



RUSA Minutes January 31st, 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. @ 7:39PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to amend the agenda to include “Resolution to Support RUCGS...” by Julie Serrano, Senate Leader
 - i. Approved (iClicker 1) (19-11-2)
4. Approval of Prior Meeting’s Minutes
 - a. Approved
5. Town Hall
 - a. Francine Pfeiffer, Vice President for Federal Relations
 - i. Ms. Pfeiffer and Mr. Ian Grubman present on Federal Relations and Student Advocacy Day. The body and members of the public are able to ask questions of the speakers.
6. Officer Report
 - a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, ruassembly.com
7. Resolution Supporting RUCSGA in Efforts to Establish Student Representation on the University Advisory Group Regarding First Amendment and Academic Freedom Issues

"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. Julie Serrano: One of the graduate students from Camden raised the issue of having no student representation in a recently created University Advisory Group by President Barchi
- b. The body and members of the public are able to ask questions of the speakers.
- c. Standard Debate
 - i. Nick Tharney, Parliamentarian (also an RBS Senator), FOR
 - 1. Believes that this is an important issue and that since the other campuses are advocating for this, it would be an impediment that we join as well. In addition, Dr. Barchi's refusal to allow student representation is a concern. In addition, constant lack of student representation is a massive concern and this resolution is a good start on the right path.
 - ii. Meet Patel, Off-Campus Senator, FOR
 - 1. Supports this legislation because the task force that created this completely ruled out student representation, in addition, there needs to be clarification on the amendment to ensure transparency as well as getting any answers that are vital concerns to students.
- d. Motions:
 - i. Nick Tharney motion to make a grammatical correction
 - 1. Hear first, no opposition
 - ii. Jessica Tuazon motion to amend to specify the student representative would be an elected student selected by RUSA
 - 1. Heard second, chair relinquished to the Parliamentarian to allow the President to participate in debate
 - 2. Standard Debate
 - a. Jhanvi Virani, Student Affairs, AGAINST
 - i. It should not be left to the body to decide because whoever is picked should be left to whatever student organization has the most concerns

b. Suzanne Link, President, FOR

- i. This is really just to clarify what was already there. We wanted this particular representative to come from RUSA because we represent all student on the New Brunswick campus. If the other two campuses are advocating for their students, then this just makes sense. The way it was, the representative could have been selected in any manner.

c. Ilce Perez, Cook Campus Senator, AGAINST

- i. Opposed to this resolution because the opportunity should be available to someone outside of RUSA and should not be left to the body to decide. In addition, having someone with background in the topic that pertains could be much more relevant and important than someone that the body decides on.

3. Motions:

a. Nick Tharney motion to amend the amendment to include language advocating for the other campuses to also have representatives in a manner they see fit

- i. Heard first
- ii. Standard Debate

1. Nick Tharney, RGBA Rep, Parliamentarian, FOR

- a. Amendment to the original amendment due to the fact that the original request was based off the fact that the original students with the idea to have this representation are also allowed equal representation

2. Jeff Zhang, RGBA Representative,
AGAINST
 - a. This seems convoluted. It doesn't necessarily include the language that would specify how each student government would choose or if it's proportional to population. I think it's inappropriate to change this be it hereby resolved clause. I'd rather scrap the bill and do it over again.
3. Nick LaBelle, Cook at-Large
Representative, FOR
 - a. Two points, the first of which is that the language is not convoluted and clear about the solidarity of each campus having representation and in addition, specifies that having more representatives is not a negative connotation
4. Julie Serrano, SAS Senate Leader,
AGAINST
 - a. Yes we are one big happy family. I think that the second be it hereby resolved clause addresses this. The first clause deals with our chancellor and it's not appropriate to ask this of him because the other student governments are advocating for this same thing of their chancellors. It's

important to leave the advocacy
malleable.

- iii. Failed (iClicker 2) (23-25-0) (two nay's taken from the floor for malfunctions)
- b. Jason Yu, RBGA Representative, motion to remove "by the elected student representatives"
 - i. Heard second
 - ii. Standard Debate Procedure
 1. Jason Yu, RGBGA Representative, FOR
 - a. Original Amendment was too vague and was not specific enough about what organization will decide on appointing, in addition, we still need to ensure that not anyone just runs and that we can decide on who can properly represent us on this important panel
 2. Jessica Tuazon, Vice President, EGC Rep, AGAINST
 - a. The latter point Jason made will still be possible without having to amend, in addition, the students with the Senate or other student orgs deserve a seat on this equally and that we should not limit who or who cannot be appointed.
 3. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair, Douglass 2020, FOR

a. Wants to come up and support the idea of students representatives be allowed on this panel and by adding the new clause it limits our options on who can be appointed, basically, by keeping it vague it gives us the ability to have more flexibility in who we want to represent us

4. Maya Ravichandran, SAS Senator at Large,
AGAINST

a. Does not believe that an internal election is not required to appoint someone to this panel because there may be better candidates or a better process to appoint someone on this panel, in addition, it does not have to be limited to RUSA

iii. Patrick B. Phillips, Big Ten Liaison, motion to have a Committee of the Whole

1. Jeff Zhang, Motion to have committee of the Whole chaired by Jess

a. Second: Approved, @10:00

b. Left Committee of the Whole

@10:34

iii. Jessica Tuazon, Vice President, motion to suspend the rules to abandon all other motions and amendments, amend to include the language calling for a student representative chosen by students, and call the bill into question

1. Second, none opposed

e. Passed (iClicker 3) (36-2-0)

8. Advisor Report

- a. Laura:
 - i. Student organization banquet next week, registration open, occurring on March 30th, in addition, The MARC conference is taking place in the first week of march, in addition, applications to RUPA are open, in addition, all committees chairs are to send schedules to advisors, lastly, Student Leader positions are open and are due on Monday, February 6th

9. External Representatives Report

- a. Chanel Jordan,RHA
 - i. Come get breakfast tomorrow at 9:00 am, at the RES Life office on Busch, tomorrow, February 1st
- b. George Zapata, LSC
 - i. Buenos Noches :)
 - ii. The LSC is having their leadership training this saturday and
- c. Ilce Perez, BOT
 - i. Just recently there was a committee meeting where they discussed student diversity as well as on each campuses, in addition if any students need help with regards to being a first generation student

10. Public Sector

- a. Laura Christiansen
 - i. Just wanted to say she got a puppy on break named Zelda and was adorable and amazing
- b. Dominique Little
 - i. Part of the NAACP on campus, a clothing drive, drop off or pick up on livingston, in addition, a ice cream fundraiser 4:30 to 8:30 on easton avenue
- c. Neeharika Thuravil
 - i. Just got a cat, facts of astrophysics, we are only somewhat responsible for the loss of Earth's atmosphere

d. Nick LaBelle

- i. Three things, thank you for the interesting debate tonight, second point, props to Dom, with regards to sustainability on reaching out on composting issues and was able to find that food waste products are utilized on the pigs to ensure a system of recycling, lastly, there is a career fair from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm

e. April Nicklaus (NJPIRG)

- i. Collected 300 petitions for our Break Free From Plastics campaign to get single-use plastic bags banned in New Brunswick
- ii. NJPIRG student leaders from all 3 campuses attended the Citizens Climate Lobby MidAtlantic Regional Conference last weekend!
- iii. NJPIRG Campaign Kickoff meeting is next Thursday at 7:00PM in the Red Lion Cafe, College Ave Student Center

f. Patrick B. Phillips

- i. Food for thought, the president from michigan state university said that we do a lot for students around us but what do we do for ourselves

g. Jeffery Zhang

- i. I don't know why I'm telling you this but here it is. New Brunswick doesn't distinguish between trash and recycling. I don't know if there's a way to fix that.

h. Ilce Perez

- i. My friend is looking for interns at a Commencement services company. Link and info will be shared in the Facebook group.

i. Ase Awari

- i. Thank you to anyone who's everyone who's ever taken minutes

j. Chanel Jordan

- i. Tomorrow starts one of the best months of the year, Black History Month, there is a month full of events that will enrich you with knowledge and experiences that are extremely worth having, please make sure you go

- k. Alex Anderson
 - i. She loves RUSA and loves the debate
- l. Jeffrey Kim
 - i. Open question about on where to find minutes as well as votes
- m. Suzanne Link
 - i. Thank you for participating. I found that there are a lot of issues this year because we haven't followed protocol for bringing legislation to the floor. If you have an idea, first you should bring it to committee. Once the committee sponsors it, it's brought to the EBoard. EBoard debates and edits the legislation so that it's in its best form so we can have the most productive debate here possible. I understand the protocol and time constraints make it so that the protocol can't always be followed, but we should follow it from here on.
 - ii. EBoard has also discussed that not everyone reads legislation ahead of time so submitting on time that everyone can read them is productive.
- n. Nick Tharney
 - i. If anyone has any questions about protocol or writing legislation, please feel free to reach out
- o. Jessica Tuazon
 - i. About Paul Robeson, there's a whole centennial website where you can find events
 - ii. Just wanted to thank everyone for being cooperative during the committee of the whole. I'm happy everyone got an opportunity to voice their opinions. That whole process minus formality and the amount of people happens at Eboard. We consider what debate might happen here and try to address it before or anticipate intense debate ahead of time.

11. Adjournment

- a. @ 11:00 PM



RUSA Resolution S19-02

Author: Julieline Serrano

Sponsor: Student Affairs Committee

Resolution Supporting RUCSGA in Efforts to Establish Student Representation on the University Advisory Group Regarding First Amendment and Academic Freedom Issues

Whereas, issues regarding First Amendment freedom of speech and academic freedom have been pertinent throughout the country;

Whereas, the Rutgers University administration has compiled thirty different policies on the subject, many overlapping;

Whereas, the University Senate has assisted the university administration in assessing and developing a more comprehensive, uniform and legally correct universal policy;

Whereas, issues surrounding the lack thereof continue to create issues of appropriate policy and application;

Whereas, the University President has requested that the Office of General Counsel “convene an advisory group to provide guidance on alleged policy violations that involve First Amendment and academic freedom questions;”¹ and

Whereas, the University President has requested that said panel be comprised of “First Amendment and academic freedom scholars, attorneys, and faculty representatives,”

¹ <http://senate.rutgers.edu/BarchiLtrProf%20LivingstonAugust2018.pdf>

Be it hereby resolved that the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) shall advocate the New Brunswick Chancellor to correspond to the University President requesting that a student representative, selected by the elected student representatives, be included on this panel.

Be it further resolved that the RUSA Senate Leader shall recommend that the Senate Executive Board consider the matter and further assess the appropriateness of action affecting other campuses and the university as a whole.