

# 09/23/2026 SGA General Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order [Wednesday, 09/23/2026] 1:00pm

## I. Roll Call

- a. President - Benjamin Hartmann
- b. Vice President - Ayden Reed
- c. Secretary - Alessia Mendicino
- d. Treasurer - Julia Kotowski (excused)
- e. Chief of Staff - Tyler O'Connor
- f. Secretary of Academic Affairs - Elena Gergis
- g. Secretary of Commuter Affairs - Matthew Zegla (excused)
- h. Secretary of Delegate Affairs - Evelyn Santangelo
- i. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion - Brianna Pierre (excused)
- j. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life - N/A
- k. Secretary of Governmental Affairs - Ahmet Angun
- l. Secretary of Programming - Matthew Webb
- m. Secretary of Public Relations - Cole Werner
- n. Secretary of Community Engagement - Uma Advani (excused-late)
- o. Secretary of Residential Affairs - Lismary Pascal (absent)
- p. Secretary of Sustainability - Aleks Soucie (excused)
- q. Secretary of Service - Lane Evers
- r. Chief Justice - Amerie Ramos
- s. Legislative Justice - Paul Vargas (excused)
- t. Administrative Justice - Madison Ziolkowski
- u. Senate President - Gianna Marchica
- v. Senate Vice President - Peter Tunncliffe (excused)
- w. Senate Secretary - Isabella LaGuardia (excused)
- x. ASB School Senator - N/A

- y. AHE School Senator - Peter Tunncliffe (excused)
- z. SNH School Senator - Gianna Marchica
- aa. SSSW School Senator - N/A
- bb. Undergraduate and Honors School Senator - Leana Thompson (excused)
- cc. Senator-at-Large - Michael Marino (excused)
- dd. Senator-at-Large - Harold Rodriguez (excused)
- ee. Senator-at-Large - Julian Buitrago
- ff. Senator-at-Large - Kyra Cooke
- gg. Senator-at-Large - Brandon Ferrante
- hh. Senator-at-Large - Kristina Kostowski
- ii. Senator-at-Large - Anxhel Larti
- jj. Senator-at-Large - Christian Soberal (excused)
  - i. Present: 18
  - ii. Late:
  - iii. Excused: 12
    - 1.
    - 2.
  - iv. Absent: 1

## **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.  9/16 General Meeting Minutes
  - i. Moved: Julian
  - ii. Seconded: Kristina
    - 1. 6-0-0

#### V. President's Announcements

- a. I just wanted to take some time to express my sincere gratitude to work alongside all of you. Without all of you, there is no SGA and I firmly believe that everyone here has been going above and beyond and I wanted to acknowledge that for everyone here.
- b. **Glow for Hope!** This Thursday, 9 PM @ Arch/Laurel Courts (rain location: Friends Hall). Hosted by CHCS + cosponsors.
- c. All of these events are important that all of us come out together and show love so please let's continue to highlight engagement.
- d. Senators are underway with their campaigns and we're looking forward to getting the results!
- e. Everyone please sign up for an Oktoberfest shift; these are mandatory across the SGA. T-Shirts are also confirmed to be ordered!
- f. Let's welcome **Jose Vallejo at 1:30pm** and have questions prepared to ask about volunteering with our Admissions team.

#### VI. Cabinet Reports

- a. Vice President Ayden Reed
  - i. I hope everyone is having a great week! Today we will be having Club Allocations in B226 at 3pm.
- b. Secretary - Alessia Mendicino
  - i. Please remember to fill out the office hours form.
  - ii. Let me know if you ever have to miss your office hours.

- iii. Make sure that you are closing the office before you leave, the office should not be left unattended. If you have any questions about how to close or open the office please let me know.
- c. Treasurer - Julia Kotowski
  - i. If anyone has any questions related to budgets please let me know.
  - ii. Please remember to forward copies of any receipts to me.
  - iii. We're working on planning fundraisers, if you have any ideas please let us know!
- d. Chief of Staff - Tyler O'Connor
  - i. I would like to start off by welcoming our new Secretary of Sustainability Aleks Soucie to the cabinet. Thank you to the senate for the confirmation last night
  - ii. Secondly thank you to cabinet for our second cabinet meeting this morning
  - iii. Lastly to my cabinet please don't forget cabinet reports are due next monday
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs - Elena Gergis
  - i. I just had my first meeting with my wonderful committee. We discussed ideas regarding the academic faire and how we want to cater it for undeclared students. We also discussed how to book rooms and such.
  - ii. I also had my very first meeting with Provost Middleton yesterday morning. It was a really helpful and insightful discussion, and I can't wait to transfer that same spirit into SGA!
- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs - Matthew Zegla
  - i. Upcoming commuter events:
    - 1. Snack & Chat with Jack: This Friday at 1 PM in J. Lee's
    - 2. Throwback Snacks: Thursday, October 1st at 1 PM in J. Lee's
    - 3. Pumpkin Painting: Thursday, October 15th from 1-2 PM in J. Lee's
    - 4. Trunk or Treat: Tuesday, October 27th from 5-7 PM at the tennis court parking lot. Car registration is now open! Registration closes on October 20th at 11:59 PM.
    - 5. Commuter Breakfast: Thursday, November 5th from 9-10:30 AM on the second floor of the Student Center
  - ii. The commuter sign is back on display in the Berrie Center. If you or someone you know is interested in advertising on the sign or digitally on some of the TVs on campus, reach out to me!
  - iii. The next Commuter Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for this Friday the 25th from 1-1:40 PM in A-100.
- g. Secretary of Delegate Affairs - Evelyn Santangelo

- i. Nothing to report
- h. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion - Brianna Pierre
  - i. Nothing to report.
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life - N/A
  - i.
- i. Secretary of Governmental Affairs - Ahmet Angun
  - i. Nothing to report.
- j. Secretary of Programming - Matthew Webb
  - i. Hi y'all please sign up for Oktoberfest time slots, Oktoberfest will be from October 1st-3rd.  
Activities for
- k. Secretary of Public Relations - Cole Werner
  - i. Good Afternoon everyone, hope you've all had a great week so far. If anybody has any ideas for posts or videos, please let me know after general.
- l. Secretary of Community Engagement - Uma Advani
  - i. SGA Connect 5 pm - 7 pm (please spread the word)
  - ii. CANNOT SIGN UP FOR CLUB EVENT/MEETING THAT YOU'RE ALREADY APART OF (thats cheating)
  - iii. [SGA Open Office Hours Interest Form](#) DUE FRIDAY. There are different outreach opportunities!!
  - iv. SGA Open Office Hours Trial Run NEXT WEEK 09/28
    - 1. Check the daily digest for any events that are happening during your office hours or go to a public space, or go to any center on campus and interact!
    - 2. Will be two additional questions on the office hour form for you to fill out, which would include whether the person did a location, went to a club meeting, and what club the event was for
    - 3. Will send out a poll next Wednesday gathering opinions and thoughts on open office hours
  - v. SHPE Pitch Perfect Event at 5 pm in Padavono Commons (free tacos!)
  - vi. **Glow for Hope!** This Thursday, 9 PM @ Arch/Laurel Courts (rain location: Friends Hall). Hosted by CHCS + cosponsors.
  - vii. very important to support all the communities on campus

- m. Secretary of Residential Affairs - Lismary Pascal
  - i. Nothing to report.
- n. Secretary of Sustainability - Aleks Soucie
  - i. Nothing to report.
- o. Secretary of Service - Lane Evers
  - i.  SGA Service Hours Tracker 26-27
  - ii. Submitting Service Hours: Each of you need at least 4 service hours per semester! To submit them, there is a service hour form that you can fill out either digitally or physically. Digital copies are in the Community Service SGA folder and physical copies are in the mailboxes (to the right once you walk into the office). Please fill out all the fields, get a signature from the club/person that was running the event and put it in my mailbox! If you have a digital copy, email it to me at [eevers@ramapo.edu](mailto:eevers@ramapo.edu)
  - iii. The Fall 26 Service trip is already in the works! Please fill out the form here: [Fall 26 Service Trip](#)
    - 1. Due after general, once we end, I'm not taking any more answers.
  - iv. For more Service Events/Trips: [Service Calendar](#)
    - 1. If you are interested please sign up on Archway!
  - v. If you have any questions about service hours please email me or visit me during my office hours on Wednesdays from 11am to 1pm!
- p. Chief Justice - Amerie Ramos
  - i. Please make sure you are working on your requirements! That includes events, service hours, and office hours
- q. Senate President - Gianna Marchica
  - i. Here is the Senate Agenda from this past meeting [Senate Meeting Agenda](#)
    - 1. We approved 2 clubs, BridgeRCNJ and Ramapo Albanian Association
    - 2. We also appointed Secretary of Sustainability Aleks
- r. Student Trustee - Olivia Ha
  - i. Hi everyone, if you remember last week we introduced the Student Trustee Feedback Form. That's currently still in the works of being shifted and making sure that it's all good with the board standard. We are restricting that to just people in SGA currently as opposed to the whole student body. So just keep an eye out for that.

## **VII. New Business**

- a. Reports from SGA Members on College-Wide Committees
  1. Uma - BCHEAP Task Force is looking for people who are interested in joining. Also looking for allies for the Roadrunner Collegiate Recovery Program. Also are currently sending out applications if you are struggling with substance abuse for the Roadrunner Collegiate Recovery Program
- b. This Week on Campus
  - i.

## **VIII. Public Comment**

- a. Emily: I just wanted to say hi to everyone, it looks like you all are doing a great job so far this year, and I'm happy to be here.
- b. Jack: First off, just want to continue kudos and good and good vibes. What everyone shared, fantastic work so far, it's been really awesome to see SGA's involvement and leadership. In addition, I just want to thank everybody for their push and their support for the Sophomores Advancing In Leader and Junior United Motivational Program applications. We had a great number of applicants in both groups. So folks will be getting their acceptances today, which is really exciting. If anybody in SGA or any of your friends applied they should get a kudos before 3 o'clock today. We do currently have two spotlights for our Student Leadership Spotlight which all student leaders can apply for. It is a form that is on our student leaders programs archway page. We are looking to feature our first leaders of September. We still have some spots open but it is going to close Friday. So if you not only want to do a spotlight but want to recommend someone you can forward the link over, but we encourage you to apply. There is opportunity for the fall and spring semester so if you're not selected for September, that's totally fine, you will automatically be in the October one, if you're approved you will be notified. You can also have any of your social media tagged for that, there is an option selected there so it is shareable. Two opportunities that I want to talk about that's great for leadership development- is one, as Matt mentioned, I am doing a Snack & Chat on Friday in J. Lee's. We're gonna have some awesome treats, but you will be able to talk about ideas; whether it's things you want to see, like different concepts or fun creative events. So if folks want to challenge me to pool, it can also be a Snack & Chat slash pool game as well. And then, something to put in your calendars, has anyone seen or heard of the show Parks and Recreation? The reason why I bring that up is, October 8th at 1pm A101, I am hosting Project L.E.A.D. Treat Yo Self-Care. It is a

self-care-based presentation focused on not just the importance of self-care in general but how to use it as a student leader, how to add fun to your google calendars and planners as well. Folks requested cupcakes so there will be cupcakes and also other treats and snacks to enjoy as well. We got a really good showing at the Project L.E.A.D. in September for Spider-Man so we want to continue that going for self-care. It is open to everybody. And the last friendly challenge I have is, I know Matt talked about Trunk-or-Treat, so myself and Kriselle Bellini work with our staffs- Amerie and Kya from Student Affairs and the amazing students in OFSL- to co-host the Trunk-Or-Treat. This is one of my favorite events at Ramapo and it's a really cool opportunity. My advisor challenge is; car registrations are open, I would love to see a Student Government Association car. The SGA has been a big proponent of this event, not just having a car there but also supporting, being part of the community. We have had a lot of student leaders reach out, so not just SGA, but also your fellow clubs and organizations spreading the word about that as well too. But I would love/encourage/ hope/really want to see an SGA car there because you've been so supportive of this event. But it is really great, we will have music, hot chocolate, and coloring book stations there as well. We invite local families from Mahwah or Ramsey as well as local members of our community, so faculty and staff. If you have siblings as well that want a great Trunk-or-Treat experience you can encourage them to go as well too. If you have any questions you can let myself or Kriselle know. Any questions?

- c. Ayden: Where can you register for the Trunk-or-Treat, is it on Archway?
- d. Jack: Yes, it's on our Archway page, it's on the Commuter Affairs page. It's been in Daily Digest yesterday and also today, it's also in the In the Loop that went out on Monday, and it's going to be continuously in both of those programs. But if you also want a direct link, if you reach out to Kriselle and I, we'll be able to provide you with one.
- e. Gianna: I want to second what Jack said about the Trunk-or-Treat. I think we have been consecutive winners in the best car; last year we were the Ramadogs. So let's make a good theme this year so we can continue our winning streak.

## IX. Open Forum

- a. Peter - QotW: "Isn't it strange to create something that hates you?" – Alex Garner
  - i. The QotW is in reference to today's current AI climate in the art industry.
  - ii. **OPEN HOUSES:** 10/04/2026 & 10/25/2026 – 10am-1pm
    - 1. If any of you know anyone from AHE who would be interested in showing up to the open houses to talk with interested students and engage, I need about 12 students.
  - iii. If you have any questions, comments, kudos, or concerns for AHE, please let me know!

- b. Matthew: Hey everyone! Earlier this week, you all should have received a Google Calendar invite from me. To help jog your memories, at the end of training in August we played an activity where we went around in a circle answering questions. We ran out of time so Ben and I agreed to make it a bonding event. It's scheduled for Friday, October 9th from 6-9 PM. The location is TBD at the moment. Please RSVP to the Google Calendar invite at your earliest convenience! Also, if you did not receive an invite, please let me know and I will add you to it.
- c. Christian - Had a great meeting with the Women's Center! Will discuss next week with the Liaison Report.
  - i. Kudos to Peter for coming to the QT+ Book Club Kick Off
  - ii. Anything for the Women's Center?
- d. Julian - Hey guys, hope everyone is having a great week. I am preparing to meet with Kate Levin for athletics this Thursday at 2.
  - i. Anything for Athletics?
    - 1. Tyler: There is a cable machine in the far back that is broken.
    - 2. Julian: I know about that.
    - 3. Gianna: Could ask her about the status of the main arena. When will it be fixed by?
    - 4. Julian: Got it.
    - 5. Uma: Do we have a facilities liaison?
    - 6. Gianna: I don't believe we do at the moment, I think we are waiting for the election to finish and then people will fill in.
- e. Kristina - Anything for OSS!?
  - i. Ben: Shout out Sonia.

## **X. Adjournment 1:43**

- a. Moved: Julian
- b. Second: Anxhel
- c. 6-0-0