

04/01/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 04/01/2024]

Meeting called to order on [04/01/2024] at 7:00 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: 17
 - ii. Late: Daeun Mun (Excused)
 - iii. Absent: Nicole Cohen (Excused), Stephen Raymond (Excused), Shanel Lopez (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. [03/25/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes](#)
 - i. Moved: Brian
 - ii. Second: Janelle
 - iii. 15-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. Happy Easter! (3/31)
- b. Happy Trans Day of Visibility! (3/31)
- c. Today is the first day of Sexual Assault Awareness Month!
- d. [Upcoming Events](#)
- e. Liaison Reports due 4/15!
- f. Need help with a bill? Reach out to leadership!

IV. New Business

- a. Co-Sponsorship: Campus Cleanup (Biology Club)
 - i. Friday 4/26 from 4:00pm - 6:00pm in the Thomases Commons
 - ii. Asking for \$\$ for food, marketing, and volunteers
 - iii. Funds Requested: [\\$200](#)
 - iv. [Presentation](#)
 - v. Questions:
 - 1. Janelle - Are any of the clubs you listed providing money?
 - a. Danielle - We only asked for promotion/participation.
 - 2. Madi - Do you need volunteers to set up?

3. Danielle - No, just cleaning!
- vi. Mihir - is there a rain date?
 1. Danielle - Weather looks good for now! As we get closer we'll decide a rain date if necessary.
- vii. Discussion
 1. Janelle - How much money do we have left in our budget?
 - a. Evelyn - \$1,324
 2. David - It was popular last year, well worth it, we need the hours
 3. Christine - We should be more understanding about when we agree to volunteer for things
 4. Janelle - It's after spring break, now is when everything comes in. I would propose \$125-150. It's a good cause but maybe not the full amount because we have a lot of co-sponsorships coming up.
 5. Katelyn - is this an event or volunteer hours?
 - a. Evelyn - people got hours last year
 6. Desiree - they need volunteers for cleanup not service during
 7. Christine - the sandwiches have large portions
 8. Mihir - \$150 is reasonable
 9. Victor - dropping the amount is necessary, we should limit the amount of food so that people don't just come to get the food after
 10. Franco - how many people does a box feed?
 - a. Christine - 1 box = 15-20 people
- viii. Approved: \$150, marketing, and volunteers (for service hours - not an event requirement)
- ix. Moved: Mihir
- x. Second: Janelle
- xi. 14-0-1
- b. Co-Sponsorship: Mackin Hall's Spring Fling (Res Life, Macking Hall)
 - i. Friday 4/19 from 7:30pm - 9:00pm in the Pavillion
 - ii. Asking for marketing and volunteers
 - iii. Questions:
 1. Sara - So volunteers would have an SGA table and do our own thing?
 - a. We can provide an activity for you or you can come up with something.

2. Mihir - How many people are you expecting?
 - a. ~125. It's promoted across all areas of campus.
 3. Janelle - Can volunteers win the prizes?
 - a. Unfortunately not
 4. Madi - How many volunteers do you need for setup/cleanup?
 - a. Maybe 4-5 for each
- iv. Discussion:
1. Janelle - One, they're not asking for money. I would say yes to co-sponsoring, as they're not asking for anything crazy. But I'm not sure if we can actually provide those volunteers. We should only approve if we can provide the volunteers and tabling.
 2. Katelynn - It's a very popular event, so I'm generally in support.
 3. Sara - People need to show up if we're going to co-sponsor.
 4. Madi - We may be better just sending volunteers for setup and cleanup rather than the tabling event. What can we do to make people sign up more?
 - a. Christine - It's not anything that we can do. It's a personal responsibility to the organization.
 5. Amanda - I don't think we should do a tabling AND setup/cleanup. We should do one or the other.
 6. Sara - We should be figuring out who can and cannot actually be at the event before approving a volunteer-based co-sponsorship.
 7. David - We should make sure that these events are advertised at delegate meetings.
 8. Janelle - Someone (Chief of Staff - Ekaprana) should also be reaching out to members who haven't completed their event requirements to emphasize these events to them.
 9. Victor - In terms of volunteering, we don't always have to give them the full amount of what they're asking for. Obviously we want as many people from the SGA to be attending these events, but we may need to lower expectations.
 10. Katelynn - Is it possible to give a minimum amount of volunteers?
 - a. Madi - Yes, absolutely. We try to be optimistic but should also be realistic.

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- b. Katelynn - We can give them a min-max number of volunteers.
 - c. Evelyn - Maybe at the beginning of the week, the Chief of Staff (Ekaprana) can send out a bunch of the events that are occurring during the week, especially those needing volunteers from the SGA.
11. Janelle - I think we should do setup/cleanup.
12. Sara - I think we should do tabling, as we will engage with the student body there.
- a. Danielle - Tabling may be a better option because people are more likely to attend during the event.
 - b. David - I'm leaning towards setup and cleanup. The event doesn't go very late so people will still be inclined to help with cleanup after it's over.
13. Madi - I think tabling is more fun, but our track record for getting people to sign up for tabling is not very good. People are more likely to sign up for setup/cleanup instead.
14. Victor - I would also prefer tabling. For you guys (Senate), what would entice you to do a tabling for the SGA? Maybe a fun and engaging activity?
- a. Janelle - I would want to see what other clubs/orgs are doing at the event.
 - b. Christine- They said they would provide us with an activity to run at the table.
 - c. Desiree - Knowing the tabling ahead of time is important.
 - d. Sara - I don't think it matters, whether it's informational or fun. Maybe we shouldn't give volunteers because it's a Friday night at the end of the semester.
 - e. Katelynn - If we all have a lot on our plates, it's most important to just emphasize these events and the sign ups for it.
15. Brian - I'm leaning more towards setup/cleanup because it's less ambiguous for what they're expecting from us. Based on the time, you can do either setup/cleanup and stay at the event if you want to. It's a bit more flexible so people may be more inclined to do it.

16. Sara - It seems like they need us more during the event, as opposed to before or after.
17. Danielle - It'll be more harmful to the event if we suddenly can't support a tabling, as opposed to being unable to provide setup/cleanup crew.
 - a. Sara - Is there an infraction if you put your name down and don't show up or take your name off right before?
 - i. Madi - That might be a question for Liz.
 - ii. Janelle - There's something involving 24 hours before the event.
 - iii. Victor - There's a 24-hour rule. You can't take your name off within 24 hours. If you do, you reach out to Ekaprana (co-sponsored events) or Christine (SGA events).
 - v. Approved: Marketing & volunteers for setup/cleanup (2-4 for each)
 - vi. Moved: Alex
 - vii. Second: David
 - viii. 14-1-1
- c. Co-Sponsorship: La Fiesta del Barrio (Organization of Latin Unity)
 - i. Thursday 4/25 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm
 - ii. Asking for \$\$ for supplies, \$\$ for food, marketing, and volunteers
 - iii. Funds Requested: [\\$572](#) (updated to \$415)
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Evelyn - How many people are you expecting?
 - a. Over 100. There will be a bouncy castle, cotton candy, music, shaved ice, etc. The event is also a co-sponsorship with ALMA, who is providing 50% of resources and planning for the event.
 2. Desiree - Do you have a rain date?
 - a. Saturday, April 27th
 3. Christine - Are you asking for volunteers as well?
 - a. We will need help with setup, cleanup, and running activities during the event.
 4. Sara - How many volunteers would you need? Are we the only organization providing food?

- a. We'll take as many as possible. Any number. If SGA were to provide funds, this would be a portion of the total food being covered for the event.
5. Madi - What's the official amount your organization is asking for?
 - a. \$415
6. Madi - For the volunteers working the event, will they need to be there for the duration of the event?
 - a. Preferably, but it's understandable if they cannot stay the entire time.
- v. Discussion:
 1. Janelle - My only concern is the event not having such a large turnout. I know last year the event was moved into the Aux gym and a lot was changed. I would expect around 50-75 people, maybe not 100. Victor, when they came to allocations, did they ask for money for food as well?
 - a. Victor - Yes, they asked for money for food in allocations as well. They \$350 from allocations.
 2. Janelle - There's also a lot of events that will draw people in. It's not just about the food. Maybe \$125-150?
 3. Christine - It wasn't explained very well here, but the event is important for the growing Latinx community on campus. When they came to allocations, they seemed like they were very organized and that the event is growing from last year. It's a cultural event, so the food can be expensive, but it's an important part of the event. Maybe \$250?
 4. Katelynn - Maybe around half? That's a hefty amount, especially if attendance is not as high as expected. They seem to have gotten a decent amount of money from allocations.
 5. David - Maybe \$200? The rain date being on a Saturday is questionable. The event will be much less successful if it is pushed to Saturday.
 6. Desiree - I think \$200 is a good number. The issue last year was that they were not prepared for the rain and rushed to adjust the event to accommodate the indoor location. This year it has more

planning. BSU has not been helping them like they should, so they need the support.

7. Janelle - Where is the event?
 - a. Christine - They told us Laurel Courts in allocations.
 8. Mihir - With \$200 they can get a majority of what they need, especially if it gets pushed to Saturday with the rain, which may lead to lower attendance.
 9. Christine - We can't penalize them based on what happened last year.
 10. Sara - I agree with \$200 and say volunteers for setup and cleanup.
 11. Madi - I think we should provide at least some volunteers for setup/cleanup (especially setup) because they mentioned that they have a small E-Board and need the help.
- vi. Approved: \$200, marketing, and volunteers for setup/cleanup (2-4 for each)
 - vii. Moved: Alex
 - viii. Second: Sara
 - ix. 15-0-1
- d. Co-Sponsorship: Rep Ya Flag (Students of Caribbean Ancestry)
 - i. Friday 4/26 from 10:00pm - 2:00am in Friend's Hall
 - ii. Asking for \$\$ for supplies and marketing
 - iii. Funds Requested: [\\$131.26](#)
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Desiree - Doesn't BSU have uno cards in the office?
 - a. Yes, but they belong to BSU. We ewan
 2. Mihir - How many people are expected?
 - a. Around 70-100 people.
 3. Sara - Are there any other co-sponsorships?
 - a. UAA, BSU, and potentially others. They're providing advertising and some funds.
 4. Madi - If we're unable to provide, would you still be able to get these items? If you could pick the 3 most important items, what would they be?

- a. Certain items, yes. We wouldn't be able to afford everything, but some could be purchased. The camera, film, and boba plushie are priority.
5. Evelyn - How much would the poster cost?
 - a. It would bring the total up to \$146.26 (\$15 poster).
- v. Discussion:
 1. Christine - I think they can buy their own poster. It felt like it was thrown in there at the last minute. I also don't think we need to provide all of the prizes on the list.
 2. Sara - I'm a big proponent of cultural events, so I think it's a great opportunity for the SGA to support.
 3. Katelynn - I feel like this is a pretty good spread for prizes and giving the whole amount wouldn't be a bad idea.
 4. Janelle - Whether or not we provide prizes, I think the event will still have a great turnout. I think we should provide the camera and film only. Regardless of the money, the event will be successful.
 5. Madi - We now have \$974 in our budget for the month of April.
 - a. Evelyn - There are two more co-sponsorships for next week, as of right now.
 6. Evelyn - We should probably use our money if we have it. It's unlikely that we'll get a crazy amount of co-sponsorships asking for crazy money towards the end of the semester.
- vi. Approved: Marketing and \$131.26
- vii. Moved: Mihir
- viii. Second: Desiree
- ix. 16-0-0
- e. Liaison Reports (continued from last week)
 - i. Franco Miyashiro (Financial Aid) - They're preparing for the FAFSA forms to come in, and are trying to sort out issues related to the FAFSA submissions. Glitches in the system should be fixed by the end of March. FAFSA form submissions deadline have been extended to May 1st due to delays.
 1. Victor - For students that don't get any financial aid (federal, state, or the school) should they still fill it out, or ignore the emails?
 - a. Franco - I'll ask.

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- b. Madi - You don't have to fill it out. Only if you want federal aid.
2. Janelle - Are they expecting more incoming students to put their deposits down when the FAFSA gets fixed?
 - a. Franco - Because they extended the deadline, they are more open to receiving the deposits later.
- ii. Desiree S. Bounds (Contemporary Arts) - I asked about 3.5 courses, and said some studio courses require it, however Dean Goldstein has suggested some professors move to a two class a week model for lectures. Some professors have taken the suggestion, others have not. To alleviate fatigue and overlap we have moved to a mirrored course schedule. Meaning classes will be offered on TF or MR at the same time, so students have more consistency in their schedules. We talked about creating a Production Handbook to outline how students can self-produce art. Arts Week will be April 29-May 3, this is when most of the senior showcase and final projects will be on display. Schedule TBD, but please attend any of the events if you're available. I only know of 4 students who are interested in the CA Advisory Board, so if you would like to join PLEASE LET ME KNOW.
- iii. Evelyn Voitsekhovich (TAS) - The Dean's Advisory Council was a success and will continue to meet, will work with Dr. Suarez on getting Dean's lists on TVs, interest in possibly acquiring touch screen TVs in the future, concern about the number of students applying for graduation.
 1. Brian - How many people came to the Dean's Advisory Council?
 - a. Evelyn - We've met once and about 8 people showed up (30 people expressed interest). Another meeting has been scheduled. Reach out to Dean Saiff if you're interested in joining us!
- iv. Amanda - Meeting this week!
- v. Nicole (ASB)- There is a Finance Roundtable coming up. After discussing past events, I was informed that attendance for clubs and events were really low. The Career Panels based on major only had an average attendance of 3-4 people each. Surveys do not really work. This is important for other schools intending on doing career panels. However, the Marketing Roundtable was successful.

- vi. Didi (Roukema Center) - Check Instagram for event details and Time Please check our social media for upcoming events; Fulbright day (a full-ride scholarship for study abroad) will be held on April 17, 1-3 pm in ASB 523. Korean hour and Japanese hours are going on, please stop by if your time works!

V. Public Comment

- a. Christine - Relay for Life this Friday!!

VI. Open Forum

- a. Sara - RELAY FOR LIFE IS THIS FRIDAY! As to date, we have fundraised.... If you are interested in participating in the lip sync battle at Relay, fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/tJuj1sm4mN6VNsT89>
- b. Sara - Tomorrow, APO, AKPSI, and PAD are having Pie-a-bro under the C-wing underpass from 1-2. \$3 for 1 pie and \$5 for two. I will be there if you want to pie me :)
- c. Mihir - I have my liaison meeting for Facilities on Friday, so be sure to share any concerns before then :)
 - i. Janelle - What are they doing with the patch of dirt by the student center?
 - 1. Mihir - There's a lot of underground systems (piping and electrical) under that area so they needed to get better access to that area. They also plan on renovating.
 - ii. Janelle - Can you ask how they do room set-up for events? We've had issues where the rooms aren't set up like they should be.
 - iii. Victor - For the dirt patch, can it be made into a courtyard? I always thought the random patch of trees was weird. They could put an RCNJ logo or something on that large patch of ground and add more appealing seating.
- d. Alex - I have my Liaison meeting for Title IX on Thursday, so if you have any questions please let me know before that time.
 - i. Madi - Can you start finalizing the activity that you want at Denim Day and communicate that with OVP?
 - ii. Alex - It's a media art contest to show awareness for Title IX and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

- e. Matthew - My liaison meeting with the Admissions Office is next Monday, if you have any questions that I can ask please let me know!
- f. Sara - update on who will be responsible for contacting the Gross Center
 - i. Madi - When the E-Board spoke, we decided it would be best for the Secretary of Diversity and Inclusion. When that position is vacant, Senate Leadership will be responsible. Not officially written out, but is intended to be.
- g. Victor - [Relay for Life spreadsheet](#)
 - i. Christine - Even if you can't volunteer, please show up and donate.
- h. Brian - Biology Club is hosting our Painting Roulette event this Thursday 4/4 from 5-7pm in J. Lee's. Each person will get a canvas and some time to paint before passing to another person to continue painting. Canvases will make their way to each person so everyone will contribute to everyone's painting. We will be serving Nicky's so come for a fun time painting and free food!
- i. Janelle- PoFest Sign Up!

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time:** 9:00pm
 - i. **Moved:** Mihir
 - ii. **Second:** Matt