

02/26/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 02/26/2024]

Meeting called to order on [02/26/2024] at 7:03 pm in ASB - 230

I. Roll Call

- a. President Victor Oluwagbemi
 - 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 Juliana Campagna
 - k. Senator Aidan D’Oria
 - l. Senator Alex Frisch
 - m. Senator David George
 - n. Senator Katelynn Haury
 - o. Senator Sara Hosbach
 - p. Senator Eileen Jaquez
 - q. Senator Mihir Jariwala
 - r. Senator Brian Joseph
 - s. Senator Shanel Lopez
 - t. Senator Franco Miyashiro
 - u. Senator Daeun Mun
 - v. Senator Amanda Shortt
 - w. Senator Matthew Zegla
- i. Present: 18
 - ii. Late: Daeun Mun (Excused), Desiree Bounds
 - iii. Absent: Nicole Cohen (Excused), Amanda Shortt (Excused), Madison Weeks (Excused), Eileen Jaquez (Excused)


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.  02/19/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes
 - i. Moved: Mihir
 - ii. Second: Alex
 - iii. 14-0-1

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. The first liaison report is due today!
 - i. Next report is due 3/25 (the day after spring break), so I urge you all to contact your liaisons TONIGHT rather than later.
 - ii. Newly elected senators will be expected to have their reports in for the 3/25 due date. If you have questions or need help don't hesitate to reach out for help.
- b. Reminder! If you would like to present a bill, please send it to BOTH Evelyn and myself
 - i. Unless it is urgent, please make sure you get it to us before Saturday 11:59pm before the next senate meeting for us to review.

IV. New Business

- a. Liaison Reports
 - i. Please write your name, liaison, and summary points from your report below in the **MINUTES**
 - 1. Madison Weeks/SSHS: Attempting to start having SSHS Dean Advisory meetings online in order to increase availability; we will

be bringing the peer mentorship program up to the board for help. Dean Lorenz is all for the Dean's Dinner, but says a Dean's Lunch may be more accessible for scheduling purposes. If anyone feels they need more options for the career fair, reach out to the career center so they are aware (Dean Lorenz is willing to help). SSHS is hosting a SSHS Advisement Extravaganza 3/11-15 10:00am - 2:00pm every day that week. Students have a one-stop shop to ask for help with fall advisement.

2. Madison Weeks/Dean of Students: Remembrance Day (a day to pay respects to anyone we have lost from the Ramapo Community) will be March 6 at 2:00pm in the Berrie Center. The office of the Dean of Students is working on updating the Student Dissent Policy. For the voting day bill, Dean VDW suggests doing research into other state colleges that have voting day off. She also pointed out that all days off have to be negotiated with the Union so obtaining the day off for 2024 is unlikely, but could be possible for future years after negotiations.
3. Alex Frisch Kate McGee Title IX: April 3 Synposium Sexual Assault Awareness month 2pm start time end time 4:15pm with president Jebb at pavilion Projects: Call for artists: Drafting announcement email Kate McGee for template from specialized services. Assistance: OVP, OSS, Title IX Law and Society Conveing Group, Law School Prep Club Notes - Save the Date for april
4. Danielle Rosengrant/Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Services: Discussed upcoming events for Women's Herstory Month and the gender inclusive bathrooms in the student center. Emphasis on SGA attendance at as many of the events as possible. Hidden Gems Pop-Up Shops: volunteers will be needed for traffic control and leading people to the Trustees Pavilion. Performers requested for the Vagina Monologues performance (volunteer hours!!). We empathize with the student that had an uncomfortable experience in the gender neutral bathrooms. Adding a lock to the bathroom or removing the urinals is not an option (providing more options, as

- opposed to less). As the SGA, we can emphasize the signs being there to provide insight on the type of bathroom.
5. Sara Hosbach/Public Safety: There will be a new director of public safety. The selection has yet to be made, but our new point of contact will be Nicole Morgan Agard and Director McLaurin emphasized that if we need anything to come right into the public safety office.
 6. Shanel Lopez + Sara Hosbach/Dean of Library: vinyl letters update: signs are being made now and will get fixed
 7. (in progress) – near the stairwell and elevators. It'll go 4,3,2,1 instead of 1,2,3,4 ; series dedicated to discussion in regards to the Palestine and Israel issue. Will have art up in the lobby after spring break. Students will be given a series of questions and you'll record yourself and record your answers. There will be huge art articulation. Hope it gives a voice to students who don't feel comfortable coming forward. The Students' answers are anonymous. If it's popular, we can do it for upcoming elections or graduation; extended hours during finals; photo exhibit on 3rd floor take a look before it closes soon
 - a. Mihir - On the second floor, there are a lot of Native American artifacts. Will there be some kind of event or an opportunity to advertise/bring them to light for students to look at?
 8. Stephen Raymond/HGS: Involvement within the School of Humanities and Global Studies has been low, especially in attendance at events through the Cahill Career Development Center such as career fairs, which came as a concern from the HGS Career Center Liaison. Discussed utilizing more of the school's HGS Instagram page, and using Connect to inform students about upcoming events on campus. The Englewood Makes History project, and a partnership with the School of Humanities and Global Studies to look into the history of the town of Englewood and its past communities. CRWT 101S has been working well in substitution of the CRWT 080, and 090 (these classes don't offer credits) courses, this way they can get credit in these classes.

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- a. Katelynn - How/when was the data collected to show grade improvement regarding the CRWT101S course?
 - i. Stephen - Grades were shown to improve over last semester with this supplementary course, so they'll be keeping it. Also, it allows the course to count as credits towards one's GPA.
9. Evelyn Voitsekhovich/TAS: Will work on organizing a TAS alumni panel for later in the semester. Spoke about arranging a dean's dinner and about forming a TAS Dean's Advisory Council as well as having an interest meeting for the council. Sent out an email regarding creation of the council and had the first meeting the following week.
10. Shanel Lopez/OVP: Healthy Love Party this Wednesday, February 28th from 12-2pm. Student center, 2nd Floor Lobby. Card making, red flag/green flag with relationships, and safer sex supply information. Safer sex information will be discussed and demonstrated. April: sexual assault awareness month symposium (need sga support). The President is doing a proclamation. Denim Day 8-11pm in April (date is TBD). Will need money, models, and set up volunteers. Coffee and tea with OVP in April (date and time TBD).
 - a. Victor - Please let me know the details so we can have volunteers sign up.
11. David George/ITS: The password reset was a success - 37,000 inactive email accounts were discovered and cannot be used to hack the Ramapo network. It was done at the beginning of the semester because there were not many exams and it was the least problematic time. The next maintenance weekend is St. Patrick's Day weekend. Between now and October 2025, there will be computer upgrades, more classroom rearrangements, increase in spare computers, and more BYOD stations. Any complaints about the printing system?
 - a. Evelyn - Why was the password change a 24-hour period?
 - i. David - Based on previous experience, the timeline wouldn't make a difference on how many people

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did it. IT didn't know they were doing it until short notice.

- a. What is a BYOD station?
 - i. David - Station where you can plug in your laptops, charge them, and sit and do your work (as opposed to desktops). Some computers will be taken out of the classrooms because they aren't being used to make things more efficient. These will then be used as spare/loaner computers.
 - b. Katelynn - Were inactivated email accounts just deleted?
 - i. David - I'm not sure if accounts were deleted or just marked as inactive. They'll probably just provide you with another email.
 - b. Katelynn - I've had WiFi issues on my computer, regardless of area on campus. Have there been any issues?
 - ii. David - It may be due to dead spots across campus. Help tickets can be sent to IT or you can go to the library IT desk for assistance.

12. Mihir Jariwala/Facilities: There will be a lot of projects coming to completion in the summer, such as the E-Wing first floor for nursing classes, the Village Stairs should all be finished then too, as well as implementing a new generator for the one by the student center. The Bird decals are ready to be placed, just looking for a couple of days straight of good weather to implement them in C-Wing. If you need to speed up maintenance for a work order, you can call (201) 684-7660 (facilities help desk)

- a. Sara - Do they have a system to check the automated doors across campus? A lot of them don't work.
 - i. Mihir - I will bring it up with facilities.
 - ii. Danielle - It may have been mentioned during the facilities presentation at general last week, so it may be on their to-do list.
- b. Victor - Will only Quad 1 and 3's stairs be done by the end of the summer? Will Quad 2 still be closed next semester?

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- i. Mihir - It seems like the stairs will be done over the summer but other renovations will continue throughout the semester. I will get more information and update everyone.
 - c. Katelynn - I know Quad 2 is supposed to be closed, but are some buildings in 3 also supposed to be closed?
 - i. Janelle - Buildings 20 and 22 will also be closed.
 - ii. Mihir - I will find out details regarding the projects.
- 13. Katelynn Haury/Cahill Career Center: Next week on Wednesday, March 6th is the Career Fair in Bradley from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, and the center hopes that all of SGA will attend (and spread the word - we want to promote attendance)! There is also a pilot program to financially assist students with summer co-ops. We also discussed partnering to promote the We Care professional clothing closet, as well as student concerns with Pathways: you can register up until the first day, the AI can help with formatting issues on the employers side (it is better to create a new resume in the module), and with feedback there is an option to go to email and meet with peers for help. Additionally the TAS advisor is no longer vacant. In regards to tailoring Pathways to more specific majors, (e.g. with portfolios or CV's), Pathways is meant to be completed before you start your major work and it has general information that applies to everyone like resumes for jobs, and in regards to tailoring to post-grad specific plans (like medical school or graduate school), you can meet with your career advisors and faculty members in academic advising to get specific assistance. We want to promote a relationship with career advisors, so it is good to meet with them for sessions especially in the two years post-pathways. We discussed a check-in after pathways to promote advisement meetings or potential required group meetings post-pathways.
 - a. Desiree - CA summer program? Can you go more into depth about that? How can students apply?
 - i. Katelynn - A program to financially assist students who are choosing to do their co-op during the summer. The cost of tuition for these credits and

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- extra money for transportation will be awarded to six students. I will find out about applications. It's a new pilot program, so more details forthcoming.
- b. Brian - Juniors and Seniors tend to do pathways very late because it's a graduation requirement. Is there a way to enforce/encourage students to take it sooner?
 - i. Katelynn - We've discussed this and can come up with some ideas.
14. Nicole Cohen/ASB: be on the lookout for speaker event with Bryce Gama, Chief Financial Officer at NBC Universal, Date TBD.
15. Eileen Jaquez/Athletics: Got a quick update on the gym equipment where the students and staff are loving the new equipment as well as there being a better turn out for the gym. Hoping to do future improvements regarding the music soon. Attendance for the winter sporting events have definitely been increasing because of how often the snack stands and other tablings. There are plans to have some tabling like this throughout the spring to increase the student involvement. ``Overall Athletics department is still looking for new and fresh ideas to increase the event attendance on campus.
16. Aidan D'Oria: Chicken is already halal in BTI, other meats are not. Dannhardt said "We are not halal certified and we are not going to be." due to expenses and difficulty in managing cross contamination of meats. Cooked veggies: you are able to ask the mongolian grill to stir fry vegetables or steam them if not available elsewhere in BTI -Aside from grilled chicken, you can't ask for much else unless you have allergies in which case dining is able to meet you halfway on some things. Looking to test BTI mic systems with a high school announcement style daily digest/ in the loop summary to see if it helps raise involvement.
- a. Katelynn - Regarding the cooked vegetables, is this only when the station is already open?
 1. Aidan - Assuming that it is only when the station is open.
 - ii. Desiree - What does he mean that "we are not Halal certified and we are not going to be"?

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1. Aidan - His exact words; too expensive and there is trouble with maintaining the grills and the cross-contamination.
 - iii. Janelle - If we were to create a bill, what would this do?
 - b. Victor - This could be a recommendation and could even be brought to a person who oversees dining services to try and encourage the change.
 - i. Katelynn - Do we have statistics on the number of students who look for halal and kosher dining options?
 - ii. Evelyn - Not sure, maybe we can send out a survey.
 - iii. Janelle - What if the SGA sends out a survey and asks students? Could it be a tabling event during dining hours?
 - iv. Evelyn - We should bring this up during general and ask Christine.
17. Janelle Boamah/ EOF: Just had a senior retreat. EOF is planning their 2024 senior retreat. The date will be announced. Transitioning event for after college. Encouraging students to attend the career fair. Helping them with marketing for EOF transfer students. The EOF mentor advantage program has begun and they have included faculty and staff. They need students to apply for summer positions. Supplemental instructor and peer mentor. Peer mentor is two sessions summer and fall and SI is only summer. Application is on handshake. You don't have to be an EOF student. To be an SI, talk to Natalie Quinones. To be a Peer mentor talk to Keivon Hemmings.
 - a. Katelynn - For the peer mentors, do they also get free fall housing? Or just summer housing?
 - i. Janelle - Just summer housing
 - b. Katelynn - Is transferring into the EOF program ongoing?
 - i. Yes, currently ongoing
18. Desiree S. Bounds/School of Contemporary Arts: Library Art Installation should be opening after Spring Break; the call for responses should be going out next week. In the process of creating a professional skills course for each individual major to address them the skills Pathways doesn't cover. There are conversations to

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revamp and rebrand some majors and concentrations in CA, also a work in progress. The 3D printing club should reach out directly to faculty or dean about the sharing of resources and the plans to use the printers. More music pop-ups are in the works. The goal is to have student performers at all major campus events (Open Houses, sporting events, etc.) Hoping to work up to an outdoor party in the grove: *The Rave at Ramapo*. Would like to increase outreach with the Haitian Art Exhibit guided tours and events, maybe reaching out to BSU to organize an event. Dean is interested in bringing it back “This Week at Ramapo”, but cannot be responsible for all the school’s events. He suggested a friendly competition of each section filming their own and engaging with each other. Can’t keep chasing students for the student advisory board, or will have to go about organizing the next meeting.

- a. Janelle - For the “This Week at Ramapo,” this is filmed like a TV show?
 - i. Desiree - Basically the daily digest (more expansive) with a cute intro, around 5-7 minutes.
 - ii. Janelle - If this is something that he’d like to bring back, I’d recommend reaching out to RCTV or Archtalk.
 - iii. Desiree - The issue isn’t who to reach out to, but who will continue to do this every week (write, film, edit every week). It’s a lot to organize. We need dedicated students.
- b. Janelle -Why hasn’t the CA dean’s list been posted?
 - i. Desiree - It’s in the Berrie center
 - ii. Janelle - It’s not in H-Wing
- c. Sara - If you know of anyone interested in performing at Relay for Life please let me know.
 - i. Janelle - We are also looking for performers for admitted students days.
- d. Evelyn - What about making “This Week at Ramapo” a paid position?

- i. Desiree - This would be a question for Alex in the marketing department.

19. Didi Mun / Roukeme Center for International Education: The deadline for Fall and Summer internship/study abroad applications is March 1st. Study Abroad Tabling this week 11 am-1 pm at the fishbowl. Everyone is welcome at Roukema Center, we always have snacks. There are language hours (Japanese and Korean). Check social media for events Name change

- a. Janelle - For the name change, does it have to be an “authentic” name or could it just be the “Ramapo International Center”
 - i. Didi - We were thinking something “Global” but it doesn’t have to be something specific.
- b. Katelynn - Are they looking for other languages for the language hours?
 - i. Didi - Look for social media posts, which are updated frequently.

b.  Senate Bill 2024-3: Spring 2024 Election Legislation

i. Discussion:

- 1. Desiree - How do the clauses regarding the secretary of PR work if the position is not filled?
 - a. Victor - This position is in the process of being filled, hopefully by the end of the week.
- 2. Moved: David
- 3. Second: Alex
- 4. 16-0-0

c. Discussion on a Potential New Liaison Contact

i. Dr. Labendz Director of the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

- 1. Katelynn - Is there a possibility of another liaison if he doesn’t want to?
 - a. Sara - He seems very supportive of the SGA and would most likely be the appropriate liaison for the Gross Center.

2. Evelyn - He seems very supportive as a professor and for SGA initiatives.
3. Katelynn - This could be a great avenue to explore, especially with continuing global awareness legislation and movements after Sara's graduation.
4. Janelle - What if Dr. Labendz isn't willing to do it?
 - a. Sara - I will talk to Dr. Labendz before bringing this up to Jack just to check with him.

V. Public Comment

- a. Sarah - Is it possible to have Apple pay at Birch?
 - i. Aidan - Last semester it was brought up, especially for areas like Atrium. We don't have the technology for the "tap" feature, but this is being pursued as we go into online order systems.
- b. Sarah - There doesn't seem to be many outlets on the second floor of the library.
 - i. Sara - Will be brought up to the library liaison/facilities.
 - ii. Mihir - Can I get more detail on the outlets?
 1. Sara - Just a general lack of outlets.

VI. Open Forum

- a. Evelyn - FEM in STEM this Thursday @ 4:30 pm in Trustees Pavilion! In honor of Women in STEM month, join Chemistry Club, GDSC, NAACH, and Engineering/Physics Club for a fun celebration! There will be a panel of female faculty, fun games, activities, prizes, and of course- free dinner! Dr. Petro, Dr. Kota, Dr. Yuster, Dr. Buna, and LaQuan Norman will be featured on the panel.
- b. Sara: Relay for Life kickoff, Uno tournament, Monday March 11th - alumni lounges, \$5 entry, Prizes, Food
- c. Sara: resources from Dr. Roni Mikel-Arieli, which included testimonies from people who experienced and witnessed the Hamas attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023, provided by Dr. Labendz – <https://www.edut710en.org/> <https://sfi.usc.edu/october7testimonies> <https://vha.usc.edu/>
- d. Victor - Birch Tree TV Announcements
 - i. Clubs are able to send an image/announcement to be displayed on the screen behind the cashier at Birch Tree Inn

- ii. The dimensions for the files they would like to present are 1920x1080 px (standard presentation size) saved as .jpg format
- iii. Any announcements you would like to add to the digital board can be emailed to voluwagb@ramapo.edu (me)
- iv. The deadline to submit announcement requests is every Wednesday at 11:59 pm
- v. The screen is updated every Friday only... keep this in mind as it will not be updated until the following week
- vi. ***Disclaimer: Your flier may not always be shown in the announcements depending on the volume of announcement requests - But the essential information will be present
 - 1. Katelynn - Does this only apply to student-led clubs?
 - a. Victor - I will get back to you on it. We may be able to add a slide or remove a current slide to fit this.
- e. Danielle - Upcoming Women's Herstory month events:
 - i. Monday, March 4th: Women's Herstory Month Proclamation
 - 1. 1:15-2pm in Alumni Lounges (SC-156-8)
 - ii. Wednesday, March 6th: Fems in Stem Collective
 - 1. 5-7pm in G-130 - documentary, discussion, and pizza!
 - iii. Thursday, March 7th: International Women's Day
 - 1. 1-3pm in Trustees Pavilion
 - 2. Woman-identifying global Roadrunners will be speaking, NAACH performance, Kahoot for prizes.
- f. Danielle - Biology Club Suturing Seminar event this Thursday from 1-3 in ASB-332!
- g. Janelle- Just a reminder with CPB volunteer hours!

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time:** 8:24
 - i. **Moved:** Alex
 - ii. **Second:** Janelle