



RUSA Agenda March 7th, 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. Town Hall

- a. Dr. Christopher Molloy, Chancellor of Rutgers University - New Brunswick

8:30pm @ Student Activities Center

2. Call to Order

- a. @8:56 PM

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

- a. Motion by Neeharika Thurvail, Busch Campus Senator, to change the position of the StandardsTV Bill for Town Hall and Funding to the end of the legislation list
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. None Opposed
 - iii. Approved Unanimously
 - iv. Motion Passes, Position of StandardsTV Bill moved to the end
- b. Motion by Nicholas Tharney, Parliamentarian, to change "February 28th" to "March 7th" as well as move the Student Activities Fee Bill to second on the legislation
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. None Opposed
 - iii. Approved Unanimously

"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."

iv. Motion Passes, Position of Student Activities Fee Bill moved to the second position as well as date being changed

c. Approval of Agenda

i. Seconded

ii. None Opposed

iii. Approved Unanimously

iv. Agenda Approved

5. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes

a. Motion to Approve Prior Meeting's Minutes

i. Seconded

ii. None Oppose

iii. Approved Unanimously

iv. Minutes Approved

6. Officer Report

a. Updates can be found on the Assembly website, ruassembly.com

7. Legislation

a. An Act to Amend RUSA's Standing Rules

i. The Right Honorable Parliamentarian, Nick Tharney, and The Internal Affairs Committee Chair, Alex Anderson, and other members within Internal Affairs Committee present a bill to amend current rules and other amendments within the standing rules. These changes range from innocuous grammar fixes, to an entire change in committee structure in RUSA as a whole. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.

ii. Move into standard debate procedure

1. Neeharika Thuravil, Busch Campus Senator: FOR

a. Has been in the collective discussion for sometime now and at this point we are all aware of why these amendments are necessary

2. Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair: AGAINST
 - a. Decided to not speak on the bill
 3. Andrew Petryna, Off Campus Representative: FOR
 - a. Yields the balance of his time to discuss these amendments
- iii. Motion by Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair, to consider Eleanor Meli's suggestion to change Amendment 9, in the therefore clause after the "which shall state that", to "All Officers of the Assembly, including Chairs of its Committees, shall be held to the same meeting attendance requirements as members of the Assembly."
1. Seconded
 2. Opposed
 3. Motion to call amendment into question by Jessica Tuazon, Vice President
 - a. Seconded
 - b. Oppose
 - c. Motion is called into question about the motion to call the amendment into question
 - i. For: 40
 - ii. Against: 4
 - iii. Abstain: 0
 - iv. Present: 1
 - v. This motion is now into question
 - d. The motion to the amendement is now called into question
 - i. For: 41
 - ii. Against: 3
 - iii. Abstain: 0
 - iv. Present: 1
 4. Motion to change amendement Approved

- iv. Motion by Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs Chair, to change Amendment 10 to say “on any campus” after the word “Fridays”
 1. Seconded
 2. Oppose
 3. Move into standard debate procedure
 - a. Maya Ravichandran, SAS Senator at Large: FOR
 - i. Will help with accessibility to RUSA and help the student body get better in touch with much easier than it does now
 - b. Jessica Tuazon, Vice President: AGAINST
 - i. Believes that this amendment will make logistics much more challenging as well as one of the duties of office hours is to answer the phone which would not happen if they are spread about.
 - c. Logan Adams, Off Campus at Large Rep: FOR
 - i. This goes beyond as the convenience as us as to members of the body
 - d. Ase Awari, Secretary: AGAINST
 - i. Logistically challenging as well as very vague language as well
 - e. Motion by Ryed Jadun. ASC Rep, to add “determined by the chief of staff” after the “on any campus” amendment addition
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. Opposed
 - iii. Move into standard debate procedure
 1. Jason Yu, RGBA Rep: FOR
 - a. It is a compromise and helps make our lives easier in case we have

classes or not but also holds us
accountable to the Chief of Staff

2. Nicholas Labelle, Cook at large Rep:

AGAINST

a. The Chief of Staff is not a mandatory
position so if no one is in the
position then this amendment
becomes moot

3. Ryed Jadun, ASC Rep: FOR

a. Thinks that if something like this
should be available and can leave it
in a position where accountability is
still held

4. Maya Ravichandran, SAS Senator at Large
Rep: AGAINST

a. Agrees with Ryed to regulate the
office hours and thinks that this
addition to the addition to the
amendment is redundant

v. Motion by Eleanor Meli, Douglass 2021 Rep, to table the amendment
and thus the amendment to the the amendment

1. Seconded

2. Opposed

3. Motion called into question

a. For: 33

b. Against: 11

c. Abstain: 0

d. Present: 0

4. Motion passes and thus the amendment is tabled

vi. Motion by Alex Anderson, Internal Affairs, on behalf of Jhanvi Virani, to add an amendment 15 which will say the following “Article 1, Section 7, add subsection b “An External Representative Caucus shall consist of all external representatives, with the election of the External Representative Caucus Chair taking place at the same time as the election of all Campus Caucus Chairs. All and only external representatives in RUSA may run for the election of Chair, and the Caucus will meet regularly at the same times as the Campus Caucuses.”

1. Seconded
2. Opposed
3. Motion by Nick Tharney to defer the amendment to the Internal Affairs committee
 - a. Seconded
 - b. Opposed
 - c. Motion called into question
 - i. For: 40
 - ii. Against: 4
 - iii. Abstain: 0
 - iv. Present: 0
4. This motion is now deferred to Internal Affairs

vii. Motion by Jason Yu, RGBA Rep, to go into a five minute recess

1. Seconded
2. Opposed
3. Motion called into vote
 - a. For: 13
 - b. Against: 30
 - c. Abstain: 0
 - d. Present: 0
4. Motion does not pass

- viii. Motion by Logan Adams, Off Campus at Large Rep, to call bill into question
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. Opposed
 - 3. Motion called into vote
 - a. [Due to technical difficulties the voting data was not recorded :(]
 - 4. Motion is approved, Bill is now called into question
 - ix. Bill is now called into question
 - 1. For: 39
 - 2. Against: 2
 - 3. Abstain: 0
 - 4. Present: 0
 - x. The Bill has passed and is now legislation.
- b. Resolution Concerning the Student Activities Fee
- i. The Right Honorable Parliamentarian, Nick Tharney, and The President of the Engineering Governing Council, Navruz BLANK, present a bill to call a referendum to the student body and amend rusa's constitution to allow student governing bodies to increase the student fee by less than or equal to 2% annually. The Assembly and members of the public are given an opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.
 - ii. Motion by Ase Awari, Secretary to call a five minute recess
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. Oppose
 - 3. Motion called into a vote
 - a. [Due to technical difficulties the voting data was not recorded :(]
 - 4. Motion passes, the assembly goes into recess

- iii. Motion by Dominique Little, University Affairs Chair, to extend the recess by three minutes
 1. Seconded
 2. None Opposed
 3. Motion called into a vote
 4. Motion passes, the assembly goes into recess
- iv. The Bill moves into standard debate procedure
 1. Andrew Petryna: FOR
 - a. When looking at the \$100,000 surplus that RUSA had last year that is due to necessary funds handed out by allocations, this bill just says that if students provide us the opportunity to increase funding then that is additional funding that can be handed out to them by allocations
 2. Priti, Treasurer: AGAINST
 - a. Has sat on EGC's allocations board as well as RUSA's allocation board, when this bill was written, it is likely it was without student affordability in mind and not only that a lot of students will be voting on behalf of it will have bias to vote with what the person who told them to vote and not with what they want to choose
 3. Nicholas Labelle, Cook at large Rep: FOR
 - a. It is critical to bear in mind affordability and this small increase is less than a dollar for all students but will be a massive increase in overall funding, in addition, it is only a 2% increase which is a very small amount to increase each year and is constant with inflation, thirdly it requires at least 10% of the student body has to vote and even if you do not agree with the vote they still deserve the right to vote on it

4. Dominique Little, University Affairs Chair: AGAINST
 - a. Neither for or against the bill, just critiques that are important, agrees that students should not have to pay to be in a student organization, however, would like to speak to students first before we give them this option to vote on and make sure that they are educated
- v. Motion to call the resolution into question
 - a. Chair calls motion out of order
- vi. Motion by Jessica Tuazon, Vice President, on behalf of Ryed Jadun to postpone legislation to next week and to appear first under the legislation in the agenda and two have four people for the bill and four people against the bill
 1. Seconded
 2. Oppose
 3. Motion called into question
 - a. For: 36
 - b. Against: 4
 - c. Abstain: 1
 - d. Present: 0
- ~~e. Bill to Sponsor the StandardsTV RUSA Town Hall~~
- ~~d. Resolution Concerning the Student Activities Fee~~
- e. Bill to Appropriate Funds to the Replacement of Gender Neutral Restroom Signs at Rutgers University- New Brunswick
 - i. Motion by Jessica Tuazon, Vice President, to suspend the rules and have a 5 minute presentation on each remaining legislation and table them to next week
 1. Seconded
 2. Opposed
 3. Motion called into question

- a. For: 16
- b. Against: 23
- c. Abstain: 1
- d. Present: 0

4. Motion fails, the legislation now moves into presentation

ii. Motion by Nicholas Labelle, Cook at large Rep, would like to move into public sector and adjourn the meeting

- 1. Seconded
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Motion moves into vote

- a. For: 34
- b. Against: 4
- c. Abstain 1
- d. Present: 0

4. Motion passes, we move into public sector

~~8. Advisor Report~~

a.

~~9. External Representatives Report~~

a.

10. Public Sector

a. Jessica Tuazon

i. Can come talk to her about this meeting in case anybody has any questions

b. Alex Anderson

i. The mason gross scandal is important and glad it was brought

c. Nicholas Tharney

i. Having debate is good and encourages everyone to speak to him in order to find out more

d. Andrew Petryna

i. New club on campus called creators about prop creation or make up or etc.

- e. April Nicklaus
 - i. On april 6th there is a statewide student summit on public engagement and there will be a student panel with April as the moderator
- f. Marc Younker
 - i. National black law students and will be hosting their second annual law panel and will have events for networking as well as free food to avaiable
- g. Arrushi Govil
 - i. There is a busch panel there that will be have a fundraising event
- h. Maya Ravichandran
 - i. Hacker RU is this weekend

11. Adjournment

- a. @11:54



RUSA Bill S19-03

Authors: N. Tharney, *Parliamentarian*; A. Anderson, *Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee*; M. Ajaj, *Assemblyman*; A. Awari, *Assemblyman*; R. Jadun, *Assemblyman*; M. Pryzwara, *Assemblyman*; C. Wiltshire, *Assemblywoman*; Z. Zhang, *Assemblyman*

Sponsor: Internal Affairs Committee

An Act to Amend RUSA's Standing Rules

Whereas, the Standing Rules govern the Assembly and its operations, boards, committees, offices, and the actions of their members,

Whereas, the Internal Affairs Committee proposes to the Assembly updates to the Standing Rules from time to time, for the Assembly to consider enacting by a two-thirds vote,

Whereas, the Parliamentarian and IA Committee has ensured an open, transparent, and accessible process by which members of the Assembly and of the public could recommend changes to the Standing Rules and provide feedback on the proposals submitted by others,

Whereas, the Internal Affairs Committee conducted a thorough review of the recommendations and of the appropriate current rules, procedures, and customs of RUSA to be changed and

Whereas, the committee has furnished a thorough report to the Assembly to accompany these proposed changes to aid in the consideration of these proposed amendments by the Assembly's voting representatives and by interested members of the public,

Therefore, be it enacted by two-thirds of the Assembly that the Standing Rules be amended, in that the Assembly —

- 1. Amends** Article XIV to be titled "The Sexual Violence Education Committee"
- 2. Amends** Article XIV, Section 1 to "The Sexual Violence Education Committee shall be a standing committee."
- 3. Amends** Article XIV, Section 2 to:

The Sexual Violence Education Committee shall be charged with:

- a. investigating the policies and practices that affect incidents of sexual violence and how they are investigated and otherwise addressed by the University,
- b. to recommend changes to how the University handles these issues and how the Assembly and the University can increase awareness of sexual violence and ways in which members of the Rutgers community can reduce these incidents, and
- c. to advocate for such initiatives to the wider community.

4. Amends Article XIV to add Section 3, which shall dedicate “This committee shall further work with appropriate departments within Rutgers, including VPVA and the Student Affairs Compliance Department, as well as campus organizations, to further the goals of the committee.”

5. Amends Article XIII to add a new Section 4 to read:

The Physical Health Subcommittee shall be a subcommittee of the Health and Wellness Committee.

- a. The Physical Health Subcommittee is charged with:
 - i. investigating solutions for physical health issues on campus,
 - ii. collaborating with campus organizations and student health centers on physical health initiatives,
 - iii. advocating on behalf of students for ways to improve physical health services on campus, and
 - ix. recommending and implementing policy pertaining to physical health at Rutgers.

6. Amends Article XIII, Section 5 to:

The Mental Health Subcommittee shall be a subcommittee of the Health and Wellness Committee.

- a. The Mental Health Subcommittee is charged with:
 - i. investigating solutions for mental health issues on campus,
 - ii. collaborating with campus organizations on mental health initiatives,
 - iii. advocating on behalf of students for ways to improve mental health services on campus, and
 - ix. recommending and implementing policy pertaining to mental health at Rutgers.

7. Amends Article XIII Section 6 to renumber it as Section 7 and to amend the same to:

The chairs of the subcommittees of this committee shall report on the activities of their respective subcommittees to the committee.

8. Amends Article XIII to add a new Section 6:

The Alcohol and Drugs Subcommittee shall be a subcommittee of the Health and Wellness Committee.

- a. The Alcohol and Drugs Subcommittee is charged with:
 - i. investigating solutions for alcohol and drug related issues on campus,
 - ii. collaborating with campus organizations on alcohol and drug initiatives,
 - iii. advocating on behalf of students for ways to improve alcohol and drug related services on campus, and
 - ix. recommending and implementing policy pertaining to alcohol and drugs at Rutgers.

9. Amends Article XXIII, Section 2 to add subsection 2(l), which shall state that **“All Officers of the Assembly, including Chairs of its Committees, shall be held to the same meeting attendance requirements as members of the Assembly.”**~~All Officers of the Assembly, as defined under Article 15 of these Rules, shall be held to the same meeting attendance requirements as members of the Assembly.”~~

10. Amends Article XXIII, Section 1(a) to “Office hours shall be held between: 8am-8pm, Monday through Fridays.”

11. Amends Article XV, Section 4(e) to “The Secretary shall be required to give an up-to-date report of their activities at each RUSA meeting.”

12. Amends Article XV, Section 4 by removing 4(j) and relettering all of the subsequent subsections, changing each of their corresponding letters to the letter preceding the current letters.

13. Amends Article XVIII, Section 5(f)(ii) to “The Assembly's Public Relations Committee, in consultation with the Secretary of the Allocations Board, is responsible for advertising open positions on the Board two (2) weeks prior to the selection of new members to the Board.”

14. Amends Article I, Section 3 to add subsection c as “An SAS Senate Caucus shall consist of all SAS Senators, with the SAS Senate Leader as the Chair ex officio, shall meet regularly at the same times as the Campus Caucuses.”

15. Amends Article XVIII, Sections 6 - 9 by realigning these sections, inline with section under this Article.

- 16. Amends** Article XXIV to add “.” at the end of Section 4(e).
- 17. Amends** Article I, Section 6(a) to align all of the listed organizations entitled to send special population representatives so that there are no indents after the numbered list items.
- 18. Amends** Article I, Section 6(a) to add “xv. International Student Association” as a subsection thereunder.
- 19. Amends** Article II, Section 11 to read:
- The General Order of Business for RUSA shall be:
- a. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance
 - c. Approval of the Agenda
 - d. Approval of the Minutes
 - e. Invited Speaker
 - f. Old Business
 - g. New Business
 - h. Officer Reports
 - i. Executive Board Reports
 - ii. Committee Reports:
 - I. Core and Standing Committees
 - II. Ad Hoc Committees
 - i. Advisor Report
 - j. Reports of External Representatives
 - k. Public Sector
 - l. Adjournment
- 20. Amends** Article V to add Section 8 to read “The Executive Board shall have the power to draft and propose its own legislation to the Assembly by an excess of a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board; in the event that the vote is exactly two-thirds, it shall be considered a tied vote and resolved accordingly.”
- 21. Amends** Article V to add Section 9, which shall state “The Executive Board may propose changes to legislation which has been submitted by a committee, but which has not yet been introduced on the floor of the Assembly. However, the committees which sponsored the legislation can reject the amendments within a forty-eight hour period after being notified of such amendments. If the sponsoring committee(s) rejects the changes, then the amendments shall be presented to the Assembly upon a proper motion.”

Be it hereby resolved, the above-stated amendments shall become effective immediately upon enactment by two-thirds of the Assembly.

Be it further resolved, with respect to the amendments to the Standing Rules, Article 14 that for the purposes of this and all prior legislation the Sexual Violence Education Committee shall be deemed the successor to the Sexual Violence Education Department and that the first Chair of this committee shall be the Director of the SVE Department, and that the office of Chair of the SVE Committee shall be deemed the successor office to the SVE Department.

Be it further resolved, the current non-authoritative footnote shall be removed on the next iteration of the publication of the standing rules if the fifteenth enumerated section of the first enactment clause of this act is duly enacted by the Assembly by the required two-thirds vote.

Be it finally resolved that the Assembly hereby directs the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee to prepare an updated document with the changes to the Standing Rules and furnish the final document to the Parliamentarian and the Secretary, and that the Secretary of the Assembly shall publish the same on the Assembly's website.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Bill S19-04

Authors: Andrew Petryna; Dominique Little, *University Affairs Chairperson*; Jocelyn Caraballo

Sponsor: University Affairs Committee

Bill to Sponsor the StandardsTV RUSA Town Hall

Whereas, StandardsTV is an online video podcast shedding light on the issues and lifestyle of Black and Brown women on Rutgers Campus, providing a unique and diverse perspective of that student population, and

Whereas, StandardsTV, with the assistance of the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) Public Relations Committee, has planned a panel with various female politicians and students of color to discuss diversity and inclusion within government and politics, and

Whereas, this panel will consist of 8 participants including 4 students, chosen at the discretion of StandardsTV and the RUSA Public Relations Committee, and 4 elected or appointed officials, and

Whereas, Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver, Secretary of Higher Education Zakiya Smith Ellis, and Assemblywomen Britnee N. Timberlake and Sandra B. Cunningham are on the shortlist list of elected officials StandardsTV would like to host, and

Whereas, RUSA represents the entire undergraduate student body on the Rutgers – New Brunswick Campus and seeks to provide a forum for the open expression of student ideas and opinions, and

Whereas, sponsoring such an event would be highly beneficial to RUSA and an excellent opportunity for the student body to hear from important members of the community and government, and

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA will allocate funds directly to the camera crew and for any materials or other services needed for such an event, not in excess of \$400 from the Public Relations Committee Budget,

Be it hereby resolved, the Assembly will host this event during its weekly Thursday meeting on April 4th, 2019, before the regularly scheduled meeting of the Assembly that will take place from 7:00 pm EST to 8:30 pm EST,

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA will use its channels to formally invite elected officials and other community leaders to speak as part of the town hall event.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Resolution S19-05

Authors: Nick Tharney, Navruz Baum

Sponsors: Internal Affairs Committee, Sustainable Governance Ad Hoc Committee

Resolution Concerning the Student Activities Fee

Whereas, the Student Activities Fee (SAF) is a component of every School Fee in undergraduate schools on campus to allow student governments to adequately fund organizations and activities which enhance student life on campus,

Whereas, the current SAF is based in the RUSA Constitution and is a continuation of the student fees assessed through referenda supported by RCGA and the governing boards of affiliated colleges, with administrators allowing student governments to raise fees through referenda,

Whereas, the current SAF under the RUSA Constitution does not allow student governments to easily adjust their own portions of the SAF,

Whereas, the Assembly can technically advocate directly for increases to the SAF, but no process, other than a referendum, is actually provided in the Constitution,

Whereas, the current SAF, which is actively allocated by student governments (\$28.50), has not increased in the decade of RUSA's history, and

Whereas, the number of student organizations supported by the SAF has increased significantly and the SAF has not been adjusted for inflation, thus decreasing the real value of allocated funds, as the SAF in real terms has fallen 19.7% since 2007 when RUSA was created, where the SAF, less direct disbursement, would be \$35.48 today instead of \$28.50 had it been continuously adjusted for inflation,

Whereas, in addition to the decrease in the real value of the SAF, limited increases in the campus fees and increased expenses for operating student centers results in more costs being deferred to student organizations, which in turn, places a further strain on the SAF,

Whereas, it is necessary for the continuation of funded student organizations that a sustainable mechanism be implemented to allow for incremental changes in the SAF to keep pace with inflation,

Therefore, be it resolved by two-thirds of the Assembly that a student referendum shall be held during the Spring 2019 elections in accordance with all applicable procedures under the Constitution and the Standing Rules, where ———

1. The Assembly hereby approves of the following question being posed to the undergraduate student body during the Spring 2019 elections: “Shall RUSA’s Constitution be amended to prohibit increases to the student activities fee beyond 2% per year without referendum, while allowing increases less than or equal to 2% annually to be approved by student governments? (For reference, the current student activities fee allocated by student governments is \$28.50 per full time undergraduate student.)”
2. Each eligible voter shall be able to answer “YES” or “NO” to the above stated question.
3. The following explanatory text shall be placed on each ballot stating: “Student organizations on campus rely on RUSA and other student governments to fund them by allocating student fees. The RUSA Constitution does not currently place restrictions on how much they want to increase student fees; however, most student activities fee changes may have to go through a referendum. Adoption of this proposed amendment would allow each student government to adjust their fees by up to, and including, 2% annually to account for inflation and ensure that the real value of funds allocated to student organizations does not continue to decrease. Any increase above 2% would require a referendum conducted by the student government which wants the increase. RUSA would only be allowed to increase its fee (currently \$28.50 per student) by up to 2%.”
4. The ballot shall contain a link to the proposed text, to the current Constitution, and to a document showing the Constitution with the proposed amendment.

5. If a majority of students voting cast their ballots in the affirmative and at least one tenth of the undergraduate students vote, the RUSA Constitution shall be amended to add at the end of Section 6.04 the following text:

“The Student Activities Fee, after direct disbursements, shall not be increased more than 2% annually by the Assembly without a referendum. The student body authorizes the Assembly and professional school student governments to increase their direct disbursements by no more than 2% of all fees they receive each year without a referendum of the students in that school. Each professional school student government may increase their direct disbursement separately, with referenda or increases coordinated by the student government for that school. Any amount by which RUSA increases the Student Activities Fee shall apply to all students. Any increases initiated by the Assembly must be approved with a two-thirds vote as legislation.”
6. The Elections Committee shall be charged with furnishing a copy of the referendum question on the ballot to the Internal Affairs Committee for approval. The Internal Affairs Committee shall certify the results of the referendum, as required by Article 9 of the RUSA Constitution.
7. The Assembly shall authorize the authors of this legislation to coordinate a presentation on the referendum to student organization leaders and other interested parties.
8. The Allocations Board will record and publish annually the distribution of the fees collected from each school on a per student and per school basis.



RUSA Bill S19-05

Authors: Jhanvi Virani, *Student Affairs (SA) Chairperson*; Jack Andrejco, *Queer Caucus Representative and SA Member*; Grace Daniel, *Busch Caucus Chair and SA Member*; Hira Hussain, *College Ave Caucus Chair and SA Member*; Zain Ahmed, *Off-Campus Caucus Chair and SA Member*

Sponsor: Student Affairs Committee, Queer Caucus, Health and Wellness Committee, University Affairs Committee

Bill to Appropriate Funds to the Replacement of Gender Neutral Restroom Signs at Rutgers University- New Brunswick

Whereas, there are currently 130 single-stall public restrooms at Rutgers University – New Brunswick, and although they are gender neutral, their signs are outdated and/or binary;

Whereas, Rutgers University has been ranked as a Top Twenty Five LGBTQ+ University¹;

Whereas, binary restroom signs insinuate a lack of restroom accommodation for transgender and non-binary students on campus;

Whereas, the Queer Caucus has been working on a project to advocate for the replacement of outdated binary single-stall restroom signs with signs that are gender neutral, which accurately encapsulate the inclusive access these bathrooms are meant to provide;

Whereas, these signs, a picture of which can be accessed at the bottom of this document, have been university approved, and upon buying them for a cost of \$120 each, the Queer Caucus has in place a procedure outlined with Rutgers Facilities to have these signs installed at single-stall public restrooms across campus;

¹ <https://collegeconsensus.com/rankings/best-lgbt-schools/>

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) is dedicated to representing all undergraduate students at Rutgers University – New Brunswick, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality;

Whereas, this project will have a tangible and positive impact on a significant population of Rutgers students, including but not limited to non-binary and transgender students;

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA will partially finance the project to replace the signs on single-stall restrooms on campus with a contribution of \$5,000 from the Other Initiatives budget, which will purchase signs for approximately forty restrooms;

Be it further resolved, RUSA supports advocacy efforts to encourage relevant administrative stakeholders to finance the remainder of this project, including but not limited to University Facilities and the office of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

