



## **RUSA Minutes November 29th, 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. @7:29pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Motion by Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair, to remove Closed Session
    - i. Unanimously Approved
4. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes
  - a. Unanimously Approved
5. Officer Report
  - a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, [ruassembly.com](http://ruassembly.com)
6. Presentation
  - a. Spring 2019 Allocations Budget Presentation, Nick Pellitta
    - i. Suzanne Link, President
      1. What is the difference between an event and a meeting?
        - a. Weekly meetings come out of organizational maintenance. Pizza for a weekly meeting, for example, comes out of the budget for organizational maintenance.
    - ii. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair
      1. Where does RUSA get the money for this?

*"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. It comes from the student fee, which comes out of the campus fee.
- iii. Eleanor Meli, Douglass 2021
  - 1. Should the student fee should be raised? You could have an ad-hoc committee to raise student fees.
    - a. Raising student fees is not the immediate or long-term solution. We do have a lot of money in our budget and in the past, not all of the clubs have used the money allocated to them.
- iv. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair
  - 1. What are your ideas to better allocate funds?
    - a. We have gone through several ideas and have looked through other university structures. We want to use an objective funding approach.
- v. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
  - 1. You looked into the funding models other universities have worked with. Has the allocations board looked into altering the funding method or CAP sheet and how has it progressed thus far.
    - a. We do need to go through and talk with other members of the board. We have looked through a few different changes.
- vi. Dominique Little, University Affairs Chair
  - 1. How did you come up with the 15% cut? Can they still apply for appeals?
    - a. 15% is what we used for last semester, so it's the number we've stuck with. They are still capable of appealing and asking for more funding.
- vii. Mahmoud Ajaj, Livingston At-Large Representative
  - 1. Are funds placed in specific accounts?
    - a. They are not placed in a market fund.

- viii. Nimra Jaqob, Off Campus At-Large Rep
  - 1. Why is the food one of the lowest allocated budgets? How do you expect 70 or less to cater to people?
    - a. These are completely hypothetical. The budget is based on the size.
- ix. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair
  - 1. Why do you not give money to people who don't get food from non university approved vendors?
    - a. This is a student involvement case, not Allocations procedure. We have a list of approved caterers that must meet all our exceptions.
- x. Dominique Little, University Affairs Chair
  - 1. When orgs don't use the money, what happens to it?
    - a. That is called a take-back and we take back the money which gets funnelled into the overarching account that is the student fees.
- xi. Eleanor Meli, Douglas 2021 Representative
  - 1. Given that a lot of events are annual, do you see a trend of clubs asking for the CAP?
    - a. There were only a few budget submissions that caught our attention for hitting the CAP. We have not seen a trend where orgs are hitting the CAP and maxing out.
- xii. Mahmoud Ajaj, Livingston At-Large Representative
  - 1. How much of the 2018-2019 funds were budgeted for these organizations but not used for the organizations?
    - a. I will get back to you because I do not have the exact amount at the top of my head.

- xiii. Nimra Jaqob, Off Campus at Large Representative
  - 1. If there is money left over for the first program, can you use it for the second program?
    - a. You can't use it unless it has been approved by advisor. It would be bypassing the system otherwise.
- xiv. Meet Patel, Off Campus Senator
  - 1. If there is a surplus, what will happen for 2020, 2021, etc?
    - a. We can, for example, lower cuts from 40% to 30%.
- xv. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
  - 1. Funding is allocated on a per-event basis, and can only be moved through approval by student involvement advisors. If you have organizations that are using funding for event 1 for event 2, is there any enforcement on your end? Will it lead to an audit?
    - a. The majority of instances we see is when organizations come in for appeals, and this is when we let them know they can't move funds around. We do have an audit process.

## 7. Legislation

- a. Bill to Approve the Spring 2019 Allocations
  - i. Motion by Meet Patel, Off-Campus Senator, to pass by Unanimous Consent
    - 1. 1 Opposed
    - 2. Passed by Role Call Vote (46-0-1-1)**
- b. Resolution to Endorse the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign
  - i. Suzanne Link, President
    - 1. Should this resolution pass, where would you post it?
      - a. We would post it once a week on the instagram page.
  - ii. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian
    - 1. How would you assess the effectiveness of the campaign thus far?

- a. A week or two ago, I saw a poster in the residence hall that caught my attention.
- iii. Aneesh Deshpande, Academic Affairs Chair
  - 1. Do you have way of tracking how much we are adding to the overall campaign?
    - a. We can see insights, how many people like/comment, and we can compare this information with Health centers.
- iv. Logan Adams, Off Campus at Large Representative
  - 1. Will we include links to contact information to treatment centers?
    - a. There is an informational website on the graphic itself. Emily will also promote resources on the instagram story.
- v. Ryed Jadun, ASC Representative
  - 1. Are there any future plans to get in touch with future organizations to work towards this initiative further?
    - a. We do not really have a say as to how this campaign is laid out, we are simply advocating for it. We can possibly do an event next semester.
- vi. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair
  - 1. Do you have any stats on opioid use at Rutgers?
    - a. I do not, but I can find out.
- vii. Jeffrey Zhang, RBGA Representative
  - 1. Why are we participating in this campaign midway?
    - a. There are only six messages and it started in November. I was going to present it during the last meeting which was cancelled, so it had to be pushed to this meeting.
- viii. Sebastian Romero, Off Campus At-Large Representative
  - 1. Are the designs and posters created for the rest of the months?
    - a. There were six graphics in the presentation and they will be used in the social media posts.

- ix. Brian Nager, Cook 2022 Representative
  - 1. Why are you pursuing an eight month campaign?
    - a. RUSA has the power to do a lot of good by promoting this epidemic. For this school year, I think it is important that we focus on supporting it, especially since it has already launched. For next year, however, I do think it is a great idea to shorten the campaign.
- x. Meet Patel, Off Campus Senator
  - 1. What other resources are available besides this campaign?
    - a. All RUPD officers have Narcan on them, so if you call an officer you can receive one.
- xi. Ilce Perez, Cook Senator
  - 1. Would the graphics be posted through the instagram story or an actual post?
    - a. I want to post something unique each week on the instagram story and post a monthly post.
- xii. Nimra Jaqob, Off Campus At-Large Representative
  - 1. Do you think it would be a good idea to cover this quicker before May?
    - a. After giving this a lot of thought, I came to the decision that having one post a month is the optimal thing to do as it will not clutter our feed. I agree that the message for May is too late and I believe we will be able to make a change.
- xiii. Neeharika Thuravil, Busch Senator
  - 1. If you are going to post posters for students in the residence halls, what are you going to do for students who live off campus?
    - a. Opioid use and abuse is something that multiple committees can work on throughout the year. The purpose of this

resolution is to get support for this campaign-- aiding student health with their existing campaign.

xiv. Meet Patel, Off Campus Senator

1. Do you think we should reach out to the New Brunswick rehab center?

a. RUSA is simply proposing this legislation to support the campaign. Student health centers have their own agenda.

xv. Nick Tharney

1. If and when we pass this bill, what email is the best form of contact?

a. Email me at [healthandwellness.rusa@gmail.com](mailto:healthandwellness.rusa@gmail.com)!

b. Email [rusa.publicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:rusa.publicrelations@gmail.com)!!

c. Motion by Dominique Little, to pass by Unanimous Consent

**i. Passed by Unanimous Consent**

8. Advisor Report

a. Laura

i. Please take care of yourself and don't get sick. Take Vitamin C!

ii. Tip for life, if you ever buy a queen or king size bed, get a slit box spring.

9. External Representatives Report

a. Chanel

i. We're having two events coming up within the next week. There is the Cook Douglass Olympics on Sunday, December 2nd and you are encouraged to bring a gifts. On Wednesday, we are having our Around the World Event with a lot of different foods from approved vendors. I will post both of the events on the Facebook group.

b. George Zapata

i. On Thursday, the Center of Latin America Studies is having a rom-com film screening.

- ii. Next Friday, the CLAC is having their Soy-Hombre. It is designed for freshmen men that want to get introduced to internships and mentor programs.
- c. Rachel Bauman
  - i. We are working on lighting and public safety on Douglass. We have hit a roadblock.. If anyone is working on similar initiatives, please see me.
  - ii. We are having our next Intersectional Feminist talk.
- d. Ryan Cassidy
  - i. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, [ruassembly.com](http://ruassembly.com)
- e. Ilce Perez
  - i. Our next meeting is this Thursday, feel free to come by!
- f. Ryed Jadun
  - i. We are having a coffee house game night on Monday from 8-11pm at Tray's Hall.

## 10. Public Sector

- a. Jess
  - i. We are hosting CAPS to talk to the Engineering honors community. It will be held at the fiber optics hub. I will send out a facebook invite later this weekend.
- b. Julie Serrano
  - i. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, [ruassembly.com](http://ruassembly.com)
  - ii. We are getting lockers by Fall 2019!
- c. Dominique Little
  - i. If you want an internship with the City Hall, please talk to me!
- d. Alex Anderson
  - i. I wanted to commend you guys with your participation today!
- e. April Niklaus
  - i. We voted on our Spring Campaign. We are working on many campaigns such as Zero Waste Zero Hunger.



- ii. We are holding elections currently.
  - iii. I have been working with student leaders to create a state wide coalition.  
Talk to me if you are interested.
- f. Sebastian Romero
  - i. We have the largest event of the semester this weekend. There will be a lot of giveaways-- apparel, hats, scarves, etc.
  - ii. I'm going to be releasing a survey and hopefully I can get your input on what you are looking for in an internship.
- g. Maya Ravichandran
  - i. I wanted to mention the new ad-hoc committee.. If you are interested in joining this committee, please let me know!
  - ii. Rutgers is having a local hackathon day this Saturday.. It is a coding competition! Come by to Hill Center and there will be plenty of mentors that can teach you how to code.
- h. Chanel Jordan
  - i. The application for McNair is due next Friday, December 7th.
  - ii. If anyone is interested in coming with me and Julie to the Food Alliance, please let me know.
- i. Andrew Petryna
  - i. The big chill is this Saturday, and if you have not yet registered, it's not too late. You can register in person on the day of.
- j. Paul Ziessler
  - i. I am the new chair of the other ad-hoc committee. If this is something that interests you, please find me after the meeting and give me your contact information.
- k. Laura
  - i. There is an a cappella concert on Saturday done by Casual Harmony if anyone is interested!

l. Jessica Tuazon

- i. Dominique and I will be hosting the Women's STEAM Conference.
- ii. For next week's assembly meeting, we are going to have an official ugly sweater contest!!! I'll see you there.

m. Sooz

- i. If you are interested in participating in a secret santa with a maximum of \$10, please come to the dais at the end of the meeting.
- ii. Maya and Paul will be hanging back to talk about the ad-hoc committees.

11. Adjournment

- a. 9:28pm



**RUSA Bill F18-8**

**Authors:** Priti Kantesaria, *RUSA Treasurer*; Nicholas Pellitta, *RUSA Allocations Board Chairperson*; Jessica Tuazon, *RUSA Vice President*

**Sponsor:** Allocations Board

**Bill to Approve the Spring 2019 Allocations**

*Whereas*, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) is dedicated to providing a means for and promoting student involvement and awareness within the University and the community at-large; and

*Whereas*, the RUSA Allocations Board is responsible for the allocation of funds to registered Rutgers University Student Organizations as well as various registered events on an as-needed basis; with a goal to promote and support diversity of programming made available to all Rutgers University students through the fair and efficient use of the Student Activities Fee; and

*Whereas*, the Spring 2019 Budget Requests for recognized RUSA organizations for the 2018-2019 academic year were due on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for on-time submissions and Saturday, October 27, 2018 for late submissions; and

*Whereas*, on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the RUSA Allocations Board met from 3:30 PM to 9:00 PM and Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 from 11:00 AM to 11:30 PM to decide the allocation of \$610,502 to 334 organizations of the Rutgers University \_ New Brunswick/Piscataway Campus; and

*Whereas*, in order for groups and organizations to effectively program events, the RUSA constitution requires the approval of the RUSA body of the Spring 2019 allocations for the groups listed in the spreadsheet attached; therefore

***Be it hereby enacted*** that RUSA approves the Spring 2019 allocations for those registered student groups that applied by the due dates; and

***Be it hereby resolved*** that RUSA approves the allocation of a total of \$610,502 to 334 registered student groups and organizations at Rutgers University \_ New Brunswick/Piscataway Campus using the Student Activities Fee.

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RUSA President

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Date



**RUSA Resolution F18-8**

**Author:** Hinita Patel

**Sponsors:** Health and Wellness Committee

**Resolution to Endorse the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign**

*Whereas*, the opioid epidemic specifically refers to the growing number of deaths and hospitalizations from opioids, including prescriptions, illicit drugs, and analogues,<sup>1</sup>

*Whereas*, deaths across the US have steadily grown over time and on average, 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose,<sup>2</sup>

*Whereas*, about 80% of people who use heroin first misused prescription opioids,<sup>3</sup>

*Whereas*, the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign takes an informational approach, and launches in November and will run through the end of the academic year,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.addictioncenter.com/opiates/opioid-epidemic/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/opioids/opioid-overdose-crisis>

**Whereas**, this campaign features 6 messages to provide a basic overview of the opioid epidemic and a specific message will be highlighted each month:

November: What are Opioids?

December & January: What is Narcan?

February: What is the Opioid Epidemic and why is Everyone Talking About it?

March: How are Prescription Drugs Connected to the Opioid Epidemic?

April: I Don't Use Drugs. Why Should I Pay Any Attention to the Opioid Epidemic?

May: What Does an Opioid Overdose Look Like?

**Whereas**, the Health and Wellness Committee of the Rutgers University Student Assembly works to continuously improve and promote student health through programming, advocacy, and PR efforts, and

**Whereas**, the Rutgers University Student Assembly believes in protecting the general health of students in the Rutgers community,

**Be it hereby resolved**, the Rutgers University Student Assembly supports spreading awareness of the opioid epidemic on campus in an effort to prevent prescription opioid overdoses and curb the opioid epidemic, and the Public Relations Committee will promote the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign through social media platforms each month with the specified message for that month from November 2018 to May 2019.

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RUSA President

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Date