



STUDENT GOVERNMENT SENATE

MEETING MINUTES

Day 08-29-2025 | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to order at 02:05 PM Ana Paolini Carrano, Vice President

Senate Roll Call

Mike Hibbard, Director of Operations

- **Present:**
- **Absent:** None
- **Excused:**
- **N/A:**

Approval of Meeting Agenda 08/29/2025

Motioned By: VP

So Moved: Greek

Seconded: Tech Services

Yes: 17

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Vote Passed

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes 04/25/2025

Motioned by: VP

So Moved: Tech Services

Seconded: Marketing

Yes: 17

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Vote Passed

Special Recognitions:

None

Speak to the Senate:

None

PRESENTATIONS

- **What is an Advisor? - Nicole Boulais, Courtney Bringley**
 - Nicole and Courtney are our faculty advisors for Student Government!
 - Courtney
 - Director for the Center of Campus Life. She oversees the campus life team such as Tech Crew and other clubs and organizations
 - Courtney is located in the Main Office to the left of the SG office! Feel free to Slack or Email her with any questions related to Slack, Office Swipe Access, issues with SG Email
 - Can help with funding and understanding how to use your funding/spreading your funds with your constituents, or find appropriate contacts to assist in any financial concerns/questions
 - Nicole
 - Nicole is the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs. She is located above Ben and Jerry's with Dr. Johnson. Been at RIT for 25 years!
 - Nicole is good for questions on 'why things are the way they are'
 - Message Nicole for finding specific people around campus and contacting them. Nicole also has great knowledge on Robert's Rules.
 - Advisor Superpowers
 - Student Government is an advocacy group and within the campus governance group, this means you have a more impactful role.
 - Advisors ensure that you receive stipends, access to accounts and other administrative work. **They can also provide guidance to solve issues within the university if you feel stuck.**
 - Advisors have to balance their support roles as well as their day jobs, they will support you in making changes but will also remind you to follow bylaws and guidelines to ensure changes stay.
 - **When you are in your Student Government role, you must put your personal politics aside.**
 - You are students first, please communicate if you are struggling with either your cabinet member or either advisor. It's better to take 3 days away than miss 3 weeks.

Previous Bylaw Changes Overview - Ana Paolini Carrano

- Changes were made by the previous administration, this is an overview of those changes
 - Article 1 Section 3
 - Highlights the changes to RSO's.
 - Article 1 Section 6
 - Allows the senate the ability to create ad-hoc committees for issues that arise on campus.
 - Article 1 Section 10 Student petitions
 - PawPrints need to be charged within 2 senates.
 - Article 7 - Bylaw and appendices
 - Section 1 - Lists out the process to amend a bylaw or process by an Student

Gov. Member or Student.

- Section 2 - Provides guidance on how the Dir. of Collaboration and Inclusion should handle policy changes with Dir. of Tech Services
- Section 3 - Allows senate to suspend bylaws during 'New Business Section'.
Ex: Allows the Senate to suspend normal procedure for a set period.
- List of appendices change highlights
 - Appendix A: Added 'Greek Leadership Committee', Added Associate Director of Campus Life Finance to Finance Award process, Added RSO's Finance Committee pitch to Recognized Student Clubs.
 - Appendix D: Gives new RSOs' until April to propose a budget and goal, Changes Budget Committee membership (Adds SG Dir. of Finance and 1 Center for Campus Life Member) and Budget Appeals Committee (5 Senator, 1 CCL).
 - Appendix G: Standardizes Marketing for SG and RSO having their own guidelines.
 - Appendix I: Created to record all bylaw and appendix changes.
 - Appendix J: Process to ensure Student Gov. members achieve goals and fulfill role responsibilities

New PawPrints Procedure - Ana Paolini Carrano

- Pawprints was introduced in 2014, allows students to share issues they'd like addressed by Student Government once they reach 200 signatures.
- Our new process will have the DSR charge PawPrints to committee chairs and open discussion on the motion to charge. After a vote confirms the charge, a discussion will open on the actual pawprint to provide direction for the committee chair, the committee chair will then take a week to explore. The committee will then share a plan to the senate for discussion. Committee Chairs will then only provide internal updates to the senate if there is a major change from the initial plan to ensure the senate is kept in loop. External updates that will be provided externally will also be shared with the senate through Committee Chair Reports. Finally once the pawprint is ready to be responded to the senate will vote to close the pawprint.
- Question:
 - GCCIS: Can anyone provide plans to committee chairs?
 - VP: Yes, during discussion you can provide feedback on the plan
- Question
 - OUTSpoken: Does DSR assign the PawPrints or do we discuss where it goes?
 - VP: DSR motions to charge a PawPrint but as Senate we can have discussion on where it should be assigned before we move to a vote.

REPORTS

Senator Reports:

- CAD
 - Meet with the Dean at their "popcorn with the dean" event, Will be attending the CAD club fair!
- XREG
 - Looking to bring back the XREG t-shirts to give out. Looking for funding to make this happen.

- COLA
 - Met with the SAB this morning to plan for the semester ahead!

Committee Reports:

- Accessibility
 - Due to the changes with the bus contract, students who require assistance to get to campus were unable to contact bus drivers. Contacted Joel at transportation to find a solution to this issue.
- Housing and Dining
 - The President, GCCIS Senator, and Housing and Dining committee contacted dining to get more communication on the closure. Common's has since re-opened as a ghost kitchen for mobile ordering!

RSO Reports:

- Greek Leadership Committee
 - We had great orientation events, and Greek convocation went well! Recruitment for all organizations is starting up! Feel free to contact Alex or Sophia if you have any questions about the new RSO!
- ACA
 - Starting to plan for Alana-palooza, redesigned the office to allow more students to stop by, created a mentorship program to assist students in transitioning to life at RIT!

Cabinet Reports:

- Marketing
 - If you did not take your Headshots, please keep an eye out for messages on how to get yours done.

Pres/VP Reports:

- VP: Thank you for being here, happy first week
- Pres: More fidgets on the way, will add notebooks

Advisor Reports:

- N/a

Staff Council/Faculty Senate Reports:

- n/a

External Committee Reports:

- VP: We will start to assign folks to these external committees so please be flexible with us through this process.

Motion for a five-minute recess by President

Seconded: Marketing

Yes 17

No:

Abstain:

RECESS

Motioned to amend Agenda by VP

So moved: H&D

Seconded: President

NEW BUSINESS

Parlementarian Appointment

Nominees

Damian Hacke (H&D Chair) nominated by Collab and Conclusion

Previously CET senator, ran CET SAB uses Robert's Rules so has experience from this, ran for president last year too

Questions: NA

Igor Polotai (GCCIS Senator) nominated by President

First year as senator, was in the Computer Science House, worked on a 50 page constitution to review. Given time to get used to the senate believes he can be a good fit for parliamentarian.

Questions:

Tech Services - what is your experience with Robert's Rules

GCCIS: I am excited to learn more about Robert's Rules through this role!

With a majority of the votes, Damian Hacke (H&D) will be our Parliamentarian

Pro-tempore Appointment

Nominees

Savannah Brown (XREG Senator) nominated by Tech Services

Been in student government since her first year.

Questions

President: Do you feel comfortable creating a positive senate environment

XREG: Yes

Anaanya Poddar (CAD Senator) Nominated by CAD

4th industrial Design major

Was CAD senator last year, so familiar with the Senate. In a sorority that uses Robert Rules and has been secretary for their chapter

Questions:

President - Do you feel comfortable creating a positive senate environment?

CAD: Yes

SCB nominated by Marketing

Denied nomination

Closed paper Vote

With a majority of the votes, Savannah Brown (XREG) will be our Pro- tempor

OLD BUSINESS

Director of Student Relations Appointment:

- Trishelle Hoopes
 - Pronouns; she/her/hers
 - Year: Fifth Year
 - Major: Chemical Engineering/Material Science and Engineering B.S./M.S. and Economics B.S.
 - Previous First Year Senator, and Director of Student Relations
 - Questions
 - N/A
 - **Close Paper Vote:**
 - **Trishelle Hoopes will be the Director of Student Relations**

Director of Finance Appointment:

- Kate Seeman
 - Pronouns: she/her/hers
 - Year: Second Year
 - Major: Computational Mathematics and Chemical Engineering
 - Worked with Mutual Banking? Over the summer where she managed a budget of over 2.1 million? Able to get funding increased to over 20%
 - **Questions**
 - **ACA: Any previous leadership experience?**
 - Admin for her sorority, previous high school experience
 - **GCCIS: Any experience with admin work at RIT**
 - No
 - **Close Paper Vote:**
 - **Kate Seeman will the be Director of Finance**

FPaTS Committee Chair Appointment:

- Jameson Baker
 - Pronouns: He/Him/His
 - Year: Third Year
 - Major: Computer Science
 - Has been working with High-up admin since he was a teen.
 - **Questions**
 - **H&D - FPats gets a lot of traction, what are you hoping to do in the role?**
 - Is a commuter student, feel the frustration so would like to communicate openly about these issues
 - **GLC - FPaTs gets assigned many pawprints, how do you stay organized**
 - Managed prom in high school so able to manage multiple requests at the same time
 - **Close Paper Vote:**
 - **Jameson Baker will be the FPaTS Committee Chair.**

NEW BUSINESS

VP Motions to table PawPrints presentation to next meet

So moved: Pres

Second: GLC

Yes: 16

No: 0

Abstain: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- GCCIS Is have first byte carnival on Thursday, would love interest
- President - Apple Fest is this evening (8/29) in LBR, please stop by!!

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00PM, "Roll Tech"

Ana Paolini Carrano, Vice President

Minutes Submitted by

Mike Hibbard, Director of Operations