



*\*Statements are paraphrased and consolidated for the Minutes\**

*\*All legislation contained in the minutes may be in its original form and may not be the final language.\**

*\*Visual/Audio record available on official RUSA Facebook page\**

## **RUSA Agenda September 5th, 2019**

**7:30pm @ Student Activities Center**

### **1. Call to Order**

**a. @7:40**

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

**a. Motion to add office hour and senate presentations to the agenda, Emily Kane, Chief of Staff**

**i. Seconded**

**ii. None Opposed**

**iii. Approved**

**b. Motion to switch order of presentations and have office hours presentation first, Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader**

**i. Seconded**

**ii. None Opposed**

**iii. Approved**

**c. Motion to approve Agenda, Jhanvi Virani, President**

**i. Seconded**

**ii. None Opposed**

**iii. Approved Unanimously**

**d. Agenda has been approved**

### **4. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes**

*"Public notice of this meeting has been given to all undergraduate students requesting such notice. Please speak to the Secretary of the Assembly after this meeting to learn more about how you can join the email list to receive a 24 hour meeting notice and a copy of the Agenda."*

- a. Motion to approve prior meeting minutes, Jhanvi Virani, President
    - i. Seconded
    - ii. None Opposed
    - iii. Approved Unanimously
  - b. Prior meeting minutes have been approved
- ~~5. Presentation by the SAS Senate Leader on the powers of the Rutgers University Senate~~
- 6. Emily Kane, Chief of Staff, gives a presentation on office hours with new updates
  - a. Emily Kane, Chief of Staff, gives a presentation on the new rules and regulations with regards to Office Hours
    - i. Members will fill out availability forms to let the Chief of Staff know when they are free and what campus they will be on
- 7. Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader, gives a presentation on the University Senate
  - a. Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader, gives a presentation on the powers of the Rutgers University Senate as well as what her powers are
- 8. Legislation
  - a. Bill to Create a RUSA Internship Program
    - i. The President, Jhanvi Virani, and the Vice President, Aneesh Deshpande, present a bill to create the position of intern within each committee which will function as a personal assistant to the chair of the respective committee. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
    - ii. Motion to unanimous consent to remove all the erroneous commas, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
      - 1. Seconded
      - 2. None Opposed
      - 3. Approved Unanimously
      - 4. Motion Approved
    - iii. Motion to add “There will be at most one applicant accepted per core or standing committee, except for the Internal Affairs Committee (which

shall have none), and with applicant preferences and committee chair preferences being taken into consideration when deliberating placement;”, Ryed Jadun, Internal Affairs Committee Chair

1. Seconded
2. None Opposed
3. Approved Unanimously
4. Motion Approved

- iv. Motion to add “***Be it finally resolved***, the interns shall serve at the pleasure of their respective committees and shall serve under the direction of the same, and the chair of the committee. “, Andrew Petryna, University Affairs Committee Chair

1. Seconded
2. None Opposed
3. Approved Unanimously
4. Motion Approved

- v. Motion to add “Applicants must be first-year or first-year transfer students that do not hold a voting position;”, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative

1. Seconded
2. None Opposed
3. Approved Unanimously
4. Motion Approved

- vi. Motion to add “Interns must be first-year or first-year transfer students that do not hold a voting position; furthermore, members and surrogates of the Allocations Board shall not be eligible to serve as Interns, nor may members of the Assembly designated as non-voting ex officio members under the Constitution;”, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian

1. Seconded
2. None Opposed

3. Approved Unanimously
  4. Motion Approved
- vii. Motion to call bill into question, Ase Wesam Awari, Secretary
  1. Seconded
  2. Opposed
  3. Motion to call Bill into question is now called into question
    - a. Yay: 24
    - b. Nay: 5
    - c. Abstain: 2
    - d. Present: 0
    - e. Motion passes and the bill is now called into question
  4. Bill gets called into question
    - a. Yay: 31
    - b. Nay: 2
    - c. Abstain: 0
    - d. Present: 0
    - e. Bill Passes
  5. The Bill will now go into effect in one week from the date of this meeting
- b. Bill to Authorize and Fund the Fall Inaugural Ceremony
  - i. The Secretary, Ase Awari, and the Treasurer, Nicholas LaBelle, present a bill funding the Swearing Ceremony which is a new event created in order to bring more prestige and give members of the assembly the ability to feel more connected to the organization as well as the role that they will fulfill. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
  - ii. Motion to accept all amendments to the bill, Ase Awari, Secretary
    1. No Second
    2. Motion fails

- iii. Motion to accept all of Nick Tharneys amendments, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. Opposed
  - 3. Motion moves into standard debate procedure
    - a. Motion to skip standard debate procedure called into question
      - i. Seconded
      - ii. Opposed
      - iii. Motion gets called into question
        - 1. Yay: 20
        - 2. Nay: 9
        - 3. Abstain: 2
        - 4. Present: 0
      - iv. Motions passes
  - 4. Motion to call this motion into question and vote on Nicholas Tharney's amendments
    - a. Seconded
    - b. Opposed
    - c. Motion called into question
      - i. Yay: 17
      - ii. Nay: 7
      - iii. Abstain: 4
      - iv. Present: 0
    - d. Motion passes
- 5. The motion to call into question to approve Tharney's amendments is now called into question
  - a. Yea: 18
  - b. Nay: 10

- c. Abstain: 1
    - d. Present: 3
  - 6. Nicholas Tharney's amendments are now accepted into the bill
- iv. Motion to have Ase speak for a minute, Jhanvi Virani, President
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. Opposed
    - a. Yay: 18
    - b. Nay: 10
    - c. Abstain: 1
    - d. Present: 2
    - e. Approved
  - 3. Motion passes
  - 4. Ash: People should have payed better attention to the bill and you all just voted on something you have no idea about
- v. Motion to drop the standing rules and to go into recess and then have a standard debate procedure, Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. Opposed
    - a. Yay: 15
    - b. Nay: 15
    - c. Abstain: 0
    - d. Present: 1
  - 3. Motion Fails
- vi. Motion to have a five minute recess, Ryed Jadun, Internal Affairs Chair
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. Approved
  - 3. The assembly goes into recess
- vii. Motion to replace renown with prestige, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative

- a. Seconded
  - b. No opposition
  - c. Approved
- viii. Motion to add appreciation, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative
  - a. Seconded
  - b. No opposition
  - c. Approved
- ix. Motion to add appreciation, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative
  - a. Seconded
  - b. No opposition
  - c. Approved
- x. Motion to delete “*Whereas*, RUSA is tasked to serve the student body and thus recognize that RUSA is comprised of those very students,”, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. No opposition
  - 3. Approved
- xi. Motion to delete “*Whereas*, Institutions that value the members of the organizations lead to productivity within output of said institution,”, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. No opposition
  - 3. Approved
- xii. Motion to add “The Secretary and the Special Events & Projects Director Projects and Events Coordinator will plan and budget the event host the event and ensure that it is brought to fruition,”, Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader

1. Seconded
  2. No opposition
  3. Approved
- xiii. Motion to add “The Secretary and the Special Events & Projects Director will plan and budget the event, host the event and ensure that it is brought to fruition.,”, Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative
1. Seconded
  2. No opposition
  3. Approved
- xiv. Motion to fix grammar, Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian
1. Seconded
  2. No opposition
  3. Approved
- xv. Motion to move into standard debate procedure, Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian
1. Seconded
  2. opposition
  3. Motion called into question
    - a. Yay: 14
    - b. Nay: 17
    - c. Abstain: 1
    - d. Present: 0
    - e. Motion fails
- xvi. Motion to call the bill into question, Ase Awari, Secretary
1. Seconded
  2. No opposition
  3. Approved
  4. Bill is called into question
    - a. Yay: 26



- b. Nay: 4
- c. Abstain: 1
- d. Present: 0

xvii. Bill passes, the Assembly will now fund the Fall Inaugural Ceremony

## 9. Officer Report

- a. Monsef, Public Relations Committee Chair: If anyone has ideas for apparel let him know, in addition, ordered straws as well as other marketing items for RUSA over the summer and they have arrived and are currently in the office
- b. Marc Younker, Big 10 Conference Liaison: Went to Iowa, will update with a report from that event
- c. Andrew Petryna, University Affairs Committee Chair:
  - i. Electric Scooters: Coming soon!
    - 1. DoT currently interviewing 3 candidate companies
    - 2. Trying to get in on meetings for this
    - 3. There will be no investment from DoT's end
    - 4. Geofencing, Speed Modulation, Dropoff zones will increase safety
  - ii. Ticketing Codification: Working on It
  - iii. Buses: They suck (and it's our fault)
    - 1. Buses run late and get condensed because there are too many cars on college ave, specifically off-campus/commuters
    - 2. Better planning, more alternative transport (eScooters), and adaptation of the bus schedule will reduce friction
    - 3. Use TransLoc to help plan and make the system more effective
  - iv. Barnacles coming soon
    - 1. Alternative for Towing, will be much more convenient for all parties
  - v. Terracycle: Plastic Cups are outta here!
    - 1. TerraCycle is an alternative recycling/circular economy company
    - 2. We are now in their free No.6 Cup Recycling Program

3. Will be attempting to get Greek Life and Res Life involved
4. Special RUSA Recycling cans?????
- vi. Compost..... Sustainability Coalition..... pending
- vii. Campus Digesters:
  1. There are 3, all are operational..... I'm pretty sure
  2. Not well known, not accessible
  3. Will work to make them more available in whatever way possible
- viii. Cupanion Is No Longer: But The Dream Lives On
  1. Cupanion no longer providing reusable bottles
  2. We will still have hot/cold, steele, 16oz, RUSA branded reusable bottles
  3. They will be red, conveniently sized, and free with a meal plan (\$8 otherwise)
  4. Cannot be purchased with cash, you need an RU Express account
  5. Provider is Lira Group, Marketing Company in NJ
  6. Still carry-over bottles from last year, those will be exhausted, new ones later in the fall
- ix. Reusable Takeout Bags: Imminent
  1. Provided to students with a meal plan
  2. Will be available for purchase in the same way reusable bottles are
  3. They are wonderfully large, can fit probably 3 takeout boxes
  4. Will be available later this semester
- x. New Dining Options: Tacooooooooooooooooos!
  1. There are 4 new dining locations that are meal swipes accesible
  2. Taco Truck, Small Cafe in AB, HARvest Juice bar Busch SC, Woody's
- xi. Dr. Cara Cuite Food Insecurity Report
  1. 37% of Rutgers students are Food Insecure, In danger of missing a meal

2. 11% are extremely insecure
  3. More resources and expansion of existing programs can help
    - a. Dean of Students, Food Pantry
- xii. Food Pantry
1. Has had over 6,800 visits since opening up 4 years ago
  2. Serves students who are food insecure
  3. Increased demand and use year-on-year
- d. Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader: If anyone is interested in running for Senate please let her know
- e. Priti Kantesaria, Sexual Violence Education Committee Chair:
- f. Hira Hussain, Student Affairs Committee Chair:
- i. Diversity Town Hall
    1. next Thursday
    2. Please dress business casual at the least
    3. New vice chancellor of diversity and inclusion Dr Branch
    4. Directors of Paul Robeson Cultural Center, Asian American Cultural Center, Latino Arts Cultural Center, and the LGBTQ+ Cultural Center
    5. So it's going to be a big one and also the first one we want it to go smooth invite your friends I would love for this room to be filled
    6. Please submit a question the link is in the slack or come find me I'll send it to you
  - ii. RUPD TownHall
    1. Coming up later
    2. This will include Paul Fischer and Kenneth Cop you probably get their emails about the crime alerts
    3. I was thinking the main discussion would be about student safety but I want to hear what you guys want to get out of it since it's not for a bit so please let me know
    4. I will be making a question poll for that too

iii. Complaint box

1. This year I want there to be a complaint box in the rusa office that SA would be in charge of keeping track of and also We were trying to see if we could expand that by bringing it to the student centers

iv. Database

1. I have collected different resources I think are very important to Rutgers student
2. Having trouble putting it all together but I want to create some type of guide for students
3. I want to use RUSA for Us to help with that they can submit their org info

g. Bilal Ahmed, Health and Wellness Committee Chair: The main focus of the HW committee this year will be on expanding the Bandana Project. The first part of this will be bringing #7orMoreInitiative under the BP through making resource magnets one of the seven items in the care package. The tentative dates for care package distribution are November 25, November 26, December 11, December 12, and December 13. We are also working with ResLife in order to get the resource cards, magnets, and bandanas into dorms. Finally, the committee will be working on creating a report which will identify and address at-risk populations at the university.

h. Jill Cuzzolino, Special Events and Projects Director:

i. New Student Orientation

1. Worked as an orientation leader for incoming students for Fall 2019
2. Employed from May to August 2019
3. Had calls with Jhanvi in the meantime discussing SEP agenda for 2019-2020

ii. Swearing In-Ceremony

1. Completed itinerary for ceremony, including guest speakers and special programs
2. Placed orders for refreshments
3. Booked room in Brower Dining Hall
- iii. RUSA Retreat
  1. Toured potential locations for retreat
  2. Confirmed contract with Trout Lakes
- iv. RUSA Barbecue
  1. Surveyed Deiner Park, confirmed location
  2. Confirmed logistics (date, time, alcohol restrictions)
  3. Planned catering and structure
  4. To-Do
    - a. Book location
    - b. Place food order
    - c. Meet with Nick Labelle for budgeting
- v. University Affairs
  1. Arbor Day
- vi. Asian Student Council
  1. Created action item agenda for 2019-2020
- i. Maya Ravichandran, Academic Affairs Committee Chair:
  - i. iClicker: It would be good to investigate a solution that doesn't require buying clickers at all, whether by students or RUSA. I couldn't find any free clicker software when searching online. I'm planning on talking to some professors/administrators in classes that have used in-class polls but without clickers (Orgo, Gen Chem, HC Forum in my experience) and get more information on in-house and third-party clicker apps from professors' viewpoints. I am also planning to reach out to some people on the LMS Canvas steering committee (I know them from Senate ASRAC). After discussing with Neeharika, I think this might be worth bringing up in

Senate to have a system-wide change, especially if there are robust free Canvas integrations (edited)

ii. Online codes - In the longer term, I think those could be replaced with Sakai/Canvas quizzes if professors/TAs are willing to write their own questions (my orgo professor did that), and perhaps we could try to make that university policy. In the shorter term, I am open to the idea of us buying codes for students since they don't represent a long-term investment like clickers do. I was thinking we set aside a certain budget and advertise it, and maybe distribute B&N gift cards, cash, or the purchased codes to students we approve. I suppose we could encourage only students for whom purchasing online codes poses a financial burden to use this program, though I'm not sure if we should worry about that at all or if we should confirm that status in any way.

j. Ryed Jadun, Internal Affairs Committee Chair: Election dates are set and will be on the site soon. In addition, there will be an elections tab on the site soon for anyone interested in running in the upcoming fall elections. In addition, IA committee meetings will be taking place every Friday, if interested feel free to get in touch in order to attend.

k. Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer:

i. Rapta

1. Iron out the details to make the calculations less arbitrary (statistical methods and data analysis)
2. Caps become dynamic (meaning that they can change drastically every semester to adapt to changing needs)
3. This would not only instill greater confidence in the system, but would mean that even if groups knew caps from one semester, it would be difficult for them to manipulate it during the following semester

ii. Allocations Work

1. Met with the respective heads of Cultural Centers
    - a. Reconsidering co-sponsorship from Umbrella Orgs
  2. Outstanding Phone Bills from outdated offices.
    - a. Total: \$1,209.03
    - b. Has been handled. Paid for and disconnected
  3. Insolvent Accounts:
    - a. \$15,431.42 outstanding
      - i. Approx. 70 groups.
  4. Takebacks from Spring 2019
    - a. Total: \$264,238.23
  5. Audit of Inactive Accounts
    - a. \$62,810.77 from TUE
  6. RUSA Budgeting
    - a. C.A.S.H. Act (Stay tuned)
- iii. Other Initiatives:
1. Student Hunger:
    - a. Monsef and I met with Dr. Cuite in July; follow-up this week.
    - b. Arranging a meeting with Rutgers Head Nutritionist w/ UA
    - c. Met w/ TCNJ Gardening Engineering
    - d. Drove to Trenton in August for meeting about SNAP
  2. Composting:
    - a. Working on logistical plan with Chair Petryna & UA
      - i. Oct. 1st outline.
  3. Accessibility:
    - a. CoS Kane and I met w/ Dr. Mena
  4. Transportation
    - a. Andrew and I met with Jack Molenaar: Will share doc.
1. Ase Awari, Secretary:

- i. Town Halls:
  - 1. September 12th, September 26th, October 24th, November 7th, November 21st, December 5th
- ii. Website
  - 1. Currently the site is a work in progress
  - 2. Elections will be on the site soon
  - 3. Met with Director Michael Abdallah
- iii. Swearing In
  - 1. The Swearing In ceremony is planned for October 10th
- iv. Attendance
  - 1. Marking attendance may change soon
- v. GetInvolved
  - 1. All RUSA events will be displayed there
- vi. Room Change
  - 1. The office may change its room to the current suite in which the presidents office is located
- vii. Retreat
  - 1. Currently planned for Trout Lakes Retreats
  - 2. October 11th to 13th
- m. Emily Kane, Chief of Staff:
  - i. Over the summer was able to accomplish a multitude of tasks
    - 1. NSO
      - a. Spoke multiple times to all incoming students on behalf of RUSA
    - 2. E-Board Retreat
      - a. Planned and saw to E-Board Retreat at University Inn
      - b. Was a great success and has paved the way for the great year before us
- n. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian:



- i. All room specific items booked for next weeks Town Hall Meeting located within the SAC
- o. Jhanvi, President:
  - i. Idea to dole out water to Newark due to water crisis located there
  - ii. Intern program will go into effect soon to make sure all Committee chairs are prepared

#### 10. Advisor Report

- a. Laura:
  - i. Welcome back!
  - ii. All committee chairs and e-board members email the advisors your schedule
  - iii. Late Knight program every Friday, if interested in volunteering can earn \$100 worth of ruexpress dollars

#### 11. External Representatives Report

- a. Nicholas Brennan, SEBS governing council
  - i. Meeting monday night at 7:30 PM

#### 12. Public Sector

- a. Ase
  - i. I apologize for my behavior
- b. Nicholas tharney
  - i. RBS involvement fair, Tuesday, at the LSC
  - ii. Welcome to the assembly
  - iii. Please have standard debate procedure and please read up on roberts rules
- c. Eleanor Meli
  - i. Focus group on September 16-18 on the revision to SIRS survey, easiest way for students to give feedback on professors
    - 1. If interested please give input
- d. Andrew Petryna

- i. If anyone has any questions about parking or tickets please email him and please pay your tickets
- e. Emily Kane
  - i. If anyone is interested in running please contact her to run on her ticket in the Fall
- f. Nicholas Brennan
  - i. What are we doing on the climate strike?
    - 1. Andrew: Working on it
- g. Jhanvi Virani
  - i. Newark doesn't have clean water and the president wants to donate water to Newark but wants to hear feedback from the assembly

### 13. Adjournment

- a. @10:15 PM



## **RUSA Bill F19 - 01**

**Author:** Jhanvi Virani, *President*, Aneesh Deshpande, *Vice-President*

**Sponsor:** Executive Committee

### **Bill to Create a RUSA Internship Program**

*Whereas*, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) has nine core and standing committees, each of which is integral to the advocacy and to the initiative efforts of the Assembly at large;

*Whereas*, many Big Ten student governments, including but not exclusive to, the University of Minnesota<sup>1</sup>, the Ohio State University<sup>2</sup>, and the University of Indiana- Bloomington<sup>3</sup>, have internship programs that offer select first year and transfer students the opportunity to immerse themselves in committee work without running for a seat in their legislative assembly;

*Whereas*, an internship program would foster an environment of mentorship and teamwork by providing new members with many resources ranging from mentors to unique responsibilities;

*Be it hereby resolved that* RUSA will be opening applications for the first RUSA Internship Program, which will exist based on the following requirements:

1. Interns must be first-year or first-year transfer students that do not hold a voting position; furthermore, members and surrogates of the Allocations Board shall not be eligible to serve as Interns, nor may members of the Assembly designated as non-voting ex officio members under the Constitution, nor shall individuals who would concurrently hold another position within the Assembly, its Committees, or its Boards;
2. Applications will open the day after Fall Elections results are certified;

3. The application process will include an online form and interview with the President and/or Vice President;
4. There will be at most one applicant accepted per core or standing committee, except for the Internal Affairs Committee (which shall have none), and with applicant preferences and committee chair preferences being taken into consideration when deliberating placement;

***Be it further resolved that*** the application process for the 2019-2020 RUSA Internship Program will be as follows:

1. Saturday, October 5th: Online applications open, with interviews being scheduled on a rolling basis;
2. Saturday, October 19th: Online applications close, remaining interviews are scheduled and eventually conducted;
3. Wednesday, October 23th: Decisions are released, and interns are invited to attend the next day's RUSA meeting;

***Be it further resolved that*** interns will be held to the same attendance standards as voting members for semi-weekly committee meetings and will be encouraged to attend legislative meetings and town halls, though they will not have a voting seat in RUSA or committee meetings;

***Be it further resolved that*** interns will convene monthly with the President to share feedback on their research, projects, and experience in the Assembly, as well as receive general support and advice for moving forward with initiatives;

***Be it further resolved that*** at the conclusion of the Internship Program, each intern will present their work in the form of a formal written report to the Assembly.

***Be it finally resolved,*** the interns shall serve at the pleasure of their respective committees and shall serve under the direction of the same, and the chair of the committee.

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RUSA President

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Date



**RUSA Bill F19-02**

**Authors:** Ase Wesam Awari, *Secretary*, Nicholas LaBelle, *Treasurer*

**Sponsors:** Executive Committee

**Bill to Authorize and Fund the Fall Inaugural Ceremony**

*Whereas*, the annual inauguration of Fall Electees is an unofficial and unceremonious event in which a large amount of electees are sworn without the prestige or legitimacy that a RUSA representative should have,

*Whereas*, members of the Assembly have criticized the way in which new fall electees have been sworn in,

***Whereas,*** there is a need to bring a sense of prestige and appreciation to the position of responsibility that RUSA representatives fulfill,

***Whereas,*** RUSA has the capacity to fund such a cost worthy event as an investment in the future prestige and productivity of the Assembly,

***Whereas,*** a dedicated group of students are actively ensuring that such an event would be able to take place,

***Therefore, be it hereby resolved that:***

1. The Assembly authorizes the creation of a Fall 2019 Inaugural Ceremony to take place on the Thursday after the results of the election are certified for the fall 2019 semester
2. Allocates \$800 to the event from the Summer Initiatives line item from the Office Expenses Category
3. The Secretary and the Special Events & Projects Director will plan and budget the event.

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RUSA President

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Date