



RUSA Agenda October 3rd, 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. @7:35
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 Updates
 - a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, rusa.rutgers.edu
6. Legislation
 - a. Capital Allocation and Secure Handling (C.A.S.H.) Act

"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."

- i. Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer, presents legislation on assigning more money to RUSA as well as fixing all future funding methods by setting specific rules to abide by. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
- ii. The Assembly moves into standard debate procedure
 1. For:
 - a. Ash, Secretary:
 - i. I have seen Nick work on this Bill and the countless effort and work he has put into this position
 - ii. The Bill speaks for itself and adjusts any concern that any assembly person may have
 - b. Logan Adams, Off-Campus Representative at Large:
 - i. Just want to say that what Nick is doing for increased efficiency
 - ii. Streamlining the process for more change
 - iii. Gives more leeway to committees for actionable items without a long process to get more funds
 - iv. Gives power to the committees for more impactful change
 2. Against:
 - a. Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian:
 - i. Would like to commend the author for a fantastic job writing the Bill
 - ii. Important to have a procedure for a Bill that deals with finances
 - iii. There should be a set procedure between line items and general funds
 - iv. Calls into question the one week requirement due to emergency funding

- b. Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative:
 - i. This Bill would allow some committee to fund thousands of dollars of student fees without any type of heck to stop a rouge committee and treasurer
 - ii. Would prefer to see large scale reform of allocations process
 - iii. Gives all future treasurers too much power and can have a bad outcome if a malevolent treasurer is in place
 - iii. Motion to split the question and Seperate the Bill and discuss the first part of the Bill to be discussed later, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Motion goes into effect
 - iv. Motion to call Bill into question, Logan Adams, Off-Campus at Large Representative
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. The Bill is called into question
 - v. The Bill is called into question
 - 1. For: 22
 - 2. Against: 3
 - 3. Abstain: 2
 - 4. Present: 1
 - vi. The Bill passes and will go into effect in one week
- b. Resolution to Establish a RUSA Mentorship Program
 - i. Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer, and Emily Kane, Chief of Staff, present a resolution creating a mentorship program for RUSA to ensure the

assembly can help aid new members through a mentor relationship. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.

- ii. Motion to skip standard debate procedure, Max Wang, Cook Senator
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Approved Unanimously
- iii. Motion to call into question, Logan Adams, Off-Campus At Large Representative
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Approved Unanimously
- iv. Bill is called into question
 - 1. For: 21
 - 2. Against: 7
 - 3. Abstain: 1
 - 4. Present: 0
- v. The Bill passes and goes into effect next week

c. Bill to Designate RUSA Fall Retreat

- i. Ryed Jadun, Internal Affairs Committee Chair, as well as the Internal Affairs Committee present a Bill designating the missing retreat is equivalent to an assembly meeting absence. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
- ii. Motion to skip standard debate procedure, Max Wang, Cook Senator
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. None Opposed
 - 3. Approved Unanimously
- iii. Motion to add amendment to change Vice President to Secretary, Jhanvi Virani, President

1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Approved Unanimously
 - iv. Motion to call the Bill into question, Max Wang, Cook Senator
 1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Approved Unanimously
 - v. The Bill is called into question
 1. For: 24
 2. Against: 3
 3. Abstain: 3
 4. Present: 0
 - vi. The Bill passes and will go into effect next week.
- d. The Allocations Transparency Regulation Procedure Act
 - i. The Bill goes into standard debate procedure
 1. For:
 - a. Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian:
 - i. We deal with 1.2 million and fees and we need to ensure transparency
 - ii. ENSures that things go through the proper channels and everyone knows what is being voted on
 2. Against:
 - a. Alex Anderson, Douglass Class of 2020 Representative:
 - i. Does not object to the substance of the Bill, but believes it is excessively wordy
 - ii. This can be an issue for future members of RUSA having to read the standing rules
 - iii. Specifically against the way it was written
 - ii. Motion to have a three minute recess, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian

1. Seconded
 2. Opposed
 3. Motion gets called into question
 - a. For: 14
 - b. Against: 13
 - c. Abstain: 0
 - d. Present: 0
 4. The motion goes into effect
- iii. The Assembly goes into three minute recess
- iv. Motion to have a speakers list, Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
1. Second
 2. Opposed
 3. Motion called into question
 - a. For: 10
 - b. Against: 17
 - c. Abstain: 1
 - d. Present: 0
- v. Motion to call Bill into question, Ase Awari, Secretary
1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Approved Unanimously
- vi. The Bill is called into question
1. For: 18
 2. Against: 2
 3. Abstain: 4
 4. Present: 2
- vii. The Bill goes into effect next week

7. Advisor Report

- a. Laura Chirstensen

- i. Suit case of board games prepared for retreat
- ii. Newark Recognition has passed
- iii. The deadline for orgs without registration has been delayed
- iv. The allocations budget application are open
- v. Late Knight tomorrow night is going to be great
- vi. Thank you to all people who did tabling

8. External Representatives Report

a. No Updates

9. Public Sector

a. Ase:

- i. SUBMIT WAIVERS FOR ALL THAT IS KIND ON THIS EARTH

b. Neeharika Thuravil:

- i. The next senate meeting is October 18th
 - 1. If you have ideas for the senate or if you want to come, just come talk to any of the senate members present today
- ii. Everyone please get your flu shots

c. Nicholas Tharney:

- i. Get your meningitis B shot
- ii. To address changes to the standing rules, they were all addressed in IA over a couple weeks period of time
- iii. Large amendments have been done in the past and willing to do those type of changes again as long as it is in digestible chunks
- iv. New member training will be done at retreat and presentations will be ready

d. Albert Joseph, EGC Representative:

- i. Working with academic affairs subcommittee right now and looking for someone with a connection to arresty

e. Laura Chirstensan:

- i. Opioid abuse town hall tomorrow, RUSA should really be there and let it be known that they are there
- f. Hira Hussain
 - i. Student Affairs is working on a RUSA guide, i.e. “Rutgers for Dummies” for the student body, please add to it with any tips you may have
- g. Sarah, Campus NJPIRG Organizer
 - i. Registering Voters this semester and working with the Eagleton coalition
 - ii. Referendum is coming up and starting October 15th, will ensure NJPIRG funding for the next three years
- h. Maya Ravichandran
 - i. Academic affairs passed initiative to sponsor a RUSA prize and will have a rusa table at hack ru
 - 1. Free food and counts as office hours

10. Adjournment

- a. @ 9:10



RUSA Bill F19 - 05

Authors: N. Tharney, *Parliamentarian*; N. LaBelle, *Treasurer*; R. Jadun, *I.A. Chairman*

Sponsor: Internal Affairs Committee

The Allocations Transparency Regulation Procedure Act

Whereas, the Assembly previously enacted the RUSA Allocations Process Transparency Act (RAPTA) and the Dynamic Funding Model Transparency Act 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, any prospective decreases to the level of transparency in the process through which the Assembly and its Allocations Board should be thoroughly vetted and considered by the Assembly prior to adoption, and

Whereas, the Allocations Board has entered 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, in addition to this proposed change to the Assembly's Standing Rules,

Therefore, be it enacted by two-thirds of the Assembly, Article 18 of the Standing Rules shall be amended to include Section 15:

15. Any provisions of legislation, including budgets, by the Assembly which would limit access of the public to records of the Allocations Board shall accord with the same procedure required under Article 22 of these Rules for amendments to the same. This section shall be narrowly construed so as to only affect those specific provisions in violation of this section, with those provisions being considered severed and null, while leaving all other valid provisions unaffected.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Bill F19 - 06

Authors: Nicholas LaBelle, *RUSA Treasurer*

Sponsors: Allocations Board

Capital Allocation and Secure Handling (C.A.S.H.) Act

Whereas, the RUSA Treasurer is charged with the creation and maintenance of the budget as per the Standing Rules (S.R.),

Whereas, following S.R. art. XV, §3, cl. c, the Assembly is authorized to augment the annual budget,

Whereas, it is recognized that money has an inherent time-value and as such is preferably utilized in the term that students pay,

Whereas, the Assembly has incurred costs not previously accounted for, (i.e. phone Bills, special events, etc.), along with planned spending surpassing existing line-items,

Whereas, the prior year has led to an unexpected surplus via higher takebacks and Treasurer audits of inactive accounts over the Summer;

Whereas, several emergent projects will require funding larger than historical precedence,

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that:

1. The RUSA Allocations Board distributes an additional \$50,000 to the RUSA 2019-2020 Operating Budget
 - a. \$2,500 are to be allocated to the RUSA Kick-Off BBQ Tailgating Event line-item
 - b. \$47,500 are to be allocated to the Discretionary line-item category to be managed by the Treasurer

Motion to split to question to allow for presentation in accordance with S.R. art. XXII

Be it hereby further resolved that by a two-thirds vote the following amendments are made to the Standing Rules:

1. Amend “Article XXIX: RUSA Finances” to include:
 - a. “7. Spending Authorizations:
 - a. Process for Committee Funding:
 - i. Following any Assembly operating budget, all funds allocated to specific Committees need only a majority vote of said committee in favor to authorize spending.
 - b. Process for General Categories:
 - i. The Treasurer shall be authorized to transfer funds from other category items for the purpose of balancing expenses, Committees notwithstanding.
 - c. Executive Spending:
 - i. Expenses incurred at the behest of an Executive Board member shall be required to have approval of Treasurer a week in advance of the needed funding”
2. Amend S.R. art. XV, §3, cl. b to include
 - a. “i. Quarterly budget reports are to be furnished by the Treasurer on the basis of the fiscal year concurrent with University accounting starting on July 1st.”
 - b. “ii. Public notice of the most recent RUSA Operating Budget will be made available on the current RUSA website, in addition to any personal inquiry given to the Treasurer”
 - c. Budgets for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year shall be presented by the Treasurer no later than January 15, 2019
3. Amend the Standing Rules to include “Appendix C: RUSA Quarterly Budget Structures”
 - a. The following text will be added to the Standing Rules:



RUSA Bill F19 - 07

Author: Ryed Jadun, *Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee*; Alex Anderson;
Chairwoman Emeritus of Internal Affairs Committee; Jason Yu, Grace Daniel

Sponsor: Internal Affairs Committee

Bill to Designate RUSA Fall Retreat

Whereas, it is the duty of the Assembly to have training sessions under the Standing Rules, Art. VI, Sect. 2,

Whereas, the Secretary has given ample notice to the Assembly of their responsibility to attend the Fall Retreat,

Whereas, the Fall Retreat will be held at Trout Lake in Stroudsburg, PA from the evening of Friday, October 11th through the afternoon of Sunday, October 13th,

Whereas, the Fall Retreat will be using previously allocated funds from the 2019-2020 RUSA Operating Budget so no additional funds need to be allocated to the program,

Be it hereby resolved, the Rutgers University Student Assembly designates the Fall Retreat organized by the Vice President as the training session requirements pursuant to the Assembly rules; there will be no absence regardless of excuse if member is absent for less than six (6) hours; half an absence will be counted towards fall absences if absent between six (6) and twenty-four (24) hours; and a full absence towards fall absences if absent for more than twenty-four (24) hours;

Be it further resolved, the Secretary is hereby directed to use a form through which members may request that their absence be excused with such responses being sent to the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee; and

Be it further resolved, any valid excuse for missing a regularly scheduled meeting of the Assembly shall be a valid excuse for missing the retreat, except for early departure for the purpose of getting home at a safe hour, and any valid excuse shall be deemed appropriate for the entire retreat in the event that the member cannot reasonably procure transportation. Additional excuses may be granted at the discretion of the Internal Affairs Committee and may include regularly scheduled work shifts for gainful employment or previously scheduled internship, and any Rutgers course, as well as other events that have been scheduled before September 20th, if proper proof can be provided; and

Be it further resolved, this attendance policy shall apply to any and all off-campus retreats in the future.



RUSA Resolution F19 - 03

Authors: Emily Kane, Nicholas LaBelle

Sponsor: Student Affairs

Resolution to Establish a RUSA Mentorship Program

Whereas, previous RUSA Assemblies have lacked a sense of familiarity and cohesion amongst members,

Whereas, in past years, basic RUSA procedures such as our attendance policy, our Standing Rules, and Robert's Rules have been difficult for new members to comprehend,¹

Whereas, members with experience in the Assembly naturally serve as a model to new members during meetings,

Whereas, a mentorship program would remove the social barrier of seeking help during a meeting, which disproportionately impacts new members who ran for their positions independently, Professional School and Residential College Representatives, Cultural Umbrella Organization Representatives, and Special Population Representatives who have not previously interacted with the Assembly,²

Whereas, a mentorship program would facilitate better communication across RUSA generations and encourage mentors to hold a vested interest in the future of the Assembly while empowering mentees to attain their potential as student leaders,

Whereas, a mentorship program would encourage outside communication between mentors and mentees, further strengthening the relationship between Assembly members,

¹Rusa attendance records 2018-2019 ([Attendance](#))

²Rusa standing rules, Article I, Sections 4-6 ([Standing Rules](#))

Be it hereby resolved, that the following program be established for the 2019-2020 academic year:

1. Mentor Qualifications:

- a. Any current voting member who has at least one academic year (two semesters) of experience in RUSA, is eligible to apply to become a mentor.
- b. Members with qualifying experience are not required to become mentors; this is an opt-in program.
- c. Mentors will be assigned a minimum of 2 mentees and maximum of 3 mentees to mitigate the possibility of implied succession.

2. Mentee Qualifications:

- a. Members who have no prior RUSA experience will automatically become mentees.
- b. Members who have less than one full year (two semesters) of RUSA experience, but do not qualify for automatic enrollment may opt-in to the program as mentees.

3. Program Coordinators:

- a. Applications and mentee assignments will be under the jurisdiction of the President and the Vice President for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Be it further resolved, that after the final meeting of the 2019-2020 assembly and before the start of the 2020 Fall semester, mentors will be required to submit a predetermined evaluation of the program; likewise, mentees will review the overall impact of the program on their RUSA experience.