12/01/2021 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 12/01/2021]

**Meeting called to order on [12/01] at [1:00pm] in Alumni Lounges.**

# **Roll Call**

* 1. President Anjali Patel
  2. Vice President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya (Absent - Excused)
  3. Secretary Janea Tozer-Murphy
  4. Treasurer Victoria Columna
  5. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro
  6. Secretary of Academic Affairs Nataly Merino
  7. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy
  8. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Ciara Luciano
  9. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Cristina Navarette Carpizo
  10. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Danny Vazquez (Late - Excused)
  11. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak
  12. Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black
  13. Secretary of Public Relations Samantha Zinni
  14. Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni
  15. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo
  16. Executive Panelist John Waite
  17. Legislative Panelist Leah Berlinger (Late - excused)
  18. Senate President Helen Witte
  19. Senate Vice President Kimberly Santana
  20. Senate Secretary Victoria Sepero (Absent)
  21. ASB School Senator: Chris Vedra (Absent)
  22. CA School Senator: Grace Velarde
  23. HGS School Senator: Rachel Schmidt
  24. SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez
  25. TAS School Senator: Serina Sajjad
  26. Senator Sannia Balgahoom
  27. Senator Kristina Hollosi
  28. Senator Cindy Lam (Absent - Excused)
  29. Senator Aime Lara
  30. Senator Misha Mathai
  31. Senator Mariam Tinawi
  32. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
  33. Senator Rylie Klain
  34. Senator Connor Sweeny
  35. Senator Senator Rojja Kharel
  36. Senator Bella Apgar
  37. Senator Shanel Lopez
  38. Student Governor Rohan Dhote ( Absent - Excused)
  39. Alternate Student Governor Nazli Tiyaloglu (Naz) (absent0
  40. Student Trustee Alexis Meneses
  41. Alternate Student Trustee Jakub Zak
      1. Present:
      2. Late:
      3. Excused:
         1. Senator Cindy Lam
         2. Student Governor Rohan Dhote
         3. Vice President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
         4. ASB School Senator: Chris Vedra
         5. Senate Secretary Victoria Sepero
      4. Absent Unexcused:
         1. Senator Mariam Tinawi
         2. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
         3. Secretary of Academic Affairs Nataly Merino
         4. Executive Panelist John Waite
         5. TAS School Senator: Serina Sajjad
         6. Senator Connor Sweeny
         7. Senator Shanel Lopez
         8. Alternate Student Trustee Jakub Zak

1. **Mission Statement** (read by Secretary Tozer-Murphy)

*The Ramapo College Student Government Association serves as the persistent voice of the student body. While representing the student body and the ideals of Ramapo College of New Jersey, the Student Government Association, through unity in diversity, embraces student leadership in all forms.*

# **Approving Minute Meetings**

* 1. Minutes from 11/17/21
     1. Moved my Senate VP Kimberly Santana
     2. Seconded by Senator Rylie Klain
     3. Vote 11-0-1
        1. Minutes Approved.

# 

# **President's Announcements**

* 1. 11/18 President Jebb Meeting Updates
     1. Thinking of having Chief-of-Staff Brittany Goldstein come in to General next semester to explain future series and its importance
     2. Slow weekend life concern brought up to President Jebb; suggests surveying students
     3. Late night dining concern brought up to President Jebb; can possibly pilot for 1-2 weeks next semester.
     4. Will look at common hour for future calendars
        1. Point of Clarification by Dr. Brown: Is this in addition to MWR common hours or what do you mean?
           1. Talking about more of a standard common hour like we used to. We see some time conflicts with the way it is now and not seeing as much engagement. Bringing this back might make things work better.
        2. Dr. Brown: We have times that are considered common hours so can you clarify?
           1. We didn’t talk about specific hours and days but we think that what we have right now is not enough so we’re trying to adjust that in the future. We didn’t go too in depth but it;s just an idea.
        3. Dr. Brown: Do people understand that we’re supposed to have MR 1-2:15pm and Wednesday afternoons are considered common hours. Is there confusion?
           1. I don’t think it’s confusing but it’s just different.
        4. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak: Are we looking for a structured thing to happen or are there classes happening right now during common hours?
           1. Yes. Classes are a part of it. Not looking to have events in place but more flexibility in time in general. Just an idea.
        5. Dean Van Der Wall: I started here 17 years ago and we had a common hour M-F. One positive element of changing it was the backup in food services. During that one hours it was very congested and difficult student experience to get food. When we changed it it improved the student experience in dining. Something to keep in mind.
  2. Presidential Future Series
     1. Events now and next semester where we have opportunities with students, faculty, staff, and administration to spend time together to discuss our strategic plan which outlines the mission of the college and our future priorities.
     2. Other SGA rep for the roundtable tomorrow will be Secretary of Sustainability Bongiovanni.
     3. Next Main Future Series Session: tomorrow, 1 - 2:15PM, Trustees Pavilion
        1. For more info & RSVP form: [**https://www.ramapo.edu/president/stratplan/**](https://www.ramapo.edu/president/stratplan/)
  3. PAT Meeting Updates
     1. Talked about the Omicron variant - the takeaway is that right now is too soon to say. There are more unknowns than known. Same case in other NJ institutions. For this semester we are continuing business as is.
  4. SGA Training (**Required**) - [**Fill in Roster**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QCU5wB5mSVAi3GJZTUxcLId7jiTsNizGuHaJ70HPB7Y/edit#gid=0), need list by Dec. 15
     1. Early Move In (for residents): Friday 1/14, 8 - 10 pm.
        1. Indicate whether you are a resident or commuter and put your housing assignment in the roster.
     2. Training: 1/15 - 1/17 (PLEASE PLAN TO BE FREE THIS WHOLE WEEKEND)
        1. Focusing more on team building and we are looking to do some type of retreat or outing. Please plan to be free for all of those things.
  5. Reminders
     1. General on 12/8: we will have PAT, Chief Sprague (will be discussing results from lighting survey), and President Jebb in attendance
        1. Public Safety Lighting Survey tonight from 5-6:30 pm
        2. FA Meeting this Week (Rep is VP Paolo Miyashiro)
        3. Themes/Topics for PAT to address next wednesday?
           1. Guest policy
           2. Booster shot
           3. Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni: Discussing if having takeout boxes always available would help with social distancing.
           4. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak: Can we organize a flu shot clinic?

President Anjali: We do offer that. Will forward an email about that.

* + - 1. Comment by Dr. Brown: Discussion about not having off-campus people come to the snowball. Is that something you all are thinking about? If so, discuss it with CPB and some advisors. Please respond to Eddie’s email when you get a chance.

President Anjali: Personally I feel like it’s too late for that change.

* + - 1. Point of Inquiry by Senate President Helen Witte: In NYC you have to show a vaccine card to enter everywhere, can we do that for this dance for all students who are not Ramapo Students? We do that for the Berrie center shows already.
         1. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo: I had already asked that and we are not allowed to request that by members. Visitors have to fill out a visitor form.
         2. Dr Brown: These are great things to think about but there’s so much that’s involved with it.
      2. Point of Information / Comment by Senate VP Kimberly Santana: What are the logistics of it that visitors form that people are not lying. How can we ensure that people are telling the truth and actually filling out the visitor form? The student body is not aware of the full information that we’re getting. If I was not in SGA I would not know how things are getting abused or can get abused. It shouldn’t be a hush-hush thing because it’s starting to feel that way.
         1. Dr. Brown: What feels that way?

Senate VP Santana: Discussion about how we would not know how the process is blind faith. For example: people having masks and not being told if they’ve been exposed ot covid, of people not filling out visitor forms or lying.

Dean Van Der Wall: You’re making very good points that fall into two categories. (1) The idea of social responsibility for everybody. That’s a great point because we need to trust that we’re all engaging in our operational plan with good faith. (2) The idea of hush-hush is that you and your peers don’t feel like you’re getting transparent information from us. I encourage you to bring this up. These are elements that are really important to me but we need a remedy and solution and I want to work together with you to hear exactly what your concerns are. If we need an emergency meeting I would want to do that.

Senate VP Kimberly Santana: I want to clarify this is not toward Anjali. It’s more that the student body is not told a lot of information. Some people are at fault of dismissing it but a lot of students do have faith in the PAT.

If there are elements that students feel are not being communicated by the team I want that feedback.

* + - * 1. Dr. Brown: Don’t wait until the PAT comes on 12/8 to bring things up.
        2. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo: Paolo is CPB President and Avery, Me, and Leah are on eboard of CPB. For the college visitor registration from there is not a requirement for people to be vaccinated.
        3. Point of Clarification by Senate President Witte: This regards the new variant which is why it has not been discussed since recently.
        4. Point of Clarification by Senate VP Santana: The reason it was brought up during the senate meeting was because we were discussing food and people taking their masks off. Having guests come where we don’t know if they have vaccines and knowing that they won’t be wearing masks the whole time is why it is now brought up because of the new variant.
      1. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak: I personally was the one who brought up a couple things in the SGA Group Chat about ideas in response to the new variant. I personally don’t think the event on Saturday should be changed in any way given that even with restrictions I lean on the side of not impacting the student body as best as we can. Considering the nature of the event which is a makeup opportunity, I think restricting it for something that we don’t know the threat of would be arbitrary. The larger issue is what our policy is on vaccines and guests. The Ramapo corral is having a concert on Sunday and they are requiring vaccine cards. I don’t think any higher permission was obtained. It’s off campus so I’m not sure if that has anything to do with it. Do we have a policy when it comes to vaccine cards? Is that allowed? Having these policies set up now is important. While I believe that clubs and organizations should make their own call, I don't think that one organization should be able to do whatever they want. Looking at the policy should be where we focus our attention. If people are uncomfortable they should consider not going.
      2. Jack Nesmith: Thanks for sharing. As the SGA Senate Advisor and Advisor for CPB we can get together and discuss these things. There is something we can do as a CPB team whether it’s safety precautions or reminders for people attending. We want to make sure that we follow all guidelines but also that people are welcome. If you have concerns please bring them up. Even though it’s too late to change that policy I know that the visitor registration form has COVID questions. I will assure you that CPB and SGA will try to make this as safe of an environment as possible within our control. Keep thinking about that, take some notes, and talk to me.
      3. Senator Rojja Kharel: I understand that we can not change Saturday but I think we should address having non-Ramapo students show their vaccine card. With the history of covid we know that taking action early is important.
      4. SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez: I think it’s important to acknowledge that we also have students on campus who are not vaccinated. They are required to be tested every week. Maybe that’s something that can be added to the guest policy that they need to show that they’ve had a recent negative covid test for large events on campus.
      5. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Cristina Navarette Carpizo: I work for CSS with students who are immunocompromised. According to Ramapo you have to get tested, prove that it was PCR, and that you are negative in order to come to the Ramapo Campus. I don’t see students using good faith and using masks in residence halls or dining halls. I don’t think that simply depending on good faith is enough.
      6. Senator Kristina Hollosi: Too late to change anything on Saturday but we should keep talking about it even for next semester. People do know that there will be food there and there will be non-Ramapo students at the event. That information is available on posters and social media. If someone is concerned about that they would be able to make their own decision regarding that.
      7. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak: I believe that everyone can make the decision for themselves and knows what to expect when going to events on campus. At the end of the day everyone has to make their own decisions for themselves but there is a risk in what you do. Trying to restrict or out policy-make the people that you don’t agree with is not a realistic expectation. We can always discuss policies and revisions but at the end of the day we have to make our own decisions.
      8. VP Paolo Miyashiro: I want to make everyone aware and remind everyone of the COVID-19 Dashboard. It tells you things regarding policies and procedures, number of cases, isolation, etc. We have done on campus testing since August 27th. Only 8 tests have been positive. Total cases have been just shy of 100 since august. We have been doing pretty well but we don’t want to get into a frenzy yet. Keep our heads and keep moving on with our mission. If you have any questions you can refer to that.
         1. [**Here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/health/coronavirus-covid-19/dashboards/) is the COVID-19 Dashboard.
    1. President Patel: There is a reason why we asked to meet with others for the PAT. I am a direct pipeline to these members of administration and we do work for you guys for the students. If you do have big things to ask please let me know and we can bring them up.
    2. Wellness!
       1. Take care of yourselves physically.

# **Cabinet Reports**

* 1. Vice President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
     1. Volunteers Needed for CPB’s Snow Ball, please visit [**this signup sheet**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NTTXIEitl7Et0MLHAIKfMesE1Qd1K-siUrvXR0pLTEs/edit?usp=sharing)
     2. Please direct anyone that wants to start a club to [SGAClubs@ramapo.edu](mailto:SGAClubs@ramapo.edu)
        1. No Club Process meeting this week - maybe next week.
     3. Constitution and Bylaws meeting - setting up a meeting to discuss edits to be brought back to senate for a vote when we come back in January.
  2. Secretary Janea Tozer-Murphy
     1. No updates.
     2. Please fill out this [**form**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdD50qXar2FkBsW1uwwctmgS342Rx57BftWSZD5AEkckxa5EA/viewform?usp=sf_link) if you plan on being late or absent to any general, cabinet, or eboard meetings.
     3. Please update this [**roster**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QCU5wB5mSVAi3GJZTUxcLId7jiTsNizGuHaJ70HPB7Y/edit?usp=sharing) if you have not yet already.
  3. Treasurer Victoria Columna
     1. No Updates.
  4. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro
     1. Working on the SGA website.
     2. Donation Day - Follow up meeting with Dylan and Kate this friday 12/3 at 12pm. Also invited Misha. Discussing Donation Day comments, questions, etc. Planning this for next semester. Debbie is a Nurse practitioner on campus and has sent blood drive dates. If anyone would like to help out we’ll give more information soon. Possibly in April. [acangro@ramapo.edu](mailto:acangro@ramapo.edu)
     3. Comment by Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni: When is the next cabinet report due?
        1. December 13th.
  5. Secretary of Academic Affairs Nataly Merino
     1. Absent
  6. Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black
     1. Sam and I have made the decision not to go to Programming and PR COmmittee meetings this and next week. Not that much going on and we are preparing for finals. If you have anything concerning programming you can email me [eblack2@ramapo.edu](mailto:eblack2@ramapo.edu)
     2. Working on Spring events. One of them is Donation Day. Also thinking of doing ‘Pos Got Talent in the Spring.
     3. Any ideas for Spring 2022? Message Elizabeth.
  7. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Cristina Navarette Carpizo
     1. Dining Services
        1. Sent emails to organizations. Naach said they’ll make a google doc. BSU is getting back to me. I’m doing my own research of cultural recipes that I know that I can send to dining services so they get an idea of what the Student Body would want for food to be offered to them.
           1. Senate VP Santana: For dining services I suggest working with Rylie since she’s a liaison for dining services. [rklain@ramapo.edu](mailto:rklain@ramapo.edu)
     2. Programming
        1. Working with CPB so we can meet to make more diverse programming.
  8. Secretary of Public Relations Samantha Zinni
     1. No Thursday takeover tomorrow. I can repost things but not post my own content since my instagram got banned. Working on fixing it.
     2. Doing a finals bulletin board at some point.
  9. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Danny Vazquez
     1. Absent
  10. Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni
      1. Certification task Force:
         1. Two meetings this friday. For people to discuss what steps we need to take to get a fair trade certification. Bill will be shaped around that discussion. One is at 11am and one at 1pm. In ASB332 or on webex.
      2. Compost Program Bill:
         1. Working on that now and discussing what’s feasible on Tuesday 12/7.
      3. The Green Graphic Design team is working on our poster board. There will be a graphic on research comparing sustainability of real vs fake christmas trees.
  11. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy
      1. Had 3 winners for counting jar contests. There were 260 candy canes.
      2. Two events coming up:
         1. Throwback dessert day tomorrow 12/2 in J.Lees at 1pm.
         2. Reading Day 12/14 - winter gift bags in J.Lees
  12. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Ciara Luciano
      1. Delegate Mentor Program: I have included questions for senators to answer while in the meetings and given virtual meeting options. Sent form to Helen before the break.
         1. Senate President Witte: Some people contacted me in regards to being mentored for the delegate program. If it was you, can you please remind me.
  13. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak
      1. Working on 5 letters. Two going to congressmen about what we’d like to see with the ALYSSA act as we agreed upon.
      2. Writing other letters to Senators and Assemblymen to congratulate them on their reelection. Outlining our priorities for the next legislative session. In the process of writing a letter to Governor Murphy’s team congratulating him for this reelection and outlining our priorities. My goal is to have these by next week.
      3. Speaking with Professor O’Connor about RCNJ at the state house. Said is in progress for Spring Semester.
  14. Student Trustee Alexis Meneses (Speaking on behalf of Alternate Student Trustee Jakub Zak)
      1. Jakub - Had a meeting with a task force for course delivery modes. The point of the task force is determining whether to keep the virtual aspect in the future or return to pre-pandemic course delivery modes. If you have any ideas please let me know. Most of the students I’ve spoken with want in person learning. I’ll update you as we have more meetings.
  15. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo (Speaking on behalf of Executive Panelist John Waite and Legislative Panelist Leah Berlinger)
      1. No Updates.
      2. Working on evaluating bylaws.
  16. Student Governor Rohan Dhote (Speaking on behalf of Alternate Student Governor Nazli Tiyaloglu (Naz)
      1. Rohan - Absent

# **New Business**

* 1. President Patel:
     1. Learning Commons SGA Plaque. The three prices for the plaque are $250, $500, $1000. [**Here**](https://4agc.com/commerce_pages/ca13c085-d144-4e54-9e7d-19658686dac5) is a link to view the prices.
        1. I feel like it would make sense for us to decide whether to get a plaque, which one we want to go for, etc.
        2. Vote:
           1. $250 (0 votes)
           2. **$500 (15 votes) - most voted for in informal vote with entire SGA.**
           3. $1000 (13 votes)
        3. Clubs and organizations have gotten the $500 and $1000
        4. Point of Inquiry by Senator Rojja:
           1. It would say Student Government Association ‘21-’22
        5. Point of Inquiry by Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak:
           1. Do others get the same budget as we do or we get more?

We have the largest student budget on campus.

* + - * 1. What have other organizations done?

$500 or $1000

* + - 1. Motion entertained by President Patel to pull $500 from Contingency Budget to purchase an ambassador level plaque for the Learning Commons:
         1. Moved by Senate VP Santana
         2. Seconded by: Senator Schmidt
         3. Vote: 11-0-0
         4. Motion Passed.

I will be in touch with Victoria Columna about purchasing.

* + 1. Presidential Coin Contest Submission Progress
       1. Need updates from Grace.
       2. CA School Senator: Grace Velarde: I designed the coin. It’s a PDF. Will send in groupme. You can also view the design linked [**here**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XmDa2abC_vGB5iBOeCzHSwG8lP7sznmh/view?usp=sharing).
       3. Request: Change the Jebby part and just say Presidential Coin.
  1. Discussion about Omicron variant and ideas for future - Danny Gurniak

# **Public Comment**

* 1. Anne Eke:
     1. Something came up about face coverings. We do have a face covering policy for students. We have been getting referrals to the office of student conduct and we have been addressing them.
        1. [**Here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/student-conduct/face-covering-policy-for-students/) is a link to information on that.
     2. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo: CPB is meeting with Jack today to discuss anything we can introduce. If anyone has any final points please come up to me or DM me through groupme. So we can make sure everyone feels as safe as possible.

# **Open Forum**

* 1. Report from last FA Meeting on November 3rd - [Leah Berlinger](mailto:lberling@ramapo.edu)
     1. The nursing program and faculty’s third quarter pass rates were the highest in the state. Task force in Spring 2022 will be pre-pandemic operations. Not sure if that will be upheld at this point. Going back to normal where less than 10% of classes will be held online. Students are not allowed to not come to campus. Leave of absence on behalf of students is not allowed - Professors have the option to NOT excuse students. Planning to start early class registration by April.
  2. Report from today’s FA Meeting on December 1st - Paolo Miyashiro
     1. Just there today and there was a wrap up for the Fall Semester. President Jebb spoke thanking faculty. Provost did the same. Mentioned different goals and focuses they have with regards to faculty and state funding, future series, course delivery mode task force, etc. There will also soon be a part-time professional tutor within the Center for Reading and Writing.
     2. Also did elections for new FA President.
     3. Point of Inquiry by Senate President Witte: Who is the new FA President?
        1. Not finalized yet but Ken McMurdy in TAS was the only person who presented themselves.
     4. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Cristina Navarette Carpizo: Is this tutoring a walk-in appointment?
        1. Still in the process of deciding. Students in those areas will get more information as needed.
  3. Need volunteers for our co sponsorship with Brothers Making a Difference for She Appreciation event
     1. Form is linked [**here**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Shae_gxqb3jX8PEHs03gp3xYGATVKZNoeiDpLxkfvM4/edit?usp=sharing) to volunteer for that.
     2. On Friday 11/2 from 8:30pm-11:30pm in the Pavilion.
        1. Dr. Brown: I strongly suggest when events that we are co-sponsoring events where we want volunteers that you never vote yes unless you’re absolutely certain that you’ll be able to have volunteers.
        2. VP Paolo: Because the vote happened we need some volunteers. It would be a bad look if not. Please consider volunteering.
        3. President Patel: Ciara can you ask the delegates?
           1. I’ll mention it in the groupchat.
     3. Point of Personal Privilege by Dr. Brown: In the past SGA’s have looked at the events and decide amongst ourselves to show up at an event together to show support. That would avoid having to scramble for things like this. I would hope that you all would think about it as getting out there, meeting other student leaders on campus, and as showing support as an SGA.
  4. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro: CPB understands that there is a concern for snowball dance being this saturday. As of right now we are still planning to have it. What if SGA introduces a Spring Formal? Thought, comments, questions, etc?
     1. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo: We wanted to gauge your interest in working on a Spring Formal.
        1. Senate President Witte: I think it’s a good idea.
        2. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak: I think we should gauge student interest to see what types of events they want to see on campus. I’m not sure how other schools do it but I think we need to gauge student interest as a whole. I personally think it’s a good idea. Other ideas would be tailgating and things like that to get a more vibrant on-campus life. The SGA should find out what the students want and how we can populate the events.
        3. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy: Is it formal or semi-formal?
           1. Whatever SGA wants.
        4. President Patel: I really encourage all of you to be there if you feel comfortable and safe. In the SGA we have been pushing for a homecoming for a couple of years. The money is going towards student scholarships. We combine with CPB to make this a big thing - especially for underclassmen. Also offering community service hours for Greek life members. This was an idea that I had in my first term. It’d be cool to see SGA members attend. Tell your friends and get the word out.
  5. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak:
     1. One of the Senior Sociology majors did his capstone project on the sociological issue of male-dentified students not attending college with a high enrollment rate. That rate has been steadily decreasing in the past few years. Ramapo has a 40-60 percent ratio of male to female. This is an issue across the country that we are seeing on our campus. I assisted with this capstone project where students were surveyed on and off campus. One of the things that came of it is that many male students do not feel comfortable on college campuses. That is true for here as well. Some of it is with the education system as a whole, the welcoming and inclusivity of male students on campus being lacking, and the political climate with gender disparities. With the EDIC office this is something that we should look at. It’s something we can lead in and I think it’s important. One thing that came up from the finding is that male students within different populations feel that one simple fix is that the LGBTQ center on campus is run by the Women’s Center. One student feels unwelcome and uncomfortable as someone who is male-identified and going to the women's center for services. A lot of schools haven’t looked at this issue and it’s a big issue.
        1. President Patel: Thanks for sharing that. I suggest working with Cristina and Marie Attis and Kat McGee through Misha. Having a discussion with them can help us see what we can do about this. [cnavarre@ramapo.edu](mailto:cnavarre@ramapo.edu)
  6. Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni
     1. Rachel and I are working on a bill where students who have leftover flex dollars can donate their leftover flex adn students who are food insecure can access that fund and use it. Setting up a meeting with a dining services rep. Any advice?
        1. Senate VP Kimberly: If you’re doing it with dining service, reach out to Rylie Klain. [rklain@ramapo.edu](mailto:rklain@ramapo.edu)
        2. Dr. Brown: A lot of it has to do with the contract between us and Sodexo.
        3. Secretary Tozer-Murphy: Can we recommend or advertise for students to use their leftover flex to purchase things from the C-Store and donate them?
           1. Good idea.
        4. Senate President Witte: Is there a drive happening where we can implement that?
           1. Dr. Brown: Reach out to CCEC. They are trying to coordinate all drives that happen at Ramapo since they seem to be left out of the loop at times.
     2. Religious observance absences:
        1. A student is not being excused for absences for religious reasons (specifically jewish holidays). The Professor excused them the first time but is not refusing for upcoming holidays.
           1. VP Paolo: It should be in every single syllabus stating the policy for students who need to be excused for religious holidays. I encourage the student to look back there.

They said that the professor did not specifically review that policy during syllabus week.

* + - * 1. It should have still been in there and it is the students responsibility to check the religious policy.
        2. (Secretary Tozer-Murphy) [**Here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/fa/arc/college-wide-policies-courses/) is a link to the policy on religious observances and absences at Ramapo. A key point to take into consideration is this Religious Observance Statement:

“*A student who plans to miss one or more class sessions for religious observance, whether the religious holiday is recognized by the State of New Jersey or not, must notify the course instructor as soon as possible but no later than prior to the date of the religious holiday or the 50% refund date of the term in which the student is enrolled in the course (whichever comes first). The course instructor will not penalize the student for the absence and will allow the student to make up any work missed while absent for religious observance. Ultimately, it is the student’s responsibility to complete the work by the dated agreed upon by the instructor and the student.*”

* + - 1. Dr. Brown: If they’re not satisfied, go to EDIC and the dean of their school to discuss this. (You can find the leadership information through the link [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/college-leadership/)).
  1. Dr. Brown:
     1. Lighting survey tonight at 5pm. I will be there too. Please attend.
     2. Before Covid, we had Padovano Commons open every day for students during finals 24/7. This is happening again during finals starting reading day through 5pm on the 21st.
        1. Senate President Helen Witte: What are the learning commons hours for finals?
           1. Linked [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/library/library-hours/).
  2. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Ciara Luciano:
     1. Please meet at the C wing first floor PSafety hallway if you’re attending the lighting survey today.
     2. Public Safety is doing a new app called AlertUs and are looking for people to try it out. If you’re interested in doing that please let me know by today. [cluciano@ramapo.edu](mailto:cluciano@ramapo.edu)
  3. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak:
     1. Holding SGA meetings in other areas around campus is a good idea for the spring semester.
     2. We can recruit more people to come by holding them in areas where those populations are likely to be. (example: Athletes and the Bradley Center).
        1. President Patel: The few times we have students in the public is for extra credit for classe. Maybe we can ask (school senators) deans and professors to promote this to their classes for extra credit. If we do have students coming in for extra credit it might make them want to come back for more meetings.
     3. Liaisons - talking to them might be helpful as well.
     4. VP Paolo: Sometimes students come to meetings if there’s a hot ticket item we’re discussing that was publicized but special promotions might be a good idea. Example: PAT
        1. President Patel: Already on it.
  4. Senate VP Santana:
     1. For people who are not senators there are liaisons open. Senators please double up if you can. You can sign up for a liaison [**here**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1w442K1lQ2O58QblRv8-9Q3RbCmexoGRvUy5fytlsraw/edit?usp=sharing). (Make sure to go to the tab at the bottom titled “liaisons”).
     2. President Patel: Other members can also pick up liaisons. Please do that.
     3. Student accounts, library, bookstore, ITS, etc.

# **Adjournment**

1. Motion to adjourn at 2:59pm.
   1. So Moved.
   2. Seconded.