



RUSA Resolution S19-10

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Sponsor: Sustainable Governance Ad Hoc Committee

Resolution to Act on the Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainable Governance

Whereas, the initial purpose of the Sustainable Governance committee was to explore alternative structures for student governance at Rutgers University — New Brunswick and to collaborate with stakeholders groups from within the University;

Whereas, the ad hoc committee was created with the following guidelines:

1. To evaluate pre-existing student government structures at the University,
2. To research structures at other Big Ten institutions and compile a list of desirable features,
3. To have as diverse of a membership, as possible, from as many stakeholder groups from within the University,
4. To prepare a list of recommendations resulting from discussion and debate within the ad hoc committee,
5. To prime the conversation with stakeholders prior to the Student Government Summit for collaboration and openness to new ideas, and
6. To moderate debate and conversation between stakeholders to promote compromise and collaboration;

Whereas, the natural direction the committee took placed a strong emphasis on collective bargaining and collaboration;

Whereas, Presidents of all undergraduate student governments at Rutgers University — New Brunswick — including the Engineering Governing Council (EGC), the SEBS Governing Council (SGC), the Pharmacy Governing Council (PGC), the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA), the Mason Gross Student Governing Association (MGSGA), the Rutgers Business Governing Association (RBGA), and the Douglass Governing Council (DGC) — were consulted and/or communicated with throughout the duration of the committee;

Whereas, the collaboration between all stakeholders was extremely efficient and beneficial in fostering general goodwill and an active working relationship;

Be it hereby resolved, the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA) shall adopt the following recommendations based on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainable Governance:

1. The Assembly supports the creation of a “Presidents Council” to consist of the Presidents and one additional member of all of the undergraduate student governments on campus.
 - a. The additional member for RUSA shall be the Vice President, except for instances in which either the RUSA President or Vice President will not be in attendance; in such a case, the President may appoint another voting member of the Assembly, or of the Executive Board, to serve in the interim.
 - b. The Assembly encourages the Presidents Council to meet on a monthly basis, beginning after the RUSA Spring Reorganizational Meeting and meeting during the next academic year, with the first meeting being organized by RUSA and each subsequent meeting being organized by a student government, cycling: first with RUSA then each student government in alphabetical order.
 - c. The Presidents Council shall be encouraged to discuss ongoing initiatives, pertinent issues on campus, challenges to student governance, and best practices.

- d. The Assembly encourages the Presidents Council to be transparent and publish a record of their proceedings from time to time and make the same available to other members of undergraduate student government.
 - e. The Assembly shall refer to the Internal Affairs Committee the matter of examining whether or not the Presidents Council should be a permanent fixture as an inter-governmental body and whether or not RUSA's participation should be mandated under the Standing Rules.
2. The Assembly shall organize a "Student Government Symposium" consisting of all of the undergraduate student governments at Rutgers University — New Brunswick which allocate the Student Activities Fee.
 - a. All executive offices of each student government, including chairs of standing and ad hoc committees, shall be invited to attend the Symposium.
 - b. The Symposium shall be organized on a date which is amicable to most student governments and held within the first two months of the Fall Semester.
 - c. The Symposium shall serve as a forum to discuss ongoing and new initiatives, challenges in student governance, and best practices.
3. The Assembly shall support the creation of an Executive Directory, to consist of the contact information for all executive offices of all student governments.
 - a. The Secretary of the Assembly shall be tasked with including the RUSA email accounts for all of the Chairs of Standing Committees and other Officers of the Assembly, along with the Chair of the RUSA Allocations Board.
 - b. The Assembly encourages the dissemination of this list, once completed, to all members of student government.
 - c. The Secretary shall be tasked with updating the names of RUSA's Executive Board members after the Spring 2019 Reorganizational Meetings and throughout the year, as may be necessary.
4. The Assembly shall support the implementation of an additional monthly meeting attended by the undergraduate members of the University Senate's Student Caucus during

months in which the Senate is scheduled to meet; adjacent to the release of the next Senate meeting agenda.

- a. The Assembly shall encourage all of the Student Senators from the School of Arts and Sciences to attend the meeting in order to review the business scheduled for the Senate meetings.
- b. The Assembly shall support the efforts of the other student governments to send their University Senators to the additional Caucus meetings.
- c. The Assembly shall direct the Secretary to inform all of the participating student governments of the times and dates for which the Caucus meetings shall be scheduled.
- d. The Assembly shall refer to the Internal Affairs Committee the matter of examining whether the additional Student Caucus meetings should become a permanent fixture and whether or not attendance by RUSA Senators should be mandated. The Assembly further encourages other student governments to do the same.

RUSA President

Date