

**Senate Bill**

**Act Number: 2024-02-F**

**9th October, 2024**

**Introduced by: Senate President Mihir Jariwala**

**Proposed by: Chief Justice Liz Mendicino**

**Whereas:** The Student Government Association (SGA) of Ramapo College of New Jersey is the liaison body to the Faculty, Staff, Administration, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Governors of Ramapo College of New Jersey;

**Whereas:** The Judicial Branch of the SGA is currently comprised of the Judicial Panel;

**Whereas:** The Judicial Panel was initially tasked with parliamentary procedure, mediation, and deliberation on issues pertaining to the SGA Constitution, Bylaws, and internal disciplinary topics;

**Whereas:** SGA Leadership & Advisors have determined that the Judicial Panel, in its current state, is not effectively performing duties initially assigned;

**Whereas:** A functioning & effective Judicial Branch will increase organizational effectiveness in the areas of procedure, conduct, discipline, and constitutionality;

**Whereas:** The Executive Board currently consists of the Student Government President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Chief of Staff;

**Whereas:** Several positions that comprise the Executive Board are not constitutionally recognized as such, though they fulfill all Executive Board duties and attend such meetings;

**Whereas:** Constitutional amendments and major Constitutional revisions must be introduced by any currently serving Senator;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The SGA will amend the Constitution to reflect a restructuring of the Judicial Panel to better complement the mission of the SGA.

**Proposed:** The amendments to the Constitution are summarized below:

1. Restructuring the Judicial Panel from Chief Justice, Procedural Justice, & Conduct Justice to Chief Justice, Legislative Justice, and Administrative Justice
  - a. New Responsibilities of the Chief Justice:
    - i. Oversee the requirement tracking of the Executive Board, Judicial Panel, and Associate Members in accordance with the Infraction Policy
    - ii. Hold meetings with Executive Board and Associate members who have received a White Notice
    - iii. Hold weekly and as-needed meetings with the Panel
    - iv. Serve on the College Disciplinary Review Board and Academic Integrity Board
    - v. Assume the responsibilities of the Legislative and Administrative Justices if there is a vacancy in the Panel
  - b. New Responsibilities of the Legislative Justice:
    - i. Attend Senate meetings on a monthly basis and additionally at the discretion of the Senate President
    - ii. Oversee the requirement tracking of the Senate in accordance with the Infraction Policy
    - iii. Hold meetings with Senators who have received a White Notice
    - iv. Provide input on constitutional bills before their presentation for voting to ensure their constitutionality
    - v. Attend all Panel meetings
    - vi. Serve on the College Academic Integrity Board
  - c. New Responsibilities of the Administrative Justice:
    - i. Attend Cabinet meetings on a monthly basis and additionally at the discretion of the Chief of Staff
    - ii. Oversee the requirement tracking of Cabinet members in accordance with the Infraction Policy
    - iii. Hold meetings with Cabinet members who have received a White Notice
    - iv. Maintain committee signups; ensuring that those who are required to be on certain committees are guaranteed their spots, the distribution of SGA members on the various committees is equitably distributed, and that each member of the SGA required to be on a committee fulfills their requirements
    - v. Meet with any members of the SGA who may need to move out of or to a different committee
    - vi. Communicate with cabinet members on committee attendance, as well as the Chief of Staff
    - vii. Attend all Panel meetings

viii. Serve on the College Disciplinary Review Board

2. Redelegating Website Responsibility

a. New Responsibility of the Secretary

- i. Additional clause VIII “The Secretary shall be responsible for the management of the SGA website and shall request WordPress training(s) from the Office of Marketing & Communications on an as-needed basis.”

b. New Responsibility of the Secretary of Public Relations

- i. Additional Clause IX “The Secretary of Public Relations shall be responsible for assisting the Chief of Staff in maintaining the SGA Website.”

c. Removed Responsibility of the Chief of Staff

- i. Removal of Section VI - Clause IX: “The Chief of Staff shall be responsible for the management of the SGA website and shall request WordPress training(s) from the Office of Marketing & Communications on an as-needed basis.”

3. Graduate Senator -> Senate Graduate Council Liaison

a. Conversion of the Position

- i. The Graduate Senator position will be converted to a Senator-At-Large position.

b. Responsibilities

- i. This position will serve the same constitutional responsibilities as a Senator-At-Large.

c. Senate Post-Graduate Liaison

- i. A liaison for the Graduate Council will be created.
- ii. This liaison can only be taken by a member of the legislative branch.
- iii. This liaison can only be taken by an enrolled graduate student or in a committed graduate program at Ramapo College.

d. Removed or Changed Clauses Pertaining to Graduate Senator

- i. New verbiage of Article VI: Legislative Branch - Section II: Members - Clause III  
“The Senate shall be comprised of the following:  
School Senators (5)  
Senators-at-Large (16)”
- ii. New verbiage of Article VI: Legislative Branch - Section III: Senators-at-Large, Full Term - Clause I “The number of Senators-at-Large elected for a full term will be eleven.”
- iii. Remove Article VI: Legislative Branch - Section VI: Graduate Senator.

4. Transitional Documents

- a. Additional clause under Article IV: Executive Board - Section I: Members - Proposed Clause III “All members of the EBoard shall be required to draft a document to be shared with the successor of their position at the end of their term. This document shall include but is not limited to detailing past initiatives, best practices, and information describing typical procedure for the position. This document shall help the future EBoard transition for their upcoming term. “
  - b. Additional clause Article V: Cabinet - Section I: Members - Proposed Clause VII “All members of the Cabinet shall be required to draft a document to be shared with the successor of their position at the end of their term. This document shall include but is not limited to detailing past initiatives, best practices, and information describing typical procedure for the position. This document shall help the future Cabinet transition for their upcoming term. “
  - c. Additional clause Article VI: Section II: Members - Proposed Clause XI “All members of the Senate shall be required to draft a collaborative document to be shared with the upcoming senate at the end of their term. This document shall include but is not limited to detailing past initiatives and best practices dealing with liaisons. This document shall help the future Senate transition for their upcoming term.”
5. Rewording Article IX Section IV Clause II
- a. New verbiage of the clause:
  - b. If a member is removed from office or an election, due to impeachment or other violations, the student may not run for or be appointed to any SGA office for one year from the time of their removal.
6. Expand the members of the Executive Board to include the Chief Justice, Senate President, and Senate Vice President

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The SGA will amend the Constitution to reflect a restructuring of the Executive Board to better complement the mission of the SGA.

*Victor Oluwagbemi*

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