

10/27/2025 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 10/27/2025]

Meeting called to order on [10/27/2025] at 7:05 pm in ASB-219

I. Roll Call

- a. President Liz Mendicino
- b. Senate President Mihir Jariwala
- c. Senate Vice President David George
- d. Senate Secretary Julia Kotowski
- e. TAS School Senator Gianna Marchica
- f. CA School Senator Peter Tunnicliffe
- g. ASB School Senator Ismael Carcamo
- h. SSSS School Senator
- i. HGS School Senator
- j. Senator Ava Cicero-Johnson
- k. Senator Joseph Brubaker
- l. Senator Michael Chabot
- m. Senator Alessia Mendicino (excused)
- n. Senator Evelyn Santangelo (excused)
- o. Senator Julia Rowan (excused)
- p. Senator Uma Advani
- q. Senator Nathaniel Bergren (excused)
- r. Senator Nova Boehm
- s. Senator Sebastian Herrera
- t. Senator Michael Marino (late-excused)
- u. Senator James Nieman (late-excused)
- v. Senator Ayden Reed
- w. Senator Leana Thompson
- x. Chief of Staff Benjamin Hartmann

i. Late:

ii. Absent:



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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. [Senate Meeting Minutes 10/20/2025](#)
 - i. Moved: Uma
 - ii. Second: Ava
 - iii. 13-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. Hope everyone has a Happy Halloween! 🎃
- b. Thank you to everyone who showed up to Media Day! 📷
- c. HGS School Senator applications are still open!
 - i. Let anyone who is in the HGS school and interested in SGA know!
 - ii. Deadline is Wednesday, November 5th
- d. [Upcoming Events:](#)
 - i. Trunk or Treat: Tuesday, October 28th, 5:00 - 7:00 PM (Tennis Court Parking Lot)
 - ii. Hot Wings, Hot Topics: Black Votes Matter: Wednesday, October 29th, at 5:00 PM (Trustee's Pavilion)
 - iii. Raving About The Overlook: Friday, November 21st, from 7:00 - 9:00 PM (Trustee's Pavilion)
- e. The [Cosponsorship Form](#) is live!
 - i. Please let any clubs or organizations interested in collaborating with SGA know!
- f. Wanted to give a positive update on Valley Medical Merger!

IV. New Businessa. [Liaison Reports](#)

- i. **Please write your name, liaison, and summary points from your report below!**
- ii. Mihir (Dean for Students): I met with Dean Van Der Wall last Monday. We spoke about the need for the SGA to make their information, accomplishments, and initiatives more accessible to the student body. This can be done through many means, such as the website (which will be updated!), social media, daily digest / in the loop, and a possible newsletter through mass email. We also spoke about current bills and initiatives such as the valley resolution and online resources in bathrooms, in which she was in support, but she requested the need to market these more and send them her way so that she is in the loop as well. We also clarified concerns regarding the responsibility over the laundry machines. Finally, Dean Van Der Wall WILL show up to the office more often, and she really enjoyed all the kind words we had for her!
- iii. David (ITS): Rob Doster has spoken with the provost about having professors print out scripts for students and the “no screens allowed” policy in class - the provost is looking into it on their end. They are looking into adding another access point for the wifi in Berrie Center. They are working on putting Microsoft Office Instructions on the website and purchasing Tango (with a step-by-step guide for us
- iv. e). They have fixed projectors in A Wing, 4 B Wing classrooms, and ASB 220. There is a transfer credits option on the website, and it should work; however, everyone is reset to \$0 in August, no matter what amount is still there, and reset to \$22.50 in September. I talked to them about certain exceptions for specific majors and EOF scholars as well, and they will look for correlations between these factors and the number of pages printed. Rob Doster apologized for his words at the 09/24 General Meeting and was working off the assumption that every student had a device. Through the WeCare system, you should be able to obtain a tablet, but it may have been discontinued. Every student should have access to a laptop or tablet, and he wants to work on finding any student who doesn't have access to one and help them if they don't. He's going to follow up on WeCare and Laptop Upcycle.

- v. Evelyn (First-Gen): Uma and I were unable to find a time that worked with both of our schedules to meet in person so she updated me via email with some upcoming events. She stated that November is First-Gen Month so right now the biggest event to promote is the First-Generation College Celebration & Ribbon Cutting is November 5th from 1-2:30 pm in Friends Hall. Uma said that she knows SGA is meeting during this time but any and all promotion for this event is greatly appreciated. The Archway link is [here](#), and the Save the Date poster is down below. Another event that is coming up is the First-Gen Fuel: Breakfast of Champions on November 3rd from 9-11am on the 2nd floor of the student center. More information can be found [here](#). Lastly, Uma asked if SGA wanted to facilitate a November event as part of First-Generation College Celebration Month? I don't have any more details as to what event but I'm sure if we expressed interest in wanting to facilitate an event I would ask Uma for more details. If you have any questions you can email me at esantang@ramapo.edu.
- vi. Uma (Health and Counseling Services) - I met with Dr. Judith Green last weekend, and here is what we discussed. The Center for Health and Counseling Services would like to clarify that all of their services are 100% confidential to students. The only exceptions are cases where there's a risk of harm to the student, to others, or if there's a sign for potential violence. Dr. Green gave her full consent for their resources to be included in the bathroom signage initiative. She really supports the idea and would like the signage to include links to the Counseling Services Emergency Services page, along with key crisis hotlines like 988, the Trevor Lifeline, and others. She also suggested adding resources from the Office of Violence Prevention alongside the Title IX information. I'm currently working with Mihir and Joe to move this initiative forward. Dr. Green shared that all therapy animals on campus come through a mental health grant the College has, and our current partnership only provides dogs and bunnies. However, we could explore partnerships with other therapy animal organizations in the future. Regarding the goat yoga idea, Dr. Green suggested that it could take place during one of their larger campus events, like the Wellness Fair. I wanted to highlight the **Roadrunner Collegiate Recovery Program**, which supports students in recovery from substance use disorders by providing a community of peers who are Nate

(Cahill): I was unable to meet this previous week but a meeting this week. I will keep you posted and please let me know if there is anything I should bring up that I am not already aware about

- vii. El: As for now, here is my final Liaison report
1. **Academic Advisement Committee:** Dean Lorenz spoke that he thought that the next dean should utilize an occasional student advisory *Task Force* to solve concentrated issues.
 2. **Social Media:** I let him know that the social media problem will be brought to the Provost to discuss a formal social media position for *all schools*.
 3. **Upcoming:** We spoke about the upcoming shift to the four school structure, which is to be announced soon. Also, there are five people in the running to be the interim Dean of SSHS (soon to be SSSW). Introduced Micheal Marino. Very short conversation as he had to go pick up his wife's car from the shop.
 4. **Senate:** lovely people, you all have such a unique position in this organization. Please do not forget how much power you have, and never forget you *deserve* to be here. You are all so talented in your own ways. Take yourself seriously, because people are *always* watching. Keep your head high, and keep yourselves organized, but never forget your "why" (whatever that may be for you). Keep yourselves grounded and do good. Much love, El.
- viii. Alessia (Title IX): I met with Kat McGee on October 20th. I brought up the idea about the QR codes to her and she thinks it's a great idea and offered to make an infographic with information and resources for Title IX. We then started to talk about the road near Bischoff and Mackin since it is a spot on campus that has made students feel unsafe. We are going to start to look into trying to get lights and maybe a blue light on this path and another path near CPA's that has a similar issue. Let me know if anyone would like to help with this. If you have any questions you can email me at amendici@ramapo.edu
- ix. Julia (Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Services): I met with Allison Battiglia on October 21 and here are some things we discussed.

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1. They are looking for more people to join their Shades Community Circle, for women of color. If you or anyone you know may be interested, the group meets Mondays at 7pm in D214
2. <https://archway.ramapo.edu/Womens/events/>
 - a. This is a link where you can find all of the Women's Centers upcoming events
3. The Student Drag Show is THIS WEDNESDAY 10/29!!!
4. They are looking to use their social media more and were asking if SGA had any ideas. If anyone thinks of anything they would like to see the Women's Center post email me at **Julia Rowan**
- x. Peter – This is everything I covered in this month's liaison meeting:
 1. I will be reaching out to facilities to try and utilize the empty space in the D-wing (left wall coming from Fishbowl) for displaying student artwork.
 2. The Cafe that was previously in Berrie center a sum amount of years ago will likely not be making a return as the space is best utilized for displaying student artwork.
 3. To address the concerns about the styrofoam rock structure in the grove; all the styrofoam was picked out of Ramapo River and repurposed as artwork calling attention to the pollution of the river. There's a plaque outside of the piece that displayed the information, read it. The art installation is temporary.
 4. Message from Dean Goldstein: If there are any concerns, please email Alexa Chucala (achucala@ramapo.edu), himself (kgoldst2@ramapo.edu), or any faculty member to have your issue addressed directly.
 5. Initiatives: I will be pushing for more advertisements for not just the arts but all schools on the official ramapo college Instagram page. Currently, the majority of posts are of RCNJ sport teams or clubs which—while it is important to display these—we should be displaying all forms of student achievement, not just specific instances.
- xi. Gianna - I had my liaison meeting with Dean Chan on October 24. Here is what we discussed: **1)** Dean Chan is on board with the creation of a social media account for the school. He would like to figure out how to do that

and the logistics of such a notion especially when we change the name to SNH (School of Science, Nursing and Health). Yes! TAS is changing names! The Provost will be announcing this soon but it seems to be common knowledge. **2)** Dean Chan wants to hear student perspectives on registration and how we believe it can be done differently. He would like to help students get classes they need but would preface that it won't necessarily be preferential. He wants to know how he can help students get those seats in classes whether that be through a waitlist system or something like that. **3)** Dean Chan wants the SGA's help with Open House and Advisement type of things for mentoring. He suggested having a student advisory group or welcoming group at these events geared towards TAS and possibly other schools to gain interest.

xii. Joe - Had my liaison meeting with Nicole from facilities on October 20th. Below is updates on some issues that i have discussed as well as questions that I need to still discuss, as well as ongoing initiatives

1. Permeable pavement may be doable for the parking lot but no answer as of now
2. QR code in bathrooms is doable and is in the works currently
3. Elevators on campus are being monitored and facilities are doing their absolute best to keep them up and running. Broken ones are waiting for parts and will hopefully be fixed soon.
4. CPA laundry room is getting redone with hopes of it being done in the summer time. Initiative to develop a short term solution are being worked on for students
5. Dunkin and starbucks signs are being worked on

xiii. Ava (Public Safety) –

1. Already updating Student IDs – Suicide Prevention Hotline. Jason will look into adding the office location onto the card (usually the address is for Post Office).
2. A Signage Project on campus is underway. The signs will include parking areas.
3. Reiteration: Every winter break, they gather information to plan parking evaluation for spring and summer.

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4. Regarding the designated parking areas, the lots you can park in are outlined on stickers and hang tags. Public Safety does not decide the parking assignments.
5. Front security gate: It is repaired! They were waiting for the necessary parts to come in. Once they get them, they begin fixing it immediately. It usually only takes a couple of hours.
6. Public Safety will soon change the message regarding how to pay for citations, as it is easier for students to be directed to the website. More information to come!
7. Upcoming event: Winter Car Safety Demonstration, partnered with Liberty Subaru. Jason wants help promoting the event. He will keep me posted when more information is available. It will most likely happen in the beginning of November before it gets too cold.

xiv. Ismael (ASB)

1. For the Former CCHS Request its been implemented for Professors it isn't mandatory but 9/10 professors have it.
2. I tried to talk about a Tutoring room like the one in G building STEM tutoring room, there isn't sufficient funds or space to implement this.
 - a. Beta Alpha Phsi has a room where I am not 100% sure if its publicly accessible for everyone but they have accounting tutoring there, its located in the 1st floor of the ASB I ll ask around if I happen to run into someone in that FRAT????
 - b. There is only tutoring for certain disciplines
 - i. Accounting
 - ii. Microeconomics
 - iii. Checking for more Disciplined I will bring it up to the secretary how hard it was to find and the only thing that shows up is Microeconomics.
 - c. WRP RADIO
 - i. Radio Club to give the clubs for the ASB a voice and a platform to talk about
 - Market Trends
 - Upcoming Events
 - Club Description

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- Special Guests

ii. etc.....

d. Cant make a TikTok for ASB due to “unprofessionalism” it doesn’t bring out the message we are trying to put out.

e. School Libraries

i. Dean is in favor for it especially if professors have old text books or books they don’t mind giving to students probably going to be located in the ASB basement.

f. Series Certification Help, I was told to give them Cabrera's information. I plan to talk to other professors to see what they would do if someone wants help.

xv. Michael (OSS) - I had my meeting David Nast last week. As of last Thursday, some news includes that OSS is up to 750 affiliates and is still increasing, putting some strain on the current counselors. Current TRIO grants are unaffected by the government shutdown, so the Student Support Services funding is intact, for this year at least. To address the issues with handicapped spots by the village and Mackin-Bischoff. A car that is not labeled on the license plate or by a mirror tag should be reported to Public Safety. For the persistent issue with village dumpsters, I was informed that Dean Van Der Wall is the right person to tackle the issue. For my and Uma’s new initiative idea, funding or pushing the school administration for more extensive tutoring programs would fill a void. Only ~185 OSS affiliates can receive tutoring under TRIO grants; demand is currently not met.

V. Public Comment

a. For OSS there is a lack of accessibility for advisement, myself and my peers have reached out and received little assistance.

i. Uma: If you ever need assistance I would look into the OSS website.

VI. Open Forum

a. Mihir - [Red Folder](#) is a one-stop shop for assisting students in distress and will help you determine how to respond and help students connect to appropriate campus resources. See Something. Say Something. Do Something.

- b. Uma - Counseling Services is hosting "Calm Down With Counseling Services: A Soundbath Meditation" this Wednesday from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Wellness Room. There are 7 spots per session available, and it is in 15-minute intervals! Space is limited, so please sign up early to secure your spot!
 - i. The next therapy animal visit will be on Friday, November 7 from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Wellness Room (E-216). You will be able to schedule an appointment through Archway 7 days before the visit!
 - ii. There are multiple mental health resources on campus. If you or anyone you know would like to learn more, visit <https://www.ramapo.edu/counseling/>, and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at uadvani@ramapo.edu
 - iii. Everyone's doing a great job:)
- c. Peter – QotW: “Even amongst the sheep there is a goat. Be that goat.” –James Neiman
 - i. There is a BKorn Workshop THIS TUESDAY from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in BC301, if you are interested in learning more about music production and music industry please show up and support our alumni!
 - ii. Any questions, comments, kudos, or concerns for the CA School?
 - 1. Uma: In terms of registration and classes being offered, there is a lot of courses that students are required to take that are not being offered.
 - a. Liz: To clarify, I have been having the same issue, I am trying to fulfil a requirement that can be filled by 6 classes, and none are being offered.
 - i. Peter: For any issues like this, email Dean Goldstein as he can help you receive an override.
- d. Gianna - I have some things to report from the Academic Policy Council this past Thursday. Vice Provost Shim would like the SGA to know that the meeting minutes are public and would like for the students to become aware of what policies are in the process of being revised and/or changed completely. She would love student feedback as most of these policies would affect us students and not necessarily the faculty reviewing them. At the meeting the Posthumous Degree Policy Edit was approved as well as the policy to release the records of a deceased student. Some policy reviews include the Minimum and Maximum Course Enrollment, Course Delivery Modes, Academic Integrity, Human Subjects in

Research, and Retaking Courses and Grade Replacement. (Also have some things to say off the record....

- i. The Ramapo College Dance Team is hosting our Boo-Runch (used to be called our Pasta Dinner). It is a huge fundraiser of ours and it is a great time! We will be having brunch and it is like a tricky tray type of event. I would extremely appreciate it if you guys could show up. You do have to pay to go but I have talked to my coaches to give you a discounted rate if a big enough group goes! Since we are fully fundraised this would really help us out. It is November 1st at 11:00 am at the 18th Amendment in Rutherford, NJ. The address is 19 Union Ave Rutherford, NJ.
- e. Joe - any questions for facilities. Also, answer to questions will be hopefully answered by next week. CPA laundry room initiative is in the works, bird strikes questions will be asked asap, urinal questions as well as the handicap parking spots.
 - i. Liz: Anyone who was interested in the bird strike issue, I will forward your name to Allene to help with the initiative.
 - 1. Joe: Regarding the lines on the buildings to prevent bird strikes, it is a costly process but I am trying to get information on it.
 - a. Liz: According to President Jebb, it is happening and on her radar.
- f. Ava – Pre-Law Symposium this Wednesday at 6:30pm! Sign up on Handshake before Tuesday at 8am.
 - i. I am awaiting Jason’s response about the lighting audit but I will keep you posted. We will do it next week if Jason gives us the okay.
- a. ★ SGA Star of the Month! [October Form](#) (Please inform us of any issues with the form)
- g. Mihir and David - What are some ways we can help you manage stress?

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time:** 8:43
 - i. **Moved:** Ismael
 - ii. **Second:** Sebastian