

**RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
UNIVERSITY SENATE**

MINUTES: Regular Meeting of the University Senate

DATE: September 18, 2026

TIME AND PLACE: 1:10 p.m., Remote via Zoom

PRESENT: Abedullah, Abaira, Akdogan, K. Anderson, Andrews, Ashraf, Askew, Bachmann, Bambara, Barsoum, Bhuyan, Boison, Borisovets, Boxer, Bridgeman, Brilliant, Brown, Bucher, Campbell, Carney-Waterton, Cartmill, Cañares, Chapais, Chintala, Clarke, Colavito, Cooper, Costley White, Cramer, Crincoli, Crooks, Dane, Davis, DeMatteo, Dock, Ebert, Economou, Elashal, Emmons, Esposito, Everett, Fang, Fatahzadeh, Fenker, Filippelli, Fine, Flynn, Foster, Giraud, Gittelman, Godoy, Gong, Gower, Grachan, Graham, Gremillion Jr., Gunthner, Gursoy, Gutierrez, Haberl, Hadash, Haley, Haviland, Hennessy, Hoffman, Hunter, Hussain, Javanmard, Jjuuko, Jordan-McKinney, Kaback, Kamchaji, Keates, Kelly, Kettle, Kim, Klimczak, Knievel, Knight, Korczak, Kustka, LaMorte, Ladell, Langowski, Lawino, G. Lee, A. Lee, Leibowitz, Limata, Lobman, Lotts, Luciano, Lutz, Lyons, Maeng Brown, Maerhofer, Maganti, Maliga, Mansukhani, Mathews, Matott, McCarthy, McGuire, Mittal, Morera, Newhouse, Ntiwunka-Ifeanyi, O'Connor, Oluwadare, Pai, Pairet Vinas, Patil, Payne, Pierce, Pintar, Pittman, Pixley, Pontes, Poylangada, Punjabi, Purcell, Quevado, Quincy, Rabinowitz, Rastogi, Reddy Koduru, Rehman, Robles, Rombach, Salas-de la Cruz, Saltzman, Samavat, Santos Mendoza, Schafer, Scharf, Schwartz, Scott, Seiden, Sesti, C. Shah, D. Shah, Sheaffer, Sheppard, Shinbrot, Silver, Sloan-Power, Smith, Szatrowski, Torres, Trott, Tsilomelekis, Uzoma Nwachukwu, Varzgani, Vasquez, Vera, Walker-Mason, Wasniowska, Wirtenberg, Wolfe, Yachimovicz, Zhou, Zwick

EXCUSED: Ardeshtna, Doug Baker, Barbarello Andrews, Dixit, Esposito, Galego, Gurbuzbalaban, Householder, Jacob, Kim, Morton, Paris, Patel, Ramenzoni, Ramirez Polo, Turbin

ABSENT: Adya, H. Ahmad, F. Amjad, Anderson Eloy, Anner, Arbuthnot, Barone, Behrmann, Cuitiño, Curchitser, Dastjerdi, DiGiovanni, Feldman, Fortuna, Fraga, Griffin, Gupta, Halkitis, Hatefi, Johnson, Kamara, Kayyal, Ketankumar Patel, Khan, Kiss, Klein, La Vigne, Langberg, Lawson, Layne, Lei, Mahajan, Mao, Mattis, Mazurek, McCrossin, McKeever, Mohamed, B. Murphy, K. Murphy, Murtha, Nickitas, O'Keefe, Obiorah, Pabbathy, Patkar, Paul, Pilch, Ramachandran, Ratajczak, Robson, Santa Ana, Schiavo, Shapiro, Shields, Smith-Jackson, Span, Spiegel, Starkweather, Syed, Tamboli, Tate, Tewfik, Van Ryzin, Vasarhelyi, Wade, Wang, Wilkinson, Williams, Zarbl, Zhang

CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM, AND CHAIR'S REPORT –
Anna Haley, Chair

Chair Haley called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Chair Haley's opening remarks included thanking the Senate for their hard work and bringing their time, energy, and expertise to inform Rutgers governance. Chair Haley also introduced the new format for Senate agendas to focus on

Senate business in the beginning of the meeting, conversational based presentations with administrative guest speakers, and written reports from Senate liaisons ahead of the meetings. This year's Parliamentarian was noted to be previous Senator Safanya Searcy in addition to MSW student and shared governance intern Cynthia Duchantier for the remaining year, with past Senate Chair Jon Oliver serving for today.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Paul Boxer, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Boxer reported on the [May 12, 2026 Executive Committee Emergency Meeting minutes](#), the [June 5, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting minutes](#), the [August 27, 2026 Executive Committee Emergency Meeting minutes](#), and the [September 4, 2026 Executive Committee meeting minutes](#). Vice Chair Boxer also reported on a recent meeting with Chair Haley, President Tate, and Chief of Staff Ralph Gigliotti regarding collaborative shared governance between central administration and the Senate by increasing Senate representation on various central administration committees, including the Senate on conversation on the University budget, and Middle States accreditation reporting. Vice Chair Boxer also notified the Senate of an upcoming call out for participants on a panel to represent the Senate during discussion on higher education issues across New Jersey.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Taryn Cooper, Executive Secretary

- Agenda: The meeting agenda was approved with the addition of one item for new business proposed by Senator Ntiwunka-Ifeanyi to add the Resolution on Supporting International Scholars' Duration of Status and Graduate Academic Mobility.
- Policy Updates
 - [60.1.33 Title IX Policy Resolution Procedures](#)- Updated
 - [100.2.11 Prescribing Controlled Substances \(Opioids\)](#)- Updated
- Communications
 - [2026-2027](#) Senate Calendar.
 - [2026-27 Senator Email Logo](#).
 - New Senator Orientation and a Robert's Rules of Order training were held on September 11, 2026. Materials are available on the [Information for Senators page](#), under Additional Resources.
 - Membership for SAS-Camden Dean's Evaluation Committee needed.
 - Membership for Chancellor's Commencement Committee needed.
 - Membership for Ad Hoc Committee on Cross-Campus Equity Committee needed.
 - Reminder to propose a Senate charge [through link here](#) or email Senate office.
 - Reminder to submit a headshot photo for Senator profile page.
 - [Senator accolades](#) – Email Senate Office to be featured.
 - Reminder to log in to the [Senate website](#) for attendance and voting access.
 - Reminder from Morgan for Senators to say their first and last name as well as their constituency when they come to the microphone to speak.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/RESOLUTIONS: The report will be presented/summarized by the committee chair, then will be discussed, and acted upon by the Senate. Substantive amendments

to these reports should be given to the Senate secretary in writing prior to or at the time the amendment is moved.

Committee Report (1:35-1:40 p.m.)

None.

REPORTS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES TO BOARDS OF GOVERNORS AND TRUSTEES ([LINKED REPORT](#)) (1:40 - 1:45 p.m.)

Senator Pierce reported that the Board of Trustees have not met yet but there is an upcoming meeting for the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs.

REPORTS OF CAMPUS FACULTY AND STUDENT LIAISONS ([LINKED REPORT](#)) (1:45 - 1:50p.m.)

Senator Shah and Senator Grachan reported on the Rutgers School of Medicine Integration Executive meeting. Senator Rastogi reported about a question regarding cuts to Camden student scholarships such as the Experiential Learning Fund.

FORUM WITH THE PRESIDENT (1:50 – 2:20 p.m.) - William F. Tate IV, President

President Tate greeted the Senate and highlighted two items: There will be a document circulated to the Executive Committee to receive feedback on a set of aims and KPIs for their strategic framework and the Senate taking part of the discussion relating to the university budget and finances. President Tate also spoke on the formation of subcommittees that have been established with Executive Committee Senators so there is more transparency with the university finances. President Tate then answered questions on the following topics:

- The plan on investment for the Camden campus.
- What are the overarching aims for the strategic framework planning of the university and can it be used to evaluate cross-campus equity when it comes to resources for students, faculty and staff?
- What is the status of diversity, equity and inclusion?
- Is Rutgers taking advantage of being part of the Big Ten Academic Alliance and what are the challenges and opportunities that come with it?
- What is the estimated timeline of implementation of the strategic framework?
- How does President Tate stay well-read throughout his time as President?
- How does Rutgers plan to continue to support student's social mobility amidst budget cuts to student organizations and scholarships?
- How does athletics fit into the vision for the strategic framework and if there is a KPI for it?
- What are the plans for increasing investment in the University libraries as partners in research and student success?
- Will students be included in conversations related to the budget either through the Senate or through the student governing boards across the CLUs?

- What's the vision of AI in learning?
- What are the President's thoughts on the budget deficit?
- How has the experience been at Rutgers compared to previous institutions?
- What is the preferred method for engagement with alumni and how does the President see their impact at the University?

APPROVAL OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON [SENATE INTERNAL BUDGET](#) (2:20 – 2:30 p.m.)

Executive Secretary Cooper and Chair Haley presented the background information on the committee. The Senate voted to approve the formation of the ad hoc committee. The Executive Secretary will send a call out to all Senators for participation on the ad hoc committee.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS**

[The Resolution on Supporting International Scholars' Duration of Status and Graduate Academic Mobility](#) was passed with an amendment to include a footnote on the title that refers the reader to the regulatory language of the proposed legal change.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Taryn Cooper, Executive Secretary of the University Senate

***Note:** Addition of items to the agenda requires a two-thirds vote ([Senate Handbook](#), Article III, Agenda). There is an overall time limit of 3 hours for Senate meetings. Specific time limits are set for questions and debate, not for presentation of reports ([Senate Handbook](#), Article III, Procedures). After approval, extension of time limits requires a two-thirds vote.

****Note:** The [Senate Handbook](#), Article IV, 1 states, "All new matters shall be referred to committee before coming to the Senate (unless extenuating circumstances apply, as indicated in Article III, Agenda, 3 above)."]

Remaining 2026-27 University Senate Meetings

All meetings are on Zoom

October 16, 2026

November 20, 2026

December 11, 2026

January 22, 2027

February 19, 2027

March 19, 2027