

2/28/2023 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 2/28/2023]

Meeting called to order on [2/28] at [1:02 pm] in Friends Hall.

Find the meeting agenda [here](#).

I. Roll Call

- a. President Victor Oluwagbemi
- b. Vice President Oliver Mejia
- 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 Sarah Glisson
- 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
- 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/ SSHA 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 Matthew Zegla
- kk. Senator Brian Joseph
- ll. Senator Juliana Campagna
- mm. Senator Franco Miyashiro
 - i. Present:
 - ii. Late:
 - iii. Excused:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - iv. Absent:

II. Mission Statement [Read by Brian]

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 Brian]

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

IV. Approving Meeting Minutes

- a. Minutes from [02/21/2024](#)
 - i. Moved: David
 - ii. Seconded: Janelle

1. 12-0-1

V. President's Announcements

- a. Academic Policy Council - Needs a SGA Representative
 - i. The Academic Policy Council is an all-College advisory body responsible for the development and review of academic policies and procedures at Ramapo College.
 - ii. They are responsible for sharing information with, and gathering feedback from their groups (SGA in this case) regarding any academic policies under review, revision and/or creation. The SGA representative is a non-voting member who has voice on all council discussions and subcommittees.
 - iii. Here are their [bylaws](#) if you're curious
 - iv. Anyone interested????
 1. Liz
- b. Career Fair
 - i. There is a Career Fair in Bradley next Wednesday, March 6th from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
 - ii. We need 2-4 SGA volunteers to arrive at the Bradley Center at 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM to escort arriving employers to their tables
 1. Interested: David
- c. 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

VI. Allie Shapiro - CCEC

- a. Roles - Planning Alternative Spring Break and Managing Monthly Trips and community service, blood drive
- b. If we were to plan ahead we would be able to set up different trips and community service events on campus. For example, Habitat for Humanity has volunteering opportunities for large group of people.

c. Alt Trips:

- i. Washington, D.C. : The Memorialization of Minorities and Genocides in Washington, D.C.
 1. The group will be visiting the National Museum of African American History and Culture, along with the National Museum of the American Indian, learning about the history and culture of both Black and Indigenous peoples in the United States. Students will also visit the White House, Howard University, and do a self-guided walking tour exploring Black history in the Nation’s Capital. The group will have the opportunity to explore the National Mall and have free time as well. Please click here to see the tentative itinerary. This trip departs Sunday, March 17th, and returns Saturday, March 23rd.
- ii. Hudson Valley, New York (Commuting trip): Food Insecurity, FDR’s Four Freedoms, and Frances Perkins: Exploring the Origins of the Social Safety Net
 1. The group will visit the FDR Presidential Library and Museum to gain an overview and then explore the impact and ongoing legacy of Frances Perkins. As Secretary of Labor, Perkins was the first woman to serve in a president’s cabinet. Perkins is a key figure in the development of workers’ rights and protections and the social safety net. The group will also volunteer for two mornings at the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. This is a commuter trip with no overnight lodging. Trip leaves Ramapo College each morning with students traveling together with provided transportation. Please click here to see the tentative itinerary. This trip will take place on Monday, March 18th and Tuesday, March 19th
- iii. Dayton, TN : Trailblazers: Creating Paths and Connecting Communities in Tennessee and Beyond
 1. The group will partner with the Cumberland Trail Conference to work on and learn about the more than 300-mile-long Cumberland Trail. The group will have the opportunity to work on the Piney River Trail and Laurel Snow Trail. After days on the trail, students will have the opportunity to listen to evening presentations and programming on environmental stewardship. The group will have one free day in Chattanooga, Tennessee to explore the Incline Railway and Chattanooga Zoo, as well as enjoy some local bites. Please click here for the tentative itinerary. This trip departs on Saturday, March 16th and returns Sunday, March 24th

VII. Cabinet Reports

a. Vice President Oliver Mejia


i. Club Process -

1. If you or someone you know is interested in starting a club, please email sgaclubs@ramapo.edu
2. Allocations are available! - fill out [this form](#) if you are interested. Allocation meeting today at 4:00 pm in A103.

ii. Elections -

1. The Election Process is starting! A great thing about the SGA is that each year a new administration comes in to put forth their vision and strategy for the organization. During the last senate meeting [legislation](#) proposed by me and Victor, and introduced by Madi and Evelyn got passed. The bill has outlined information on how Elections will work, positions, and the timeline. As a reminder, all members of the SGA have a one academic year term, meaning all current members will have to re-apply for a position in the new SGA.
 2. Timeline: Applications open/close - (12:00 pm Sunday, March 3, 2024 - 5:00 pm Sunday, March 24, 2024) All election materials will be made available on Archway.
 - a. The voting platform used by the SGA in the General Elections is Qualtrics. In the application for positions you will see a question about a bio, this will be presented on Qualtrics so make sure to put your best foot forward.
 - b. Campaigning starts after spring break.
 3. Non-exhaustive Requirements:
 - a. Good academic standing
 - i. School Senators lie in their respective schools.
 - b. Running as a Party
 - i. The President & Vice President must run together as a party.
 - ii. Senators can also run as a party of 5 maximum.
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- b. Secretary Pranish Khanal
 - i. Nothing to report.
 - c. Treasurer Riley Stein
 - i. Nothing to report.
 - d. Chief of Staff Ekaprana Ramesh
 - i. Cabinet Reports are due tonight (02/28/24)!
 - e. Secretary of Academic Affairs Samantha Schley
 - i. Academic affairs committee meeting is canceled for today. The next meeting will be 3/13 at 3:15 in room A220.
 - f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Alan Rosenberg
 - i. Commuter Affairs Committee Meeting Feb 29 1-2 PM A-102
 - ii. Commuter Breakfast Mar 4 8:30 AM Student Center
 - g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Sarah Glisson
 - i. The next Delegate meeting will be next Thursday (March 7) 7-8 PM in A100.
 - h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion
 - i.
 - b. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Luis Seanz

- i.
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
 - i. I will meet with my liaison Pat O'Connor today at 3 pm today. I have a Governmental affairs committee from 4-5!
- j. Secretary of Programming Christine DeFeo
 - i. We will be participating in Relay for Life this year with a tabling - painting tote bags
 - 1. This will count as COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS
 - ii. After spring break (date TBD) we will be holding a Positive Posts event in the SGA office where we will encourage the student body to create post-it notes with kind/encouraging messages on them with us
 - 1. This will count as an EVENT REQUIREMENT
- k. Secretary of Public Relations
 - i.
- l. Secretary of Residential Affairs
 - i.
- m. Secretary of Sustainability Kristen Sensi
 - i. nothing to report
- n. Secretary of Service Stefanie Viera
 - i. Volunteer Fair Updates – have decided it would be wiser to postpone it to the fall with consideration to the time it will take to prepare it and student interests
 - 1. As a student, would you prefer it to be a part of the Involvement Fair or a separate event?
 - a. Pro of being part of involvement fair: guaranteed student involvement + no need to do marketing
 - b. Pro of being separate: bring attention to volunteering specifically
 - ii. Upcoming Service Trips
 - 1. [Land Stewardship with Tenafly Nature Center](#): Sunday, 03/03 from 12:15 - 3:45 PM
 - 2. [Move-In Day with Families for Families](#): Monday, 03/04 from 12:20 - 4:30 PM
 - 3. [Computer Literacy at the Mahwah Senior Center](#): Tuesday, 03/12 from 12:15 - 2:35 PM
 - 4. [Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown](#): Thursday, 03/14 from 5:15 - 8:30 PM
 - iii. Group service trip?
- o. Chief Justice Liz Mendicino
 - i. Nothing to Report
- p. Senate President Madison Weeks
 - i. Gave liaison reports
 - 1. Potential creation of a bill to encourage & recommend more halal and kosher options at Birch

- a. Alan: There are around 150 people who need kosher or halal options but I assume they are mostly commuters because of unavailability of these options on campus.
 - b. Janelle: A tabling would be a good idea to find out what people think and get more information about it. We could do multiple tabling in Birch, Paycaf, or the second floor of the Student Center.
 - c. Should we send out a survey inquiring how many students desire kosher and halal options? Hold a tabling event?
- ii. Passed  Senate Bill 2024-3: Spring 2024 Election Legislation
 - iii. Discussed a Potential New Liaison Contact: Dr. Labendz; Director of the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

VIII. New Business

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

IX. Public Comment

- a. Jack: Applications for Student Leadership Awards are still open. Please put one person's information in the reference information. In B226, on Feb 29 Jack is doing a Leadership Presentation at 1 PM.
- b. Rick: Women's HerStory month has proclamation on Monday 1:15 pm in Alumni Lounges. President Jebb and many other people will be speaking. Please attend.

X. Open Forum

- a. Evelyn - FEM in STEM this Thursday (tomorrow!) @ 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. 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.

- c. Danielle - Biology Club Suturing Seminar event this Thursday from 1-3 in ASB-332!
- d. Sara - Feb. 29 at 1:00 pm in Alumni Lounges. Description: Rasha Abousalem is an independent aid worker, who just came back from the Egyptian border with Gaza. She will report on the humanitarian conditions there.
- e. Sara - meeting with Public Safety on Friday let me know if you have anything to bring up
- f. Janelle- Open E-Board Position on CPB!! We are looking for a Public Relations Chair(s) if you know anyone or would like to apply please reach out to me!
- g. Victor -
 - i. Career Fair volunteering - Cynthia will reach out to you with more information and details
 - ii. Academic Policy Council - More information to come, I will update you
 - iii. [Student Leadership Awards](#)
- h. Liz - Interested in law? Come meet **Phi Alpha Delta** Pre-Law Fraternity in A220 from 5-6 today and find out how fun meets professionalism! Reach out to me or Amanda for further information
- i. Katelynn - Cahill Career Center is holding the Career Fair next week on Wednesday, March 6th from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm at Bradley. The center would love to see all of SGA there!
- j. Madi - Would SGA like to table at this year's SAAM Symposium?
 - i. Wednesday, 4/3 from 2:00-4:15 pm in Pav

XI. Adjournment at 1:56 pm

- a. Moved: Desiree
- b. Seconded: Matthew