



# Engineering Governing Council

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

Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
8:10 PM, BCC 116

## Call to Order (8:12 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

**Dean Jeffrey Rankin**, *Busch Campus Dean, Assistant Dean for First-Year Engineering Students*

*This year, obvious changes have been made via the adaptation of the recommendations offered by the Task force on the transformation of undergraduate education.*

*One of the obvious changes is that on every campus, there is now a **Dean of Students** and a **Campus Dean**. Both positions are by no means the same in the area of responsibilities assigned to the positions. The former academic campuses of Rutgers College, Livingston College, Cook/Douglass College all had Academic Deans, but Busch campus never had one, hence the dissolution of academic campuses created the need for the position of an Academic Dean on Busch hence the creation of the Campus Dean on every campus who then has the responsibilities of an Academic Dean.*

*The Dean of Students on Busch Campus is Dean Stillwagon who will be dealing with issues that might impact academics, but are not academical in their own right ie issues that are out of the faculty-academics spectra. Previously, students had to go to the Office of Academic affairs to get an excuse for accident related events that caused the students to miss classes, however that job will now be handled by the Dean of Students because such an issue is not purely academics related even though it does have an impact on the academics of the students in question. Another good thing to come out of this restructuring is that students of a particular campus are no longer limited to speaking to a particular Dean of Students on issues that they need help with, now we can speak to any of the deans on any of the campuses provided the deans have the time to speak with us.*

*Campus Dean-Dean Rankin for Busch is a 3 year appointment rotating amongst faculty, he continues to be the first year dean of engineers in addition to that, make connections among the faculty and the undergraduates, co curricula activities, develop living learning communities eg Barr hall where they study around a theme- engineering.*

*As students on Busch campus we have to let the Campus Dean know that activities we would like that are academic in nature, yet goes beyond the borders of the course eg fine-tuning the research programs on Busch. Dean Rankin's office hours will be on Wednesday in the Office of the Campus Dean at the Busch Campus Student Centre, it is our duty as students to talk to him!!*

*So far the challenges that have faced these new creations are centred on communication. The First-year students were told about the new positions during their orientation, but such has not been officially extended*

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to continuing students especially Commuters who don't have the same access to the grapevine as on-campus students do. There are chances that some confusion in continuing students may develop since the new roles have not been properly explained to them.

Processes however have been put in place to curb the resulting confusion, a website is being developed, we are hoping the EGC helps to spread the word, the new deans will also be touring Campus Councils, there is going to be a Commuter orientation.

Also, every campus has something that defines them, eg Busch is known for research, sport complexes etc. In the next few months, a theme will be proposed in form of a few words that will give people a strong idea about what Busch Campus is about.

### *Questions:*

**Representative Trager:** A suggestion as to how to reach out to continuing students as well as commuters is to give a BBQ, students love to eat

**Dean Rankin:** A social event seems just about right, and you are correct students do love free food

**Representative Nagorna:** Is there a means by which your office can have commuters mix around with other students so they can have more access to information?

**Dean Rankin:** There are challenges to having commuters stay around all day when they do not have to.

**Dean Brown:** My question is in relation to library hours, do you control the extension of library hours?

**Dean Rankin:** While I do not have control over that issue, I have considerable influence over it, if I spoke to the administration of Busch that it was imperative the students got more hours in the library, I would be able to bring about an extension.

**Representative Sodhia:** We as continuing students have been coming to the deans' office in the engineering building for information that concerns us, should we now try to wean ourselves off that and come to yours and Dean Stillwagon's office?

**Dean Rankin:** As engineers you should still go to the office of Academic Affairs in the Engineering building, the only overlap in the new offices and the previous format is with Dean Brown's office eg he used to give advising on financial aid so he was by default the dean of students, but you do not have to stop going to him if you feel more comfortable talking with him.

**BCC President Covente:** Have there been discussions between the different Deans of Students as to handle any clashes between campuses?

**Dean Rankin:** At this point I do not envision such clashes happening, however if they were to occur, I would report to the VP of Undergraduate Education, who happens to be my direct superior.

### Forum and Reports

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

**Matt Lundon:** The Rutgers Engineering Society ie the engineering alumni, have a Meet and Greet October 17. On November 7 there will be a career fair. Jim the former RES representative to the EGC said there is a national middle school competition he is organising which is to serve as an introduction to Engineering, he is looking for students to serve as judges feel free to contact myself or Jim if you are interested.

**BCC President Covente:** The first Busch Campus Council meeting is tomorrow in room 120C here in the

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Student Centre at 8:10pm. RUSA LA committee is planning a constitution day next week, and the legislative arm of the Busch campus Council will be working with them, we are looking for volunteers who would like to table here at the student centre to attract voter registration and inform people about the constitution.

**Representative Trager:** I work with Tent State University, we are also running a voter registration project if anyone would like to volunteer as well feel free to contact me, also we are having our general interest meeting at 9:15PM at Scott Hall room 104. Also I don't know how many students know this but the Mathematics department recently got a grant to develop a program monitoring students via facebook, since I don't think it is ethical, I thought I should throw this information out here.

### External Representatives

**PGC:** We had our first meeting today on the agenda was trying to find a way by which graduate students can get football tickets. We are looking forward to working with this council.

**Senator Kanj:** This weekend, RUSA had a brainstorming session as to what we hope to accomplish this year, our first meeting of the year is this Thursday I recommend that members of this council attend especially members of my committee, University Affairs, I'm watching! (RFR seems to be eager this year!)

### Standing Committee Reports

**IRC:** We are in charge of technical aspects, elections, attendance much as we don't like to send out warning emails, we have to do it, so please be careful we would like to have an incident free year.

**EA:** We are involved with the engineering community, preferential housing, study abroad for engineers etc.

**UA:** We deal with university wide issues a little bit broader than this council. This year on our agenda is the task force implementation on alumni relations, football stadium expansion, safety issues. Also, we bring in guest speakers, and send out representatives to other councils.

**SA:** We send out envoys to the societies under the EGC, also anyone interested in starting up or restarting a society must come through this committee first. Grill/table rentals for society events are also done through me.

**Publicity:** We publicize all EGC events, and sell our name to the university we did a good job getting our name out last year. We are also in process of creating an event that happens annually that will become a trademark of the council, we are also in charge of publicizing elections.

**Finance:** We give out the funds, mid semester funding and all the boring stuff that involves money.

**Events:** We plan events catering to engineers, eg open house, convocation, engineering cup. This summer we were extremely busy, we planned the first-year outreach event last week that was very successful. Please sign the retreat waiver forms as soon as possible.

### NEW BUSINESS

### OLD BUSINESS

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### Forum and Reports

#### President's Report

*Thank you all for coming out tonight, I am looking forward to working with you lot this year.*

*The first RUSA meeting is on Thursday and President McCormick will be speaking, and we know how much everyone loves to hear him speak. There will be about 30 extra seats so let me know if you plan to attend so we can put down a reservation for more seats.*

*Also the problem of Deferred Maintenance is a huge issue at Rutgers and there have been talks by the state to allocate money to fix some of these problems, I would be glad if you as members of this council compiled lists of things you think need to be fixed and forward the lists to myself or any member of the e-board.*

*First-year elections are taking place soon, and I am happy with the turn out of freshmen at tonight's meeting, petition forms will be handed out at the convocation on the 14th of September.*

*For societies, it is vital that you attend the convocation to attract new members and if you have not emailed anyone concerning your attendance at the convocation please do so now.*

#### Society Reports

**RFR:** *We didn't do too well his year at the competition. We came almost last due to problems we had with our engine, we cant get our car started. Right now, we have started making new designs for next year's competition and I think i should throw this out now even though it is quite early but entrance fees have been raised from \$500 to \$1000.*

**Pi Club:** *We aren't dead even though we are down to a minimum but we had a successful involvement fair and we will be at the convocation on Friday.*

**SWE:** *We are having an Ice cream social Wednesday everyone is welcome to attend.*

**PSR:** *We are having our info session on Thursday at SERC 211, RUSH is next week and everyone is welcome to attend, chicks dudes are all welcome.*

**AIAA:** *We plan events directed to people who are interested in aeronautics, this year we want to be more professional related so as to help undergraduates have some hands on experience prior to graduation. We are developing a new website as well. Also we are looking for creative people to join you do not have to be interested in aeronautics.*

**Keramos:** *There's an open meeting Thursday room 201 in the ceramic building, we are also promoting a new society material advantage.*

**SPD:** *Our RUSH week s also coming up soon, I'm not sure of the exact date but I will speak t the RUSH-Chair and let you all know.*

**SHE:** *Our first meeting is Tuesday at the student centre, every one is welcome to attend you don't have to be Hispanic or an engineer to attend.*

**ASME:** *We'll be at the convocation come check it out.*

#### Internal Representative and Committee Reports

**Representative Born:** *There are 3 open spots in the Busch Campus Council, 2 Class of 2008 spots and 1 Class of 2009. Please come if you want to get more leadership experience, our first meeting is on Tuesday here at the Student Centre in room 120C.*

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

*Reminder, Societies that have not replied to the email on Convocation please talk to VP Hajarni.*

**Press Questions**

**Adjournment (9:40PM)**

*The Secretary of the EGC shall call roll at this time*

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