



RUSA Resolution S19-04

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Sponsors: Executive Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, Internal Affairs Committee, Student Affairs Committee, University Affairs Committee, Health & Wellness Committee, Legislative Affairs Committee, Public Relations Committee

**Resolution to Express Disapproval in the Selection Process for the
Chancellor of New Brunswick**

Whereas, it was previously announced that an Interim Chancellor for Rutgers University — New Brunswick was appointed by the University President with no immediate plans to establish a search committee in order to permanently fill the role of Chancellor,

Whereas, in February 2019, the Interim Chancellor of Rutgers University — New Brunswick was permanently appointed to the position of Chancellor via announcement of the University President without the establishment of such a search committee,

Whereas, search committees, which included student and other stakeholder representation, have been established in the past to find applicants and engage in a deliberative process of recommending new Chancellors, most recently for the appointment of former Chancellor Deba Dutta,

Whereas, to the knowledge of the students, no such committee was reasonably publicized prior to the appointment of the now permanent Chancellor, and no representatives from the undergraduate student government were consulted in said appointment,

Whereas, a lack of both transparency and opportunity for input are of great concern to the undergraduate student body,

Whereas, the student body is one of the primary stakeholders in University decisions and collectively pays tuition and fees to support the University and therefore deserves more information and the opportunity to have seats at the table,

Whereas, the most recent selection process is contrary to the ideals of shared governance and inclusion, upon which Rutgers so frequently prides itself, and overall sets a negative precedent,

Whereas, this resolution is solely concerned with the process and does not express any disapproval for the current Chancellor,

Whereas, the aforementioned selection process is particularly disappointing due to the fact that it was for the highest administrator specific to the Rutgers University — New Brunswick campus,

Whereas, the President of the Assembly has released an open letter expressing disapproval of the selection process, and

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) is the primary, campus-wide undergraduate student government for the New Brunswick campus, having the authority to speak on behalf of the undergraduate student body,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Rutgers University Student Assembly:

- 1. Strongly disapproves** of the selection process used for the appointment of the permanent Chancellor for the New Brunswick campus;
- 2. Calls upon** the President of the University, Robert L. Barchi, to issue a statement committing to ensuring that future selection processes will be more transparent, more publicized, and will have student government representation;
- 3. Directs** the President of the Assembly to convey the sentiments of this resolution to the Office of the President of Rutgers University and the Board of Governors;
- 4. Requests** that the Executive Committee of the University Senate issue a charge to the appropriate committee to investigate the current process in which high-level administrators are selected and provide recommendations; and
- 5. Urges** the University to establish guidelines for the selection process of high-level administrators that include a formal process with representation from the appropriate student governments.