

Executive Committee  
**A G E N D A**  
June 7, 2022 – 12:00 noon

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/95409903367?pwd=blpKbFl2dG42WkltVEFvaFh5eUFvdz09>

**Chair's Report**– Jon Oliver, Senate Chair

**Secretary's Report**– Vicki Hewitt, Senate Executive Secretary

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of the [April 7, 2022 Senate Executive Committee Minutes](#)
- Approval of the [April 29, 2022 University Senate Organizational Meeting Minutes](#)
- Approval of the [April 29, 2022 University Senate Meeting Minutes](#)
- Communications
  - Policy Updates
    - [University Policy 40.2.15 Payment Card Acceptance Policy](#)
  - Administrative Responses
    - [Response](#) to S-2113: PTL Pay and Recognition
    - [Response](#) to S-1909-1: Searches for University Leadership
    - [Response](#) to S-2101: Review of the University Policy 10.2.4 Units of Credit
    - [Response](#) to S-2012-1: Procedures for Handling Student Complaints Against Rutgers Personnel Regarding Instruction
    - Requests for Follow up

**Selection of Members of the Chancellor's Commencement Committees** - Final roster of volunteers will be distributed prior to the meeting via email.

**Administrative Report**– Jonathan Holloway, President

**Discussion with President Holloway and Chancellor Strom**

**Standing Committees/Panels**

**Draft of 2022-23 Standing Committee Rosters and Assignment of Chairs/Co-Chairs** - Final draft rosters will be distributed prior to the meeting via email.

**Review Reports of Standing Committees and Outstanding Charges**

**Proposed Charges:**

**Proposed Charge on Student Representation on the President's First Amendment Advisory Panel** – Submitted by Michael Van Stine, Graduate School – Camden (S)

**Charge:** *In 2018, the University created a standing panel to advise the Office of the General Counsel and, in turn, the Office of Employment Equity in assessing matters that involve questions of free speech. The panel is comprised of four Rutgers Law School professors and the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. While this constitutes both faculty and administration representation on this panel, there is no student constituent representation. There is a plethora of multi-year recent history surrounding campus community free speech issues that evolve to this very day involving and affecting all members of the campus community including its largest constituent group, students. There have been past efforts to get student representation onto this panel with resistance offered in the form of compromise to attorney-client privilege. While it is noted that the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs is not an attorney and is not protected by attorney-client privilege, the American Bar Association assures that a law student can meet such protective threshold when engaged in such work in a service capacity. Also, any student could be equally protected for needed confidentiality via the same form of signed statement used for students and administration when they are engaged in sensitive matters such as service on managing university boards.*

**Rationale:** In May, 2021, this exact charge description was proposed to the EC under the title "Investigate whether a student representative can be added to the University Free Speech panel." After some discussion, it was deemed then by the EC that a better logistical choice would be to redirect the focus of the charge to something broader defining the Senate's role in free speech advising. The charge proposal became S-2112: Free speech Issues at Rutgers and the University Senate's Role, and it was assigned to USGC to review and report. The committee subsequently issued its report to the Senate at its April 29, 2022 meeting. A review of the report suggests the charge was unclear to the committee and resulted in nothing productive being accomplished. Among other things in the report, the committee stated: "...this charge raises a number of concepts that are not well defined. It was unclear what type(s) of free speech it contemplated; whose feedback and advice it contemplated, e.g., the full Senate, the Executive Committee, or otherwise; and what timeframe it contemplated...although the charge specifically references peer practices, USGC discussed the myriad differences among senates at various universities and how they relate to administrative offices. In light of this, USGC determined that it was capable of considering this charge without resorting to a lengthy investigation that would likely yield little actionable information. In light of the foregoing, the USGC recommends that the Senate take no structural action in response to this charge."

It would appear that the decision to broaden the scope and generalize the original charge proposal was an error. The renewed original language proposal seeks to get past this and properly task USGC to get a qualified student representative on the President's First Amendment Advisory Panel. This remains important to ensure that the largest constituency of the university is properly represented in qualified confidentiality-assured discussions that determine free-speech policy actions that are frequently in conflict among the various constituent groups of the university.

**Proposed Charge on Review of the University Senate's Governance Documents and Formulation of University Senate Bylaws** – Submitted by Vicki Hewitt, Senate Executive Secretary

**Charge:** *Review the existing governance documents of the University Senate, including University policies, past Senate reports, and the Senate Handbook. Develop Bylaws for the University Senate consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.*

**Rationale:** *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12<sup>th</sup> Edition)* defines Bylaws as “the documents that contain [a society's] own basic rules relating principally to itself as an organization, rather than to the parliamentary procedure that it follows.” Bylaws prescribe how an organization functions and allow the organization to tailor standard parliamentary procedure to its own needs.

The Rutgers University Senate does not have official Bylaws currently. Much of the information that should be in an organization's Bylaws is instead listed in University policies, past Senate reports, and the Senate Handbook. Some information that an organization's Bylaws should contain is not stated in any of these documents. Collecting this information and developing formal Bylaws will make Senate procedures more transparent and ensure that organizational rules are followed consistently.

To address this charge, I propose a small ad hoc committee be appointed consisting of long-term Senators with knowledge of Senate historical practices, particularly past Senate leaders, along with the Executive Secretary. This approach has the advantage of ensuring that informal institutional knowledge will be incorporated into the draft Bylaws.

**Committee Reports/Resolutions**

Information Technology Committee (ITC) – Adrienne Esposito, Chair  
[S-2109: Communication Mechanisms Regarding Major Changes in IT Applications](#)

The ITC was charged as follows:

*Investigate the existing mechanisms for communication regarding changes in major IT applications. Propose additional mechanisms that would engage the Senate, through its IT Committee, in such communications and decisions about major IT application changes that would affect major University constituencies. (See [Senate Resolution S-1801](#))*

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**Last Day to Withdraw** – Kelley Sokolowski, University Registrar

**Resolution in Honor of the Rutgers Glee Club's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** –Thomas Struble,  
Alumni Association

**New Senator Orientation and Senate Mentors**

**Format of 2022-2023 Executive Committee Meetings**

**Adjournment**