



RUSA Agenda September 6th, 2018

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. @7:43 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion by Jeff Zhang, RBGA Representative to amend the agenda to include Roll Call after item 4
 - i. Called dilatory
 - b. Unanimously Approved
4. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes
 - a. Unanimously Approved
5. Officer Report
 - a. See powerpoint located on the Assembly Website (ruassembly.com)
 - b. Alex Anderson is the Fall Elections Committee Chair, Nick Tharney is the Fall Elections Appeals Committee Chair
 - c. Motion for a 3 minute Recess by Julie Serrano, Senate Leader
 - i. Unanimously Approved
6. Presentation
 - a. Parliamentary Procedure Review, Nick Tharney
7. Legislation
 - a. Resolution to Advocate for the *New Voter Empowerment Act*
 - i. Standard Debate Procedure

"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."

1. Neeharika Thuravil, Busch Campus Senator, for
 - a. This means a lot for the targeted age group, but student at Rutgers. When we reach out to freshmen who don't have previous experience with civic engagement, we have a lot of influence as college students and organizations on their civic engagement growth. This really isn't a large change and it really is better for the young people impacted.
2. Sean Gilbert, IFC Representative, against
 - a. I'm not completely opposed to this, but I am held up on one topic. With NJ's closed primaries, I think that your first act as a voter shouldn't be to declare your party. Trying to promote civic engagement through declaring your party isn't the right way to go about this.
3. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair/Douglass 2020 Representative, for
 - a. Since RUSA has always worked towards promoting a culture of civic engagement through voting, this is in line with our goals. Studies show that voters who start young are more engaged later on in life. The primaries are an interesting way to see how policies can impact us locally. This will also be very motivating to show young voters that we care about what they think.
- ii. Motion to have a 3 minute recess by Julie Serrano, Senate Leader
 1. Passed (18-17-1-2) (Yes-No-Abstain-Present)
- iii. Motion to move the comma in the operative clause to after "that" by Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
 1. Unanimously Approved
- iv. Motion to call to question by Ali Pasha, Busch 2019 Representative
 1. Unanimously Approved
- v. **Passed (29-0-0-1) - iClicker 3**

8. Internal Elections

- a. Vice President

Debate following the speech and Q&A (total of 7 minutes per candidate) for each election will consist of no less than the following debate procedures (unless there is a suspension of the rules):

Debate #1- moderated caucus, 2 speakers in favor of each candidate (alternating), 2 minute speaking time each

Debate #2- 5 minutes of recess to discuss the election.

- i. **Dominique Little**
- ii. **Neeharika Thuravil**
- iii. **Jessica Tuazon**
- iv. **Standard Debate**

1. **Jhanvi Virani, Student Affairs Chair, for Dominique**

- a. One of the most important jobs of the VP is to work with the committee chairs and maintain relationships with people outside of RUSA. Dominique is a member of many organizations that qualify her to speak for underrepresented groups and apply many different perspectives toward advocating for many different groups. Dominique has proved that she cares about improving the lives of Rutgers students through her involvement. I would be excited to work with her as VP for these reasons.

2. **Ilce Perez, Cook Senator, for Neeharika**

- a. She came to Rutgers apathetic but her experience changed her perspective. She has been very involved in community service and involvement on campus and her character shows how much work she is willing to put into the role of VP.

3. **Julien Rosenbloom, Legislative Affairs Chair, for Jessica**

- a. This summer we saw a lack of productivity and we need someone who can rally the troops. We need someone who understands how RUSA works and how to get things done and how to address change and challenges. Her vast institutional knowledge, knowledge of RUSA, and of Rutgers qualifies her, as does her work at Bristol-Meyers Squibb which shows her work ethic. She is the only candidate who managed her own campaign. She really cares about this organization and Rutgers. She can best manage the challenges that RUSA faces and can best work with Sooz.

4. Alexandra Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair, for Dominique
 - a. The VP is in charge of coordinating the committee chairs, which is experience that Dominique has. She understands the process of the committees. Jess's experience as secretary is not necessarily as applicable to the role of VP as it is to the role of secretary. Dominique has more relevant experience toward the goals of the VP position.
5. Adeel Ahmed, Rutgers student, for Neeharika
 - a. Neeharika is my best friend and is the most dedicated person I've ever met. She stepped up to help me when I ran for president and through her help I know she will be just as dedicated and effective as VP. She is an activist on campus and can work to mobilize people.
6. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian, for Jessica
 - a. Jess is the most experienced and qualified candidate. She does far more than take minutes and her experience in the role of secretary is very similar to the role of VP. She has been working closely with Suz all summer and goes above and beyond in her duties. That truly embodies what it means to be a student leader. Jess ran a campaign against Suz but still is a dedicated member of the body and works well with Suz, which speaks to her quality as a candidate and member.

v. **(7-5-21-0-0) (Dominique - Neeharika - Jessica - Abstain-Present/Not Voting)**
Congratulations Jessica Tuazon

9. Advisor Report

- a. Laura Christiansen
 - i. Please set up meetings with your advisor if you're an eboard member
 - ii. Student Organization Leader Fairs (required: one officer attend at least one fair)
 1. 9/17, LSC, 7-9PM
 2. 10/3, CASC, 6-8PM
 - iii. Voter Registration Drives Training, 9/18, 5-6PM, SAC

- iv. Good Neighbor Welcome 9/12 4-7PM
- v. Emerging Student Leader Networking Reception 9/12 4-5:30 PM in the RAC
(only 3 RUSA members can attend so please talk to Jess)

10. External Representatives Report

- a. Jessica Tuazon, EGC
 - i. EGC meeting Monday at 8:10PM in BSC
 - ii. Mid Semester Funding packets will be going on later in the semester
- b. Jeff Zhang, RBGA
 - i. RBGA meeting next Tuesday at 9:30PM in LSC
 - ii. 9/11, 12:30PM, Business Involvement Fair at LSC
- c. Ryed Jadun, ASC
 - i. Looking forward to a great year

11. Public Sector

- a. Suzanne Link
 - i. Event with Deloitte September 14th, 1-4 PM
- b. Nick Tharney
 - i. Public Sector is to talk about your external orgs or just to talk
 - ii. We are looking for members of the Fall Elections Committee and Appeals Committee
 - iii. The Elections Code will be adhered to for the Fall 2018 Elections, looking for comments on amendments to existing code.
- c. Neeharika Thuravil
 - i. The Dream Project bike team biked from New Brunswick to Miami. We raised \$12,000 this past year.
 - ii. Next year we will be biking 3,500 miles East to West, so please consider it.
- d. April Nicklaus
 - i. Introduces NJPIRG Campaigns:
 - 1. New Voters Project (goal is to register 3,000 students)
 - 2. Zero Waste, Zero Hunger
 - 3. 100 Percent Renewables
 - 4. Everlasting Antibiotics

- e. Jeff Zhang
 - i. Looking for interns for the Bob Menendez campaign
- f. Priti Kantesaria
 - i. This summer I did a lot of reimbursements and reconciling the budget
 - ii. I cleaned the office so keep it clean
 - iii. We have a google form for reimbursements
- g. Jhanvi Virani
 - i. The IT Student Advisory Board was created late last spring. We work with OIT to solve tech issues. If you are interested, please reach out
- h. Zain Ahmed
 - i. Center of Islamic Learning at Rutgers (CILRU) got a new home next to the CASC. It is open to everyone, please come check it out.
 - ii. MPRC is looking for more members to be involved. Please contact me if you want information.
- i. Julie Serrano
 - i. Currently on the committee to nominate students to the commencement speaker committee.
- j. Jessica Tuazon
 - i. If anyone is interested in running for Secretary, I am politely asking that you meet with me to discuss the responsibilities before Wednesday of next week.

12. Adjournment

- a. @10:41 PM



RUSA Resolution F18-1

Author: Julien Rosenbloom

Sponsor: Legislative Affairs

Resolution to Advocate for the *New Voter Empowerment Act*

Whereas, civic engagement and participation in the electoral process are integral to the functioning of an effective democratic republic; and

Whereas, currently those who are seventeen years of age in the primary election and will be eighteen years of age in the general election are prohibited from voting in the primary election in the State of New Jersey; and

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) and its Legislative Affairs Committee have historically committed to devoting resources to increase and improve civic engagement on the Rutgers University--New Brunswick campus; and

Whereas, Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker of New Jersey's 16th Legislative District has authored and introduced a bill into the New Jersey Assembly entitled the *New Voter Empowerment Act*¹ which seeks to provide seventeen year-olds turning eighteen before the general election the right to vote in the corresponding calendar year's primary election; and

Whereas, the legislation has passed through the New Jersey State Assembly but stalled in the New Jersey Senate on two occasions despite broad support; and

Whereas, Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker has personally requested the assistance and advocacy of RUSA to ensure that this bill becomes the law.

Be it hereby resolved, that RUSA supports advocacy and promotional efforts to assist in the passage of the *New Voter Empowerment Act* through the New Jersey Senate.

¹ <https://www.billtrack50.com/BillDetail/920970>