

**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA
Friday, March 1, 2024, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom**

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/99068164783?pwd=VHV1YUphLzJmWVgrUDM0VGcyUE01Zz09>

Chair's Report– Adrienne Simonds, Senate Chair

Secretary's Report– Vicki Hewitt, Senate Executive Secretary

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of the [February 2, 2024 Senate Executive Committee Minutes](#)
- Administrative Response
 - Response to [S-2201-1: Approved Electronic Notebooks](#)
- Communications
 - Call for Nominations for Senate Leadership Positions – due Fri. April 19

Administrative Report – Prabhas Moghe, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Discussion – Brian Strom, RBHS Chancellor

[Review Pending Committee Charges and Deadlines](#)

[2024-2025 Senate Calendar Approval](#)

[Nominating Panel Membership](#)

Parliamentarian for March Senate Meeting

Review Draft Response to S-2319

Standing Committees/Panels

Committee Report and Recommendations:

Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Officer Compensation – Michael Joseph and Suja Patel, Co-Chairs

[Report on S-2312: Senate Officer Compensation](#)

The ad hoc committee was charged as follows:

To provide guidelines for appropriate compensation for Senate officers and other Senators whose duties as Senators represent a significant fraction of their university obligations. The resources for such compensation should be provided in a manner that does not create conflicts of interest. Procedures for such compensation already in place at some of our peer aspirant universities may serve as useful models.

Committee Report and Recommendations:

University Structure and Governance Committee – Perry Dane and Kevin Schroth, Co-Chairs

[Report on S-2202-1: Honors College Student Senators](#)

The USGC was charged as follows:

Investigate and recommend how Honors College Students from each campus can best be represented in the Senate. The creation of the Honors Colleges on each campus has created a new unit and community that students live, learn and participate in within the University. Student entitlements to the Senate are based on their academic association and Honors College Students can participate based on those associations if elected via their student governing associations. However, since student Senators are not specifically elected from the Honors College they may not be able to properly represent the needs of the Honors College community.

Committee Report and Recommendations:

Academic Standards, Regulations and Admissions Committee – Lucille Foster and Robert Schwartz, Co-Chairs

[Report on S-2324: Investigate Sunsetting of Academic Credit Across Campuses and Review Any Proposed Changes](#)

The ASRAC was charged as follows:

Review how course credits earned at Rutgers can be sundowned across all Rutgers campuses, recognizing many students are unable to complete a desired academic degree in the usual time sequence. Report and explain the rationale for any proposed changes and offer possible recommendations concerning changes to policy of earned credit toward graduation, with consideration of potential complexities with respect to professional/graduate studies that are externally accredited.

Committee Report and Recommendations:

Budget and Finance Committee – Abdelrahman Ibrahim and Carolyne White, Co-Chairs

[Report on S-2302: Budgetary Considerations Underlying Potential Merger of the RBHS Subunits Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and New Jersey Medical School into One Medical School](#)

The BFC was charged as follows:

Investigate any relevant financial issues that will emerge if there is a proposed merger of RWJMS and NJMS. Make necessary recommendations to the Senate.

Proposed Charge:

Access to University Libraries 24/7 – Senator Brielle Fedorko, School of Arts and Sciences-NB, Student

Charge: *After discussions with Chief Kenneth Cop, Vice President for University Libraries Consuella Askew, and library faculty, the three greatest concerns for keeping libraries open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week involve public safety, staffing, and sanitation. All three of these concerns can be properly addressed with increased budgeting that will allocate the funds to increase staff, safety officers, and custodial services. We must show a need for libraries to be open 24/7 in order to advocate for this increase toward library facilities. Thus, I charge that the University Senate create a survey for each campus (New Brunswick, Camden, and Newark) to explore this need. This survey is to be student-led and disseminated by its student leaders among their respective campuses. Questions should also be personalized to each campus.*

Rationale: In terms of New Brunswick, Alexander Library located on the College Avenue campus is currently open Monday through Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m., Fridays 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., Saturdays 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., and Sundays 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. Hours past 8:00 p.m. require a night officer to maintain safety in the building. The libraries on the other three campuses in New Brunswick have different hours from these, or are completely closed on the weekends. This inconsistency poses an inconvenience to students on campus. As for Camden and Newark, similar challenges have risen. Having at least one library open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week would provide students a quiet, safe, and productive environment to do their assignments, to study for exams, and encourage more use of library services like the stacks and digital databases. Continuous library hours can foster academic success, which is what this university strives for. It is worth investigating.

Proposed Charge:

Research Trainee Compensation and Benefit Inequity – Senator Monica Mazurek, School of Graduate Studies, Faculty

Charge: *Investigate current practices in postdoc and student remuneration, in particular as it relates to inequality following fellowship funding and to develop solutions to reward talent.*

Rationale: The recent contract negotiation and the need for trainees on fellowship to be removed from payroll have led to major inequity in compensation and benefits. This needs to be corrected to recruit and retain the best talent. For example, postdocs who have their own F32 grants were excluded from recent salary increases for other non-NIH funded postdocs. This creates a major inequity meaning that our very best postdocs (i.e., those who acquire their own independent federal funding as prestigious fellowships) receive less in compensation compared to faculty grant-supported postdocs.

Proposed Charge:

Qualifications of the University Senate Parliamentarian – Senator Natalie Borisovets, Newark At-Large, Faculty; Vicki Hewitt, Senate Executive Secretary; Senator Heather Pierce, Lecturer-New Brunswick, Faculty; Senator Adrienne Simonds, School of Health Professions, Faculty

Charge: *Currently, the Parliamentarian must be a Senator. However, under Robert's Rules of Order, the Parliamentarian cannot make motions or weigh in on discussions in order to maintain neutrality in the role. Consider whether changing the qualifications of the Parliamentarian to allow the appointment of*

a non-Senator, such as a professional hired for the role or a former Senator, would better allow Senators to participate in Senate business and enhance the functioning of the Senate.

Rationale: Currently per the University Senate Handbook: “The parliamentarian is a member of the Senate appointed each year by the chair with the approval of the Executive Committee. The parliamentarian advises the presiding officer on matters pertaining to parliamentary procedure, and ensures that meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order and Senate practice and standing rules. In the absence of the parliamentarian, the Executive Committee can appoint a parliamentarian pro tem.”

Open Charge Request:

The following was charged to an ad hoc committee without a deadline. The Executive Committee is requested to set a deadline for:

S-2329: Senate Role in the Policy on Policies Processes and Procedures

Old Business

Open Charge Request:

S-2323: Definition of Environmentally and Socially Responsible Materials and Products (University Policy 20.1.11 Procurement and Payment Policy)

USGC requested clarification on why it had been assigned this charge.

New Business

University Senate March 22, 2024 Agenda

- Newark Chancellor Report – Nancy Cantor, Chancellor, Rutgers-Newark
- Proposed Changes to the Senate Handbook
- Report on S-2302: Budgetary Considerations Underlying Potential Merger of the RBHS Subunits Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and New Jersey Medical School into One Medical School

Adjournment