

11/27/2023 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 11/27/2023]

Meeting called to order on [11/27/2023] at 7:02 pm in A-220

I. Roll Call

- a. President Shannon Decicco
 - b. Senate President/SSHS School Senator Madison Weeks
 - c. Senate Vice President/TAS School Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich
 - d. Senate Secretary Danielle Rosengrant
 - e. Graduate Senator (N/A)
 - f. CA School Senator Desiree S. Bounds
 - g. ASB School Senator Nicole Cohen
 - h. HGS School Senator Stephen Raymond
 - i. Senator Janelle Boamah
 - j. Senator Sean Brescia
 - k. Senator Aidan D’Oria
 - l. Senator Alex Frisch
 - m. Senator David George
 - n. Senator Katelynn Haury
 - o. Senator Jake Hessels
 - p. Senator Sara Hosbach
 - q. Senator Eileen Jaquez
 - r. Senator Mihir Jariwala
 - s. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
 - t. Senator Shanel Lopez
 - u. Senator Daeun Mun
 - v. Senator Amanda Shortt
 - w. Senator Andrew Zhang
- i. Present:
 - ii. Late: Patricia Kalaidjian, Daeun Mun, Andrew Zhang
 - iii. Absent: Stephen Raymond, Sean Brescia, Jake Hessels, Eileen Jaquez, Shanel Lopez


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.  11/13/2023 Senate Meeting Minutes
 - i. Moved: Mihir
 - ii. Second: Aidan
 - iii. 12-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving!
- b. Everybody please welcome Danielle Rosengrant as the new senate secretary!
- c. Please make sure you are all getting your requirements done, the semester is almost over!
- d. Feel free to reach out to Jack Nesmith if you ever need help or just say hi!
 - i. He wants the senate to utilize him as the advisor.
- e. The last senate meeting is next Monday!

IV. New Business

- a. Liaison Reports! Everyone please write down your department/office and your summary points in the **MINUTES!**
 - i. Nicole (ASB): Career Path Panels planned for Spring Semester - 7 Panels in one day. Dean's List on TVs - likes that it is just ASB. Would be happy to attend the Dean's Lunch with the Academic Affairs Committee. Brought up potential partnership with foundation Program brought to my attention - Dean Petkus will discuss with ENACTUS. Registration - Increased number of students do not register on time (lack of urgency)

Over 100 ASB students. Please let me know if you think of any solutions regarding registration.

1. Madi - Not meeting with advisors/registration holds?
2. Desiree - Similar issue in CA
3. Nicole - Professors bringing it up in class
4. Katelynn - Freshmen not knowing how/where to find registration time
5. Evelyn - Look at read receipts for the email to determine if students are seeing their registration times.
6. Mihir - Peer Facilitators showing the freshmen
- i. Sara: unsolicited speaker bill conversation, concerns about reporting on campus, parking
 1. Sara - Communicate with public safety if you are feeling unsafe - all issues, no matter how small, will be taken care of
 2. Sara - CSI lot is off limits to students due to renovations - even during off-hours.
 3. Sara - Stop running stop signs
 4. Janelle - Why is the lot off limits? Even for quick parking jobs for moving, groceries, etc. The parking lot elevator is seemingly always broken.
 - a. Sara - it's another area that Public Safety would have to patrol and students may take advantage of it. All of the departments moving to Linden will need to use that lot.
 5. Mihir - Renovating Linden hall will allow for certain departments to have a space that is closer to the student body and the rest of campus.
 6. Janelle - Pricing of tickets?
 - a. Sara - They can't change it - a community service alternative is not plausible due to public safety patrols. First ticket *should* be a warning (will be brought up again).
 7. Katelynn - When are Linden renovations supposed to happen?
 8. Mihir - There is a long term process of renovations going on around campus.
 9. Shannon - Can these renovations happen over the summer when less people are here?

- a. Sara - Safety issues need to be addressed first, so those are being fixed asap.
- ii. David - ITS: u-achieve will be out on the 4th and possibly 5th, for now and next semester, there may be difficulty with front desk as there were budget cuts, printing system will change to papercut next semester, possibly printing in dorms
 1. David - Papercut: using an app on your phone to print (most colleges use it).
 2. Desiree - Will using the residence hall office printers pose a problem to RAs?
 - a. David - The printers will be moved outside of the offices so both office members and residents can use them.
- iii. Aidan - Dining Services: Working to set up a tabling in Birch Tree Inn for next semester to increase student and faculty communication. Also looking for ideas for a SGA Co Sponsored night next semester, a few potential ideas were discussed. Also in relation to cross contamination and allergens, a social media PSA is underway as I've been told by Dean Van Der Wall and I plan to follow up with questions about that at the next meeting.
 1. Janelle - Breakfast for Dinner cosponsorship
- iv. Stephen - HGS: We discussed the "Meet the Faculty Event," which we found went well! We're now planning for our second one in the Spring semester! This second one would be more alumni-focused, to connect students within HGS with future careers and connections. We're working closely with the Dean's advisory board to frequently update the TVs with new information and even an "HGS Star of the Month" and our HGS Instagram page. The Dean had also sent out an email to all HGS students with the Advisement Survey.
- v. Mihir - Facilities Management: Addressed about many of the concerns brought up by students, such as bug infestations, black mold issues, doors not operating properly, and the arch's current condition. As for current projects, bird decals will soon be implemented by C-Wing first, the village stairs are still being worked on and monitored concurrently, electric charging stations and their locations were addressed (Mackin/Bischoff, Student Center, Main Lots), the house that is located next to Bradley has

been purchased by the college and is being knocked down, and addressed issues between residence halls and proper recycling.

1. Desiree - Elevator in the parking deck has been broken for a while. Nobody seems to be talking about it or bringing it up.
 - a. Mihir - She hasn't heard about the issue
 2. Shannon + Madi - mold and bugs
 - a. Mihir - Mold: There is a lot of back and forth between facilities and Res Life. Facilities haven't been receiving many complaints on the mold, so either it's not getting to the RAs, or the RAs aren't spreading the information.
 - b. Mihir - Bugs: There is a specific pest control company that the school uses. If the bugs aren't a "threat" they can't do much about it. The response by facilities to the Village students' concerns wasn't an appropriate response (stating that students needed to be more clean, should vacuum the windows, etc.). There was an apology for how it was handled. Potential community vacuum through the RAs for students that need them.
 3. Sara - When the elevator in the parking deck is fixed, can covers be put on the buttons for safety reasons?
 4. Desiree - A lot of schools have vacuums for students to borrow and use, so that would be great to implement.
- vi. Evelyn - TAS: Spoke about setting up a TAS Alumni Panel in the spring semester as well as arranging a dean's dinner. Dean Saiff suggested the second week of February as well as the York Room. Regarding Deans' Lists on TVs he's currently working on it and likes the idea, as well as suggested that a mass list of people on the dean's lists across the schools be compiled and shared across all TVs on campus. He liked the advisement survey and advised us to promote it on our Instagram and other social media.
1. Nicole - She spoke with the ASB dean about the mass list and he didn't like the idea, as it's too many people to wait to see your name and take a picture - Evelyn and Janelle agree.
- vii. Eileen - When meeting with my liaison for Athletics we discussed firstly the success of the new equipment installed in the fitness center. Further on,

we discussed potential upcoming projects for the fitness center as well as for the athletics team in general. There has also been progress with sharing the posts that athletics make and SGA reposting them which has increased the amount of people who come to the athletic events. As more projects are being planned but won't be finalized until the end of the month there is not much to report on besides the success of the new equipment!

- viii. Sean - During my liaison meeting for the CSI, led by Eddie Seavers, several agenda items were discussed. Notable updates included upcoming events, progress reports on Greek life initiatives, and plans for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Projects highlighted encompassed the Trans Day of Remembrance, featuring a proclamation and vigil at the Arch on November 20th, as well as a self-care event with Teveland Sanctuary Farm in Friends Hall. The Semi Formal event, scheduled for December 2nd, was emphasized as a fundraising opportunity with \$5.00 admission for students and \$10.00 for non-students, with all proceeds directed to St. Jude's Hospital. Noteworthy advancements in Greek life engagement were revealed, including the recognition of sororities and fraternities with ordered banners, soon to be implemented at Laurel Courts. Another important topic that was talked about was Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week. Eddie Addressed concerns raised by a spring 2023 survey indicating that 33% of students worry about food security, the meeting highlights ongoing efforts to provide resources and support to alleviate such concerns.
- ix. Desiree - CA: Dean Goldstein is advocating for the Multi-Organizational Event Planning and Bill 2023-05 to be a fully student driven initiative. He stressed he is here to offer any support we need, but doesn't want to overstep and be a part of the decision making. I shared some of the topics and ideas that came up in our meeting and wanted to remind us to be specific in our goals for these events and to not be hesitant to make our decisions. He reiterated that no matter what we did some people will be unhappy, but we ultimately have to stand by our own decisions. Lastly, he stated arguing is not the problem we should avoid, but retaliation is. He wants students to be aware of their rights to protests and right to speak. Additionally, the CA Student Advisory Board was a complete flop this semester, so next semester we are going to make a predetermined schedule

with all the meetings days and times in order to be more functional. We still have plenty of open seats.

1. Desiree: If anyone knows any reputable CA students, please let them know about the student advisory board!
 2. Sara - Is there an update on the advisement survey?
 - a. Desiree - It has been live for about a week and there are currently 106 responses. It was sent through Connect, so almost everyone should have received it. The data will be looked through most likely over break.
 - b. Madi - The data can be brought up during open forum or General meetings.
 - c. Shannon - Information that you receive over break can be sent to the GroupMe, as opposed to waiting until we're back in session.
 3. - Where can we find more information on the advisory board?
 - a. Desiree - Reach out to Desiree about it.
 4. Janelle - Bringing up the communications professor who posted something inappropriate regarding current events on Facebook to Dean Goldstein.
- x. Amanda - First-Gen: It's almost the end of first gen month!! A lot of events were put on this year to celebrate and there are hopes to make this a big campus wide event every year. There's still a couple more activities happening before break, on November 30th at 1pm there will be a panel dedicated to helping first-gen high school students with their transition into college and what they should expect from their first year.
- OSS: Discussed the OSS ArtExpo, it was a nice turnout and they are happy to bring the event back to Ramapo! If you notice any accessibility issues around campus please let me, facilities, or OSS know.
1. Madi - Are there any updates on the financial issues regarding OSS?
 - a. Amanda - OSS wants to add another counselor to their team, as there is an increasing number of students, and spoke to President Jebb about it.
- xi. Madi (Dean of Students): Spoke more on the global task force and compared to the current college emergency response plan. Worked with

Dean VanDerWall and Evan the fire marshal to get 2 doses of narcan in all 16 AEDs on campus. Evan will put it in the daily digest to promote. This Thursday 11/30 at 12:00pm the College Wellness Room will be opening in E- 216 and she would love SGA support/attendance.

1. Janelle - What are the hours for the wellness room?
 - a. Monday through Friday: 9 am to 10 pm, Saturday: 4pm to 10 pm, Sunday: 3 pm to 8 pm
 2. Janelle - Have new AEDs been placed around campus?
 - a. Madi - They have added more AEDs (now 16) and they're still working on getting them in the residence halls.
 3. Desiree - How long can you book the room?
 - a. Shannon - You have to go to CSI, sign out the key, unlock the room, return the key, then return to the room for your 30-minute appointment. Can be booked for up to 3 people, for 30-minute slots.
 - b. <https://ramapo.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4e4a2e1e827d9e7b05588e355&id=5ad824490f&e=414784edf4>
- xii. Madi (SSHS): The Spring 2023 SSHS Dean's List names are up and running! They are rotating in the G-Wing. Dean Lorenz has finally sent out an email trying to get the dean advisory board back up. Loved the idea of the Dean's Dinner with the Academic Affairs Committee and was in full support of the advisement form.
1. Madi - Dean Advisory Board will try to meet once at the end of this semester.
- xiii. Katelynn (Cahill Career Center): Discussed getting engagement with the center to be higher, could do this through making it a requirement on pathways to look at events the center is holding and write down ones that interest/apply to you or attending one, as well as promoting connecting with your career advisor (potentially making a group advisement session with upperclassmen a requirement so they can utilize their advisors as a resource). We also discussed ways the center has outreach, such as having speakers at clubs and orgs, and how we could promote the center as a resource during RLI. First destination survey is out for students graduating

in January, so if that applies to you you should fill that out, as well as everyone should download Handshake and keep notifications on so you can learn about opportunities. They also updated the website, and you can see the report with stats on past students post-graduation on the updated site.

1. Janelle - How is the career center a resource for clubs?
 - a. Katelynn - Many clubs may pertain to a certain field, so the career center can come up with topics and bring in speakers that align with the club's interests.
 - b. Janelle - If they want to speak during RLI, they should make it a separate session for career/academic-based clubs to attend.
 2. Shannon - Is there an update for how Pathways is going this year, performance-wise? How many students are completing, passing, failing, etc?
- xiv. **Alex Frisch:TITLE IX:** Meet with Kat Mcgee on 11/08/2023 at 4:00 pm in her office. We discussed co-sponsors for a student art media contest which will be in March. I haven't started but I am currently in the process of writing a proposal for this event. We talked about who could be judges for this event. We talked about having the presence of counseling services to provide a resource for students who feel uncomfortable or anxious during this event. We also talked about if SGA would be willing to be a co-sponsor of this event. We are assisting Desiree's help with finding judges for this contest. We are also talking about having the Office Of Violence Prevention as a co-sponsor. We are asking for the School of Contemporary Arts to provide judges for the art contest. We are asking CA to help announce these when it's ready. Our next meeting will be 11/29/2023 despite the completion of the three required liaison meetings.
1. Desiree - What is the event exactly?
 - a. Alex - an art contest (any form of art) to help educate the student body on the subject of Title IX.
 2. Madi - If they want to reach out for the co-sponsorship, the form is on Archway for them to fill out.

- xv. Didi Mun (Roukema Center): International Education week ended well. If you are interested in applying for Summer 2024 Study abroad/Intern please do ASAP.
- xvi. Patricia Kalaidjian (Center of Health and Counseling): The Wellness Room grand opening is this Thursday 11/30 at 12pm – Ribbon: cutting, speeches with President Jebb. Therapy animals will be there from 1-3pm. Flyer available if needed.
 - 1. Shannon - Could you print the flyer and have one posted in the office?
 - b. Madi - We need someone to sign up to be the Library Liaison
 - i. Sara has volunteered to do it but will check with Shanel, who may also be interested in taking on the position.

V. Public Comment

a.

VI. Open Forum

- a. Shannon - Do we want to see a comeback of the final snack ferry or late night study hours during finals? (would count for event (snack ferry)/community service requirements (study hours)) If yes, who would like to take the lead on the snack ferry and contact the dean of the learning commons?
 - i. Mihir - What are the late night study hours?
 - 1. Shannon - The office was open later for studying but only SGA members really showed up.
 - 2. Janelle - The study hours doesn't seem to be beneficial, as no outside students seemed to use it.
 - 3. Madi - If we implemented the quiet study hours it may be helpful for some SGA members (or the general student body) to come be quiet and do some work.
 - 4. Mihir - Christine may have mentioned a coffee bar in the office, which could be an incentive to draw people in to study.
 - 5. Janelle - Who would monitor if people are being quiet?
 - a. Shannon - One person, a member of SGA E-board maybe, could be in charge of "monitoring" and telling people to be quiet.
 - 6. Nicole - The coffee bar could make the office a place to unwind/destress to take a break from work.

- a. Mihir - The coffee bar and maybe some candy could make the office a nice social place to destress during the craziness of finals.
- b. Janelle - CPB Snowball Formal
 - i. Janelle - This Saturday (12/2) and all funds are going to St. Jude's. Tickets are being pre sold but will also be sold at the door. Semi-formal, so dress nice. There will be music and a photo booth.
 - ii. Sara - Can you send a flyer for the event?
 - 1. Janelle - Will send it in the GroupMe
 - iii. Janelle - We are accepting volunteers, so if you need community service hours (~4 hours) reach out.
- c. David - Campus Cleanup tomorrow (11/28) if you need more service hours.
 - i. Katelynn - If you have hours done but can't get them submitted in time due to the form needing to be signed, do we need to do more hours to make up for it?
 - 1. Shannon - Reach out to Stephanie.
 - 2. David - Stefanie said if you have hours that haven't been signed, you don't have to attend.
- d. Shannon - Many people haven't completed their community service and event requirements for the semester. It is a requirement of your position. The trackers are in the previous agenda and will be updated in the agenda for General.
 - i. David - Is there a sign-up for the gingerbread event?
 - 1. Shannon - Will reach out to Christine to get information.
- e. Sara - If you're working on the bill please stay after for a little bit

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time: 8:22 PM**
 - i. **Moved: David**
 - ii. **Second: Nicole**