09/11/2023 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 09/11/2023]

Meeting called to order on [09/11/2023] at [7:02] in A - 220

I. Roll Call
   a. President Shannon Decicco
   b. Senate President Madison Weeks
   c. Senate Vice President Evelyn Voitsekhovich
   d. Senate Secretary Andrew Taranta
   e. Graduate Senator (N/A)
   f. ASB School Senator Nicole Cohen
   g. CA School Senator Desiree Bounds
   h. HGS School Senator Stephen Raymond
   i. Senator Janelle Boamah
   j. Senator Katelynn Haury
   k. Senator Sara Hosbach
   l. Senator Mihir Jariwala
   m. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
   n. Senator Shanel Lopez
   o. Senator Amanda Shortt

   i. Present: All but,
   ii. Late: Stephen Raymond (Excused)
   iii. Absent:

Mission Statement

*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.*

Land Acknowledgement

*SGA respectfully acknowledges that we are hosting our meeting on the ancestral and traditional Indigenous territory of the Ramapough Lunaape Nation.*
II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
   a. N/A

III. Senate President's Announcements?
   a. New Senate Secretary!
   b. Provost Middleton will be at General this Wednesday 9/13 from 1 - 2pm
      i. The Provost “oversees the Teaching and Learning Core” at Ramapo college and also “participates in college-wide planning program and policy development”
   c. Integrated Calendar Task Force Focus group at 9/20 General Meeting
      i. Start thinking of topics or questions you may have
   d. Fall Interim Senate Elections begin tomorrow 9/12 at 12 pm
      i. Voting Period: 9/12 at 12:00pm - 9/14 at 12:00pm via Email
      ii. Results Posted: 9/15 at 12:00pm
      iii. Be ready to welcome our new senators next week!

IV. New Business
   a. Co-Sponsorship: Taste of Latin America (Organization of Latino Unity)
      i. Friday, September 15th, 2023 at 9pm
      ii. Money for Food, Volunteers, and Social Media Marketing
      iii. Funds Asked for: $268.57
          Given: 150
          Moved Amanda Shortt, Seconded, Sara Hosbach; Vote: 7-1-4
   b. Co-Sponsorship: Words of Hope (Counseling Services and Wellness is Now)
      i. Thursday, September 21st, 2023 from 12 - 3pm at the Arch/Grove
      ii. Volunteers
         1. At least 2 - 3, but they are happy to take more
      iii. Moved: Janelle, Second: Desiree; Vote: 11-0-0
   c. Liaisons
      i. Report due dates for the Fall Semester:
         1. 10/2, 10/30, and 11/27
      ii. Place report in your designated folder in the SGA Drive
      iii. Confirming contact
      iv. Filling empty liaison slots
      v. Any questions or concerns regarding liaisons?
V. Public Comment
   a.

VI. Open Forum
   a. Desiree - Academic Affairs: Desiree and Bihbu are working on a google form “academic experiences” to record the good and the bad - does not want to send it to the whole student body to focus on productive results. The form will remain anonymous.
      i. Suggestion: Reaching out to the advisors to help create a form
      ii. There is support from the provost who is frustrated that students are having negative advising experiences - aims to tackle the problem school by school.
   b. Sara - Transfer Initiatives are being worked on by Sara Hosbach, with Meghan Gregory.
      i. Suggestion: Strategically maximize transfer student engagement. This can be done through a “Speak out” event (worked in other colleges) and more effective marketing.
      ii. Concern: Lack of engagement in the roundtable from last year
      iii. Suggestion: Create a tabling to help gather more information
      iv. Suggestion: Move Public comment up in meetings to encourage student engagement. *Traditionally public comment has come at the end of meetings.
      v. Suggestion: MEGAPHONE: Standing outside the arch and bringing a large speaker to gather more attention.
         1. Concern: May create chaos and be misunderstood as a protest
   c. Janelle - Community Service Hours: contact Janelle Boamah
   d. Andrew - Vending Machine Pricing: Non-accurate and inconsistent pricing.
      i. Concern: Different companies may be at will pricing items separately
      ii. Reaching out if anyone is interested in helping, please contact Andrew directly
   e. Sara - Parking concerns in Laurel parking area and student center lot.
      i. Andrew: Working with facilities master plan to help voice concerns
VII. Adjournment
   a. Time: 9:03pm
      i. Moved: Nicole
      ii. Second: Sara