

03/30/2026 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 03/30/2026]

Meeting called to order on [03/30/2026] at 7:21 pm in ASB-429

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. SSSH School Senator Ava Cicero-Johnson (late-excused)
- i. HGS School Senator Tyler O'Connor-Dilello
- j. Senator Joseph Brubaker
- k. Senator Alessia Mendicino
- l. Senator Sebastian Herrera
- m. Senator Michael Marino
- n. Senator James Nieman (late-excused)
- o. Senator Ayden Reed
- p. Senator Leana Thompson
- q. Senator Ahmet Angun
- r. Senator Christian Soberal (excused)
- s. Senator Kristina Kostoski
- t. Senator Brandon Ferrante
- u. Senator Julian Buitrago
- v. Senator Anxhel Larti
 - i. Late: 2
 - ii. Absent: 0
 - iii. Excused: 1

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 03/23/2026](#)
 - i. Moved: Juilian
 - ii. Second: Ayden
 - iii. 14-0-3

III. Senate President's Announcements

- a. Be sure to sign up for a shift for the Spring Concert! This is mandatory and a required part of your position!  [2026 Spring Concert Volunteer Sheet](#)
 - i. The outside one is locked but sign up for the inside one!
- b. Be sure to sign up for [Denim Day](#) if you would like to model! The deadline is this Friday night!
 - i. SGA always has had an amazing turnout for this event!
- c. We would like to work on some of your goals in the coming senate meetings!
 - i. Flesh out your initiative in the [SGA Senate Goals](#) document!
- d. [Upcoming Events](#):
 - i. That's So Y2K: Friday, April 10th, 7-9 PM (Friend's Hall)
 - ii. NSSE Tabling: Various Dates (2nd Floor Student Center)
 - iii. Taste of Caribbean: Thursday, April 2nd, 7 PM (Friend's Hall)
- e. Senate-Specific Notifications:
 - i. **Final liaison reports are due in 4 weeks! (April 27th)**
 - ii. The [Cosponsorship Form](#) is live!
 - iii. If you have any time conflicts about missing Senate Meetings, please fill out the [missed meeting form](#).

IV. New Business

- a. Cosponsorship: Asian Expo (UAA)
 - i. Date: Wednesday, April 8, 7:30 - 11 pm at Friend's Hall
 - ii. Presenter: Ai Tai
 - iii. Asking for \$\$ for supplies and food, volunteers, and marketing
 1. Funds Requested: [\\$265.01](#)
 2. Volunteers: [5-10](#)
 3. Marketing Requested: Social Media, Meeting
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Brandon- How many people attended this event last year?
 - a. Around 200 people including people from other colleges like tcnj
 2. Mihir- Out of all the items, what are the most important?
 - a. Ai- All of the stuff from the shoprite because we can't reuse any of it
 - v. Discussion:
 1. Joe- Give them the full amount, I went to this last year and it was a blast
 2. David- 175 because they have the third largest amount of budget out of all of the clubs.
 - a. Mihir- With the amount of money we have we can afford to give them the full amount.
 3. Sebastian- With what david said we could save money and not give them the full amount
 - a. Brandon- We should use all of it so we get the same amount next year.
 4. Joe- They did run out of boba so they may need this money.
 5. Peter- 3 to 5 volunteers should be enough.
 6. Brandon- Do we need all the slots to be filled?
 - a. No not all but if we say 3 to 5 thats the standard they expect.
 - b. David- We moved to ranges so we dont give them wrong information if all 5 slots dont get filled
 7. Peter- It is a big event. We should do 4 to 6 volunteers.
 - a. Mihir- This can help with our 2 event requirements as well.

- vi. Proposed:
- vii. Moved: Brandon
- viii. Second: Sebastian
- ix. 17-0-0

b. [Liaison Reports](#)

- i. **Please write your name, liaison, and summary points from your report below!**
- ii. Mihir (Dean of Students) - I met with Dean Van Der Wall on the 6th of March. We spoke about federal agents and their potential presence on campus. She advised me that many other colleges are discussing this same topic and it may be beneficial to reach out to see how they are handling the situation. In addition, she provided a lot of clarification on the health services situation, stating our partnership with Bergen New Bridge Medical Center will continue until the integration of Valley Medical Group in mid May. Providers at New Bridge do have the credentials to diagnose, treat, and prescribe, and will have telehealth available all days of the week. Finally, Dean Van Der Wall has been very impressed with how the Senate has been running!
 - 1. Peter- Will Valley Health be better?
 - a. Mihir- Yes much better, they have telehealth and in person help.
- iii. David (ITS) - Printer pages next year will be going down to 200 instead of 225. Faculty are being emphasized to printout materials themselves instead of relying on the student. U Achieve is going away and being replaced with DegreeWorks. There will be a new portal for health services next year where immunization forms and other documents can be uploaded instead of using email
 - 1. Liz- The portal is called Athena.
- iv. Christian (Admissions) - Thank you to all who volunteered for the Admitted Students Day!
 - 1. I still need a few people to fill out the [Campus Tour form](#). We almost have everyone we need, please fill it out if you have not!
 - 2. If you volunteered at an admissions event, please fill out [this form](#)! We are looking for feedback from current students about these large scale events and what we can do better to improve them.

3. Do you need volunteer hours? Great news! Admissions is looking for volunteers to meet up with tour groups outside the Mansion to answer questions from prospective students and families. They are happy to certify the hours and getting information from current students can be immensely helpful to new students.
 4. Admissions is still on track to meet all of their goals. The next admitted students day is a very continuous one, as multiple colleges are hosting their own on that day.
 5. Anything for admissions?
- v. Julian (Roukema) - I met with Kat Lamanna last Wednesday (3/30). After introductions we got right into business regarding study abroad and international education:
1. She said thank you for all of the kudos and appreciates it.
 2. To Peter: She recommends meeting with her first (Kat), then speaking to the academic advisor after. Advisement questionnaire on website, once you finish and submit it, Kat will review it and follow up. First appointments are an hour to work on programming and plan options. Speak about goals, expectations, and finances. It is important to speak to both her academic advisor, and financial aide. Then go start an application and get it all ironed out.
 3. International Students: Should be on everyone's radar on what's going on in the world, students should be aware about current issues and make sure that there are resources available for support.
 4. She is seeing withdrawals from studying abroad due to current issues in the world, so this is an issue right now.
 5. Wanted me to ask the SGA: "Are there any better ways to promote studying abroad to the student population?"
 - a. Mihir- I would say to be transparent. There are obvious political issues in the world however they can tell the students how ramapo will protect them from the issues.
- vi. Ayden (EOF)- I had my meeting with Gabriella Ammaino to discuss things impacting EOF, this Summer Ramapo College will be helping with the program for additional funding as Ramapo College has always supported the Program. The program is anticipating 135 Students. April is EOF MONTH! April 6th is the EOF proclamation and I will be speaking

and would love the SGA's support! April 8th will be an EOF Celebration, April 9th Virtual Student day at the capital, April 10th I was invited to the EOF Professional Board Meeting. We also did discuss the potential Liaison to First-Gen as she oversees the First Gen Center

- vii. Ayden (Academic Policy Council)- During the meeting AI was a big discussion especially around the clarification around the punishment and sanctions for using AI in academic work. On the Academic Integrity page making it more clear how AI should not be used for their course work. There is an ongoing need to think critically about how AI can be used efficiently at a Liberal Arts college . Under the Academic Integrity Policy, if a professor is going to assign a student a F, the matter should also be reported to the Provost. Professors must include or link the Academic Integrity Policy in their syllabus
1. Mihir- We should all be showing up to these proclamations
 2. Liz- I would love it if they allowed more students on those meetings especially since it impacts students. Since I have been on the board for academic policy and it really has changed my view.
 - a. I talked with them about this and she told me that she knows AI is not going away and she wants to teach students how to use it properly. She wants to bring SGA in it to back up the students who are getting accused of using AI
 - b. Peter- I've noticed that these AI detectors are not always correct. So I think a second pair of eyes will be so beneficial.
 - c. Liz- We do try to go as easy on the students as possible, but when it goes to the board it goes through so many AI checkers and we compare them together. We also compare them to other assignments. So it is more of a process than what most students think.
 3. Ayden- One more thing that I want to bring up is grammerly, I don't think people who use grammerly should not be punished because it just corrects your grammar and spelling. We also use Turnitin In which is an Ai.
 - a. Liz- The board is pushing for usage of Gemini

4. Aymet- Is the F is the class or a grade in general?
 - a. It is for the class, but you can retake these classes.
 - b. Liz- Some are permanent Fs and some you can retake.
5. Brandon- We should use AI not to make wording sound better but asking for tips on what to do.
6. Ismael- So what is the final stance on AI?
 - a. Ayden- The school is against it but I brought up that they should teach students on how to use it properly.
 - b. Sebastian- I know some AI like gemini has courses and how to use it properly and you can bring that up. And even offer courses here.
 - c. Liz- I suggested doing it like the pathways like AI ethics or how to use AI responsibly.
7. Ismael- I know for computer science majors the professors go over how to use AI in our Career.
 - a. David- We could do it like the drug and alcohol videos and have it in the summer. In terms of general usages there is a wrong way and a right way to use it.
- viii. Kristina (OSS): I met with Dr. David Nast today and we discussed an initiative on tutoring which would allow for students that receive OSS assistance to have direct help from the office with their academics. He agreed that this could be very beneficial, and would be willing to introduce me to who would be able to help me put this into action.
 1. During the recent new student orientation, about 30 students showed interest in getting assistance from OSS, and while that is a good amount, during other orientations they have received up to 45 students. With that being said, I'd like to help work on boosting their publicity and outreach, and maybe do this in collaboration with other SGA liaisons.
 2. April is Autism Awareness Month and there will be a student panel in collaboration with the Enhance program. He was unsure of the date and will email me the details as soon as he finds out. All students are able to attend.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

o. (201) 684-7271

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

3. On April 8th, the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is coming to speak to OSS Students, and this is an agency that helps with career readiness. This is an event for OSS students.
4. There are OSS Related Scholarships for students enrolling and the application windows are expected to open on May 18th and close on June 24th. Last year they had a pool of over \$70,000 of scholarship award money.
 - a. Liz- More effective communication with OSS on Fire drills. There hasn't been effective notification of fire drills and it's very stressful for those who get triggered by these things.
 - i. Mihir- I feel like for this lock down was efficiently notified
 - ii. Liz- There were students who knew but other students didn't know that they actually needed to know like for the students who can't get inside as easily.
 - iii. Gianna- He told everyone and promised everyone 5 to 10 minutes. While there were technical difficulties and he didn't want to stress students out by saying something went wrong. Also in real life there won't be any warnings on this kind of stuff.
 - iv. Ava- There have been warnings about this for over a month.
 - v. Sebastian- It is not the department's fault if the students don't read the emails. I do think that the RAs could talk with their residents about it.
 - vi. Peter- or the Rave Garden APP
 - Liz- they did
 - vii. Ayden- Maybe the blue lights could start flashing blue like signaling that there is an emergency
 - viii. Liz- I was just bringing up a gap that we should consider because we need to consider all perspectives.

ix. Sebastian (Athletics)

1. Spring Maintenance for the Bradley Center Student Gym has been completed earlier in the semester. If there are any concerns with safety with equipment in the gym please bring it to the attention of the student workers or email Abby Shiffler.
2. Request for a Hex Trap Bar with handles has been addressed in athletic department meetings. However it will not be added to the facility this semester, instead it will again be addressed when the department receives their budget for the 2026-2027 school year.
3. Future Athletics events - Compositary Calendar
4. <https://ramapoathletics.com/calendar>
5. March 31st Softball team will play twice at 3pm and 5pm at home. Baseball will play at 5pm home
 - a. Peter- They have the new clips for the gym. Why does the old clip keep getting added on. Can we just throw out the old ones so people don't get hurt?

x. Anxhel (Center for Student Involvement) - I met with Eddie Seavers on March 4th. We discussed ongoing planning for the Upcoming Spring Concert on May 1st, which remains in the coordination phase as logistics continue to be finalized. With that said, SGA members should sign up for their Spring Concert slots as soon as possible so all volunteer positions are filled, ideally before mid-April. Our conversation also focused more broadly on how CSI structures and promotes student engagement through off campus opportunities such as sporting events and Broadway shows. These opportunities are primarily advertised through the Daily Digest and the CSI social media page. Additionally, we discussed the continued growth of the Roadrunner Express, which has seen an increase in student usage, and ways the SGA can further support further awareness and utilization of these transportation services.

1. Brandon- The guy on the shuttle was being a very dangerous driver
 - a. David- I would give the date and time because the CSI is very organized with the shuttles

xi. Alessia (Title IX)- I met with Kat McGee on March 11th. During our meeting we first discussed the implementation of new ADA rules and digital accessibility. Kat shared these digital accessibility resources with

me [Digital Accessibility at Ramapo College](#) and [WebAIM Contrast Checker](#) which I highly recommend looking at. We then started discussing the possibility of doing a Digital Accessibility Workshop which we have now started planning with Alex, the Social Media & Content Strategist at Ramapo. Kat and I also talked about Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. The proclamation is going to be on April 8th from 1-2:15pm and Denim Day on April 29th from 7-9:30pm. It would be awesome to see SGA in attendance at both events! Finally, Kat told me about a report to Title IX from a bystander who had heard the information second-hand at a resident hall and emphasized that if anyone ever hears any rumors that they shouldn't hesitate to bring them to her. This allows her to track reports over time.

- xii. Ava (Public Safety and SSHS): Dr. Ray and I literally dragged a bookshelf into the SSHS lounge. I will be organizing the books soon. Will discuss coffee chat with Tyler and Dean Hangen when they are available. The Run Hide Fight Canvas course for RCNJ is completed and is currently being tested. The class should be available to the entire RCNJ community any day now. He says thanks for the kudos! He hopes to expand their ability to attend events (in particular, later night activities) through some creative scheduling.. more to come on this. Someone was struck by a vehicle in the parking lot. Minor injuries were treated by EMS, and MPD was on campus to complete a report. **What did SGA think of the lockdown drill?**

1. Harold- it was done at the wrong time. I think it should have been done when people are in classes because it allows for a more realistic situation.
2. Liz- People were concerned about the library because it is all windows. It felt awkward because what should they do in this situation?
3. Peter- I like the time because it did not take away from class time. Like the only time would be a common hour but then you are taking away from lunch and clubs.
4. Ava- I like it because if it was done at 1pm then there would have been a trample.

5. David- as a commuter I feel like we should have it at a different time because I was not even here for the drill.
6. Harold- I meant it as a drill at any time so to have a it in class
7. James- I am also a commuter and we have a disadvantage on safety related stuff. I feel like this is an information issue and not a timing issue.
 - a. David- I just suggested a different time to have more practice with more people. Also it is hard to communicate with everyone.
- xiii. Tyler (HGS): I met with Dean Hangen. We discussed the upcoming HGS events such as the March 31st networking event (PLEASE COME) which is starting at 5 in the alumni lounges, and the April 15th student faculty lunch at 11am in Pavalotto Commons. I was unable to meet with her to discuss the concerns from the last Senate but I will ask when I meet her next. Any questions or points for HGS?
 1. Ayden- Kudos to __
- xiv. James (Cahill Career Development and Registrar's Office):
 1. Cahill Meeting Agenda: Broad Office Status Check
 2. No major updates since last meeting, no major updates since career fair
 3. Minor events were held
 4. Not much to report, they should accept more student feedback!
 5. They said, stay tuned for future events, system online portal updates (they are adding more to the page apparently but I'm not too sure of what)
 6. Registrar Meeting Agenda: Broad Office Status Check
 7. Watch for new academic schools merging
 8. No other updates
 9. Projects: Had some minor IT issues and degreeworks/system issues are but they were fixed
 10. Any questions for the students or want the students to know:
 11. Pay attention to updates from the provost
- xv. Peter - AHE School
 1. Academic Affairs Committee Meeting: Instead of the bookshelves with recycled course materials, Dean Goldstein proposes that we

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

o. (201) 684-7271

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

should host an event either at the beginning of the year or the end of the year so students can pass down their textbooks. If we were to do that with specific course materials, it could cause issues with professors. We could do this either in every School as well, and wouldn't have to pass through facilities to get it approved.

2. Matt's concern: Some required classes for the Visual Communications Design (VCD) Major falls under two separate categories: Communication and Design. Within the next semester, all of the VCD classes will officially fall under the Design category; this is just a transition period.
3. School-Specific Career Fairs: Art's week is the closest we have to being able to have Students, Faculty, and Alumni connect and discuss their careers. I will post more information on Arts Week as it comes!

xvi. Joe - Facilities

1. Checked for more information on new traffic light installed by the main entrance, but nothing is known
2. Asked about if clubs can rent vans. Clubs can rent vans but students are not permitted to drive the vans, a staff member or advisor would need to drive. The driver needs to have a valid driver license and valid defensive driving. More than 48 hours of notice is needed, vans are also first come first serve and if there is not a van available then the request for one will not go through. Do not need to pay for gas but its a nice gesture if a decent amount is used, and tolls and parking are not covered by facilities.
3. With nice weather, facilities let me know the HVAC systems are not changing over even though there has been nice weather. Temperatures in the buildings may be all over the place but it is not an issue.
4. For the bird strikes. Vinyl stickers can work and a meeting with Mike Yankovich would be good. Some roadblocks include:
 - a. The cherry picker machine cant be student operated and it depends on the location where
 - b. Need to be a tasteful vibe and effective - dots and thin close strips

- c. Bird stickers are not effective
 - d. When the C wing ones were installed they were installed as a giant sheet and when peeled the dots stayed on, something similar to that would work best
 - i. Peter- For designs can we put them in a little circle
 - Joe- They want it to be tasteful because everyone has to look at it. I can try and get more information about that for you.
- xvii. Brandon Ferrante - Dining Liaison
1. Discussed multiple issues containing to birch and atrium
 2. Religious and Dietary restrictions issues
 3. Addition of a hot bar
 4. Addition of a fruits bar
 5. QR code survey for additional items in atrium drink section
 6. Breakfast and hot to go meals enlargement
 7. Adding subs and sandwiches into birch wrap bar
 8. Adding more protein options for students in birch
 9. Talks of adding a smoothie bar
 10. Remodeling, taking away pizza
 11. Projects:
 - a. Healthier items in Birch, vegetation options are being discussed
 - b. Make the vegan/vegetarian section larger and less isolated
 12. Opportunities:
 - a. Possible SGA event will be brought up next meeting
- xviii. Leana Thompson - Women's Center:
1. Wednesday, April 1, Trans day of visibility bingo event bradley center game room bingo for gender affirming products. Participating in trans write readathons so also book prizes.
 2. Lavender Ceremony, biggest event of April. Pre commencement ceremony celebrating LGBTQ grads april 28.
 3. They will be tabling at the earth day fair
 4. Also wellness fair
 5. Pride Prom 23rd
 6. Essentially rounding out their series such as feminist book club.

7. SAAM tabling and participating in Denim Day
 8. Dr. Williams noted that April is a month where the WC tends to support other offices' events rather than hosting their own.
- xix. Leana Thompson - OVP
1. On the 1th there will be a tabling for the sexual assault day of action, everyone is encourage to wear teal! OVP will be handing out teal cupcakes, so make sure to stop by!
 2. 7th ssam day of action. Stop by the office wearing teal and you'll get a cupcake.
 3. Sexual Assault Awareness Month Symposium and Proclamation. It will be on April 8th from 12-3 in Friends Hall. We will have food, a resource fair, and of course a speech from President Jebb.
 4. Clothesline Project: Healing Space brings a bunch of designed white shirts that have inspiring and empowering messages and students are also invited to make their own. Happening at the same time and same place.
 5. 22nd Denim Day prep in the multicultural center, people can bring their denim and prep them for denim day, history will also be discussed. Model form is attached. Posters will be hung up.
 6. 29th actual denim day 7-9 friends hall. Closing event. Denim day is a nationally recognized event to show support for survivors, it's a fashion show where other clubs can join. Jebb will be joining us.
- xx. Michael Marino- Student Success/Middle States Executive Team
1. My first meeting with the Middle States Executive Team was a success!!
 2. Our agenda was to basically figure out how much collaboration we can have amongst the students and faculty
 3. May 4th is a big day Dr. Bowden from the Steering Committee Executive Team will be coming to do an overview of our plan and I will be having lunch with the Team where they will be asking me questions about what life is like as a Ramapo student
 4. I am currently working on a survey that will be administered next year at a tabling basically asking students about their experiences at school so I can bring them back to the committee
 5. Any Questions for Student Success or the Middle States Executive

Team?

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. Peter - QotW: “What I like to share about myself is my story, my art, and my creative process. I guess messing up doesn't take away from that. A bad story is still a story” —Alysa Liu
 - i. Anything for the AHE School?
- c. Leana - Anything for the OVP, Women’s Center or CAP Team?

VII. Adjournment

- a. **Time: 8:55 PM**
 - i. **Moved: Ismael**
 - ii. **Second: Peter**