED
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
 - i. Proposing Senate Bill 2022-2: Support for NJ Bill A4126
- j. Secretary of Programming Christine DeFeo
 - i. Thank you all again for your participation in Oktoberfest! I am so happy with how it turned out and I hope you and your families have fun!
 - ii. Wednesday Nov. 2nd is Founders day! Paolo and I are meeting with Amanda Rhiel tomorrow in preparation for it, and as soon as we have a plan I will share it with you all (probably next week)
 - iii. Just a reminder about volunteering: when you sign up for an event it is expected that you come on time and check in with whoever is in charge of the event!
- k. Secretary of Public Relations Paige Duell
 - i. Please keep sending me pictures! I do not want to hunt anyone down.

- ii. The theme for Trunk or Treat is Looney Tunes! If you want to attend, we are going to make a sign up sheet. Start getting costumes ready.
- iii. Committee meeting today at 5 in A100. We are going to be talking about Trunk or Treat ideas. If you are not a part of our committee and have any ideas, please feel free to send them to either myself or Christine.
- l. Secretary of Service Pranish Khanal
 - i. EXCUSED
- m. Secretary of Sustainability Bella Weeks
 - i. Today I will be meeting with my liaison Ashwani Vasishth to talk about sustainability on campus. If anyone has any questions or ideas to propose for the meeting, please email me at iweeks@ramapo.edu
 - ii. The Committee on Sustainability will be meeting in the SGA office **Biweekly on Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 pm Starting Oct. 25**
- n. Chief Panelist Victor Oluwagbemi
 - i. Working on judicial panel restructuring.
 - ii. Victor has been promoted to Chief Panelist. Congratulations.
- o. Senate President Ashley Gomez
 - i. Updates from 10/17 Senate Meeting

VI. New Business

- a. Guests:
 - i. **Sharon McLaurin**, Director of Public Safety
 - 1. Conversation regarding [Senate Bill 2022-1: Campus Safety](#)
 - 2. Committed to providing a safer environment and protection for students regarding the incident in the past week
 - 3. 11 call boxes located in the commuter parking lot. Tested these boxes on **Oct 3, 2022** and any inefficiencies were fixed on or by **Oct 6, 2022**
 - 4. **Samikshya Pokharel** - Can we carry anything to protect ourselves?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Weapon free campus, Rave Guardian app to help protect students and get in contact directly with public safety
 - 5. **Madison Weeks** - Issue with some cameras, was there a maintenance issue or communication issue?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - There were maintenance issues and they are getting fixed right away. Hoping for students to be patient and trust in Psafe to get the job done.
 - 6. **Rachelle Ludder** - In the past there were self-defense classes, could we get those back or have informational workshops?

- a. Sharon McLaurin - Would absolutely love to bring back programs or workshops, but needs student leaders or students in general to promote it.
7. Aime Lara - Would you have an open forum to talk about the Rave Guardian App to talk about the features and its content?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Would love to do an open forum to discuss in further detail, but needs students to promote the app so others can get it.
8. Janea Tozer-Murphy - Timeline of when cameras would be implemented in the commuter parking lots?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - It is a process, however, the job will get done. No exact timeline.
9. Shannon Decicco - If someone is not near a call box or cannot pull out a cell phone due to an impending danger, what can we do in terms of security to keep commuter lots safe?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Trust your own instincts, we are the best line of defense for ourselves. Will have workshops to implement that instinct within anyone so they could recognize certain situations.
10. Paolo Miyashiro - Suggestion: Is there a way to indicate on the website a map of just the call boxes and nothing around them, with a color coordination of whether they are working (Green), not working (Red), and being fixed (Yellow)?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Could check on call boxes more often to ensure they are up and running and if they are not then they would fix them right away. Will see if a map for just the call box's location can be created.
11. Abigail Rojas - Out of Order call box @ the Pavillion. Had a paper that said "Out of Order", but was washed away due to the rain. Is there a better way to show students if a call box is not working?
 - a. Sharon will work on another way to do this.
12. Ashley Gomez - Is there a plan of action that can cooperate with RAs, when they have to do rounds late at night or when they have to check up on students late at night?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Deferred to Dean Van Der Wall - possibly have partner rounds to ensure RAs are not alone at night.
13. Madison Weeks - Any way to monitor the attentiveness of Psafe officers?
 - a. Sharon McLaurin - Will remind her officers to not let cell phones distract them unless being used for work and only work.
 - ii. Dean Van Der Wall - If this conversation was too much for individuals, she wants everyone to know that the school is here for everyone! Please reach out to resources as needed.
 - iii. **President Jebb** - To be able to have a conversation and be vulnerable together is an amazing feat on its own. Ensures staff is committed to protecting students, providing a safe environment, and listening to all they have to say.
 - iv. **Jack Nesmith**, Coordinator of Student Activities: ["Leading with Style: SGA Edition"](#) (2 pm)
- b. [Senate Bill 2022-2](#) Proposal & Discussion: James Pascal & Aime Lara

- c. Discussion regarding [concerns about college disciplinary processes](#)
- d. Updates from SGA Members on External/College-Wide Committees
 - i. President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya - Strategic Plan Writing Team - Paolo's team has/is meeting bi-weekly to write out Ramapo College's strategic plan.
 - ii. Graduate Senator Andraya Annucci - Student representative on the graduate council - requirement change for the 4 + 1 program as well as a change to the GPA requirement. Programs for 4 + 1 coming soon to be able to learn more information about it.

VII. Public Comment

- a. **Anne Eke** - Teaches 2 leadership classes under Civic & Community Leadership:
 - i. Leadership Skills
 - ii. Civic & Community Leadership

VIII. Open Forum

- a. **Madison Weeks** - More volunteers for Take Back the Night which is tomorrow, **Oct 20, 2022** from 5 - 8pm.

IX. Adjournment - @ 3:01pm