

# RUSA

Elections Committee

## Fall 2018 Elections Report

Alexandra Anderson, Fall Elections Committee Chair

N. Tharney, Fall Elections Appeals Chair

Laura Christiansen, Advisor

**Introduction:** The Fall elections committee is charged with running the Fall elections successfully. The chair of the committee endeavored to define success as recruitment of promising potential new member to RUSA and continuing the legitimacy of student government through our elections. Members of the committee were approved by President Suzanne Link. Chairperson Alex Anderson was chosen as Fall Elections Committee Chair, following the rules in the Election Code, stating that the Internal Affairs Chair shall hold the position. General committee members were Ryed Jadun, Tilak Bhatnagar, Navruz Baum and Amir Jamal. These individuals were chosen because they were a part of other organizations that send representatives to RUSA.

The committee was formed at the very beginning of the semester. Dates were set for Declaration of Intent to Run, Information Sessions, Election Period, and Swearing In. Please see below.

Monday September 17 9 pm @DSC Douglass Lounge

Tuesday September 18 8 pm @BSC The Cove

Wednesday September 19 8:30 pm @LSC Coffeehouse

Thursday September 20 6 pm @SAC Lounge

Declaration of Intent Deadline

OPEN: September 13, 2018

CLOSED: September 22, 2018 (11:59 PM)

Campaigning Period

Begins: September 13, 2018

Ends: October 3, 2018 11:59 PM

During this period, RUSA members are encouraged to actively campaign and solicit support. See the

Elections Code for specific rules governing campaigning and solicitation of votes.

Elections Period

OPEN: October 2, 2018 at 12:00 am CLOSED: October 3, 2018 at 11:59 pm

During this period, students of Rutgers University may actively vote for candidates in the elections. This period may be extended by the Elections Committee. Official notice will be sent to all candidates and the student body.

#### Final Budget Reports

Due October 4th at 12:00 PM (Noon)

#### Final Refunds Receipts

Due October 10th at 12:00 PM (Noon)

The deadlines were established in accordance with the Elections Code. New deadlines were added to accommodate the Permanent Resolution to file Budget Reports and Fundraising procedures. The budgeting process was amended in order to elucidate the process. A model table was distributed to candidates with clear instructions. The Chair was very responsive to questions and answered all questions. All candidates/tickets were required to fill them out, even if they did not incur donations or expenses. Please see Appendix One for the Legislation. These rules were established as Temporary and Permanent Legislation. These rules expand on regulations set in the previous year's elections, under the authority of the RUSA Elections Code. Please review Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 Election reports to see changes made over time.

**Summary:** This election cycle, 48 people filled out the Declaration of Intent. 47 were eligible. Around 7 people dropped from the process between Declaration of Intent period and the Seating In. There were 35 positions available. Please see Appendix B for specific positions available.

There were several vacancies and positions with no candidates as a result. These were Douglass and Cook at Large positions, and a couple of Class positions on a few campuses.

One ticket, Unscrew RU, was formed. The candidates on that ticket were more successful than students who were not on a ticket. Over 900 students voted for a total of over 1,100 votes cast. This is approximately equivalent to 20% of first years living on campus. This engagement is down by half compared to last year.

Several positions, like Livingston 2022 and Busch 2022, had a large number of candidates. The corresponding At-Large positions did not have enough people running to fill vacancies. The elections committee decided to send the people in these categories' emails encouraging them to switch positions in order to elect people to available positions. This was successful on Livingston. Please see Appendix Two for these emails.

**Reflections:** The turnout for this election was down since the previous Fall elections in 2017. The election committee recommends future election committees to work early on to PR the elections and find the relevant student networking spaces, in person and online, to maximize students running in the election and voting in the election. Many election information sessions were very helpful to the students who came, and encouraging more people to attend should be a priority. Also, the IA committee should look into making and investigation into distribution of students to representatives. This cycle, Douglass positions were not filled, and 20 people voted on that campus. Whereas, Off Campus Representatives received two and a half times the number of votes and did not receive a position.

**Post Election:** There were no appeals during this election cycle. Nicholas Tharney, the RUSA Parliamentarian, was the chair of the committee. Alexandra Lily and Mark Nietzsche were members. Members were sworn in the next week. Directions and guidance in filling empty positions were given to newly elected Campus Chairs.

Appendices A-C



**Temporary Resolution #1 of the Fall 2018 Elections Committee**

September 9th, 2018

Whereas, the Elections Committee expects candidates to uphold a high level of integrity when conducting themselves in Elections.

Whereas, the Elections Committee has a duty to decide the particular procedure for each election and issuing regulations to clarify the Elections Code,

Be it hereby enacted, pursuant to the authority granted this committee under the RUSA Elections Code, that the Election Committee issues the following TEMPORARY regulations, binding on the Fall 2018 RUSA Election:

1. The dates, times, event descriptions and other matters mentioned therein in Appendix A shall be binding on the RUSA Fall 2018 Elections.
2. In accordance with the RUSA Constitution, the positions listed in Appendix B shall be elected in the RUSA Fall 2018 Elections.
3. Appendix C outlines formatting for Budget Reports of all contributions and expenses.
4. Guides candidates to refund all contributors in the event of excess funds left over at the end of the elections excluding funds used for outstanding debt. Excess funds will be

5. distributed proportionally to donors based on how much in total they contributed. However, funds less than \$10 in excess for one candidate are exempt. This amount shall increase by \$10 for each individual candidate that there on on a ticket up to \$50. Alternatively, funds may be donated to a 501(c)(3) charity organization. Candidates and contributors must attach either signed receipts, or other proof of the funds being returned. In the event that a refund to a donor would be less than \$5, the candidate does not have to refund such money, if such funds are refunded to other donors or are give to 501(c)(3) organizations.

Be it further resolved, this resolution shall go into effect on September 10th, 2018.

## **Appendix A**

### **Official**

### **Timeline**

### **Information**

### **Sessions**

The Elections Committee will discuss and answer questions about the timeline, and guidelines of the RUSA Election. Candidates, upon request, will be provided with RUSA's Elections Guidelines, including the "Declaration of Intent." It is strongly advised that students seeking candidacy attend. You are free to drop in at any time to receive the information. If you cannot make any of the below meeting times please email us and the Elections Committee can set up a meeting time to go over the process and share the PowerPoint with you.

Monday September 17 9 pm @DSC Douglass

Lounge Tuesday September 18 8 pm @BSC The

Cove Wednesday September 19 8:30 pm @LSC

Coffeehouse Thursday September 20 6 pm

@SAC Lounge

### **Declaration of Intent Deadline**

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**Final Budget Reports**

Due October 4th at 12:00 PM (Noon)

**Final Refunds Receipts**

Due October 10th at 12:00 PM (Noon)



## **Appendix B**

Open

Positions

Douglass

(5) At Large

Reps (1) Class

of 2022 Rep

Cook

(4) At Large

Reps (1) Class

of 2022 Rep

Livingston

(5) At Large

Reps (1) Class

of 2022 Rep

Busch

(6) At Large

Reps (1) Class

of 2022 Rep

College Avenue

(5) At Large

Reps (1) Class

of 2022 Rep

Off Campus

(8) At Large Reps

## Appendix C

### Budget Format

*Fill in all items in parentheses with appropriate information and in appropriate amount of lines.*

<b>Label</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	
(Names of all outside contributors)	(Total amount of ALL outside contributions (not to exceed \$50))	
(Line items of all contributors' names over \$20)	\$(Total from each person)	
Contributions under \$20	\$(Total of all contributions less than \$20 each)	
		\$(Total contributions)
(Line items of expenses)	\$(Total for each)	
		\$(Total expenses)
		\$(Final Balance (If positive, follow refund procedure.))

Appendix D



Resolution #2 of the Elections

Committee 9/21/18

Whereas, the Elections Committee has a duty to issue regulations to clarify the Elections Code in regards to budgets and finance,

Be it hereby enacted, pursuant to the authority granted this committee under the RUSA Elections Code, that the RUSA Elections Committee adopts the following PERMANENT regulations:

1. Appendix D shall be provided to each candidate in RUSA elections. This Appendix is a compilation of non-binding, advisory recommendations to candidates on how to be an effective RUSA member.
2. Guides candidates to refund all contributors in the event of excess funds left over at the end of the elections excluding funds used for outstanding debt. Excess funds will be distributed proportionally to donors based on how much in total they contributed. However, funds less than \$10 in excess for one candidate are exempt. This amount shall increase by \$10 for each individual candidate that are on a ticket up to \$50. Alternatively, funds may be donated to a 501(c)(3) charity organization. Candidates and contributors must attach either signed receipts, or other proof of the funds being returned. In the event that a refund to a donor would be less than \$5, the candidate

does not have to refund such money, if such funds are refunded to other donors or are given to 501(c)(3) organizations.

Be it further resolved, this resolution shall go into effect on September 29th, 2018 in order to ensure sufficient opportunity for public comment.

## Appendix E- Email Regarding Switching Positions

Hello Candidate,

Thank you for filling out the Declaration of Intent to Run! You are eligible to run in the election and are able to continue your campaign. Please refer to the Elections Code, and all Temporary and Permanent regulations of the Election Committee at [rusa-ia.us](http://rusa-ia.us) under the Elections Committee tab. The voting period is between October 2nd and October 3rd, from midnight to midnight, for exactly 48hs.

I wanted to give you the opportunity to switch from the 2022 Campus Representative to the At-Large position for your campus. The only difference between these positions is who you will be representing: all students on a campus vs all freshmen on a campus. We have a lot of people running for the 2022 positions, and there are several At-Large positions without any candidates. The Elections Committee is in no way guaranteeing a win for the At-Large position of you switch. But, you will have significantly better chances at receiving a position in the Assembly by switching. This is merely advice, and you are not required to switch the position you are running for.

Please respond to this email if you would like to switch to At-Large by 10 pm on Friday the 28th. If you do not want to switch, and stay as a candidate for a 2022 position, you do not need to reply to this email. If you do not reply, you will be maintained as a 2022 campus candidate.

If you have any questions, please let me know. If you would like to file an appeal about the elections and campaigning, please email [parliamentarian.rusa@gmail.com](mailto:parliamentarian.rusa@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
Alex Anderson

## Appendix F -Confirmation of Eligibility

Hello Candidate,

Thank you for filling out the Declaration of Intent to Run! You are eligible to run in the election and are able to continue your campaign. Please refer to the Elections Code, and all Temporary and Permanent regulations of the Election Committee at [rusa-ia.us](http://rusa-ia.us) under the Elections Committee tab. If you have any questions, please let me know. If you would like to file an appeal about the elections and campaigning, please email [parliamentarian.rusa@gmail.com](mailto:parliamentarian.rusa@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
Alex Anderson  
Fall Elections Committee Chair  
Rutgers University Student Assembly  
[rusa.elections@gmail.com](mailto:rusa.elections@gmail.com)  
[www.ruassembly.com](http://www.ruassembly.com)

## Appendix G- Email to All Undergraduates Regarding Elections

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### Be a Part of Student Government!

RUSA Elections Committee <rusa.elections@gmail.com>  
To: nb\_undergrad@rams.rutgers.edu

Thu, Sep 20, 2018 at 12:56 AM

Hello Fellow Students,

I am reaching out to you today, calling you to serve in student government, and advocate for improvements to the university. As the student government of Rutgers University, we identify resources, improve resources, and create new resources for students. If you are interested in making a difference during your time here, run in our fall elections. I know running for RUSA was the best choice I have made at Rutgers. I have learned so much and met so many like-minded friends. To run, you will have to fill out a declaration of intent to run to verify eligibility for campus positions. It is open now to 9/22 at midnight at the end of the day, at <https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/224146>

We will be having one more information session,  
Thursday September 20 6 pm Student Activities Center Lounge

Please come and learn about the expectations of a RUSA member and the rules of the elections. You will also receive tips on how to run a successful campaign and oreos. The voting period will be all day October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, for 48 hours, and unofficial results will be announced October 4th. Members are expected to attend the full off-campus retreat October 12 to October 14. If you have any questions about the election or the process to run, please e-mail [rusa.elections@gmail.com](mailto:rusa.elections@gmail.com) and visit <http://rusa-ia.us/election-committee-resolutions/>.

Your fellow student servant,

Alex Anderson  
Fall Elections Committee Chair  
Rutgers University Student Assembly  
[rusa.elections@gmail.com](mailto:rusa.elections@gmail.com)  
[www.ruassembly.com](http://www.ruassembly.com)

## Appendix H- Vote Tallies

### **Busch At-Large Representatives**

Grace Daniel (UnScrew RU), 66 (29%)

Steve Carroll (UnScrew RU), 55 (24%)

Nikita Shankar, 48 (21)

Albert Joseph, 37 (16%)

Joquenes Sims, 21 (9%)

### **College Avenue At Large Representatives**

Matthew Brower (UnScrew RU), 138 (22%)

Brady Rivera (UnScrew RU), 133 (21%)

David Tan (UnScrew RU), 117 (18%)

Hira Hussain (UnScrew RU), 104 (16%)

Ase Awari, 79 (12%)

Afam Emenaka, 68 (11%)

### **Cook At Large Representatives**

Nicholas LaBelle (UnScrew RU), 26 (31%)

Jeremy King (UnScrew RU), 23 (27%)

Ariel Pina (UnScrew RU), 19 (22%)

Brad Espinosa, 17 (20%)

### **Douglass At Large Representatives**

Amna Ahmed, 19 (50%)

Masser Ghannam, 19 (50%)

### **Livingston At Large Representatives**

Bijan Terani (UnScrew RU), 119 (29%)

Balaji Krishnan (UnSrew RU), 107 (26%)

Mahmoud Ajaj (UnScrew RU), 85 (21%)

Subhadha Kartik, 52 (13%)

Memphis Chen, 48 (12%)

### **Off Campus At Large**

Logan Adams (UnScrew RU), 203 (12.9%)

Sebastian Romero (UnScrew RU), 184 (11.7%)

Nimra Jaqob (UnScrew RU), 173 (11%)

Mohammed Attiyeh (UnScrew RU), 172 (10.9%)

Alim Memon (UnScrew RU), 172 (10.9%)

Afaf Tahir (UnScrew RU), 171 (10.8%)

Jorge Urena (UnScrew RU), 166 (10.5%)

Monsef Oukil, 54 (3.4%)

Rachel Grinberg, 50 (3.2%)

Andrew Petryna, 44 (2.8%)

Brian Johnson, 44 (2.8%)

Noelia Vicente, 41 (2.6%)

Abhishek Kashalikar, 36 (2.3%)

Pragya Jha, 33 (2.1%)

Aimie Dormeus, 31 (2%)

### **Busch Class of 2022 Representative**

Chynna Walsh, 27 (71%)— *\*Note: Withdrew after election period concluded, and before swearing in*

No Confidence, 11 (29%)



### **College Avenue Class if 2022 Representative**

Marc Younker (UnScrew RU), 122 (74%)

Michael Rangel, 37 (23%)

Asim Malik, 3 (2%)

No Confidence, 2 (1%)

### **Cook Class of 2022 Representative**

Brian Nager, 9 (90%)

No Confidence, 1 (10%)

### **Douglass Class of 2022 Representative**

Joanne Kim, 9 (82%)

No Confidence, 2 (18%)

### **Livingston Class of 2022 Representatives**

Nikhil Sadaranganey, 83 (57%)

Hadiqa Shahid, 27 (19%)

No Confidence, 18 (12.5%)

Nihal Degala, 17 (11.7%)

Appendix H- Official Results of the Winners

Busch At-large Representatives	Albert Joseph Grace Daniel Nikita Shankar Steven Carroll
<i>Busch Class of 2022 Representative</i>	<i>*Withdrew- See Above</i>
College Ave At-large Representatives	Ase Awari Brady Rivera Davin Tan Hira Hussain Matthew Brower
College Ave Class of 2022 Representative	Marc Younker
Cook At-large Representatives	Brad Espinosa Jeremy King Nicholas LaBelle
Cook Class of 2022 Representative	Brian Nager
Douglass At-large Representatives	Masser Ghannam Amna Ahmed
Douglass Class of 2022 Representative	Joanne Kim
Livingston At-large Representatives	Balaji Krishnan Bijan Terani Subhadha Kartik Mahmoud Ajaj Memphis Chen
Livingston Class of 2022 Representative	Nikhil Sadaranganey
Off Campus At-large Representatives	Afaf Tahir Alim Memon Jorge Urena Logan Adams

Mohammed Attiyeh

Monsef Oukil

Nimra Jaqob

Sebastian Romero