



Engineering Governing Council

*The legislative body representing the students
of the School of Engineering at Rutgers University.*

**Monday, October 22nd, 2007
8:10 PM, BCC 116**

Call to Order 8:13 PM

General meetings of the Engineering Governing Council (EGC) convene at 8:10 PM by the Chair. The Secretary of the EGC shall call the roll at this time.

Approval of the Agenda/Minutes

The agenda for the current meeting shall be approved at this time. Any minutes sent out and/or posted from previous meetings will be approved at this time.

Guest Speaker

Ms. Elizabeth O'Connell-Ganges, *Executive Director of Student Centers and Programs*

To give an over view of the department, right now it is called the University Student Centres, which comprises of all the student centres including the SAC, the office of student involvement and the student program and leadership board which comprises the RUPA.

The goal of the department is to create a sense of one university, so the initiatives being put into place are such that all students can have unique yet the same experiences. The department is also trying to have consistencies in the student centres especially with room reservations. The registration of clubs and organization are now going to be uniform around all the campuses. There is also a marketing unit to help with publicizing events www.getinvolved.rutgers.edu has an events calendar where you can see what campus events are happening when. You might have noticed the weekly Targum ads this is also part of the marketing unit's effort to spread the word about the events that are taking place. The benefit of being in one department is to increase the programs happening for students as well as get more student activity in things happening on campus.

By the end of the year there will be a survey to get feedback from student leaders and regular students so that whatever changes need to be made at the end of the year will be taken into serious consideration as this is a fairly new department that was rushed into being because of the short time span of the re-organization of the entire university.

Q&A

Senator Nangle: If I need a room for an event urgently how do I go about accessing info about what places are available?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: You can go online and register under the EGC and there will be a calendar that will show what rooms are available for whatever day you want, if you decide to put in for a reservation, the room that you have chosen will be placed on hold and by the next day a representative of the department will contact you to give you a confirmation of the request.

Representative Kremski: You mentioned a search feature, when will the search feature on the website be fixed?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: We are working on that and we would like some engineers to help out (LOL). If any of you is interested, you can volunteer with the marketing unit of my department.

Senator Kanj: I have used the online system before, but when I tried to reserve academic space it was really hard I know it isn't under the jurisdiction of your department, but is there a way of moving the two departments together or at least sharing some of your resources to make it easier for students to reserve academic space?

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Ms O'Connell Ganges: We can look into sharing some recommendations with that department but because I have a relatively tiny staff I don't see the two departments working together in any other way.

President Spatocco: During the expansion of the Livingston Student Centre, what programming activities will be taking place on that campus?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: It will be hard while the renovation is going on because there will be no multipurpose room. However, after the renovation has taken place there will be more programming initiatives because there will be a lot of space in the facility.

VP Harjani: What happened to the art gallery and commuter lounge in the BCC?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: The art gallery removal hopefully is temporary because the advising office there is still looking for an office so this is just temporary and the art gallery will resume soon. As for the commuter lounge it serves as office space for staff members that were displaced with the restructuring.

VP Soyosa: What tools are available for students who would like to publicize their events?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: Right now it is just listservs but hopefully after we get our head above water our marketing unit can help out the clubs and organization for a small fee.

Senator Halim: Is there a way to work with OIT to set up a computer lab in the BCC?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: This is an issue that has never come up, and since we are challenged for space in every student centre, I don't think it is a feasible idea at all.

Representative Shah: How about just setting up one or two computers in the student centres?

Ms O'Connell Ganges: We have spoken about that but not about setting up printing stations.

Forum and Reports

Open Discussion *Members of the public are encouraged to speak at this time*

Andzej Waszkiewicz: I am the Microsoft student representative here at Rutgers. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity, because you can get sponsorship or even technical support for your events. If you would like to know more you can contact me.

Matt Lunneman: Rutgers Club on the 23rd of October is the RES' Meet and Greet. Also, on the 7th of November, we the RES are hosting a career night in conjunction with Tau Beta Pi, signups are with Career Services it will be nice if you also had Bios as well

External Representatives

Standing Committee Reports

Engineering Affairs: We discussed more about the departmental tours. We have signup sheets for departments now and we should have a set schedule soon. Albert is looking into fixing the suggestion boxes as well as getting more. The study room in ARC is available exclusively to engineers. YAY

University Affairs: Look at the resolutions tonight. We are also working on the deferred maintenance issues: we are working to put up an online form soon so you guys can enter what problems, please you have let your friends know about this or else there is no way we can know what maintenance problems affect most students.

IRC: We have been looking at the roles and responsibilities for RUSA reps and BCC reps. 2 societies have been declared inactive SERV and XE (If anyone of their reps is reading this please contact Rohit soonest)

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Publicity: We are still working on the mainstay even which will now be held in the spring so we are pushing for Divya's event as well as the t-shirt design contest soeshirt@gmail.com.

Midnight Munchies on the 31st by the engineering lawn come by and get mucho candy.

Finance: Don't forget people, I need your receipts. Spring funding packets will come out soon look out email me if you want mid semester funding form.

Events/t-shirt: please advertise to your societies about the t-shirts. Winners may get a free t-shirt. We are having a sugar rush event during the study period before finals.

In-body Elections and Confirmation of Officers

(2) Class of 2008 Representative

NEW BUSINESS

EGC07F05 Bill to Recognize the Society of Manufacturing Engineers

EGC07F04 Resolution to Support NJPIRG's Referendum and to Encourage Students to Vote "Yes" rushed to old business

OLD BUSINESS

EGC07F01 Resolution to Provide Departmental Tours to all First Year Students

passed by unanimous consent

EGC07F02 Bill to Recognize Material Advantage passes 41-1

EGC07F03 Resolution Against the Institution of a Cigarette Sale Ban passes 26-12-6

Against: Representative Sodhia-The idea that if you don't have cigarettes on sale on campus won't stop people from smoking, is not one I really agree with. While it won't stop it, it may reduce it for lighter smokers since we live in a relatively lazy society. Also there is an inconvenience for non smokers who have to walk around campus with smokers smoking around the campus. I don't think there is anything stopping people who smoke from going outside the campus to purchase cigarettes.

For: Representative Gaudios: On- campus cigarettes are more expensive and if we (I smoke as well) want to spend more money purchasing the cigarettes we should be allowed to buy it on campus.

Against: Representative Nici: By getting rid of the cigarettes smokers will have more difficulty getting cigarettes and I think it is everyone's responsibility to look out for the welfare of their friends and their family, by doing this you are kind of helping your friends.

For: Representative Shaw: This bill was written because we think the ban is poor way of going about curbing people from smoking, however the costs of not selling the cigarettes is one the things we took into consideration before writing this bill.

Representative McTeigue- Why are we being so considerate to smokers when they are usually inconsiderate to non-smokers?

Representative Shaw: This bill is more of a cost thing like I said stopping the sale isn't going to stop the smokers from smoking

Against: Representative Vars: I think the inconvenience will stop smokers from smoking on campus. I think the message behind the ban is what our focus should be on, which is we are not happy with the fact that smoking is bad for the health of the smokers.

For: Senator Kanj: There is no proof that banning the sales of cigarettes will reduce the amount of people smoking and this doesn't mean that every smoker is inconsiderate that is a poor generalization. The point is that the stores will be losing a lot of money if cigarette sale is banned, stores should be able to make the decision on what to sell.

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EGC07F04 Resolution to Support NJPIRG's Referendum and to Encourage Students to Vote "Yes" passes 40-3

Representative Nagorna: If we pass the referendum can we still choose to remove the fee from our term bill?

Andrzej Waszkiewicz: Do you have a figure for how many people actually pay to support NJPIRG?

Representative Born: What was the reason for NJPIRG to be funded by the term bill as opposed to getting money from the government?

For: Senator Nangle: They actually help students so getting them the fee increase will help them function better to help students

For: Senator Kanj: They are a prominent voice for students on a national level, funding them will help us not lose this voice.

Against: Representative Born: Last year for the Targum referendum we encouraged students to go out and vote as opposed to encouraging them to vote yes. I also think that instead of getting money via the term bill, the organization should get money from a student government.

Also, I don't feel comfortable with student fees going to fund lobbyists in DC which is what part of NJPIRG does.

Point of Information (Rep Sodhia) - NJPIRG can't get money from a student government because they do not come under student organization, they are a national organization.

Forum and Reports

President's Report

Thank you Andrzej for being here tonight, also PGC we really appreciate your presence here tonight. Next month is "What's On Your Mind Month", we are going to find out students' issues with Rutgers, so we are planning an assault on all campuses so all student government will be working to find out the opinions of students that we represent. As engineers we should be able to hit all of the BAMM dorms and well as the dining hall. Mind you this is not a publicity stunt we are genuinely interested in finding out what students think about the happenings at Rutgers.

It has been proposed and is possible that Mattia will be an Engineering only dorm (Hear Hear) Please find some senior friends to fill the open Class of 2008 position.

Society Reports

RFR: We have begun actively working on our car, and things are looking good.

MA: Thanks for recognizing our society, our first event planned is a movie night this week.

SWE: We are having an event called Freshman 15, we will be telling freshmen 15 things they need to know and do during their first year as engineers everyone is welcome to attend.

EKN: We are having a corporate day which is the other way round for career fairs here, students will be proposing to people from the corporate ladders, everyone is welcome to attend.

OXE: Had a research symposium last week.

AEMB: 23 October 2007 in the BME building at 5, we will be having a talk about everything that concerns people interested in Biomedical Engineering including but not limited to curricula, research opportunities etc.

AICHe: We are having a Peer mentoring event on the 23rd October 2007 in conjunction with OXE

EWB: We are looking for someone good with Film Making. We are also having a Water-Watch event on the 28th in Edison's CCC Ranch, if you are looking for Community Service hours you're your Honour Society this is a good way to garner those hours.

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Keramos: It looks like we may have more than 10 members this year and we are also working to become a full fledged Honours Society.

Internal Representative and Committee Reports

Representative Born: In the BCC we have an open Class of 2008 spot, we also have an open RUSA spot please show interest so we can have even more engineers at RUSA, and we also have a Commuter spot open.

Open Discussion *Members of the public are encouraged to speak at this time*

Press Questions

Adjournment 10:40 PM

The Secretary of the EGC shall call roll at this time

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