10/13/2021 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 10/13/2021]

**Meeting called to order on [10/13] at [1:00pm] at *Alumni Lounges*.**

# **Roll Call**

* 1. President Anjali Patel
  2. Vice President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
  3. Secretary Janea Tozer-Murphy
  4. Treasurer Victoria Columna
  5. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro
  6. Secretary of Academic Affairs Nataly Merino (Absent - Excused)
  7. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy (Absent - Excused)
  8. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Ciara Luciano
  9. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion (Vacant)
  10. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Danny Vazquez
  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 (Absent - Excused)
  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
  21. ASB School Senator: Chris Vedra
  22. CA School Senator: Grace Velarde
  23. HGS School Senator: Rachel Schmidt
  24. SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez
  25. TAS School Senator: Serina Sajjad (Late-Excused)
  26. Senator Sannia Balgahoom (Late - Excused)
  27. Senator Kristina Hollosi (Absent - Excused)
  28. Senator Cindy Lam
  29. Senator Aime Lara
  30. Senator Misha Mathai
  31. Senator Mariam Tinawi (Late - Excused)
  32. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
  33. Senator Rylie Klain (Absent - Excused)
  34. Senator Connor Sweeny
  35. Senator Rojja Kharel
  36. Senator \*\*
  37. Senator \*\*
  38. Senator \*\*
  39. Student Governor Rohan Dhote (Absent - Excused)
  40. Alternate Student Governor Nazli Tiyaloglu (Naz) late
  41. Student Trustee Alexis Meneses
  42. Alternate Student Trustee Jakub Zak
      1. Present:
      2. Late:
      3. Excused:
         1. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy
         2. Student Governor Rohan Dhote
         3. Senator Rylie Klain
      4. Absent:

1. **Mission Statement**

*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 Wednesday September 29th, 2021
  2. Helen motion to approve minutes by Senate President Witte.
     1. Moved by Senate VP Santana.
     2. Seconded by HGS School Senator: Rachel Schmidt
  3. Vote
     1. 12-0-0
  4. Motion passed.

# **President's Announcements**

* 1. Oktoberfest starts tomorrow, Thurs 10/14, and will be until Saturday 10/16!
     1. All hands on deck! Sign-up Sheet for Shifts [**here**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QzpEtBVhjhh4NOfoXQMaEaaqohY-yz1OniT4Ucgp8qU/edit?usp=sharing).
     2. Oktoberfest SGA member sweatshirts- coming in today!- october 13th
  2. Will be meeting President Jebb with Paolo next Weds, 10/20 at 3:15 pm
     1. Any questions, comments, concerns, or ideas for President Jebb?
  3. Will be attending Student Leaders Council Meetings in near future with VP Romano and Dean Van Der Wall
  4. If you are the last member to leave the SGA office, please turn the lights off, draw the blinds, and lock the door.
  5. Important Reminders
     1. Student Leaders Dinner:
        1. Please RSVP for the Student Leaders Dinner ASAP if you have not already!
        2. Will be on Weds, 10/27 at 6 pm at Alumni Lounges.
        3. Dinner with president Jebb and other administrators, good way to connect, please include in the rsvp email any allergies or dietary restrictions you may have. Also please dress in Business Casual/Dressy.
        4. Comment from Dr Brown - Class should be the only reason you are not in attendance, also some professors usually will allow you to miss class early, although I am not advocating to miss class, but again class should be the only reason members miss the event. Also we need all hands on deck for Oktoberfest!
     2. Spring Housing Process Intent Link will be emailed out tomorrow, 10/14
     3. Ramapo Foundation Scholarships deadline is Mon, 10/18. You can find the link to those scholarships located [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/scholarships/).
     4. Careers in Student Affairs Panel is Mon, 10/18 at 1 pm in SC-158; there will be pizza and the link to register is on Archway or located [**here**](https://cglink.me/2fF/r1318048).
     5. Presidential Coin Contest submissions are due next Weds, 10/20. You can submit your own design for that [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/president/presidential-coin/).
        1. Comment from President Jebb- SHould we push the presidential coin contents to give people more time.
        2. Comment from Tristan- We want to push more advertising for the coin, maybe we want to push it back to give students more time because it is very important and we might also be able to influence other colleges to start this tradition.
     6. General is cancelled next Weds, 10/20, because we are tabling for Pridefest from 12-4 pm. Members are expected to be there.
     7. Mandatory COVID-19 Training due next Weds, 10/20. The link to complete that is [**here**](https://ramapo.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3jFi6TCKX48IGcC?Q_DL=9XqXGHqwpuPDPYX_3jFi6TCKX48IGcC_MLRP_5asNiGycgZh9RNY&Q_CHL=email).
     8. Remembrance Day RSVP due next Friday, 10/22.The link to RSVP is located [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/remember/2021-remembrance-day-rsvp-form/?hide=false).
        1. Comment from Dr. Brown - Reiterate the importance of Remembrance day, it is a day of remembrance for any member, alumni, student, faculty, who has passed, it is a very nice and beautiful ceremony so please attend if you can.
     9. President Jebb- Both Alexis and Jakub joined me with the retreast for the board of trustees. We have a very caring board of trustees, they are a great support system, and I think it is important to know we have a board of trustees who cares about the student body.
     10. Had a meeting with NJACU- it was a great conversation, discussing the contributions we make to Nj, I’ve also been visiting different campuses, meeting with my counterparts. I want to encourage wellness and to have students take advantage of the resources on campus. I would ask the Sga to help emphasize wellness and the resources we have on campus for the student body.

# **Cabinet Reports**

* 1. Vice President Paolo Miyashiro Bedoya
     1. Today is a big day for the Club Processing Committee- meeting with three groups today at 3:00pm A-222, munchkins for those who attend. Please direct any one who wants to start a club on campus please go to [sgaclubs@rampo.edu](mailto:sgaclubs@rampo.edu).
  2. Secretary Janea Tozer-Murphy
     1. Missed Meetings:
        1. Please fill out this [**google form**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdD50qXar2FkBsW1uwwctmgS342Rx57BftWSZD5AEkckxa5EA/viewform?usp=sf_link) for all future meetings that you plan on missing. I will try to send out these forms every tuesday. If I do not send them out on Tuesdays, please try to fill them out from the previous week’s meeting minutes or agenda.
     2. Decorated Office for Halloween (still in process)
        1. Let me know if you have any ideas for decor that we can make or already have
        2. Waiting on Candy - working with Avery and Victoria to get the pcard to get that
     3. General Meeting Minutes:
        1. All approved meeting minutes up until now (excluding the ones approved today) are uploaded onto [**Archway**](https://archway.ramapo.edu/files?folder=6102036&view=files).
  3. Treasurer Victoria Columna
     1. N/A
  4. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro
     1. Cabinet reports were due and collected yesterday. Please email me [acangro@ramapo.edu](mailto:acangro@ramapo.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.
  5. Secretary of Academic Affairs Nataly Merino
     1. N/A
  6. Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black
     1. Founders Day -
        1. Wednesday, November 10th. We will not have a general meeting that day because we need volunteers! There will be food, lawn games etc, it will be a lot of fun and it is also when we are revealing the Coin contest winner!
     2. Crewnecks arriving this afternoon! When the meeting is concluded please come up to the office and pick them up. If you can't make it I have office hours from 12-2 tomorrow, if you can't make that we can figure out a time for you to pick it up. ([eblack2@ramapo.edu](mailto:eblack2@ramapo.edu))
     3. Oktoberfest -
        1. We still need volunteers to help with Saturday for OktoberFest! You can either sign up from 10-2pm or 2pm-6pm. Please sign up for a Saturday shift! I received an email from the newly formed sports club asking to do a co-sponsorship for Monday night football. It's a little late but I left it open in case they want us to co-sponsor in the future! The link to sign up for Oktoberfest is [**here**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QzpEtBVhjhh4NOfoXQMaEaaqohY-yz1OniT4Ucgp8qU/edit?usp=sharing).
        2. Comment from VP Miyashiro- if glowfeast needs to move inside it will be turned into a tie-dye event.
     4. Comment from Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black- Thursday, October 14th 8:00 pm at Bandshell hosting Thursday Night Football.
        1. Friday, 10/15 – Fall Frenzy at 7pm, Laurel Courts
        2. Saturday 10/16 12:00pm - Carnival is 12pm-4pm please bring your families!- Bandshell
        3. Saturday 10/16 7:00 pm- Haunted Mansion- Birch Mansion
        4. Saturday 10/16 9:00 pm – Glowfest – Grove
     5. Thank you Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black for all your hard work!
  7. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion (Vacant)
     1. N/A
  8. Secretary of Public Relations Samantha Zinni
     1. OktoberFest bulletin board is done! Also wanted to say thank you to Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black, for an amazing Take Over Thursday. We started this social media feature where an sga member takes videos/pictures of their day and posts on the SGA social media accounts to show the day in the life of an SGA member. Let Samantha know if you’d be interested in doing a Take Over Thursday.
  9. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Danny Vazquez
     1. There are a few dates for a workshop for anyone interested in joining greek life- reach out to Danny for more information. ([dvazque2@ramapo.edu](mailto:dvazque2@ramapo.edu))
  10. Secretary of Sustainability Danielle Bongiovanni
      1. Ramapo Green social media (probably Ronia Mohamed or Olivia Trezza) will reach out to Samantha Zinni about promoting stuff on our pages (ex: Secretary of Sustainability published an article on the environmental blog, check it out!)
      2. The board by the OSS office dedicated to Ramapo Green will start being updated! Should things be printed using the library and fishbowl printers, or can we get free services from a department on campus? Is something to ask CSI?
      3. Paolo-We discussed this at cabinet, they might go through marketing.
      4. Facilities is interested in hearing from members of the Ramapo community about their interest in an electric vehicle charging station. A [survey](https://cglink.me/2fF/s57303) is available on Archway, please take it!
      5. Only 8 people are currently registered for the Students for Zero Waste Conference that will be hosted virtually by the Post-Landfill Action Network from 11/5-11/7. Please sign up by 10/20 so we get that free media toolkit and can stream the conference on campus. Registration is free if you use the discount code MemberSchool2021 [here](https://whova.com/portal/registration/szwc_202011/). You can totally sign up without intending to watch the entire conference! Please let me know if you are interested so I can keep track.
      6. This Friday SGA SC meeting will welcome Ben Levy and Rachel Sawyer to discuss a Land Acknowledgement initiative. If you have any interest in attending and possibly helping with the project, let Danielle know!
  11. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Dawn Sy
      1. N/A
  12. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Ciara Luciano
      1. Committee meeting was last Wednesday, one of the big topics was a delegate/senator mentor training program, any feedback for senators for a training program or anyone interested. Myself and Misha will work together this week and bring more information to the next general meeting.
  13. Secretary of Governmental Affairs Danny Gurniak
      1. N/A
  14. Student Trustee Alexis Meneses (Speaking on behalf of Alternate Student Trustee Jakub Zak)
      1. Board retreat on Friday and it went very well. It was nice to have a conversation with the trustees and the president. Currently working with Mel to meet with trustees more!
  15. Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo (Speaking on behalf of Executive Panelist John Waite and Legislative Panelist Leah Berlinger)
      1. At the moment not too many updates, we will be working with Anjali and Paolo to edit the judicial panel.
  16. Student Governor Rohan Dhote (Speaking on behalf of Alternate Student Governor Nazli Tiyaloglu (Naz)
      1. N/A

1. New Business
   1. Remarks or Announcements from President Jebb
      1. Presentation on Political Campaign Fieldwork Opportunity from Ramapo SGA Alum, Maria Montesinos
         1. Working as a field organizer for a campaign, if anyone want to reach out to Maria to be a part of the or 917-664-0491 [mariamontesinoss17@gmail.com](mailto:mariamontesinoss17@gmail.com) have until november 2nd for volunteering or internships, if your interested in getting involved in local politics this is a great way to start, also great opportunity for political science majors or students in general, tell your friends!
         2. Comment from Dr. Brown - Please be very careful if you are a part of this, not to be representing SGA in the political world, this would be more for personal student connections, not affiliated with SGA.
         3. Angelising- can we let Dean lorenzo know about this opportunity because a lot of law and society majors do not know where to look for field studies.
   2. Chief of Staff Avery Cangro
      1. Blood Drive Idea
         1. We were discussing in general how SGA can get more publicity, this is a great way to do that if SGA ran this event. We could have a food and clothing drop bin as well. Before I started making and planning events in detail I wanted to make sure SGA approved the idea. Potentially bid off Jonas Brother tickets for incentive to donate blood. We can have a shuttle for student to be driven back to their dorm for safety reasons
         2. Comment from Dr. Rick Brown- all blood drives have to run through student health services. You would have to work with director of student health services- reach out to them
         3. Comment from Secretary of Programming Elizabeth Black - on board with blood drive and would love to help organize the event.
      2. Craft Idea:
         1. Potential host an event in the SGA office for making crafts during holidays or in general to pull more students in the office
      3. Comment by Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo- we could potentially do a co-sponsorship with CPB who have craft events
      4. Comment by Dr. Rick Brown - Padavono Commons would be a nice space for craft event and they are always looking to host events
   3. President Anjali Patel
      1. Presidential Coin Contest Submission
         1. A few members have been working on a design, could they explain their design?
         2. Comment by Senator Sannia Balgahoom - Thought of potential coin name- Jebbi coin- could be a roadrunner on the front and on the back was an arch that said Jebb coin.
         3. Comment by President Patel - it is a great idea. Maybe another member of SGA could sketch it- potentially Senator Velarde.
      2. Interim Election
         1. We have our interim election open and we have delegates in the room, we would love to have you join the senate! Come up to Helen after the meeting if you're interested, the deadline is due Friday 10/15 11:59 pm.
      3. Ask, Listen, Refer Certification
         1. If you have not done this training in past years you will have to complete training in the near future. There is a website, the Missouri Foundation for Health NAtional Suicide Prevention Training or [www.ask.listenrefer.org](http://www.ask.listenrefer.org) - select Ramapo College and follow insturctions. After you complete the training you still get a certificate stating that you completed it, please put a screenshot or download the file and upload to SGA files.
      4. We have co-sponsored three events so far
         1. Theta Phi Alpha
         2. Pink Tie Formal that was held Oct 12, 2021
            1. We donated 2 tickets that were raffled off.
         3. OVP Take Back The Night that is being held on Oct 14, 2021 from 6 PM – 9 PM at Alumni Lounges where dinner will be served but also listening to survivors of interpersonal violence such as sexual assault.
            1. We need more people to go because they asked for volunteers for the event. The signup sheet is located [**here**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16ZkEz7AZCLQ8McYc56LQWcn0UVTzJrM1xh3IbuBUSOI/edit?usp=sharing).
            2. ***Directions to Volunteers****:*

*If you can come between 4:30pm-5:00pm, come to the OVP Office to help bring things down.*

*If you can come after 5:00pm, go to Alumni Lounges.*

*Everyone staying at the event definitely needs to come to Alumni Lounges before 6:00pm so the office staff can give you assignments.*

1. **Public Comment**
   1. Professor Choudhury- Thank you all for attending the FA meeting! We are trying to have a better line of communication between FA and SGA so we can have regular conversations between two organizations. Registration is coming up in November for the Spring semester, please remember we are all vaccinated in this room, students who are not Fully Vaccinated plus two weeks by November 4th, will not be able to register for in person class for the spring semester.
      1. Point of Inquiry by Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo - Are booster shots in the conversation for mandatory conversation?
         1. Professor Choudhury- We are currently not but we are following CDC guidelines, if in the future they mandate it then most likely we will as well, but as of right now no it is not being mandated.
      2. Point of Inquiry by Senate VP Santana - Would you like us to market this in any way?
         1. Professor- Potentially social media awareness just so the same thing that happened this previous semester happens again, where students genuinely did not know about the guidelines for mandatory vaccination.
      3. Point of Inquiry by Senator Connor Sweeny - Would you like info regarding covid cases on campus to be emailed to a particular person?
         1. Professor Choudhury - reach out to the professor of that class and let them know.
         2. Point of Information by Anne: If a student is looking to report a COVID case, they should contact Health services as soon as possible. Information on that is [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/health/).
      4. Comment by HGS School Senator: Rachel Schmidt - are we being alerted of the covid cases in each class?
         1. Professor Choudhury - Currently no it is not in the code of conduct, contract tracing protocols are not in question.
         2. Comment by Anne: This would not be listed in the Code of Conduct. Contact tracing is happening, you can see the definition of a close contact on the COVID dashboard located [**here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/health/coronavirus-covid-19/dashboards/#s5). I encourage everyone to view this page, not just due to unvaccinated students.
      5. Comment by Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo - Agree that there should be notification for students who are in class with a student/person who has been tested positive for covid.
      6. Point of Inquiry by Senate VP Santana- has this been going on the whole time in the sense where students are not being contacted if someons in their class is reported to have a positive covid test?
         1. Professor Choudhury - Professor gets notified if a student will not be returning to class for 2 weeks, it is not specified if that is due to covid.
      7. Comment by Senate VP Santana - Can we make it clear that mask mandates are not being followed?
         1. Professor Choudhury - Faculty is advised to tell students to wear masks above their noses.
      8. Comment by SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez - There have been issues with faculty members not wearing masks
         1. Professor Choudhury - If there is a faculty member who is not following the mandates, you can follow the chain of command and report these issues. Faculty is allowed to remove masks if alone in the office.
      9. Comment by Legislative Panelist Leah Berlinger - I was in office hours with a person who had reported testing positive, contract tracing was not followed up.
         1. Professor Choudhury- If you have a specific case or issue please come to me.
      10. Comment by Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo - Especially in G wing or other study rooms people are not wearing masks or correctly following protocol.
          1. Professor Choudhury- if you walk into public spaces and people are not following mandates, or there are no signs saying to follow masdates please report it.
      11. Comment by Senator Cindy Lam - With religious exemptions, roommates are not told to tell other roommates or faculty if they test positive or have.
      12. Comment by Dr. Brown- this emphasizes the importance of asking others to wear the mask correctly.
      13. Comment by SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez - Especially in the fitness center, mask wearing is not being enforced by employees. Also reach out to reslife and have people with religious and medical exemptions room together, and vaccinated persons to live together.
      14. Comment by Senator Cindy Lam - religious exemption some parents did not want them to get vaccine so that's why they got the exemption. I don’t think this should be a factor
      15. Comment by Dr. Brown- all (or other) campuses are dealing with the issues of religious and medical exemptions, they must be honored. At campuses and in society nationwide, there are concerns about exemptions being abused.
      16. Comment by Anne - those who have vaccine waivers have to participate in weekly testing and there are sanctions involved if they are not following those mandates. Link in agenda for reports. [**Here**](https://www.ramapo.edu/health/coronavirus-covid-19/dashboards/) is a link for College COVID dashboard for your viewing. I encourage all students to view it, but not just due to unvaccinated students.
      17. Comment by Senate President Witte- Religious exemption in a way undermines the importance of the vaccine, at Monmouth (College) they were discussing getting rid of the exemption all together.
      18. Professor Choudhury- religious and medical exemptions are present in NJ, so we will have them but the issue is the discussion of why people are not getting vaccinated. Faculty argued that there should be no exception but we cannot do that as we are a state school and do allow for exemptions, there are testing protocols in place.
      19. Comment by Chief of Staff Avery Cangro - Bradley center with masks, people who work at the front desk do tell students to wear masks. The student employees who actually work in the fitness center do not follow the mandates themselves and don’t enforce it.
      20. Comment by CA School Senator: Grace Velarde - those who are exempt from vaccines are on campus, and there is nothing being done to control who is allowed on campus and who is not.
          1. Senator Connor Sweeny , can you work with public safety and try to find a system to keep track of who is on campus if they are not allowed too?
      21. Comment by Senate VP Santana- there should be options for students to request roommate change if their roomates have religious and medical exemptions
      22. Comment by Dr. Brown- find out what your peers are doing in other campuses
      23. Comment by Student Trustee Alexis Meneses - If you have any concerns about the Bradley Center please bring them up!

* + 1. Point of Inquiry by HGS School Senator: Rachel Schmidt - we have families coming this weekend, are we asking for vaccination verification
       1. (Point of information, yes they are being asked for vaccination status before coming on campus).
       2. Comment by Anne: I’m not sure this is true.
       3. This is something to look into for the next meeting.
    2. Comment by SSHS School Senator: Ashley Gomez - Parents not following guidelines when on campus.
    3. Comment by Chief Panelist Angelina Farallo - debate club is discussion whether colleges should require vaccine
    4. Comment by Jack Nesmith - Trunk or Treat and Treat yourself!

1. Open Forum-
2. Adjournment
   1. Senate President Witte Motion to adjourn meeting at 2:58 pm.
   2. Moved by Senate VP Santana
   3. Seconded by Senator Misha Mathai

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