

11/24/2025 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 11/24/2025]

Meeting called to order on [11/24/2025] at 7:02 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 (excused)
- g. ASB School Senator Ismael Carcamo
- h. SSHS School Senator Ava Cicero-Johnson
- i. HGS School Senator Tyler O'Connor-Dilello
- j. Senator Joseph Brubaker
- k. Senator Michael Chabot (excused)
- l. Senator Alessia Mendicino (excused)
- m. Senator Evelyn Santangelo (excused)
- n. Senator Julia Rowan (excused)
- o. Senator Uma Advani
- p. Senator Nova Boehm
- q. Senator Sebastian Herrera
- r. Senator Michael Marino
- s. Senator James Nieman (late-excused)
- t. Senator Ayden Reed
- u. Senator Leana Thompson
 - i. Late:
 - ii. Absent:



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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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 11/17/2025](#)
 - i. Moved: Uma
 - ii. Second: Sebastian
 - iii. 13-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. Hope everyone has a relaxing and fun Thanksgiving Break!
- b. **Reminder to get your requirements done!**
 - i. Event Requirement and Community Service Hours!
- c. Please send your headshots to James and Liz for the SGA website.
 - i. **Due before Thanksgiving Break!**
- d. [Upcoming Events:](#)
 - i. Finals Readiness Kits: Thursday 12/4, from 1:30-2:10 PM (Fishbowl)
- e. The [Cosponsorship Form](#) is live!
 - i. Please let any clubs or organizations interested in collaborating with SGA know!

IV. New Business

- a. Appointment: Senator-At-Large
 - i. Nominee: Ahmet Angun
 - ii. Questions:
 - 1. Uma: What prior leadership experience do you have?
 - a. I interned with local political candidates and played a role in their campaign efforts, along with my work and my community volunteer experience.

iii. Discussion:

1. Joe: I liked his initiatives, especially as a commuter. I feel like having someone who is so passionate about making commuter students more included would be good.
2. Liz: I appreciated his perspective on the issues concerning the gym, and the idea of using it as a place of community. I also liked his takes on leadership and community, which are central to Ramapo.
3. Ayden: He was very clear of what he wanted to do, and his qualifications show that he would be capable of the position.

iv. Proposed: Motion to appoint Ahmet Angun as Senator-At-Large

v. Moved: Gianna

vi. Second: Ayden

vii. 13-0-0

b. Appointment: Senator-At-Large

i. Nominee: Jalen Lacy

ii. Questions:

1. Ayden: What does leadership mean to you?
 - a. To me, leadership is a multi-faceted thing. It is learning to lean into any environment and adapt to the group around you, while also being kind and be human.

iii. Discussion:

1. Uma: I liked the fact that she has shown interest in SGA before and that she is able to provide a fresh perspective on dining. I also liked her definition of leadership and passion.
2. Gianna: She is very sweet and always goes out of her way to be kind and approachable, which is something that is very important in the SGA, along with her strong and specific initiatives.
3. Tyler: I am in Model UN with her, and recently there has been conflicts in the club. She was able to provide interesting perspectives on that issue and help us handle that conflict.
4. Nova: I am friends with her, and she is one of the most genuinely kind and uplifting people I know. She is also good at talking with people and building connections, and I have seen her handle conflict successfully.

5. Ayden: I know her and mentioned the Senate position to her, and she was immediately excited and interested. She is very dedicated and has the drive for leadership.
- iv. Proposed: Motion to approve Jalen Lacy as Senator-At-Large
- v. Moved: Gianna
- vi. Second: Ayden
- vii. 13-0-0
- c. Appointment: Senator-At-Large
 - i. Nominee: Christian Soberal
 - ii. Questions:
 - iii. Discussion:
 1. Leana: He is already very involved and would be a good candidate.
 2. Uma: Whenever I speak to him, he provides good advice and ideas.
 3. Liz: He has spoken to me about some of his initiatives before, and although his original idea was not possible, he took the time to communicate with various on-campus offices to reach out about his initiatives and find a possible way to implement them. This type of drive and passion is what we need to see in the SGA, making him a good candidate.
 - iv. Proposed: Motion to approve Christian Soberal as Senator-At-Large
 - v. Moved: Leana
 - vi. Second: Ayden
 - vii. 13-0-0
- d. [Liaison Reports](#)
 - i. **Please write your name, liaison, and summary points from your report below!**
 - ii. **Please make sure you have put your report into your respective folder!**
 - iii. Mihir (Dean of Students) - I met with Dean Van Der Wall on 11/17. We discussed the incident regarding the non-fatal overdose in one of the freshman halls and the next steps to take, including increasing awareness for narcans and accessibility. In addition, I brought her a draft of the bill for resources in restrooms and she provided valuable feedback. The bill will be presented here next week! We also spoke about updates regarding

Valley Health negotiations and how student representatives need to be more trained and aware of the current negotiations.

- iv. David (ITS) - They are working on a new printer lease, so hopefully there will be more public printers after spring break. For EOF students, go to Gabby or ITS help desk and they'll try to find a way to help you print. WeCare does not have tablets for distribution but they are looking for alternative sourcing to prepare for BYOD. I talked to them about having a QR code by the printer in fish bowl to report if there's no paper but Rob Doster said that they have TVs to show status of paper in printers
- v. Uma (CCHS) - I had my meeting with Dr. Green, and here's what we discussed! CHCS is currently operating close to full capacity for individual appointments, and staff are working to conclude services with long-term clients to accommodate new students who may need Counseling Services. Many students have been actively using the CHCS services, and they have been doing their best to support incoming students as efficiently as possible. Dr. Green also wanted to clarify that students can register for UWill even if they don't plan to use the therapy section. The platform offers various educational content modules, such as sleep, resilience, self-esteem, stress, and anxiety etc. CHCS and I have concluded filming for our You're Not Alone Series (Part 1) project and plan for it to be posted by December 4th!
- vi. Evelyn (First-Gen): Sorry for the long report in advance! There was a lot to discuss in my last meeting with Uma on Friday. We first discussed all the past events in November in honor of First-Generation Month. All the events were a success with great turnout to all the events. The main event for the month of November was the ribbon cutting event which had about 120-140 people in attendance. In reference to this event both the Ramapo News and the College Website both reflected on said event highlighting its success. Both links are highlighted below:
 - 1. College Website: [Ramapo Opens 'Second Home' for First-Gen Students - College News & Media](#)
 - 2. Ramapo News: [Campus marks milestone with opening of First-Generation Student Center – The Ramapo News](#)
 - 3. The topic of discussion was a recently made video that was posted to the first gen website that highlights the history of the First

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Generation Student Center as told by two first generation juniors, Uma Mahalingham, Racheal Treen, and one first generation college graduate. The link is here if anyone is interested in watching the video: [History - First-Generation Student Center || Ramapo College of New Jersey](#)

4. Next was the recent Tri Alpha Honor Society Induction which was also a success. Some highlights from the induction are 77 First-Generation Students were inducted. Lastly, the next thing we and Uma discussed was looking ahead into the Spring Semester and starting to plan the halfway to graduation event as well as planning the Legacies in the Making summer program.
- vii. Alessia Mendicino (Title IX)- I met with Kat McGee on November 14th. During this meeting I sent her the Bill to put QR codes with resources in the bathrooms and asked for her feedback. Then I told Kat that I spoke with Ava about the trail near Mackin and Bischoff and that she is going to talk about Public Safety about the topic. We are hoping to find ways to make the path safer, such as adding lights if that's possible. After that we mainly talked about upcoming training for student employees on campus that focuses on sexual harassment. Please let me know if you have any questions!
- viii. Sebastian (Athletics)- Was unable to meet with Kate Levin in person. Instead the 'meeting' was done via email exchange. The athletic department, in collaboration with the We Care Program, is hosting a food drive to support the Ramapo Food Pantry opportunity to give back to the campus community. By bringing items from a list on this website [More info can be found here](#) you'll be able to enjoy free entry to home games on certain dates. Athletic department hosting a co-sponsored event "Ballin" with BSU on Dec 10th, Black Out Game, and Free food, more information for the event will be posted after the Thanksgiving break. Regarding the SGA instagram account, they've asked if we can share their post for HOME GAMES DAY posts when tagged, as we are a direct channel to the student body. The Student Athletic Committee will have their final meeting on December 8th, typically concerns within those meetings are handled by the department independently, however in case that they require SGA assistance they will reach out.

- ix. Ayden (EOF)- State funding has been a main concern. The state budget has been at a flat rate for 3-5 years and now the funding is becoming impacted where funding is becoming less. OSHE is a constant advocate of EOF programs across the state. The fall and summer programs are awarded money to operate across the State and each program is getting cut due to budget cuts. Appointed New Assistant director + finding a new EOF Advisor.
- x. Michael Marino (CSS)- I have not had any meetings since my first two with John Yao and the Center for Student Success on (11/13,11/14). One of the meetings I attended was the Academic Advisement Committee's November meeting.
- Web-Self Service will Soon be replaced by an adjacent software called *Experience*
 - As for assistance John brought an idea of a round table event/ survey that will happen about advisement that would be administered to student leaders about their experiences and feedback.
 - There are no upcoming events that CSS is directly hosting however if you have any questions, kudos, comments, or concerns for me about anything CSS related feel free to reach out or bring to my attention. (mmarino6@ramapo.edu)
 - I hope everyone has a happy Thanksgiving break!!
- xi. Ava (SSHS and Public Safety) – Met with Dean Lorenz, meeting the interim Dean next meeting. SSHS shirts for graduation: would that be in demand? We discussed a town hall revival and also my idea about a coffee chat with professors, which I will run by the interim Dean. Dean Lorenz said there were issues with signing up for classes. Maybe the SGA could collaborate with the Center for Student Success to inform students about what they need to do for registration and get their classes as soon as possible.
1. Public Safety:
 - a. Fall 2027 IDs will be reprinted for new students.
 - b. Give Jason dates for possible ALICE training and maybe we can cosponsor the event.

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- c. If you have any kudos, let me know! They acknowledge officers monthly, so please share any good experiences.
 - d. Laurel overpass: Cameras - they will check the underpass but they have views of the entrance to every building. They reassess cameras often and take them down if the view is inadequate and move them to a better area.
 - e. Increasing narcans - challenge is funding them. He will check into this and let me know. He has to identify possible locations. Usually, they should be paired with AEDs so that is also something to consider.
- xii. Tyler (HGS)- I had a short meeting with Dean Hagen. I told her about my intentions to be a visible senator and reached out to the HGS instagram account to post an introduction reel of myself. We also talked about William Russo's attempts to reach out for a Student Advisory meeting. Since this was a simple meeting we are planning a second one.
- xiii. James (Registrar's Office): I met with Jill Pierson last week from the Registrar's Office. We discussed how the online system for class was frequently down a couple weeks back, and how there are still glitches in the system currently regarding withdrawing from classes and a few incidents of student profile updates with grads and graduation progress being slow online. She said this is all much more related to the IT department, and that the Registrar's Office has done a better job this semester of keeping students aware of changes, and dialoging with the issues stemming from the IT department.
- xiv. Joe (Facilities): Met with Nicole twice and discussed some student concerns. Here are the concerns as well as the answers to those concerns:
- 1. Locked sliders on practice rooms - didn't get an answer but said it was checked out
 - 2. Urinals in academic wings had one down in each bathroom - was fixed and wasn't known prior
 - 3. Checked on heating and plumbing in CPA laundry room - Was told it was all good and if there's a heat issue its most likely the machine.
 - 4. Asked about the campus blackouts - they said it is in relation to whoever provides energy to campus
 - 5. Was a concern about work order updates - Facilities use a paper system so sometimes some papers get lost along the way but

they're working on making sure everything is updated on time.

6. Asked about if composting bins could be in student trafficked areas
- The campus does not have a service for composting bins and doesn't have anyone to manage them.
 7. Received a question about the Mackin elevator, told them its a part still but is there update on the elevator being fixed, or is it known that the elevator is down - It will be fixed as soon as the part comes in
 8. Is there any way to put a QR code on the orientation pamphlet for students that way they have a quick link to the work order - it would have to be asked to the orientation team
 9. Many hand sanitizer machines around campus are "burning people's hands" due to the sanitizer being expired. Is there any way to change the sanitizer or if one is expired or causing burning should it just be work ordered. - Work order for now but gonna further inquire.
- xv. Gianna (TAS) - I had my liaison meeting with Dean Chan. Here is what we discussed: Dean Chan touched on the name change of TAS and explained that they are changing the name because the Nursing program gets "dissed" all the time here at Ramapo since it is a Liberal Arts school. Dean Chan explained students and professors feel as though they are overlooked constantly. A name change creates inclusivity and validation to all students in the science, nursing, and health fields. The name change is also being done to help reform the school to maintain a more health oriented atmosphere and turn that new leaf. The goal is to try to promote and expand the pre-med, pre-dental, pre-vet programs here and offer more support there so students can excel and it brings more traction. Additionally, I will continue to aim to solve the registration issues with my involvement in the Academic Policy Council as well as reach out to registrar.
- xvi. Leana (OVP) - I met with Marie Attis twice so far (11/5,11/20).
- Bathroom Sign Initiative: Marie is in favor of this bill and has no problem moving forward with it. Her only concern was ensuring what was on the link tree matches up with what is on each respective offices' website. She said if there's any information that is added to the QR code that isn't on the OVP's website, to let me or her know so we can add it.
 - Healthy Masculinity Day was a big success! Thank you to everyone who went. We were able to get many ramapledges. (:
 - The last small event the OVP will be hosting is "Coffee and Tea with the OVP" which is open to anyone the week leading up to

winter break who needs a safe space before going home for the holidays.

- If anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns for the OVP please let me know. Thanks everyone!

xvii. Ismael Carcamo (ASB School Senator)

1. Had a student come up to me asking for resources to help out their small business.
2. Dean said Enactus or Beta Alpha Phi might be able to help our school used to have an organization specifically tailored to helping small businesses but not anymore
3. Also was asked to ask for a space for events
4. Dean said there's a spot in the pavilions or alumni lounges that's always empty if small businesses want to host an event but that'll be through CSI
5. Some Clubs have asked me to help promote their events and talk to students
6. I have given them the option for a co sponsorship with the SGA and also the dean stated he is happy to promote any event and to send him an email with a prompt and flyer to help send out a mass email to all ASB students about the event (goes for ASB Clubs)
7. Also had the idea or initiative of giving them a spot in the News Paper to talk about the market Segments.
8. I also asked the Dean if he had anything for the Student Body
9. His only wish is to see the ASB clubs build a community and support each others events he gave the example of the Financial Road Runners and ALPFA he wishes there was more of that.

V. Public Comment

a.

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. David - QoTW: "There is no monster more dangerous than a lack of compassion."
- Master Splinter
- c. Uma - Looking for volunteers to film the You're Not Alone Series Part 2, revolving around stress during exam season! Let me know if anyone's interested!

- i. 12/01 World AIDS Day with the Visual Artists Society and the Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Services in Friends Hall
- ii. 12/2 at 1 pm Therapy Animal Visit in the Wellness Room
- iii. 12/3 at 4 pm Calma Con Alma in the Multicultural Center with Wellness Is Now
- iv. This is the last week of Men's Mental Health Awareness Month → Men's Mental Health ALWAYS matters! :)
- v. There are plenty of mental health resources on campus. If you or anyone you know would like to learn more, visit the [Counseling Services Website](#), and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me :)
- d. Gianna - Any comments, questions, concerns, or kudos for TAS?
 - i. Any comments or questions for the Academic Policy Council?
- e. Ayden - Anything for EOF?
- f. Mihir - Final reminders and updates

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time:** 8:38
 - i. **Moved:** Jalen
 - ii. **Second:** Ahmet