



RUSA Agenda September 19th, 2019

7:30pm @ Student Activities Center

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

1. Call to Order
 - a. @7:34
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve Agenda, Jhanvi Virani, President
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. None Opposed
 - iii. Approved Unanimously
 - b. Agenda has been approved
4. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes
 - 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. Officer Report
 - a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, rusa.rutgers.edu
6. Presentation by the Student Affairs Committee Chair on the What's on Your Mind Survey Results

"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. Hira Hussain, Student Affairs Committee Chair, gives a presentation on results from the What's on your mind survey

7. Legislation

a. Bill to Fund a RUSA Kick-Off Barbecue

- i. Jillian Cuzzolino, Special Events & Projects Director, presents a bill on planning a barbecue during the fall semester before a Rutgers football game. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
- ii. Motion to suspend debate procedure, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 - 1. Second
 - 2. Opposed
 - 3. The motion gets called into question
 - a. Yay: 33
 - b. Nay: 2
 - c. Abstain: 0
 - d. Present: 0
 - 4. Motion passes
- iii. Motion to fix “with” to “inbetween”, Jhanvi Virani, President
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. No Opposition
 - 3. The motion passes
- iv. Motion to vote on the bill, Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian
 - 1. Second
 - a. Yay: 33
 - b. Nay: 3
 - c. Abstain: 0
 - d. Present: 1
 - 2. The Bill passes

- v. The Assembly will now be having a barbecue in the fall
- b. Resolution Concerning the Allocation of SAS Senators
 - i. Emily Kane, Chief of Staff, presents a bill on to call a referendum remove all SAS campus senator positions and instead making them all senator at large positions. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
 - ii. Motion to remove “or they may not vote for the question.”, Max Wang, Cook Senator
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion passes
 - iii. Motion to extend questions for 2 min, Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion passes
 - iv. The Bill goes into standard debate procedure
 - 1. FOR:
 - a. Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader
 - i. Really great idea for all reasons stated into the bill.
 - ii. Allows greater competition within Senate by opening more positions to more people
 - b. Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer
 - i. It is not up to us to choose whether or not students are allowed to vote and instead we should fight to make sure that this vote is brought to the student body
 - 2. AGAINST:
 - a. Alex Anderson, Douglas 2020 Representative

- i. Agree with everything Neeharika said but cannot believe we cant get the 10% vote
 - ii. Just being realistic and instead we should do it in the spring
 - b. Ilce Perez, SAS Senator at Large
 - i. Main concern is that the student body does not really know what senate is it would be better to put it in the spring to give us time to bring awareness on what Senate is
- v. Motion to to delete “positions have all Student Senators for the School of Arts and Sciences be elected at-large (by all SAS Students), instead of having campus-specific Senate positions?”, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion goes into effect
- vi. Motion to add “(School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers Business School, School of Engineering, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, etc.)” amendment to the floor, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion goes into effect
- vii. Motion to go into five minute recess, Maya Ravichandran, Academic Affairs Committee Chair
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion goes into effect

viii. Motion to call bill into question, Logan Adams, Off-Campus at Large Representative

1. Seconded
2. Opposed
3. Motion gets called into question
 - a. Yay: 27
 - b. Nay: 8
 - c. Abstain: 0
 - d. Present: 0
 - e. Motion passes the bill is called into question

ix. The bill is called into question

1. Yay: 24
2. Nay: 7
3. Abstain: 1
4. Present: 1

c. The Dynamic Funding Model Transparency Act

- i. Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian, and Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer, present a bill concerning RAPTA and deciding on what to do with regards to allocations. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
- ii. Motion to have a five minute recess, Neeharika Thuravil, Senate Leader
 1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Motion goes into effect
- iii. The Bill goes into standard debate procedure
 1. FOR:
 - a. Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative

- i. The bill should be passed because it will help the orgs that are under us, the dynamic cap sheet allows good allocation when needed
 - ii. Important not to release a cap sheet that isn't dynamic because orgs will just apply for the most money possible and not
 - b. Jason Yu, Cook Class of 2022 Representative
 - i. Vote for this because we need more time for RAPT_a but also this new dynamic cap sheet will be very beneficial for clubs to ensure more efficient allocating
 - ii. Yes it is still not in effect and it is frustrating but for this year everyone single important player in this legislation has worked hard to find a good compromise

2. AGAINST:

- a. Nick Brennan, SEBS Governing Council Representative
 - i. At some point we cannot keep delaying this process and we need to figure this out before we move forward
 - ii. Trusts Nicholas LaBelle will work through the process but there is nothing wrong in the first place and just should move on
 - b. Alex Anderson
 - i. This has been put off for too long and we should just decide on it by now on whether we will or will not allow the caps sheets to be released
- iv. Motion to call bill into question, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative

1. Seconded
2. None Opposed
3. Bill goes into voting
 - a. Yay: 25
 - b. Nay: 3
 - c. Abstain: 4
 - d. Present: 0
 - e. The motion passes
- v. The bill now goes into effect
- d. Resolution to Grant the Fall 2019 Meal Swipes for Charity Program to the Rutgers Food Pantry
 - i. Andrew Petryna, University Affairs Committee Chair, presents a bill on changing the Fall Semester Meal Swipes for Charity event to be given to the Rutgers Food Pantry. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
 - ii. Motion to suspend the rules and skip standard debate procedure, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Motion goes into effect
 - iii. Motion to call the bill into question, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Motion goes into effect
 4. The bill gets called into question
 - a. Yay: 31
 - b. Nay: 3
 - c. Abstain: 0

- d. Present: 0
- e. The bill passes

5. The bill passes

8. Advisor Report

- a. Laura Christensen, Advisor
 - i. Leadership training was this past Tuesday and any org that did not send a rep will be at risk for no funding
 - ii. Budgets is opening next week and due October 15th

9. External Representatives Report

- a. Brady Rivera, Latino Student Council
 - i. Tomorrow on the 20th they will be having an opening ceremony for the 30th ceremony, 90's theme, RSVP link is on instagram
- b. Ann Albert, BOT undergrad student rep
 - i. No announcements cause no meeting has been had yet
- c. Rachel Bauman, Douglass Governing Council Rep
 - i. First DGC meeting just happened, 8-9 at douglass student center
 - ii. If anyone is interested about doing something about the closing of the pharmacies

10. Public Sector

- a. Amna Ahmed
 - i. Tomorrow at 2:30 PM there is a central jersey climate strike
 - ii. On saturday there is a stand up to kashmir event taking place
- b. Neeharika Thuravil
 - i. The first senate meeting of the year is tomorrow all senators should have been notified of where their committee meeting is located
 - ii. Please read everything that will be discussed on the floor tomorrow
- c. Gaberial Colley
 - i. Rutgers commuter student association is having the largest event of the year tomorrow and will be at the rutgers zone

- d. Nicholas LaBelle
 - i. Welcome all new faces
 - ii. There is a theater production happening tomorrow, anyone interested please let them know, \$10 entry
- e. Michael Holloy, NJPIRG Relations Chair
 - i. End of the recruitment drive
 - ii. Kickoff is happening this Monday on September 23rd, and will be occurring on every campus
 - 1. If anyone is interested, let him know and get in touch for more info
 - iii. New voter project is underway
 - iv. Main campaign is about banning single use plastics in New Brunswick and mayor is on board with plan, still fighting to make sure it is happening
 - v. The NJPIRG referendum will be happening this semester and will update RUSA on progress
- f. Ryed Jadun
 - i. Gives E-Board update, can be found on rusa.rutgers.edu

11. Adjournment

- a. @10:17



RUSA Bill F19 - 03

Author: Jillian Cuzzolino, *Special Events & Projects Director*

Sponsor: Student Affairs Committee

Bill to Fund a RUSA Kick-Off Barbecue

Whereas, undergraduate student engagement and familiarization with Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) members foster a greater connection between the student government and the student body;

Whereas, tailgating and barbecuing are popular components of Rutgers student culture during the football season;

Whereas, providing Rutgers students with a friendly environment that promotes student involvement is integral to RUSA's mission; and

Whereas, providing entertainment-based programming will increase RUSA's social presence to further strengthen the connection among students;

Be it hereby resolved that the Assembly allocates \$2,500 to create a safe, inclusive, and alcohol & drug-free space for all Rutgers students to socialize before the BIG10 football game;

Be it further resolved that the Assembly shall request additional funding from the Allocations Board through the Treasurer of the Assembly, to be added as a special events line item;

Be it further resolved that the event will be held on Saturday, October 5th, 2019 at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm on Morrell Street on College Avenue Campus, the same day as the football game with Rutgers University-New Brunswick and the University of Maryland-College Park;

Be it further resolved, the event will include music, games, and food, including options for vegetarian, vegan, halal, and kosher, catered by King Pita;

Be it further resolved, every hour a RUSA member spends attending this event will count as one office hour for the week of September 30th, 2019, and every hour a RUSA member spends volunteering to work at this event will count as two office hours for that same week; and

Be it finally resolved, the Public Relations Committee will be charged with advertising and promoting this event on RUSA's social media platforms, as well as communicating information about the event to other relevant student groups on campus.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Resolution - 01

Authors : E. M. Kane, N. Tharney, A. M. Anderson

Sponsor : Internal Affairs Committee

Resolution Concerning the Allocation of SAS Senators

Whereas, the School of Arts and Sciences is allocated 13 Senators,

Whereas, 7 SAS Senators are elected as at Large representatives,

Whereas, the remaining 6 Senators are allocated to each campus (Busch, College Avenue, Cook, Douglass, Livingston, and Off Campus) according to RUSA's Constitution, Art. 5, §5.02,¹

Whereas, within the University Senate, student Senators are identified by their academic school and campus (Camden, Newark, New Brunswick, or RBHS),

Whereas, RUSA's allocations of Senators to New Brunswick campuses does not impact Senate business,

Whereas, University of Iowa, one of our fellow Big10 schools, elects senators based on special population affiliation to improve representation of marginalized groups on their campus, and

Whereas, the removal of the language in RUSA's Constitution that mandates Senators be allocated by campus allows RUSA to explore more purposeful means of position allocations,

Therefore, be it resolved by two-thirds of the Assembly that a student referendum shall be held during the Fall 2019 elections in accordance with all applicable procedures under the Constitution and the Standing Rules, where ———

1. The Assembly hereby approves of the following question being posed to the undergraduate student body during the Fall 2019 elections: "Shall RUSA's Constitution be amended to have all Student Senators for the School of Arts and Sciences be elected at-large (by all SAS Students), instead of having campus-specific Senate positions have all Student Senators for the School of Arts and Sciences be elected at-large (by all SAS Students), instead of having campus-specific Senate positions?"
2. Each eligible voter shall be able to answer "YES" or "NO" to the above stated question, or they may not vote for the question, ~~or they may not vote for the question.~~
3. The following explanatory text shall be placed on each ballot stating: "Six (6) SAS student members of the University Senate are elected based on the campuses on which they reside. Within the Senate, students are recognized by their academic school (School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers Business School, School of Engineering, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, etc.) and by their stakeholder group at the University (student, faculty, staff, etc.). RUSA would like to remove our requirement to

allocate Senate positions to each campus to explore more purposeful position allocations. Voting in favor of this referendum means supporting the removal of the following text from the RUSA Constitution, Art. 5 §5.02: “School of Arts and Sciences University Senators shall be distributed evenly across campuses and Campus Caucuses.” Voting against this referendum indicates supporting the status quo, with campus-specific SAS Senate positions.”

4. The ballot shall contain a link to the proposed text, to the current Constitution, and to a document showing the Constitution with the proposed amendment.

5. If a majority of students voting cast their ballots in the affirmative and at least one tenth of the undergraduate students vote on the referendum question, the RUSA Constitution, Art. 5 §5.02 shall be amended to eliminate the following language, “School of Arts and Sciences University Senators shall be distributed evenly across campuses and Campus Caucuses.”

6. The Elections Committee shall be charged with furnishing a copy of the referendum question on the ballot to the Internal Affairs Committee for approval. The Internal Affairs Committee shall certify the results of the referendum, as required by Article 9 of the RUSA Constitution.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Bill F19 - 04

Authors: N. Tharney, *Parliamentarian*; N. LaBelle, *Treasurer*; B. Brown, *Chairperson of the Allocations Board*;

Sponsor: Internal Affairs Committee

The Dynamic Funding Model Transparency Act

Whereas, the Assembly previously enacted the RUSA Allocations Process Transparency Act (RAPTA) to increase transparency and accountability in the process through which the Assembly and its Allocations Board appropriate student fees to registered student organizations on campus, and

Whereas, the Allocations Board is improving its funding process to revise its funding model to include dynamic caps which will vary from semester to semester based on previous data and funding requests, and

Whereas, this change necessitates changes to RAPTA, as would an extension to the release of information under Section 5 of RAPTA, and

Whereas, the Allocations Board is entering into a consent order to release the information, as is required under RAPTA, as a permanent transparency measure in exchange for the delay of the release until immediately after budget requests are submitted in October of 2019,

Therefore, be it enacted by the Assembly:

1. Section 5(d) of RAPTA shall be amended to:
 - d. This section shall not go into effect until October 21, 2019.
2. Section 5(e) shall be added to RAPTA as follows:
 - e. Notwithstanding anything in Section 5, models of funding created under Section 5(a) which are dynamic, or based on a standing formula or algorithm, may be used to create formulae or funding caps created after budget requests by student organizations are due, provided such records are published along with proposed budgets in accordance with Section 3.
3. Nothing in this or any other section shall be misconstrued to limit the ability of the Internal Affairs Committee and its members to review records of the Allocations Board.
4. Except as explicitly noted in this operative clause, these provisions shall be narrowly construed to affect only Section 5 of RAPTA.



RUSA President

Date

RUSA Resolution F19 - 02

Author: Andrew Petryna, *Chairman of the University Affairs Committee*

Sponsor: University Affairs Committee

Resolution to Grant the Fall 2019 Meal Swipes for Charity Program to the Rutgers Food Pantry

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) is given discretion over the Meal Swipes for Charity (MSC) program and charged with assigning Student Organizations to administer the program,

Whereas, MSC runs twice a year: once in the fall and once in the spring,

Whereas, the University Affairs Committee is responsible for overseeing the application process for MSC and nominating three organizations to be voted on by the Assembly,

Whereas, the Rutgers Food Pantry is an ideal beneficiary for the MSC program and has strong ties to various student organizations that serve Rutgers students directly,

Whereas, the use of the Rutgers Food Pantry has increased drastically over the last three years, with over 3,800 visits in total as of August 2019,

Whereas, the Rutgers Food Pantry must expand in order to accommodate the increasing demand for its services,

Whereas, according to a report titled “Food Insecurity Among Students at Rutgers University-New Brunswick”, over 37% of students are food insecure, many of which come from marginalized groups in the Rutgers community,¹

Whereas, food insecurity is implicated with lower GPAs and overall less favorable academic outcomes,²

Whereas, 5.4% of students use off campus food pantries instead of the Rutgers Food Pantry,³

Whereas, the report recommends expanding food resources such as the Food Pantry and increasing cooperation between organizations on campus involved in addressing food insecurity,

Be it hereby resolved, this semester’s Meal Swipes for Charity program beneficiary status is granted to the Rutgers Food Pantry; and

Be it further resolved that if the Rutgers Food Pantry accepts this offer, they agree to furnish the RUSA University Affairs Committee with a report detailing how the funds from the MSC program were used and their impact on the efforts of the Food Pantry and shall be responsible for administering and tabling to solicit meal swipe donations.

¹ http://humeco.rutgers.edu/documents_pdf/RU_Student_Food_Insecurity_2018.pdf

² http://humeco.rutgers.edu/documents_pdf/RU_Student_Food_Insecurity_2018.pdf

³ http://humeco.rutgers.edu/documents_pdf/RU_Student_Food_Insecurity_2018.pdf

RUSA President

Date