

02/02/2026 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 02/02/2026]

Meeting called to order on [02/02/2026] at 7:04 pm in A-220

I. Roll Call

- a. President Liz Mendicino
- b. Senate President Mihir Jariwala
- c. Senate Vice President David George
- d. Senate Secretary Hannah Golden
- e. TAS School Senator Gianna Marchica
- f. CA School Senator Peter Tunnicliffe
- g. ASB School Senator Ismael Carcamo
- h. SSHS School Senator Ava Cicero-Johnson (late-excused)
- i. HGS School Senator Tyler O'Connor-Dilello
- j. Senator Joseph Brubaker
- k. Senator Alessia Mendicino (excused)
- l. Senator Uma Advani (excused)
- m. Senator Sebastian Herrera
- n. Senator Michael Marino
- o. Senator James Nieman (late)
- p. Senator Ayden Reed
- q. Senator Leana Thompson
- r. Senator Ahmet Angun
- s. Senator Christian Soberal (excused)
 - i. Late: 1
 - ii. Absent: 0
 - iii. Excused: 4

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 12/01/2025](#)
 - i. Moved: Gianna
 - ii. Second: Peter
 - iii. 12-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. Welcome to our first official meeting of the semester! 🎉
- b. Happy Black History Month! 🙏
- c. Give a warm welcome to our new Senate Secretary, Hannah Golden!
- d. The Senate Interim Election is still going on (2 positions)!
 - i. The deadline is Thursday, Feb. 5th!
 - ii. Share the link [here](#) to anyone who is interested!
- e. Guests at General: Vice Provost Arriola
 - i. Will present updates from the Comprehensive Academic Plan Implementation
- f. Due Dates for Liaison Reports:
 - i. February 23rd
 - ii. March 30th
 - iii. April 27th
- g. **Remember to fill out your information!**
 - i. We need you to fill out the [SGA Roster information sheet!](#)
 - ii. Fill out your [office hours](#) as well!
 - 1. Required 2 hours a week
- h. Please send us a headshot for the SGA page on the Ramapo website!!!
 - i. If you attended media day last semester, send a photo from then, if you were not there send a portrait photo of you.
 - ii. Send it to VP James and Liz in an email.
- i. Hope everyone likes the new shirts and beanies!
 - i. Please email Melissa if you need to pick up yours!

IV. New Business

a. Appointment: Senator-At-Large

i. Nominee: Kristina Kostoski

ii. Questions:

1. Peter- Do you have any current initiatives to push to better the cause?

a. Kristina- I don't have any yet but that is what I look forward to working on.

iii. Discussion:

1. Gianna- I liked how she was honest for not having a lot of initiatives. So it is good to have someone with such an open mind.

iv. Proposed:

v. Moved: Gianna

vi. Second: Tyler

vii. 13-0-0

b. Appointment: Senator-At-Large

i. Nominee: Brandon Ferrante

ii. Questions:

1. Peter- Do you have any initiatives or ideas you would like to work on?

a. Brandon- I am going to be food service liaison, so I would like to make the dining hall more accessible, like more vegan options or gluten free. I've been interviewing people to get their opinions on what they would like to see in our food services.

iii. Discussion:

1. He's been trying to get a representative position for awhile, so that determination is admirable.

2. He's been running since the fall election and everyone else in his election just dropped off the face of the earth and he kept coming back. It was nice to see he's up on the plate.

3. Brandon shadowed me last semester, he was really nice and a good fit for this position.

iv. Proposed:

v. Moved: Peter

- vi. Second: Leana
- vii. 13-0-0
- c. Introductions and Setting the Senate Standard!
 - i. Mihir- Keep our standards high :)
- d. Cosponsorship: Say Yes To Mackin (Mackin Hall)
 - i. Date: Friday, February 13, 8 pm - 10 pm at Trustees Pavilion
 - ii. Presenter: Elizabeth George
 - 1. [Presentation](#)
 - iii. Asking for \$\$ for supplies, volunteers, and marketing
 - 1. Funds Requested: [\\$42.97](#)
 - 2. Volunteers: 3+ volunteers
 - 3. Marketing Requested: Social media, Meeting
 - iv. Questions:
 - 1. Peter- How many people were expected to attend
 - a. 150 showed up last year so around that
 - 2. Mihir- You said you wanted 3 + volunteers for before and after, do you need any during the event
 - a. We would like to but if that is not possible than that is okay
 - v. Discussion:
 - 1. Gianna: I don't think that is crazy its only 42.97
 - 2. Peter- I think it should be 4 to 6 volunteers just to help out as much as possible
 - a. Liz- I second that to help out, and it provides plenty of volunteer slots for the required hours
 - vi. Proposed:
 - vii. Moved: Kristina
 - viii. Second: Brandon
 - ix. 15-0-0

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.

- i. If you are experiencing a mental health emergency, call the Counseling Services main line at 201-684-7522 and follow the prompt for immediate assistance, 24/7/365. Another option available nationwide is texting or calling 988 to be linked with a counselor if you have thoughts of suicide, a mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional stress. 988 and Ramapo's emergency counseling are free! Visit this website for more info! [Counseling Services](#) Website. Always feel free to reach out to Uma, your life matters :)
- b. Uma - I will be missing senate this semester so so much :(((
 - i. Dates for therapy animal visits for this semester! 02/09, 02/25, 03/09, 04/06, 04/17! Just a reminder that reservation slots open 7 days prior to the visit! I will update the timings once they come out for all the days!
 - ii. February is Youth Mental Health Awareness Month, highlighting the importance of promoting mental and emotional well-being in children and adolescents. You are never too young to experience mental health.
 - iii. Cultivating Calm Workshops are back! 4-session workshop series in weekly one-hour groups, you'll learn the science of stress and anxiety, relaxation techniques, and how to challenge overthinking. It will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 am throughout the year in Counseling Services D-216! Link to sign up! [Cultivating Calm Workshop Sign Up!](#)
 - iv. Anything for CHCS?
 - 1. Mihir- If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email her.
- c. Peter - QotW: "Be the goat that climbs the mountain." – Peter Tunncliffe
 - i. Anything for CA School?
 - 1. David- Ask him how is he doing
 - 2. Liv- Kudos for social media
- d. Gianna - Anything for TAS and the Academic Policy Council?
 - i. Gianna- It will be a little hard to contact them this semester but I will try my hardest to get that information out to you

- e. Leana - Anything for the OVP, Women's Center or the Comprehensive Academic Planning Implementation Team?
- f. Mihir- I have a concern for public safety, Ava. I heard that the cameras do not work in the village laundry room.
 - i. Ava- I will ask about it at my next meeting.
- g. Ava- Anything for SSHS and public safety?

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time: 7:50**
 - i. **Moved: Ayden**
 - ii. **Second: Sebastian**