



## **RUSA Agenda January 23rd, 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. @7:38
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Motion to add bill “Bill to Condemn the Sale of Lincoln Annex School”, Hira Hussain, Student Affairs Committee Chair
    - i. Seconded
    - ii. None Opposed
    - iii. Approved Unanimously
  - b. Motion approved
  - c. Motion to approve Agenda, Jhanvi Virani, President
    - i. Seconded
    - ii. None Opposed
    - iii. Approved Unanimously
  - d. Motion passes
  - e. 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

*"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."*

- iii. Approved Unanimously
  - b. Motion passes
  - c. Prior meeting minutes have been approved
- 5. Officer Updates
  - a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, [rusa.rutgers.edu](http://rusa.rutgers.edu)
- 6. Legislation
  - a. Resolution to Add a Student Representative to the Language Engagement Project Steering Committee
    - i. Eleanor Meli, Douglass Class of 2021 Representative, presents a resolution to add a student representative to the language engagement project steering committee. This committee is seeking to create 1 credit interdisciplinary language modules, courses, and activities which foster language learning and help grow the culture of world languages at Rutgers. The Resolution is left up to the assembly to ask questions
    - i. The Assembly moves into standard debate procedure
      - 1. Pros:
        - a. Gavin Mayes, SAS Senators At Large
          - i. More opportunities to increase skills in other languages is an incredibly useful and helpful thing for personal and extracurricular growth.
        - b. Tiana Youngblood, Busch At-large Representative
          - i. Great addition to our curriculum and branching out and learning other languages is a great activity
      - 2. Cons:
        - a. Nicholas LaBelle, Treasurer
          - i. Fix the numbering, it is the only issue
        - b. Sean Tonra, Douglass At-large Representative
          - i. Great bill and this should be praised, however, this bill should not only be done through academic affairs committee but the assembly as well.
    - ii. Motion to replace eventual with possible, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
      - 1. Seconded
      - 2. None Opposed
      - 3. Approved Unanimously
    - iii. Motion passes

- iv. Motion to fix numbering of bill, Tiana Youngblood, Busch At-large Representative
  - a. Seconded
  - b. None Opposed
  - c. Approved Unanimously
- v. Motion passes
- vi. Motion to “**Be it hereby resolved**, criteria in choosing a student representative on this committee shall be guided, but not limited to: 1) interest in language learning and culture at Rutgers, 2) experience in world languages, 3) ability to attend the Spring LEP meeting, and 4) demonstrated leadership”, Sean Tonra, Douglass At-large Representative
  - 1. Motion moves into stand debate procedure
    - a. Pro
      - i. Sean Tonra, Douglass At-large Representative
        - 1. Very Crucial to have student body’s input on the assembly and we should always have the student body as input on these committees
      - ii. Joseph Holdom, College Ave At-large Representative
        - 1. Thinks the assembly should be voting directly on who should represent us to the administration.
    - b. Con:
      - i. Ase Awari, Secretary
        - 1. Always letting the assembly decide on who to appoint is asinine for two reasons, one, committees are more than capable and qualified of appointing people to a position without the assembly’s say, and two, constantly making the Assembly decide who to be appointed slows down the effectiveness and efficiency of the organization
      - ii. Eleanor Meli, Douglass Class of 2021 Representative
        - 1. Even though academic affairs is the committee discussing who will be appointed, but anyone is allowed to attend

that meeting and give their input, in addition, also time sensitive

2. Motion to call amendment into question, Ase Awari, Secretary
  - a. Seconded
  - b. None Opposed
  - c. Approved Unanimously
3. Motion passes
4. Amendment to the bill called into question
  - a. For: 17
  - b. Against: 41
  - c. Abstain: 3
  - d. Present: 2
5. The motion fails
- vii. Motion to fix spacing, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
  1. Seconded
  2. None Opposed
  3. Approved FIX
- viii. Motion passes
- ix. Motion to adopt this resolution by unanimous consent, Jason Yu, Cook Class of 2022 Representative
  1. Seconded
  2. None Opposed
  3. Approved Unanimously
- x. The resolution passes
- a. Bill to Condemn the Sale of Lincoln Annex School
  - i. Jhanvi Virani, President, and Hira Hussain, Student Affairs Committee Chair, present a resolution to condemn the fact that they will rebuild the school only after they destroy the school and force them to a warehouse. The Resolution is left up to the assembly to ask questions.
    1. Motion to fix bill numbering and change it to a resolution, Aneesh Deshpande, Vice President
      - a. Seconded
      - b. None Opposed
      - c. Approved Unanimously
  - ii. Motion to suspend standard debate procedure and adopt by unanimous consent, Zain Ahmed, Off-Campus At Large Representative
    1. Seconded
    2. Opposed

- iii. Motion to bypass standard debate procedure and call the bill into question, Maya Ravichandran, Academic Affairs Committee Chair
  - 1. Seconded
  - 2. Opposed
  - 3. The motion is called into question
    - a. For: 49
    - b. Against: 13
    - c. Abstain: 0
    - d. Present: 0
- iv. The Resolution is called into question
  - 1. For: 48
  - 2. Against: 2
  - 3. Abstain: 2
  - 4. Present: 3
- v. The Resolution is adopted

## 7. Advisor Report

- a. Teri
  - i. Many different ways to get involved at Rutgers
  - ii. Opportunities to sign up for free tabling throughout the week and complete other challenges to be entered into raffle various amounts of student center reservation certificates
  - iii. An event called Kicking off, a Superbowl part co-sponsored by RU Sure
  - iv. Student Organization banquet and Networking Knight LSC Livingston Hall 6-8 PM, wednesday 5th

## 8. External Representatives Report

- a. None

## 9. Public Sector

- a. Neeharika Thuravil
  - i. .RU Progressive is kicking off the semester with a lot of events. One is there is a welcome back party next week
  - ii. A whiskey bottle can actually crush your toe
- b. Jill Cuzzolino

- i. If you are interested in asian studies, there will be a first meeting and if interested the meeting will be jan 31st at the AACC on livingston campus
- c. Tiana Youngblood
  - i. Here to talk about late knight, tomorrow starts at 9:00 PM and will have waffle trees and soft pretzel snowman. There will be a snow globe photo op and smores all night as well as hot chocolate. It will be lit and very fun, come through.
- d. Krishna
  - i. Plugging an event for the sustainability initiative this semester, this event is to address issues with regards to sustainability on campus. If interested contact jhanvi or someone else and he can provide the information you need.
- e. Zain Ahmed
  - i. If any organization is interested in having the central park five attend campus please contact to co-sponsor an event with them.
- f. Jason Yu
  - i. Will be discussing judicial branch discussion tonight.
- g. Nicholas Tharney
  - i. University Senate is very impactful and if any ideas always feel free to kick it to them to take a look into it.
  - ii. Standing rules changes are incoming so if you have any please let him know.
  - iii. There is a working draft for the new constitution and if anyone has any suggestions let him know. Still a draft and very flexible, wants a focus group to take a look at it and provide info before being given to committee

## 10. Adjournment

- a. @8:42

## 11. Caucus Meetings

## 12. Committee Meetings



**RUSA Resolution S20 - 08**

**Authors:** Eleanor Meli

**Sponsors:** Academic Affairs

**Resolution to Add a Student Representative to the Language Engagement Project Steering Committee**

**Whereas**, the 2013 Census revealed that more than 30% of New Jersey residents speak a language other than English at home<sup>1</sup>,

**Whereas**, the “World Languages at Rutgers - New Brunswick: A Proposal” mentions the eventual creation of a compulsory 1 credit Language Exposure Requirement for all Rutgers students<sup>2</sup>,

**Whereas**, Fall 2019 was the first official semester of the newly created Language Engagement Project,

**Whereas**, the Language Engagement project seeks to create 1 credit interdisciplinary language modules, courses, and activities which foster language learning and help grow the culture of world languages at Rutgers,

**Whereas**, these classes are meant to embrace and nurture the language culture(s) of Rutgers students, whether they are heritage speakers, native speakers from other countries, or new learners of languages entirely different from their own,

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<sup>1</sup> Astudillo, Carla. “About 2.6M People in N.J. Don't Speak English at Home, New Census Data Shows.” nj.com, December 7, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> World Languages at Rutgers- New Brunswick: A Proposal. Report. Language Requirement Task Force, Rutgers University- New Brunswick. 2017. P 32-37

**Whereas,** the Spring 2020 semester offers classes created by the Language Engagement Project under the course code 991<sup>3</sup>,

**Whereas,** these classes range from one credit language modules added to three credit classes meant to add linguistic dimension to the classroom, language exchanges, language mentoring, and language for travel classes,

**Whereas,** students ought to be involved in the planning and implementation of programs which impact them,

**Whereas,** there are currently no student members on the Language Engagement Project Steering Committee,

**Be it hereby resolved,** the Academic Affairs Committee shall create an application form to be advertised by the Academic Affairs Committee to previous students who took an LEP class and the Rutgers student body,

**Be it hereby resolved,** the Academic Affairs Committee shall convene (although any RUSA member who has not applied to this position is encouraged to attend) to review applications and vote to appoint one student to the Spring 2020 Language Engagement Project Steering Committee,

**Be it hereby resolved,** criteria in choosing a student representative on this committee shall be guided, but not limited to: 1) interest in language learning and culture at Rutgers, 2) experience in world languages, 3) ability to attend the Spring LEP meeting, and 4) demonstrated leadership,

**Be it hereby resolved,** that this shall be accomplished at least one week before the date of the first Spring LEP Steering Committee (February 13th),

**Be it hereby resolved,** that if asked by the LEP Steering Committee to procure a student representative for the upcoming school year, either the same student shall be chosen to return or similar guidelines will be implemented to find a new student representative.

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<sup>3</sup>Blum, Patricia. "Spring 2020 Courses - LEP." The Language Center. Accessed January 16, 2020.





## **RUSA Resolution S20 - 02**

**Author:** Hira Hussain, *Student Affairs Chairperson* ; Jhanvi Virani, *President*

**Sponsor:** RUSA Executive Committee, Rutgers Business Governing Association, SEBS Governing Council, Mason Gross Student Government Association, Douglass Governing Council, Engineering Governing Council, Residence Hall Association, RU Progressive, Rutgers NAACP, Rutgers New Brunswick Nursing Council, Muslim Public Relations Council, United Black Council

### **Resolution to Condemn the Conditions of the Sale of Lincoln Annex School**

*Whereas*, Lincoln Annex School in New Brunswick, NJ educates approximately 750 students from the third grade up to the seventh grade<sup>4</sup>;

*Whereas*, in June 2019, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and RWJBarnabas Health announced the development of a cancer pavilion, one which includes inpatient services, outpatient services, and research laboratories<sup>5</sup>;

*Whereas*, there is interest by the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and RWJBarnabas Health in buying the land under Lincoln Annex School to build the new pavilion;

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<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/new-brunswick/sections/development/articles/resident-watchdog-group-plans-to-turn-up-heat-on-rutgers-board>

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<https://www.cinj.org/rwjbarnabas-health-and-rutgers-cancer-institute-new-jersey-announce-new-750-million-state-art-free>

***Whereas***, there is no proposed plan for rebuilding a replacement school should Lincoln Annex School close, nor is there a confirmed timeline for when the construction of such a school would finish<sup>6</sup>;

***Whereas***, this sale could result in moving the students of Lincoln Annex School to a converted warehouse, as was done to students when New Brunswick's A.C Redshaw Elementary School was closed for reconstruction in 2008<sup>7</sup>;

***Whereas***, Rutgers University, as an institution dedicated to education, should not operate at the expense of the quality of education provided to others;

***Be it hereby resolved***, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) and listed sponsors condemn the sale and demolition of Lincoln Annex School before a new school is built for its students, and advocates for an agreement that keeps in mind the fates of children and families affiliated with Lincoln Annex School;

***Be it further resolved***, RUSA and listed sponsors charge President Virani with the task of advocating for and following up with this cause at the administrative level of the university.

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<https://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/news/local/development/2020/01/17/new-brunswick-activists-fight-school-sale-rutgers-cancer-institute/4489346002/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://patch.com/new-jersey/newbrunswick/the-long-wait-for-ac-redshaw-elementary-school>