



RUSA Agenda March 28th, 2019

7:30pm @ Student Activities Center

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes
5. Meal Swipes for Charity - *each organization shall be permitted up to 7 minutes to present, part of which may be used for Q&A; afterwards, there will be a speakers list of 2 speakers for each organization, each of whom shall be allotted up to 2 minutes in speaking time, and the speakers will alternate in the order of the organizations listed; after a formal debate, there shall be a period of recess for 5 minutes, followed by instant runoff voting, after any other debate or recess period moved and voted upon by the Assembly..*
 - a. RESOLVED, the Assembly hereby selects _____ as the organization to receive the Meal Swipes for Charity designation for the Spring 2019 semester.
 - i. GlobeMed
 - ii. A2E
 - iii. Engineers in Action
6. Officer Report
7. Legislation
 - a. Consent Agenda - *up to 5 minutes of presentation and 5 minutes of Q&A for each piece of legislation; if there are neither amendments nor debate for any legislation, they will be moved before the Assembly by unanimous consent and voted upon immediately; for legislation which sees objections, requests for debate, or amendments, other than those adopted by unanimous consent, they will be considered at the end of the consent agenda.*
 - i. Resolution to Cosponsor Women Organizing Against Harassment's Take Back the Night March
 - ii. Resolution to Endorse Rutgers Student Health Meningitis B Vaccine Clinics

"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."

- b. Bill to Stand in Solidarity with New Zealand.
 - c. Bill to Sponsor to Support the Open and Affordable Textbook Project
- 8. Advisor Report
- 9. External Representatives Report
- 10. Public Sector
- 11. Adjournment



RUSA Resolution S19 - 06

Author(s): Talia Lang, *Women Organizing Against Harassment*

Sponsor(s): Sexual Violence Education Committee

Resolution to Cosponsor Women Organizing Against Harassment's Take

Back the Night March

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,¹

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 49.5% of multiracial women and over 45% of American Indian/Alaskan Native women will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,²

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 44% of lesbian women and 61% of bisexual women will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,³

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 26% of gay men and 37% of bisexual men will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,⁴

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 47% of trans* people will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,⁵

¹ <https://www.nsvrc.org/statistics>

² <https://www.nsvrc.org/statistics>

³ <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community>

⁴ <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community>

⁵ <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community>

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, 65% of trans* American Indians, 59% of trans* multiracial people, 58% of trans* Middle Eastern people, and 53% of trans* Black people will experience sexual violence in their lifetime,⁶

Whereas, research indicates that in the United States, college women are two times more likely to be sexually assaulted than robbed,⁷

Whereas, the number of reported sexual assaults at the Rutgers University – New Brunswick campus has increased from 2015 to 2017,⁸

Whereas, research indicates a strong relationship between sexual assault and poor academic performance – sexual assault survivors suffer academically as a result of their assault,⁹

Whereas, we support sexual violence survivors,

Whereas, our duty to our constituents compels us to advocate for student concerns about the pressing issue of sexual violence prevention, and

Whereas, Women Organizing Against Harassment’s (WOAH) Take Back the Night march, an annual, global march against sexual- and gender-based violence, will be April 24th from 7-10pm, starting at Carpender Hall on Douglass campus and ending at Scott Hall on College Avenue campus;

Be it hereby resolved, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) will co-sponsor WOAH’s Take Back the Night march and grants permission for the use of its logo on the Take Back the Night banner,

⁶ <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community>

⁷ <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence>

⁸ https://ipo.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/RU-New_Brunswick_Crime_Stats_0.pdf

⁹ <https://psychology.as.uky.edu/sexual-assault-can-inhibit-student-success>

Be it further resolved, to aid in WOAHA's efforts during the Take Back the Night march, RUSA will create a social media campaign for Take Back the Night that posts advertisements for the event (advertisements created by Women Organizing Against Harassment) to our social media,; and

Be it further resolved, at least twenty members of RUSA will attend the Take Back the Night march.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Bill S19 - 04

Authors: Alexandra Anderson, Amna Ahmed

Sponsor: Internal Affairs, Public Relations

Bill to Stand in Solidarity with New Zealand

Whereas, the Rutgers community prides itself on its diversity of culture, religion, thought, and global community, and,

Whereas, an attack in Christchurch, New Zealand at Linwood Mosque and Al Noor Mosque during Jummah killed 50 people and injured more, and,

Whereas, members of the Rutgers community were personally affected by these terrorist attacks, and

Whereas, Rutgers has a large, prideful, and strong Muslim community, and

Whereas, RUSA represents the entire undergraduate student body on the Rutgers – New Brunswick Campus, and

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA stands in solidarity with New Zealand and the Muslim communities around the world,

Be it further resolved, that RUSA supports peace and condemns Islamophobia in all its forms.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Resolution S19 - 07

Authors: Hinita Patel, Emily Kane, Monsef Oukil

Sponsors: Health and Wellness Committee, Public Relations Committee

Resolution to Endorse Rutgers Student Health Meningitis B Vaccine Clinics

Whereas, meningococcal disease is one of the most common types of bacterial meningitis and it is a life-threatening bacterial infection of the brain and spinal cord lining or of the bloodstream,¹⁰

Whereas, 50+ college campuses have reported cases of meningococcal disease (2013-March 2019), including 29 schools with MenB cases since 2008 and specifically, Meningitis B accounts for: 50% of all meningococcal disease cases among 17-22 year olds and 100% of all meningococcal disease outbreaks on college campuses in the U.S. since 2011,¹¹

Whereas, in response to the recent serogroup B meningococcal infections in two undergraduate students, all Rutgers University – New Brunswick undergraduate students, regardless of whether or not they live in campus housing, are strongly recommended to receive the serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine,¹²

Whereas, Rutgers Student Health is having free on-campus MenB vaccination clinics with Bexsero and Trumenba, which are the two vaccines that provide protection against MenB, open to all undergraduate Rutgers students from 12-8 p.m. on April 2nd in the College Ave Student Center (Multipurpose Room/Main Lounge), April 3rd in the College Ave Gym, April 8th in the Livingston Student Center (Multipurpose Room/Concourse), April 9th in the Cook Student Center (Multipurpose Room/Hallway), May 2nd in the College Ave Gym, May 6th in the College Ave Student Center (Multipurpose Room/Main Lounge), May 7th in the Livingston

¹⁰ <https://meningitisbactionproject.org/about-meningitis>

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² <http://health.rutgers.edu/meningitis/information-for-undergraduate-students-meningitis-b-health-advisory/>

Student Center (2nd floor rooms 201, 202, 2nd floor lounge and the Board Room), and May 8th in the Cook Student Center (2nd floor room 202 and the 2nd floor lounge),

Whereas, it is important that all students at Rutgers University – New Brunswick are aware of the benefits of services offered by Rutgers Student Health, and

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) believes in protecting the health of students and our Rutgers community, as a whole,

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA supports the MenB vaccine clinics, and the Public Relations Committee will advertise the information provided by Rutgers Student Health regarding meningitis B and the vaccine clinics through social media platforms.

Be it further resolved, that the Public Relations Committee and the Health and Wellness Committee will host a Physical Health tabling event in April in response to the MenB outbreak, during which we will promote renewals of vaccinations and provide resources for on-campus wellness centers.

RUSA President

Date



RUSA Bill S19-05

Authors: Priti Kantesaria, *Treasurer*; Aneesh Deshpande, *Academic Affairs Chairperson*; Lily Todorinova, *Rutgers Libraries*

Sponsor: Academic Affairs Committee

Co-Sponsor: New Jersey Public Interest Research Group

Bill to Sponsor to Support the Open and Affordable Textbook Project

Whereas, the rising cost of college textbooks has caused sixty-five percent of students across America to skip purchasing required textbooks for courses,¹³

Whereas, nearly 50 percent of students surveyed nationally said that the cost of textbooks affected which/how many classes they took each semester,¹⁴

Whereas, 82 percent of students surveyed nationally believe that “hard-copy optional and free online alternatives to the traditional textbooks would improve their performance.”¹⁵

Whereas, the average Rutgers student spends over \$1,350 on textbooks each year,¹⁶ which is \$110 per year greater than the national average,¹⁷

Whereas, the Open and Affordable Textbooks (OAT) Project by Rutgers University Libraries offers \$1,000 grants to Rutgers faculty and instructors who choose to use, remix, or create a free or low-cost textbook, as opposed to using traditional course materials,¹⁸ and

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly has previously endorsed OAT.¹⁹

Be it hereby resolved, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) endorses the Open and Affordable Textbooks Project.

¹³ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/whats-behind-the-soaring-cost-of-college-textbooks/>

¹⁴ <https://uspirg.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/NATIONAL%20Fixing%20Broken%20Textbooks%20Report1.pdf>

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/cost-of-attendance/rutgers-2/>

¹⁷ <https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-2018-19>

¹⁸ <https://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/open-textbooks>

¹⁹ [RUSA Resolution: S171802](#)

Be it hereby resolved, RUSA’s Academic Affairs Committee will be charged with investigating the possibility of allocating \$5,000 from the “Other Initiatives” operating budget line item to the Rutgers University Libraries Open and Affordable Textbooks Project to fund 5 additional grants and will do so, if possible.

Be it further resolved that the Assembly’s authorization for conditional expenditure as set forth in the previous operative clause of this legislation shall expire upon the adoption of the next Assembly Session’s internal budget, but this provision shall not preclude the Assembly from reconsidering this expenditure.

Be it hereby resolved, the RUSA will promote the OAT program through social media.

RUSA President

Date