



**RUSA Agenda December 10, 2020**

**7:30 PM** @ **Zoom** (password: rusa)

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda/Agree to Record
3. Approval of Prior Meeting's [Minutes](#)
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Co-Sponsor United Black Council Roundtable
  - b. Suspend Article IV Section 9(a) of the Standing Rules for Executive Order 2020-13
5. [Officer Updates](#)
6. Legislation (click on bill to skip to page)
  - a. The Justice Resolution of 2020
  - b. Resolution to Create the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Scarlet Honor Council
7. External Representative Report
8. Public Sector
9. Adjournment & Recess until January 21, 2021



## **RUSA Resolution F20-16**

**Authors:** Miguel Ribau, *Legislative Affairs Chair*

**Sponsor:** Legislative Affairs Committee

### **The Justice Resolution of 2020**

**Whereas**, in this time of great and righteous social and political upheaval, we must take action towards building a more just world;

**Whereas**, the institutional rot of white supremacy pervades throughout the justice system, and action must be taken towards dismantling oppressive systems;

**Whereas**, George Floyd,<sup>1</sup> Breonna Taylor,<sup>2</sup> Atatiana Jefferson,<sup>3</sup> Philando Castille,<sup>4</sup> Tamir Rice,<sup>5</sup> Rayshard Brooks,<sup>6</sup> Tanisha Anderson,<sup>7</sup> and many more Black men, women, and gender non-conforming individuals have fallen to the scourge of police violence;

**Whereas**, Black Americans are killed by police at a rate more than twice as high as that of white Americans;<sup>8</sup>

**Whereas**, Black communities face incredibly high rates of incarceration.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The New York Times. "What We Know About the Death of George Floyd in Minneapolis." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 8 Sept. 2020, [www.nytimes.com/article/george-floyd.html](http://www.nytimes.com/article/george-floyd.html).

<sup>2</sup> Oppel, Richard A., et al. "What to Know About Breonna Taylor's Death." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 30 May 2020, [www.nytimes.com/article/breonna-taylor-police.html](http://www.nytimes.com/article/breonna-taylor-police.html).

<sup>3</sup> The New York Times. "What We Know About the Fort Worth Police Shooting of Atatiana Jefferson." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 15 Oct. 2019, [www.nytimes.com/2019/10/15/us/aaron-dean-atatiana-jefferson.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/15/us/aaron-dean-atatiana-jefferson.html).

<sup>4</sup> Nelson, Teresa. "Two Years After the Police Killing of Philando Castile, Justice Continues to Be Denied." *American Civil Liberties Union*, American Civil Liberties Union, 6 July 2018, [www.aclu.org/blog/racial-justice/two-years-after-police-killing-philando-castile-justice-continues-be-denied](http://www.aclu.org/blog/racial-justice/two-years-after-police-killing-philando-castile-justice-continues-be-denied).

<sup>5</sup> Ohlheiser, Abby. "Death of Tamir Rice, 12-Year-Old Shot by Cleveland Police, Ruled a Homicide." *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 27 Apr. 2019, [www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2014/12/12/death-of-tamir-rice-12-year-old-shot-by-cleveland-police-ruled-a-homicide/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2014/12/12/death-of-tamir-rice-12-year-old-shot-by-cleveland-police-ruled-a-homicide/).

<sup>6</sup> Ortiz, Aimee. "What We Know About the Death of Rayshard Brooks." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 10 Sept. 2020, [www.nytimes.com/article/rayshard-brooks-what-we-know.html](http://www.nytimes.com/article/rayshard-brooks-what-we-know.html).

<sup>7</sup> Dean, Michelle. "Black Women Unnamed: How Tanisha Anderson's Bad Day Turned into Her Last." *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 5 June 2015, [www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/jun/05/black-women-police-killing-tanisha-anderson](http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/jun/05/black-women-police-killing-tanisha-anderson).

<sup>8</sup> "Fatal Force: Police Shootings Database." *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 22 Jan. 2020, [www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/).

<sup>9</sup> Thomas, Pierre, et al. "ABC News Analysis of Police Arrests Nationwide Reveals Stark Racial Disparity." *ABC News*, ABC News Network, 11 June 2020,

**Whereas**, with approval of the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA, or the Assembly) the Legislative Affairs Committee has authored the Report on the New Jersey Justice System;<sup>10</sup>

**Whereas**, the Report contains a number of policy recommendations to be pursued in the state legislature;

**Be it hereby resolved**, that the Report on the New Jersey Justice System -- including policy recommendations and proposed endorsements therein -- is hereby adopted by the Rutgers University Student Assembly;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Assembly charges the Legislative Affairs Committee with pursuing the implementation of the proposed policies outlined within the report;

**Be it finally resolved**, that the Legislative Affairs Committee is granted broad discretion towards seeking to implement the policies outlined within the report.

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<sup>10</sup> [Report on the New Jersey Justice System](#)



## **RUSA Bill F20-14**

**Authors:** Sean Tonra, *Douglass At-Large Representative*

**Sponsor:** Internal Affairs Committee

**Co-sponsor:** Scarlet Honor Council

### **Resolution to Create the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Scarlet Honor Council**

*Whereas*, in the 2019-2020 Assembly, Parliamentarian emeritus Nicholas Tharney and former Internal Affairs Chair Ryed Jadun created the Subcommittee on Student Conduct to investigate student concerns on the Student Conduct Policy;

*Whereas*, the Scarlet Honor Council has expressed interest in working to merge their organization to the Rutgers University Student Assembly.

*Be it hereby enacted*, the Assembly creates the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Scarlet Honor Council (aka the SHC ad-hoc committee) with the express purpose of outlining a structure and proposing a merger between the SHC and RUSA;

*Be it further enacted*, this open ad-hoc committee will be open to the public, but voting members shall only be limited to official members of RUSA and the SHC;

*Be it further enacted*, the ad-hoc will have the following purposes, but shall not be limited to discuss only these topics:

- a. Discuss and create an outline for how the Rutgers University Student Assembly may oversee, merge with, or otherwise interact with the Scarlet Honor Council;
- b. Address how the judiciary of the Assembly may be modified in the course of having the Assembly oversee, merge with, or otherwise interact with the Scarlet Honor Council;

*Be it further enacted*, the chair of the ad-hoc committee shall be tasked with providing an update, when deemed necessary by the chair or ad-hoc committee, to the Strategic Planning & Sustainable Governance Ad-hoc Committee to ensure the voices of governing councils are heard;

***Be it further enacted,*** the chair of the ad-hoc committee shall furnish a final list of voting members of the ad-hoc within one week of the passage of this bill;

***Be it further enacted,*** the chair of this ad-hoc committee shall furnish Operating Rules to the ad-hoc committee and the Assembly within two weeks of formation of said ad-hoc committee;

***Be it further enacted,*** Sean Tonra, after deliberation by and at the recommendation of the Internal Affairs Committee, shall be appointed as chair of the ad-hoc committee;

***Be it further enacted,*** the number of voting members on the ad-hoc from RUSA shall be roughly equal to the number of voting members on the ad-hoc from the SHC;

***Be it further enacted,*** the ad-hoc committee may segment their work into a two-pronged report. Those projects shall be:

1. A research report stipulating the full benefits and drawbacks of engaging in such a merger, both in regards to how it affects RUSA as well as the student population as a whole;
2. Potential merger plan(s) detailing how RUSA's Legislature, Judicial Council, Executive Committee will function alongside SHC, should the ad hoc decide to recommend such a merger;

***Be it further enacted,*** that by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly, we hereby suspend Article IV Section 9(a) of the Standing Rules in order to allow non-voting members of RUSA or students outside of RUSA to serve as voting members of the ad-hoc committee;

***Be it finally enacted,*** the ad-hoc committee shall furnish all required reports with the policy recommendations formed by the ad-hoc committee to the Executive Committee and the Assembly at least one week before the Spring Election voting period begins.

## **Appendix A**

### **General Timeline for the SHC Ad-hoc**

- Week 1: Agenda Setting & Introductions
- Week 2: Understanding the Student Conduct Process
- Week 3: Understanding the RUSA Judiciary
- Week 4: Understanding the Allocation Board Relationship
- Week 5: How can SHC fit under RUSA?
  - Executive Aspect
  - Legislative Aspect
  - Judicial Aspect
- Week 6: Further Discussion on Merger Plan
  - Internal structure of SHC (Eboard)
  - Membership Applications
- Week 7: Further Discussion on Merger Plan
- Week 8: Finalize Merger Plan + Outline Referendum Plans
- Week 9: Presentation of Report Drafts
- Week 10: Final Meeting & Approve Reports