

1/31/2023 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 1/31/2023]

Meeting called to order on [1/31] at [1:04 pm] on Friends Hall

I. Roll Call -

- a. President Victor Oluwagbemi
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary Pranish Khanal
- d. Treasurer Riley Stein
- e. Chief of Staff Ekaprana Ramesh
- f. Secretary of Academic Affairs Samantha Schley (late excused)
- g. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Alan Rosenberg
- h. Secretary of Delegate Affairs
- i. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Luis Saenz
- j. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
- k. Secretary of Programming Christine Defeo
- l. Secretary of Public Relations Oliver Mejia
- m. Secretary of Residential Affairs
- n. Secretary of Sustainability Kristen Senesi
- o. Secretary of Service Stefanie Viera
- p. Chief Justice Liz Mendicino
- q. Conduct Justice Ryan Campos
- r. Procedural Justice Lena Mardini
- s. Senate President/ SSHS School Senator Madison Weeks
- t. Senate Vice President/ TAS School Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich
- u. Senate Secretary Danielle Rosengrant
- v. ASB School Senator: Nicole Cohen
- w. CA School Senator: Desiree Bounds
- x. HGS School Senator: Stephen Raymond
- y. Senator Janelle Boamah
- z. Senator Aidan D'Oria

- aa. Senator Alexander Frisch
- bb. Senator David George
- cc. Senator Katelynn Haury
- dd. Senator Sara Hosbach
- ee. Senator Eileen Jaquez
- ff. Senator Mihir Jariwala
- gg. Senator Shanel Lopez
- hh. Senator Daeun Mun
- ii. Senator Amanda Shortt
- jj. Senator Andrew Zhang
 - i. Present:
 - ii. Late:
 - iii. Excused:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - iv. Absent:

II. Mission Statement (Read by Eileen)

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 (Read by Eileen)

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. Approving Meeting Minutes

- a. Minutes from 12/06
 - i. Moved: Stephen
 - ii. Seconded: David
 - 1. 14-0-1

V. President's Announcements

a. Sign-Ups

- i. Please sign up for office hours [here](#).
- ii. Please sign up for a committee [here](#).
- iii. Warning*** You have an obligation to fulfill your requirements as well as be present during your office hours and showing up to the committee meetings that you signed up for... take accountability

b. Decorum

- i. Professional conversations - Robert's Rules of order
- ii. Agree to disagree - **Respectfully**
- iii. Do our best to continue maintaining good working relationships
- iv. Sunday's discussion
 1. Closed meetings are supposed to be private and respectful conversations, but there was a lack of undivided attention for those who spoke (As moderator, I take part of the blame)

c. ResLife Changes

- i. Renovating and "refreshing" the Village
 1. Summer 2024 - Completion of stair project in Quad 1 and Hopefully Quad 3
 2. Fall 2024 - Extending stair project for Quad 2 to be worked on during the semester and "refreshing" the village dorms for the Spring of '25
- ii. Housing Application Portal for Fall 2024 - Individual applicants will not be participating in the third step in the housing selection process
 1. **Note:** Individuals still have guaranteed housing... they just will not have the ability to select where they would like to go. This will only be effective in Fall 2024, as the work should be completed over the semester (working on Quad 2). Spring 2025, housing procedure will return to its typical protocol
 2. Reasoning: Not enough space to fulfill everyone's desires in terms of selection and since groups of 2 and 4 are prioritized, individuals will not be able to participate
- iii. Questions:
 1. Why is it being done during the school year and not during summer?
 - a. Dean van Der Wall: The process takes a long time to manufacture and install this in the Village. If we were to only do it during the Summer it will take much longer to finish the project.
 2. Why are doing Quad 3 before Quad 2?
 - a. Dean: Will get back into it later.

d. Alternative Spring Break Application

- i. Applications for the Alternative Spring Break offerings for the Spring 2024 semester close February 7th at midnight. To learn more about the trips focused around trail work/environment (Tennessee), Black and Indigenous experiences in the United States (Washington, D.C), or food insecurity (Hudson Valley), visit the [Civic and Community Engagement Center's website](#). Apply on Archway!
- e. Next General Meeting
 - i. Have Questions ready for Jeff Dannhardt, general manager for dining services
 - ii. Add questions to [this document](#)
- f. [Step Up Vax Up](#) - peer-to-peer immunization education PSA campaign
 - i. The goal of the contest is to get students involved in educating other students about the COVID-19, Human papillomavirus (HPV), Meningococcal, or Influenza (Flu) vaccine. You can learn more about the guidelines [here](#)
 - ii. Students enrolled in a New Jersey college or university are eligible to participate in the contest. Cash prizes are awarded for first (\$5,000), second (\$2,000) and third place (\$1,500) student submissions.
 - iii. April 30, 2024 is the submission deadline
- g. Black History Month Opening Proclamation
 - i. The Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Compliance is inviting all students, faculty and staff to the Black History Month Opening Proclamation Ceremony tomorrow, Thursday, February 1st, at 1:15 p.m. in Friends Hall
 - ii. The program will begin with a performance by the CantaNOVA and Chorale choir, followed by a reading of the opening proclamation by President Jebb and a performance by Poet & Author Felicia Sherelle. Lunch will be served.
- h. President Jebb
 - i. We have to be able to talk to one another and not be afraid to speak up. I am requesting you that we build up on that and build a community off that.
 1. Riley: There are people who say that it used to be more engaging in the past. How are we doing that?
 - a. We are planning on doing more events on weekends, Friday nights and other times. You as a leader should also think about the people who are in succession after you. Look at your structures and see who is with you and after you.
 2. Janelle: We often have issues with events on campus that CPB and other clubs do because of budgeting, and sometimes planned events can't happen because of budgeting.
 - a. I recently approved the budget that was requested of me for the event that you requested.
 3. Will it be possible to do two involvement fairs each semester to have more opportunities to meet with organizations and clubs?
 4. Riley: Greek life has taken a big hit because of Covid and the size of organizations have slowed. Is it possible to advertise them and improve participation?
 - a. If you see a problem like that, make sure you talk to your advisors and the people that are responsible for it.
 - ii. We are planning on doing weekend events so students have events to participate in and be

involved. At the same time, if what is being done on campus right now is not enough for people to come to events, we should look for additional ways to increase engagement on campus.

- iii. Rick: We also need all the student leaders to help us with engaging participation and spreading the word about events going on in campus.

VI. Cabinet Reports

a. Vice President

- i. Club Process - Meeting today at 3:15 in A103!

- 1. Club Creation - If you or someone you know is interested in starting a club, please email sgaclubs@ramapo.edu

- ii. Cabinet -

- 1. Cabinet Reports - Please don't wait until the last minute to work on your reports 😊

b. Secretary Pranish Khanal

- i. Please do your office hours and do not forget to track it using the QR Code. It will be reviewed every week. If the QR code is not working for you, do let me know. If you have not signed up for office hours yet, please do it. Please do not sign up for shifts that already have 3 people in it.

People who have not signed up for office hours:

- 1. James Pascal
- 2. Lena Mardini
- 3. Sophia Riccobono-Baran
- 4. Jane Gerber
- 5. Caroline Clarke
- 6. Kyle Socha
- 7. Yasmin Pesharov
- 8. Vince Ballota
- 9. Gillian Forbes
- 10. Jackie Reed
- 11. Ivonne Ovalles
- 12. Bahaa Hussein
- 13. Sarah Chavan-Janke

c. Treasurer Riley Stein

- i. Pcard:


- 1. Ask at least 5 days in advance
 - 2. If you file on your own make sure to be extremely specific in the description so SARM knows which budget it's taking from

- ii. Co-Sponsorship: \$1,749

d. Chief of Staff Ekaprana Ramesh

- i. Introduction of self

- ii. Cabinet meetings start next week (02/07 at 7pm)
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs Samantha Schley
 - i. First committee meeting will be 2/14/24 from 3:15 to 4:15. Location is still to be decided.
- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Alan Rosenberg
 - i. First committee meeting will be tomorrow Feb 1 from 1 to 2 in A-100
 - ii. First Commuter Breakfast will be Feb 5 at 8:30 AM on the 2nd Floor of the Student Center
 - iii. DIY Valentine's Day Card Making Feb 9 in J Lees at 1PM
- g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs
 - i.
- h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion
 - i.
- b. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Luis Seanz
 - i. nothing to report:)
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
 - i. The Governmental affairs committee will be up in running soon once we decide on a time and date.
 - ii. If there is any Higher Education bill in the state legislature you would like the SGA to support. I am always open to work with everyone and draft a bill for approval.
- j. Secretary of Programming Christine DeFeo
 - i. Big thank you to everyone who came to help with laser tag last week! We had a great turnout!
 - ii. Have any program ideas you want to see the SGA do? Please reach out to me either face to face or DM me :)
- k. Secretary of Public Relations Oliver Meija
 - i. Nothing to report.
- l. Secretary of Residential Affairs
 - i.
- m. Secretary of Sustainability Kristen Senesi
 - i. First Sustainability meeting on Wednesday the 7th from 3:30-4:30 if you're interested!
- n. Secretary of Service Stefanie Viera
 - i. Will create volunteer tracking soon
 - ii. More volunteer opportunities this semester — Coordinator for community engagement Allie Shapiro
 - iii. Community Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown
 - iv. Habitat for Humanity
 - v. Mahwah Senior Center
 - vi. MEVO

- vii. NYNJ Trail Conference
- viii. Pony Power
- o. Chief Justice Liz Mendicino
 - i. Please review  SGA Infraction Policy '23 - '24
 - ii. All requirements due **MAY 1ST**
- p. Senate President Madison Weeks
 - i. Senate will be in ASB 230 from 7-9pm this semester
 - ii. Approved the Chemistry Club
 - iii. Senate liaison reports are due 2/26, 3/25, and 4/15
- q. Student Trustee Gloria Jeong
 - i. I am always looking for student feedback and satisfaction that should be brought to the Board, Dean of Students, President Jebb, members of the MET, and faculty/staff leaders on campus. Come talk to me about anything! :-)
 - ii. BOT met on 1/30/24
 - 1. Approved the meeting minutes of October 2023
 - 2. The following resolutions were approved:
 - a. Certificates: Ethics, Business Foundations, Machine Learning Engineer, Data Analyst, Data Modeler
 - b. Audited Financial Statements
 - c. Revitalize, Renew, Retool: Ramapo's Comprehensive Facilities Plan
 - d. Bid waivers
 - e. Adjusted tuition for Accelerated BSN
 - 3. Next meeting is 4/16/24
 - 4. As always, more information of the Board can be found here:
<https://www.ramapo.edu/board/>
 - iii. The Board and I are looking for an ALTERNATE STUDENT TRUSTEE!
 - 1. The application is now online. Thank you all for the feedback with ! Apply here:
<https://www.ramapo.edu/student-affairs/alternate-student-trustee-application-process/>
Please do feel free to share the link to
 - 2. Anyone who meets the requirements is welcome to apply:

- a.
 - 1) Be 18 years of age or older.
 - 2) Be a citizen of the United States (dictated by NJ legislation).
 - 3) Be a regularly matriculated, full time student at RCNJ and have earned at least 12 credits.
 - 4) Have **at least three academic semesters remaining (including Spring 2024)** at Ramapo College
3. Term will begin 4/16/24 and will end on 6/30/24. Student Trustee (voting member) term begins on 7/1/24 and will end on 6/30/25.
- iv. Questions:
 1. Have you spoken to the Delegates yet about the Student Trustee position?
 - a. Yes I did speak with them before and I will pass on the information again about it.

VII. New Business

- a. Reports from SGA Members on College-Wide Committees
 - i.
 - ii.

VIII. Public Comment

- a.

IX. Open Forum

- a. Jack : Student Leadership Awards Applications are now open. For more information contact [Jack Nesmith](#) .
- b. Janelle- CPB Taste of Africa Event
- c. Alex F- I wanted to know when the sga will post a new event requirements sheet and community service sheet for 2024.
- d. Oliver - RMCG is having their first meeting on Monday, February 5th at 1 pm in ASB 135. Free food!
- e. Riley - Meet the Greeks Feb 5th
- f. Christine - Sorority Recruitment is coming up, last day to sign up is Feb 5th at 11:59pm!

X. Adjournment at 2:37

- a. Moved by Desiree, seconded by David