

2/8/2023 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 2/8/2023]

Meeting called to order on [2/8] at [1:08 pm] in SC 156/157

I. Roll Call

- 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 (Excused)
- m. Secretary of Public Relations Paige Duell (Excused)
- n. Secretary of Service Pranish Khanal (Excused)
- o. Chief Justice Victor Oluwagbemi (Late)
- p. **Senate President Ashley Gomez**
- q. Senate Vice President Aime Lara (Excused)
- r. **Senate Secretary Leyla Merhi**
- s. **Graduate Senator Andraya Annucci**
- t. ASB School Senator Daeun Mun (Absent)
- u. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah**
- v. **HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta**
- w. **TAS School Senator Samikshya Pokharel**
- x. Senator Bibhu Bhatta (Excused)
- y. **Senator Patricia Kalaidjian**
- z. **Senator Dean Jigarjian**
- aa. Senator Shanel Lopez (Absent)
- bb. **Senator Liz Mendicino**
- cc. **Senator Ivonne Ovalles**
- dd. **Senator Daniel Rajakumar**
- ee. **Senator Abigail Rojas**
- ff. **Senator Prashant Shah**

gg. Senator Shubhashree Shahi

hh. Senator Amanda Shortt

ii. Senator Riley Stein

jj. Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich

kk. Senator Madison Weeks

ll. Student Governor Naz Tiyaloglu

mm. Student Trustee Jakub Zak

nn. Alternate Student Trustee Gloria Jeong

i. Present:

ii. **Late:** Victor Oluwagbemi

iii. **Excused:** Zenobia Ahsanuddin, Samantha Savercool, Christine Defeo, Paige Duell, Pranish Khanal, Aime Lara, Bibhu Bhatta

iv. **Absent:** Daeun Mun, Shanel Lopez

II. Mission Statement - Read by Senator Ivonne Ovalles

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. Land Acknowledgement

The Student Government Association respectfully acknowledges that we are hosting our meeting on the ancestral and traditional Indigenous territory of the Ramapough Lunaape Nation.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. [Minutes from 2/1/2023](#)

b. Moved By Liz, 2nd by Andy

c. 16 - 0 - 0

V. New Business

a. *Presentation:* [Rocky the Roadrunner Textbot & Chatbot](#) (1 pm)

i. Joe Connell, Assistant Vice President of Student Success, *Outreach & Engagement Core*

ii. Heather Woodbridge, Enrollment Management Specialist, *Outreach & Engagement Core*

1. Questions

a. **Does Rocky inform College officials if emergency situations occur via text?**

i. Yes, but Rocky provides resources first & foremost

b. **Can SGA know about updates about student experience communicated via text?**

i. Not live, but yes

c. **What happens to the information after a temperature check?**

- i. Look at data, conversations with appropriate College offices
- ii. People can text Rocky without being prompted, doesn't provide counseling, provides info on how to use resources provided

d. What info do you collect?

- i. Only administrators who normally have access to student info have access to info collected via this textbot

b. Discussion: Transfer Student Services

i. Student Concern

1. Lack of communication, resources, programming (figure it out yourself)
 - a. Network of transfer students (Mentorship Program etc), transfer events
2. Transfer first-year students have a Peer Facilitator but not others
3. Transfers have an IG but hasn't been updated
4. Transfer/Veterans Lounge?
5. David Rip: Resources seem very limited and would like there to be more guidance towards transfer students
6. **Senator Ivonne Ovalles:** the adjustment into Ramapo can be somewhat hard/uncomfortable based on where you are coming from. Therefore you could be a part of Ramapo clubs/organizations on campus to provide a distraction and help you accommodate to the new environment
7. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah:** Would want to help with the student involvement because she has seen the limited guidance provided to said transfer students. Some transfer students may not know about resources simply because they chose to ignore it or not pay attention to them. Wishes to hear more about this from transfer students.
8. **Senator Riley Stein:** Winter Welcome Week activities/events are not as fun/elaborate as Fall Welcome Week, transfer students shouldn't have to do a lot of digging to find these resources or don't know where to go. The Winter Involvement Fair should not be separated into 2 different rooms.
9. **Senator Madison Weeks :** It is harder for transfer students to join organizations/clubs simply because they wouldn't know anyone whereas students who started in Ramapo would recognize or know someone. Would want their to be some sort of transfer community so it is easier for transfers to accommodate and receive guidance
10. Online spring transfer information → Sara had to search for everything
11. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah:** Fall & Spring transfer orientations can help provide guidance such as: getting your schedule done, knowing about resources, and more.
12. **Student Governor Naz Tiyaloglu:** Was a transfer academic advisor provided for you?
13. **Secretary of Academic Affairs Rachelle Ludder:** Let's gather information from various offices
14. **Sarah Chavan-Jenke:** Calls, emails, and letters provided for transfer students by the Student Success office to try to reach out and get them the information they need

15. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah**: Who is your transfer advisor? What are some transfer student activities you would want to see on campus?
 16. **Point of Information, Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy**: Transfer connection organization can be used for transfer students to connect with other fellow transfer students.
 17. Possible automatic swipe card access for transfer students. Will have to continue to see if this could work.
- ii. Action Items for **Senator Ivonne Ovalles**:
1. Reach out to liaison, see how to advertise how transfer students get access to E211
 2. Reach out to meg gregory to see where we're at with transfer connection (see website: <https://www.ramapo.edu/studentsuccess/transfer-connection/> also isntagram @renjtransfers hasn't been updated since June 2022. See why.
- c. **Discussion**: Student Employee Paid Sick Leave - President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
- i. All student employees have paid sick leave
 - ii. **TAS School Senator Samikshya Pokharel**: Employers should tell them
 - iii. **HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta**: Is this concurrent?
 - iv. **President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya**: For 30 hours you work you get 1 hour of paid sick leave, is accrued throughout your time as student assistant, can be used until you graduate
 - v. Are there tutorials on Employee Web Self Service?
 - vi. Tutorials are old and based off the old Web Self Service
 - vii. You can used Paid Sick Leave for any job you currently have on campus
 - viii. **Sarah Chavan-Jenke**: Does a doctor's note have to be provided and do we communicate/talk with our employer about using paid sick leave?
 - ix. Website with info on sick leave requirements: [Sick Leave - People Operations and Employee Resources Department \(POERD\) || Ramapo College of New Jersey](#)
- d. **Discussion**: Questions/Discussion Points for Upcoming General Guest Speakers - President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
- i. **Jeneen Kelly, Registrar**
 1. What is the Registrar
 2. Do they collect info on how many students take courses, with which professor, which time slot, etc, what do they do with the data
 3. \$100 payment for mostly for diploma printing, mailing degree, grad fair, commencement
 - a. Picking up diploma
 4. Can there be a fee waiver for graduation?
 5. **Point of Information - Senator Ivonne Ovalles**: Common for colleges to charge students for graduation.
 6. Planning Mental Health Days & Common Hours for next year
 - ii. **Jeffrey Brunetto, Office of Student Accounts**
 1. Confusion re: Health Insurance
 2. Inaccuracies in balance with Financial Aid

3. **Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy**: Would like to know the process and how they deal with it when there is a problem or glitch with a students displayed information about their balance
 4. **Secretary of Academic Affairs Rachelle Ludder**: More description towards why you may be paying certain fees
 5. **HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta**: Absurd payment process → processing fee to use a card to payments
 6. **Senate President Ashley Gomez**: Would like more organization when displaying students tuition balance because it can be confusing and shows repetitive fees that are either canceled or charged
- iii. **Leiah Heckathorn, Roukema Center for International Education**
 1. More students to study abroad
 2. Study abroad scholarships, make it less expensive
 3. What available resources are provided for students to study abroad?
 4. Information provided online on the Ramapo Website. Can contact the advisor for more help and information.
 5. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah**: Is it possible to add a semester at sea option?
 6. “Post-COVID” study abroad (I signed up for a program that was canceled, can something be done?)
- e. **Reports** from SGA Members on External/College-Wide Committees
 - i. **CA School Senator Janelle Boamah**: First CA advisory board meeting - please let her know any concerns
 - ii. **HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta**: Pins will be given out to those in the HGS school who receive Dean's list twice in a year
 1. **Senator Riley Stein**: how does that work with minors or multiple majors?
 - iii. **HGS School Senator Andrew Taranta**: will ask to figure out the details
 - iv. **Sarah Chavan-Jenke**: Bias Prevention Response Team: Workshops provided to learn more information
 - f. **Senate Bill 2023-4: 2023 General Election Legislation**
 - i. Tabled to Senate 2/13

VI. President's Announcements

- a. Message from Advisors
 - i. <https://www.ramapo.edu/ccec/home/humanitarian-aid/>
 - ii. [Student Leadership Awards Application is live!](#)
- b. February is Black History Month → [EDIC programs here](#)
 - i. Look out for programs from [BSU](#), [SOCA](#), [BMAD](#), [EWSC](#), & [OLU](#).
- c. Vacancies
 - i. Conduct Justice & Procedural Justice

1. [Application Link](#)
- ii. Secretary of Sustainability
 1. Email sgapresident@ramapo.edu
- d. Upcoming Events
 - i. **Athletics Reception: TODAY**
 1. Meet in SGA Office at 5:15 pm, walk to Skybox together
 - ii. [SGA Roundtables](#), Ongoing
 - iii. **State of the College Address**: Wed 2/15, 12 pm, Friends Hall
 - iv. **Panel on Iran**: Mon 2/27, 1:15 - 2 pm, Friends Hall
 - v. **Spring Concert**: Friday, April 28th (ALL HANDS ON DECK)
- e. Ask, Listen, Refer due **TONIGHT, 11:59 pm**
 - i. Please refer to email
- f. Alternative Break Applications due Sunday @ 11:59 pm!
 - i. [Trip Info & Application on Archway!](#)
 - ii. Food Insecurity, FDR's Four Freedoms, and Frances Perkins: Exploring the Origins of the Social Safety Net - *Hudson Valley, NY*
 - iii. Countering Antisemitism, Choosing Dignity and Relationship-Building - *Washington, DC*
 - iv. Preserving Our History, Shaping Our Future: The Black Experience in Appalachia - *Asheville, North Carolina*
- a. Seniors - [apply for graduation](#) & [order regalia](#)!!
- g. We Care Program Fresh Food Initiative
 - i. [Archway Form Here!](#) Those who complete the form will receive a bag filled with a mix of fresh fruits and vegetables! Form due on Friday 2/10. Any questions? Email wecare@ramapo.edu.
- h. Gmail 2FA Reminder
- i. [Student Leadership Awards Application is live!](#)
- j. Popcorn Fundraiser

VII. Cabinet Reports

- a. Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy
 - i. Club Process Committee:
 1. Hearing from 2 presentations today including an allocation presentation. Please be on time (3pm-4pm in A221)
 2. If you or someone you know is interested in starting a club or needs club allocations please have them reach out to sgaclubs@ramapo.edu.
 - ii. SGA Star:

SGA STAR



Shannon Decicco
Secretary of Delegate Affairs

Their passionate
stewardship and
commitment to the
Delegate Program.

- b. Secretary David Lopez
 - i. Updating the QR code and Google form for office hours
 - ii. Updating list of items/supplies needed for the SGA office
- c. Treasurer Noe Ramirez
 - i.
- d. Chief of Staff Zenobia Ahsanuddin
 - i. Cabinet Meeting today @ 4 pm in SGA Office
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs Rachelle Ludder
 - i. We had a good first committee meeting last week and last call for anything to bring to the provost for my first meeting with her tomorrow
- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Stephen Raymond
 - i. We held a Commuter Affairs Committee Meeting today, and it was very productive.
 - 1. Our next meeting on February 22nd is canceled. Our next meeting is March 8th at 12:00 pm in A-220.
 - ii. On February 14th, Commuter Affairs is hosting a “Commuter Breakfast.” SGA Commuter Affairs will have a table off to the side of the breakfast to hear commuter student concerns, and get ideas for future events on campus for commuters.
- g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Shannon Decicco
 - i. We had our second meeting last night. Jack Nesmith came in and we had a lot of really meaningful discussions about leadership.
 - ii. Meghan Gregory from Student Success also came in and we had some good discussions about what it meant to be a leader and other ways to get involved on campus as leaders.
 - iii. I will be working with Christine on an event for the delegates.

- h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Ritika Dawadi
 - i. We had our first committee meeting last week and it was successful. We introduced each other and talked about ideas and initiatives.
 - ii. Aime, my liaison Rachel, Alex Wood, Marie who are the director of the women's center met to walk about the aunt flow initiative and how we can proceed with it.
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Samantha Savercool
 - i. Absent
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
 - i. I am working closely with Pat and the speakers that are coming, we have them lined up and are settling on dates. Once things are definitive I will let you guys know :)
 - ii. If you have any suggestions or questions please feel free to let me know
- j. Secretary of Programming Christine DeFeo
 - i. Absent
- k. Secretary of Public Relations Paige Duell
 - i. Absent
- l. Secretary of Service Pranish Khanal
 - i. Absent
- m. Chief Justice Victor Oluwagbemi
 - i. Talking ab General elections legislation at the end of general today.
- n. Senate President Ashley Gomez
 - i. Updates from 2/6 Senate Meeting
- o. Student Governor Naz Tiyaloglu
 - i. Natalie and I are running the Senior Legacy Tabling at the Career Fair on **March 1st from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM** in the Bradley Center. Please volunteer to help to get some community service hours.
 - ii. No update on Run with Color
 - iii. As a member of SGA it is expected of you to sign up for the popcorn fundraiser. Please help us. DoubleGood Popcorn: a virtual fundraiser that is 100% contactless, we keep 50% of the profit, and ships directly to all of the buyers
 - 1. 50% of earnings will go towards SGA, and 50% will go towards Institutional Advancement
 - iv. Fundraiser begins on February 15th at 5:00 pm, and ends on February 19th at 5:00 pm
 - v. Download the app: Double Good Popcorn
 - 1. **Enter the event code: CBEUAW**
 - 2. Create your profile and store
 - vi. Apply for Foundation Scholarships - <https://www.ramapo.edu/scholarships/>
- p. Student Trustee Jakub Zak
 - i. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the new strategic plan, *Boldly Ascending*. You should have received an email about this. I encourage you to read this as this will be the cornerstone document propelling the future at our college.

- ii. Gloria and I have had preliminary discussions about bringing back the State of the Student. I have mentioned to Paolo that we are interested in having this as a co-sponsorship with the SGA. We believe this would be beneficial to inform students about how they are being impacted from a BOT and Higher Education perspective.

VIII. Public Comment

- a. **Sarah Chavan-Jenke** - Bill about Digital Citizenship

IX. Open Forum

- a. Become a [Peer Facilitator/Orientation Leader](#)
- b. Turkey and Syria are in desperate need of disaster relief. A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has taken the lives of about 5,000 people total and numbers are expected to rise. I am collecting clothing donations on Friday to be taken to Turkey. Please contact me if you would like to help.
- It would mean so much to donate to the credible organizations below.
AFAD afad.gov.tr/depremkampanyasi2
AKUT akut.org.tr/en/donation
AHBAP bagis.ahbap.org
- c. **Land Acknowledgement Plaque Task Force** - *Senator Ivonne Ovalles*
 - i. Liz, Aime, Madison, Bibhu
- d. **Vice President Janea Tozer-Murphy**: Tomorrow 2/9 at 1pm in the OVP Office decorate COOKIES with OVP (and me).



X. Adjournment @ 3:17pm