

03/04/2026 SGA General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order [Wednesday, 03/04/2026] @1:07pm

I. Roll Call

- a. President - Liz Mendicino
- b. Vice President - James Pascal (excused)
- c. Secretary - Melissa Alvarez-Vazquez
- d. Treasurer - Julia Kotowski
- e. Chief of Staff - Benjamin Hartmann
- f. Secretary of Academic Affairs - Katelynn Haury (excused)
- g. Secretary of Commuter Affairs - Matthew Zegla
- h. Secretary of Delegate Affairs - Evelyn Santangelo (excused)
- i. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion - Chantalle Reyes (excused)
- j. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life - Samantha Schley
- k. Secretary of Governmental Affairs - Amanda Shortt (excused)
- l. Secretary of Programming - Afrona Tozluku
- m. Secretary of Public Relations - Kaitlyn Kroeber
- n. Secretary of Residential Affairs - Lismary Pascal (excused)
- o. Secretary of Sustainability - Kristen Senesi (excused)
- p. Secretary of Service - Emily Beck
- q. Chief Justice - Aidan D'Oria
- r. Legislative Justice - Amerie Ramos
- s. Administrative Justice - John Brighthouse (excused)
- t. Senate President - Mihir Jariwala
- u. Senate Vice President - David George
- v. Senate Secretary - Hannah Golden (unexcused)
- w. ASB School Senator - Ismael Carcamo (excused)
- x. CA School Senator - Peter Tunnicliffe (excused)

- y. HGS School Senator - Tyler O'Connor-Dilello (late-excused)
- z. SSSH School Senator - Ava Cicero-Johnson
- aa. TAS School Senator - Gianna Marchica
- bb. Senator-at-Large - Uma Advani
- cc. Senator-at-Large - Joseph Brubaker
- dd. Senator-at-Large - Alessia Mendicino
- ee. Senator-at-Large - Ayden Reed
- ff. Senator-at-Large - Michael Marino
- gg. Senator-at-Large - Sebastian Herrera
- hh. Senator-at-Large - Leana Thompson
- ii. Senator-at-Large - James Nieman (excused)
- jj. Senator-at-Large- Ahmet Angun (unexcused)
- kk. Senator-at-Large- Christian Soberal
- ll. Senator-at-Large Kristina Kostoski
- mm. Senator-at-Large Brandon Ferrante (unexcused)
- nn. Senator-at-Large Julian Buitrago
- oo. Senator-at-Large Anxhel Larti
 - i. Present: 27
 - ii. Late: 0
 - iii. Excused: 12
 - 1. *Unexcused: 3*
 - 2.
 - iv. Absent: 0

II. 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.

III. Land Acknowledgement

The Student Government Association respectfully acknowledges that we are hosting our meeting on the ancestral and traditional Indigenous territory of the Ramapough Lunaape Nation.

IV. Approving Meeting Minutes

- a.  02/25/26 General Meeting Minutes
 - i. Moved: Gianna
 - ii. Seconded: Ayden
 - 1. 13-0-2

V. President's Announcements

- a. Happy Women's Herstory Month!
- b. SGA Bonding will be game night next week either Wednesday or Thursday from 9-11 pm! Location TBA. Bring your favorite board games and bring your friendly competitive spirit!
- c. General Election Applications are open!!! Please help share the graphic that Kaitlyn made and apply before March 22nd!!! <https://cglink.me/2fF/s60675>
- d. IMPORTANT: From Emily - Last semester I started the process of creating a Service Policy for Ramapo. Essentially this idea is important to me and should be to you because it will allow students to reference a document that will tell them what constitutes service and what qualifies as service hours for any student at our school. There has been a lot of confusion in the past few semesters regarding this issue in clubs/orgs and other groups that require service hours, and my goal is to minimize the questions of this topic with this tool. Last semester I held an initial discussion meeting to get the ball rolling with other students' opinions and ideas on the matter. I am hopeful to get together a few more people interested and host a first discussion meeting in the next few weeks. Without a group to critically think together on this topic, the policy would only cover the perspective of a few students, not the whole student body.
 - i. *Christian, Leana, Anxhel, Sebastian, Uma, Alessia, and Liz are interested
- e. The Office of the Registrar is hosting in-person, drop-in sessions across campus to help you prepare for registration, which begins on Tuesday, April 7 (students will be emailed registration details in the coming weeks). Stop by anytime during these sessions to learn more about DegreeWorks, how to review your degree audit and academic progress, and more! We will also gladly answer any questions about our registration processes. Please bring your computer with you!

- i. Upcoming Rocky's Review Sessions-DegreeWorks/Registration:
 1. Friday, March 6: 10-11 a.m. in E-103 | Wednesday, March 11: 10:30-11:30 a.m. in B-227 | Thursday, March 12: 1-2 p.m. in ASB-220 | Monday, March 23: 1-2 p.m. in E-214 | Wednesday, March 25: 3:30-4:30 p.m. in E-103 | Friday, March 27: 10-11 a.m. in A-221 | Tuesday, March 31: 4-5 p.m. in E-212 | Wednesday, April 1: 3:30-4:30 p.m. in E-103 | Monday, April 6: 10-11 a.m. in ASB-220

VI. Cabinet Reports

- a. Vice President James Pascal
 - i. No Allocations Committee today!
- b. Secretary - Melissa Alvarez-Vazquez
 - i. Here are the links for [office hours](#) and [missed office hours](#)
 - ii. Any questions please email me: malvare7@ramapo.edu
 - iii. **REMINDERS:**
 1. Let me know the day before general (12 hrs) if you are unable to attend!
 2. Please remember to throw out your garbage and keep the office clean
- c. Treasurer - Julia Kotowski
 - i. Nothing to Report.
- d. Chief of Staff - Benjamin Hartmann
 - i. Cabinet Reports will be due March 13th.
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs - Katelynn Haury
 - i. Nothing to report
- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs - Matthew Zegla
 - i. Thank you to everyone who came to yesterday's committee meeting.
 - ii. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 24th, from 12-1 pm in room A-104.
 - iii. Upcoming commuter events:
 1. Lunch and Learn: March 9th from 1-2 pm in B-226
 - a. Will be talking about studying abroad (summer/fall opportunities)
 2. Commuter Bingo: March 26th from 1-2 pm in J. Lee's

3. Commuter Appreciation Week:
 - a. Iced Coffee Bar: March 30th 1-2 pm in J. Lee's
 - b. Commuter Breakfast: March 31st from 9-10:30 am
 - i. Depending on the weather, it will either be outside of the Berrie Center or in the Student Center
 - c. April 1st: Grab-and-go goodie bags in CSI from 9 am - 4 pm
 - d. Empanada Day: April 2nd from 1-2 pm in Friends Hall
 - e. Commuter Pickups: April 3rd from 10-11:30 am in the commuter parking lot
- g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs - Evelyn Santangelo
 - i. Next committee meeting is Tuesday March 10th at 5:30 pm in A221
 - ii. The Delegate Shadowing Interest form is due tonight all placements will finalized then the next steps in the process will be taken. More updates to come!
- h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion - Chantalle Reyes
 - i. Nothing to report
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life - Samantha Schley
 - i. Here is a link to [Ramapo Greeks Instagram](#) and [RCNJ Panhellenic Council Instagram](#) so you can stay on top of information and get a better look at what it's all about!!
 - ii. Upcoming events:
 1. Phi Beta Sigma is having a 1v1 basketball tournament 3/7 from 2:00-4:30 in the Bradley Center. No entry fee.
 2. Theta Phi Alpha is having Theta Phi Guy on 3/9 at 9:00pm in Friends Hall
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs - Amanda Shortt
 - i. Nothing to report
- j. Secretary of Programming - Afrona Tozluku
 - i. We have the Academic Fair tabling coming up, March 30th 12-2pm in the Fishbowl. If you like to participate, you can sign up here [📅 25/26 Upcoming Event Sign Ups](#) .
 - ii. GRADUATING SENIORS - You should have received an email from me asking about graduation stoles. You must respond to the email by next week, March 11th, that you would like to receive a stole. Also if you know anyone who graduate in the Fall and probably doesn't check their Ramapo email, please let them know I sent the email out, and that they can contact me if they would like to receive a stole.

- k. Secretary of Public Relations - Kaitlyn Kroeber
 - i. Please feel free to post the General Election application flyer to your Instagram stories.
More to come in GroupMe!
 - ii. Will be filming a video promoting the application after General :)
- l. Secretary of Residential Affairs - Lismary Pascal
 - **I met with Steph on the 25th.**
 - Regarding the mental health sticker with the Linktree QR code, she liked the design and concept. She asked me to share the document and sticker with her and Anne so they can review budgeting and determine the timeline for rollout. The plan is most likely to launch this in the fall to ensure it is implemented carefully and effectively.
 - We discussed Narcan placement in the dorms. I asked why Narcan is only located on the first floor. She appreciated the question and called to confirm that it is only in lobby areas. She believes this is because the lobby is the main entrance, typically staffed, and frequently passed through, making it quickly accessible. She will follow up with more detailed information to ensure accuracy and see what we can do about adding Narcan on other floors to ensure more safety.
 - Additionally, She wanted me to let you all know between her and us, that there was a **record number of RA candidates this year/semester**. It was one of the most competitive applicant pools they've had.
 - Housing selection is now open for students who submitted their housing deposits. There is specific information included about commuter students and groups choosing to room with commuters. There is more urgency for those groups because they receive later selection priority.
 - Anne and Steph strongly stressed that students need to carefully read all housing materials being sent to them.
 - Step Two of the Housing Selection Process is open from March 3 at 10:00 am through March 12 at 10:00 am. Students must declare whether they are applying as an individual or in a 2 or 4 person group. Groups must verify by the deadline or they will be separated and changed to individual status. Step Three runs April 7 through April 14, and admittance times will be emailed on April 1 at 2:30 pm.
 - **Roommate Mixer Information**
 - Roommate Mixers will be held in Trustees Pavilion (Rooms 1 and 2) on:
 - March 5 from 9:00 to 11:00 pm
 - March 9 from 9:00 to 11:00 pm
 - **Admittance priority goes in this order:**
 1. 4 person groups
 2. 2 person groups
 3. Individuals
 4. 4 person groups with commuters
 5. 2 person groups with commuters

- **Students with questions can email reslife@ramapo.edu...** Again thank you Mihir ..this was a lot.
 - Dean Van Der Wall: I wanted to go back to the Narcan, that is such a great point, this came up in the meeting with student counselor in november, that information went to our safe specialists Evan Kutzin, Fire Marshal/EMS Coordinator, he would be very happy to speak and work with the SGA, they replace about 50% recently since they have a short shelf life. Evan wanted to meet with whoever in November about this so whoever was kinda had the idea so if who it was would want to contact it I think it would be great opportunity.
 - m. Secretary of Sustainability - Kristen Senesi
 - i. Committee meeting today in LC232
 - ii. If anyone is interested in signing the birdstrike petition please reach out and let me know!
 - n. Secretary of Service - Emily Beck
 - i. You can track your service hours here! [SGA Spring 2026 Community Service Hours](#)
 - ii. I had my meeting with Allene and we have a few options on the table for our SGA service trip this semester. She will be reaching out to a few partners to get specific dates but our trip will most likely be early April. I will have a form for trip preferences once I get more details.
 - iii. Service Policy Interest Form: Please sign up if you can, it will be a great help to me and the student body as a whole!! <https://forms.gle/cmW1Yn4GUz4WDzGW7>
 - iv. Upcoming Service Opportunities: (Reminder: if the event is run via CCEC you must register on Archway!)
 1. Wednesday, March 4th, 5pm-6:30pm | APO Making Dog Toys, ASB 332
 2. Thursday, March 12th, 5:00pm- 8:15pm | Community Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown Food Distribution
 3. Wednesday, March 25th, 1pm-2pm | Campus Clean Up with Environmental Health and Safety
 4. Wed, April 8th, 11:45am- 2:15pm | Technology Tutoring at the Mahwah Senior Center
 5. Wednesday, April 15th, 1pm-2pm | Campus Clean Up with Environmental Health and Safety
 6. Wed, April 29th, 11:45am- 2:15pm | Technology Tutoring at the Mahwah Senior Center
 - o. Chief Justice - Aidan D'Oria
 - i. Nothing to report
 - p. Senate President - Mihir Jariwala
 - i. We approved two clubs: Pre-Physician Club and Ping Pong Club (with contingencies)!
 - ii. We approved one cosponsorship with the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NHPC)!
 - iii. We went over some of our Liaison Reports!
 - iv. Everything we have discussed can be found in the minutes (once it's done)

- q. Student Trustee - Sarah Glisson
 - i. Nothing to report.

VII. New Business

- a. Reports from SGA Members on College-Wide Committees
 - 1. Nothing to report.
- b. This Week on Campus
 - i. Celebrating SGA wins!!

VIII. Public Comment

- a. Dean: I have a kudos to share for our very own Jack Nesmith, who has been awarded by NASPA, National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the Outstanding Contribution to student leadership program award! So grateful we have him here and all the great work he has done!
- b. Jack: Thank you all for the amazing support, could not do it without you all, I fully love everything I do and you guys are what makes me love my job.
 - i. Kudos to SGA for being a great present with the student leadership award application, we had a great application process and will now be moving on to the 3rd step, all ref
 - ii. Project L.E.A.D. : Power of overcoming imposter syndrome A101 tomorrow 1-2pm
 - iii. Liz: Rick let me know that after President Jebb came to our general meeting in G-wing she was very happy about the great conversation, and the great professionalism so kudos to all of you!

IX. Open Forum

- a. Uma - If you or anyone you know is 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 for all students! Visit this website for more info! [Counseling Services Website](#). Always feel free to reach out to me, your life matters :)
 - i. March is Self-Harm Awareness Month, a time to acknowledge that many people struggle in silence with self-harm, to better understand what it is, and to remind our campus community of the support and healthier coping strategies. Mental health resources are available through the Center for Health and Counseling Services.

- ii. If you or anyone you know wants to learn more about eating disorder awareness, the Renfrew Center, or resources available for people who struggle with eating disorders, GroupMe message me or come see me after general! There is always help available!:)
- iii. The next therapy animal visit will be next Monday from 1 pm - 3 pm in the Wellness Room in E216. Reserve your appointment [here](#)
- iv. STUDENT SUBSTANCE USE & MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY – CHANCE TO WIN \$25 GIFT CARD! Ramapo College Students are invited to complete the Student Substance Use & Mental Health Survey for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card and get a swag bag from D-216 (while supplies last)! Your feedback will help strengthen campus programs and support services related to mental health and substance use on campus. The survey is anonymous and open until March 9 at this link: [Student Substance Use and Mental Health Survey](#)
- v. CHCS will be having World Sleep Day tabling next Friday, March 13th in second floor SC, where they will be talking about the Rise App, which is a free tool for all students on campus that is designed to improve sleep, reduce stress, and enhance well-being.
- vi. Anything for CHCS?
- vii. Alpha Male AOII: Wednesday March 11th at 9pm @Friends hall all \$5 donation, all processes go to an Arthritis foundation.
- b. Christian - Please fill out the [form](#) for Campus Tours! So far I've gotten only a single response, and without proper information we cannot accomplish our goal of revamping campus tours.
- c. Leana - The Women's Center is holding their "Hidden Gems Market" which highlights women and QT+ makers in trustees on March 6th from 12-5pm!
 - i. Anything for the Women's Center, the OVP or the CAP team?
- d. Alessia- Anything for Title IX?
- e. Mihir - I am meeting with Dean Van Der Wall on Friday. If anyone has anything for her, please let me know after this meeting!
- f. Joe - Some updates from facilities
 - i. Any plumbing issues that are occurring are pretty common during the winter time. Village specifically also had a pressure reducing valve failure in one of the buildings causing high pressure toilets when flushing
 - ii. Work orders are being worked on and have different factors for priority, but if there are updates just call the facilities desk
 - iii. Fire hydrants are placed by where engineers place them when designing the grounds, and this is also approved by the fire department. Fire hydrants would only be used if a fire is stronger than what the sprinkler system can handle, which would activate once hot enough.

- iv. Doors around campus have not been doing well with the winter, but they are contracted out like the elevators and will be fixed as soon as possible.
- v. Regarding snow and ice, they are doing the best they can with the staffing they have, but if there are any specific concerns at all, report it to public safety and facilities.
- vi. For emergency response, someone should be going in and checking and seeing if the issue can be fixed. If that person cannot fix the issue, then the proper person such as a plumber will get contacted to fix it when able.
- vii. Anything for facilities?
 - 1. Uma: Kudos to facilities
- g. Ava (Public Safety and SSHS) –
 - i. **Upcoming Lockdown Drill:** The College will be conducting a scheduled lockdown drill this semester on March 30, 2026 to help the community practice emergency response procedures. Additional details will be shared in advance.
 - ii. **Critical Incident Training:** The College continues to make Active Shooter/Active Assailant training (Run-Hide-Fight) [training](#) available to all students and employees. If you are interested in this emergency response training, please let us know by completing [this form](#). In addition, please take the time to watch the [Active Shooter Scenario Training Videos](#) that are available on the College's Intranet.
 - iii. **Rave Guardian App:** A free mobile safety app that allows users to quickly contact Public Safety, submit tips, and request a virtual safety escort. We strongly encourage all community members to [download and activate the free app](#).
 - iv. **Jason wants us to help inform students about the Public Safety page if they have any questions! It offers campus resources, information about immigration, legal resources, and more!**
 - v. Link to register for training course run hide fight on Psafe website. Campus course for active shooter is almost done!!!!
 - vi. Anything for Public Safety or SSHS?
 - 1. Liz: I filled out the form for SGA to practice in Run-Hide-Fight but they have not gotten back to me.
 - 2. Ava: Okay I will let them know.
- h. Ayden Reed- Anything for EOF or Learning Commons?
- i. Liz: You have all received an email about
- j. ★ SGA Star of the Month! [March Form](#) (Please inform us of any issues with the form)



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

o. (201) 684-7271

e: sga@ramapo.edu | ramapo.edu/sga

X. Adjournment @1:45pm

- a. Moved: Uma
- b. Seconded: Tyler