

Association of Residence Hall Students

Council Meeting for Monday 1/23/2017



Call to Order

Roll Call:

John McGlynn - Director of Advocacy
Andrew Kline - Activities Chair
Nick Ottinger - President
Kyle Shuey - Vice President
Laura Daly - Director of Programming
Sangeeth Varadaraj - Director of Finance
Leigh Bernetich - Philanthropy Chair
Jessica Mingle - Cinemas Chair
Matt Beyen - Social Chair
Robert Fauver - NCC
Brian Kyle - PHRA
Brendan Maguire - ENRA
Brad Lockwood - WHRA
Cameron Francis - WHRA President
Akhil Dharmavan - Web Design
Kay Rinkers - IPC & South President
Kayla Olowin - Housing & Food Services Chair
Megan Mercurio - President NHAS
Tucker Antico - Sustainability Chair
Mitch Rosen - Movin' On
Hannah Yost - Pollock
Laekin O'Hara - Social Chair
Amanda Klovekorn
Nick Mahon - Sustainability Chair
Jessica Shuey - VP NHAS
Mark Rameker - Advisor
Ryan - East
David Carcamo - PHRA President
Alex - RAM Squad VP
Teresa Steck

Guest of the Week

- Officer
 - 1 arson
 - 10 drug law
 - 1 forgery
 - 5 health and safety
 - 8 liquor law
 - 1 sex offense
 - 2 thefts
 - Andrew: What was the arson?
 - Usually its someone getting caught burning paper in a hallway

- Rob Fauver: What was the forgery
 - Officer: Checks
- Laura Daly: what does a drug paraphrenalia account for?
 - Anything that may hide or conceal marijuana before it enters the body.

Open Student Forum

- RAM Squad
 - Budget Request
 - Requesting \$2,000, See below.

Liaison Reports

- **Movin' On - Mitch Rosen** (mdr5000@psu.edu)
 - Getting close to finishing up the lineup
 - Promo video came out last Thursday, share it on Facebook to spread the word!
 - Brian Kyle: When will the lineup be announced?
 - Mitch: I think March.
- **National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) - OPEN**
 - Rob: We had an informal meeting a week from yesterday at Chipotle. Ben cannot attend then no Frills conference. Laura Daly will be taking her place.
- **Panhellenic Council - OPEN**
 - Laekin - voting on social policy about changing it to Wednesday the week before. They want to donate \$3,000 to THON and \$200 to each chapter for events in the Panhellenic community. Each social registers 7 days in advance.
- **University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) - Kyleigh Higie** (keh5550@psu.edu)
 - New At-Large Representatives
 - Walking desk in White Building - does not require a gym membership
 - Brian Kyle: What is a walking desk?
 - A treadmill with a desk in front of it that you can do work on.
 - Nutrition Habit Challenge

Adviser Report

- **Mark Rameker** (mjr22@psu.edu), **John Hurst** (jeh9@psu.edu)
 - The President formed a task force to investigate the on-campus smoking policy.

Area Reports

- **East (EHRA) - Sanket Narayana** (svn5268@psu.edu)
 - Nothing to Report
 - Rob: Planning on new events
- **Eastview/Nittany (ENRA) - Jessica Mingle** (ifm5509@psu.edu)
 - Working on a welcome back event, Thursday.
- **North (NHAS) - Megan Mercurio** (mem6323@psu.edu)
 - NHAS is hosting a Cookies, Cocoa, and Crafting day this Sunday at 2PM.
 - We also have been planning for a super bowl watch party that we will host in one of the hall's basements.
- **Pollock (PHRA) - David Carcamo** (djc5782@psu.edu)
 - Blood Drive (2/8)
 - Programming
- **South (SHRA) - Kay Rinkers** (kgr5093@psu.edu)
 - Valentines Day event (2/13)
- **West (WHRA) - Cameron Francis** (cyf5173@psu.edu)
 - Wintery Wonderland of West Halls event was a success
 - Working on our ideas for our end of semester event

Internal Committee Reports

- **Historian - OPEN**
- **Homecoming** - Tasks finished for the year
- **Internal Policy (IPC) - Kay Rinkers** (kgr5093@psu.edu)

- Will have ARHS Cheat Sheet final version for next meeting (I promise!)
- **Public Relations - OPEN**
- **Social - Laekin O'Hara (ljo5051@psu.edu), Matt Beyen (mdb5548@psu.edu),**
 - Thanks for coming to the movie night this weekend! It was a blast! Most likely will have another movie night 2/3, any theme suggestions?
 - Here's the link to sign up for the Valentine's Gift Exchange: <https://www.elfster.com/exchange/view/23638374/c8dd9d/>
Make sure when you are creating your wish list to use the text feature
 - Mitch: What is the price limit?
 - \$20
- **THON - OPEN**
- **Web Design - Akhil Dharmavaram (afd5151@psu.edu)**
 - Area presidents: tell me about your events and I will post them on the website
 - DAvid: Do you have numbers on the site traffic?
 - I'll have that for next meeting.

External Committee Reports

- **Activities - Andrew Kline (awk5484@psu.edu)**
 - Dodgeball most likely in white building
- **ARHS Cinemas - Jessica Mingle (jfm5509@psu.edu)**
 - Movie this week is Moana
- **Campus Safety & Security - OPEN**
- **Diversity - OPEN**
- **Housing and Food Services - Kayla Olowin (kms7123@psu.edu)**
 - Nothing Reported
 - Issues with All you care to eat in Findlay
 - Rob: Can you generalize those issues?
 - Kayla: A lot of it is about going trayless. Students are not clearing their plates. No condiments either. Many of these issues are generated from staffing. I will talk to Lisa Wandel about the concerns raised in Open Discussion.
- **National Communications Coordinator (NCC) - Robert Fauver (rff5048@psu.edu)**
 - Bid Submissions
 - NCC Chat - 1/25
 - NCC/NCC-IT Collaboration
 - Nick M: What is bidding
 - Its a big write up for some award. It's based on different criteria that we need to answer. We did "Commitment to Diversity" and "Outstanding Advocacy Initiative"
- **Philanthropy - Leigh Bernetich (leb5437@psu.edu)**
 - Nothing to report
- **Student Wellness - OPEN**
- **Sustainability - Tucker Antico (tja5251@psu.edu), Nick Mahon (nam5557@psu.edu)**
 - Water Taste Test Event - Feb 7th around lunch in south
 - Housing Meeting - feedback on: What are the barriers to recycling?
 - Sustainability Fact
 - Follow Tucker at @TuckerWeather
 - Cameron: Is there an effort to stop the use of styrofoam on campus?
 - Kayla: Housing is working on initiatives for Green2Go and compostable containers.

Executive Officer Reports

- **President - Nick Ottinger (nso5024@psu.edu)**
 - Working on new positions
 - Attended diversity round table
 - Area end of the year events UPAC funding deadline

- Rob: They have a calendar outside their office as well
 - Kyle: This year they changed their deadlines to be earlier because they had issues getting all their contracts through.
 - David: What are the aims of the university for diversity?
 - Nick: it wasn't a traditional round table. It was a bunch of breakout sessions between the student leaders and the leaders of the university. In my group, the disparity was a big concern as well. Both admins and students agree that it is an issue and we should pose the question to the administration. Only the kick-off events are popular.
 - Care package deliveries: Feb 3rd. Distribution will begin the week of the 6th.
- **Vice President - Kyle Shuey** (krs5584@psu.edu)
 - Elections Timetable
 - Constitution states that the E-board will be elected the 10th week of classes (11th week of semester) this is March 20th.
 - Date for external elections was not set yet. Vote.psu.edu will be used for that. This is usually the last wednesday of March (this year would be March 29th).
 - New Executive board will be sworn in April 3rd.
 - New Executive board will be installed on April 10th.
 - Elections Commissioner
 - Rob: I am interested in being elections commissioner.
 - Attended Student Leader Round Table
 - Damon Sims wanted issues that students felt were important. He would like deeper, non-surface issues.
 - Student Fee board is up and running
 - SPA DAY - This Friday - All free events for students
- **Director of Advocacy - John McGlynn** (jvm5752@psu.edu)
 - RA Representative Legislation
- **Director of Programming - Laura Daly** (lvd5265@psu.edu)
 - Casino Night- February 3!!! - noontime Lounge (9-12, setup 8-9, tear-down 12-1)
 - Working on planning the banquet and retreat (March 17-19)
- **Director of Outreach - OPEN**
- **Director of Records - OPEN**
- **Director of Finance - Sangeeth Varadaraj** (skv5072@psu.edu)
 - Account Balance: \$60,296.60
 - Submitted budget requests
 - Submitted Batch Two of Swank Movie Rentals

Forum Break

Open Discussion

- East Dining Complaints
 - Rob: I think it's great. The hours do suck, but otherwise it's great!
 - Kayla: Have you been to the store? How fresh is the food
 - Nick: We should set up a group meal before a meeting.
 - Kayla: Conal or Lisa are able to give us a room up there.
 - Nick O: We'll do it as a meeting then.
 - Sangeeth: For market east the aisles are pretty narrow. Is there some way things could be rearranged?
 - Kayla: I can talk to Lisa about that.
 - Brad: Have they measured waste yet?
 - Kayla: We're not sure yet. I will talk to Lisa about when the next measurement is.
 - Andrew K: I remember them saying they didn't notice any change in waste at all in the Fall semester

- Rob: In regards to trayless, I just feel the kids are lazy and don't know where to put their trash afterwards
- Brendan: Are they burning their hands on the plates? Are there any complaints?
- Kayla: there are no complaints yet
- Laura: Why did they decide to put the plate return outside
- Brian: it's the same one from before the renovation
- Casino Night Prizes and Games
 - David: ARE we keeping the old ones?
 - Nick: we were thinking of keeping them. We can change anything though.
 - John M: Could we do an on campus parking pass?
 - Mark: Swing for the fences.
 - Rob: I think we should pass a required amount of hours that everyone should work. This is a collaborative event across the organization and I think its important that everyone does their part.
 - Brad: I've never been to this event. Is there music?
 - Yes.
 - Kyle S: Amazon Echo Dots
 - Cameron: Off of our shift times, are we allowed to participate?
 - No, you have to abstain.
 - Nick Mahon: We could give out prizes during the night to encourage people to stay.
- RAM Squad Budget Request
 - Rob: Have we supported this event in the past?
 - Kyle: We've supported a lot of RAM squad events. We're not sure if we've supported this specific event before.
 - Matt B: I noticed in the presentation that you have to pay to get in. \$3 to watch, \$2 with an ID. It also costs money to compete.
 - Brad L: It would also be interesting to wonder if they are using it to raise money for their club. In terms of the event itself I support it as it relates to the All-In campaign as hip-hop is more rooted in minority culture. It's a cool event for a campus in a rural area.
 - Kayla: Is the money going to their cash prizes?
 - Laura: Yes, the rest was a cost for some of the judges.
 - Teresa: IN terms of charging students it's unfortunate but we have given money to other orgs that charged their participants.
 - Brendan M: I think the charge is to ensure that the people who come are serious and aren't goingn to criticize the event or it's premise.
- Latino Caucus
 - David: I don't agree with us retroactively funding their event
 - Rob: Did you reach out to them?
 - Nick: Alexa had reached out to them 2 weeks ago and told them we tabled it. We got no response.
 - Andrew K: If they were contacted and told to send people they would have been here, but no one showed up.

Old Business

- RAM Squad Budget Request
 - Rob: I motion to untable the budget request
 - Kayla seconds
 - Brendan M: I move to pass \$2,000 for the RAM squad.
 - Mitch seconds
 - Passes 16-0-0
- Latino Caucus Budget Request
 - Rob; I move to untable
 - Mitch seconds
 - Mitch: I move to pass \$0 for latino caucus
 - Kayla seconds

- Passes 15-0-1

New Business

- Rob: I move that every member of ARHS sign up for at least 1 2.5 hour shift.
- SEconded by Nick Mahon
- Brian Kyle: Who does that specify?
 - Rob: Only the individuals you send to ARHS.
- Mitch: How many people do you need per shift?
 - Nick O: We can do it to scale. If more people sign up we can do more things.
- Rob: Even if we have an excess we will have something for everyone to do.
- Nick O: When in doubt we have literally hundreds of decks of cards so we can always start another table.
- Teresa: We had 20 people for one shift at a time in the past. Both shifts would take a total of 40 people.
- Motion passes 14-0-1
- Nick O: sign up sheets will be sent out in the future.
- Kyle S: Please invite your area members to help or participate as well.

- Elections

- Kayla: I motion to open elections
- Mitch seconds
- Rob: I would like to nominate Nick Mahon for Campus Safety and Security
- Mitch seconds
- Nick Mahon is the new Campus Safety and Security Chair
- David Carcamo: I would like to nominate Kayla Olowin for ARHS Historian
 - Kay seconds
- Kayla is the new Historian

- Appointments

- The executive board would like to appoint Leigh Bernetich for Director of Records
- Leigh Bernetich was selected as the new Director of Records
- The executive board would like to appoint Josh Evans for THON Chair
- Josh Evans was selected as the new THON Chair
- The executive board would like to appoint Hannah Yost as the new Student Health and Wellness Chair

- Nick: I entertain any motion to close elections
- Mitch moves to close elctions
 - Kayla seconds

Informal Discussion

Budget Requests:

Organization: Latino Caucus

Contact: Hazel Pina, hap5101@psu.edu

- ASA Account Number
 - 423
- What Kind of Support are you looking for?
 - Monetary
- Name of Event, Event Date/Time/Location
 - Nosotros Somos Familia, December 1st, 2016, Alumni Hall, 6:30
- Describe The Event

- o Why is focusing on a diverse and inclusive environment important? The demographics of the world around us are changing rapidly. By ensuring that we are a university of choice for an increasingly diverse student body, the Pennsylvania State University will be able to attract and retain talent that will produce successful individuals for the present and future. Our students and their needs are diverse and constantly evolving. By having a university that is in tune with those changes we will be better equipped to provide a superior learning experience. By demonstrating inclusive behaviors and providing an inclusive learning environment we will be able to maximize all student skill sets and experiences, and encourage everyone to fully share their ideas and innovation highlighting the advantages of attending this prestigious university. As Latinos attending the Pennsylvania State University, it has come to our attention that finding a safe place to express our culture has proven difficult. The Latino community, although seemingly large on paper is not adequately represented on campus. Latino Caucus understands that Latinos make up about 5% of the population at this enormous university but yet we can't seem to find them. For this reason we are putting together this grandiose event; in an attempt to draw out our fellow Latino peers and welcome them to our family. Our mission in creating "Nosotros Somos...Familia!" is to create a familiar environment for all those Latinos and all other minorities that may feel as though they can't make this university their home. We strive to unite all Latinos, be it whether they are from the Caribbean, Europe or South and Central America, as one. We also hope to educate all those who attend, on the importance of our heritage and unique cultures because although they may be different they make us who we are as a population. The Latino culture is known for it's festive, inviting, and most importantly family oriented nature. Thus, we have decided to incorporate our beloved university's "We Are!" into our title alongside the word "family" so that all will know that this university can be a home and a safe haven for all races. Through music, food, theatre and dance we will put on the cultural celebration of a lifetime for all to enjoy. An event of this nature has never been done before at the Pennsylvania State University and for that reason we intend to make it an annual event. Each year we will honor all Latino countries as well as highlight three specific ones. In doing so we intend to make the point that all of the different cultures that each country possesses are of equal importance, make us Latinos who we are and that they should all be celebrated. Our hope is that this legacy will continue on beyond this first annual so that our younger generations look forward to attending our prestigious university. Through "Nosotros Somos...Familia!" they will know that they have a home here too.
- History of Event
 - o N/A
- How will this event benefit on campus students?
 - o Because an event of this nature has never been done before it will bring a new and exciting source of education to the campus community. It will provide the community with an opportunity to be a part of a large family even if it is just for one night. Nosotros Somos...Familia! will bring all those who attend together through food, music, dance and entertainment. Through the power of authenticity we strive to educate all those in attendance on the three different cultures highlighted that night (Spain, Colombia and Brazil) as well as the Latino heritage as a whole. By incorporating key pillars of the heritage such as family orientation, vibrancy and pride we believe that we will be able to do so. Our main goal is to broaden the horizons of those in attendance who are of a different culture and to bring pride and joy to those who share it
- Have you applied for UPAC Funding?
 - o Yes, received \$8,053
- How much financial assistance are you requesting from ARHS?

- o \$3,000
- How will this funding be used?
 - o If we receive money from ARHS we will use the money to pay for the catering expense

Organization: Raw Aesthetic Movements (RAM Squad)

Contact: Alex Chhay, avc5722@psu.edu

- ASA Account Number
 - o 673
- What Kind of Support are you looking for?
 - o Monetary
- Name of Event, Event Date/Time/Location
 - o Rhythm Spotlight 14, Saturday, January 28th, 2017, 3pm - 11pm at Heritage Hall
- Describe The Event
 - o Rhythm Spotlight is a urban street style dance competition. It is split into two categories: a 2v2 Breaking/breakdancing battle and a 1v1 All-Styles battle. The competition is a bracket formatted tournament where dancers will battle against each other against each other. For each category, three judges are chosen to critique each of the battles and vote two overall winners who will receive a monetary prize. This event also incorporates live entertainment by a disc jockey/DJ and a Master of Ceremony/MC. In addition, many of the judges provide dance workshops and Q&A sessions throughout the weekend. Over the years, this event has grown in popularity and attracts dancers from not only the Penn State community, but all over the world such as Canada and Japan. It's a very unique event to Penn State and has become a huge part of the hip-hop culture here.
- History of Event
 - o The first Rhythm Spotlight was created by Penn State Alum and Hip Hop enthusiast, Mohan Sivaloganathan. It started in 2003 and originally was a showcase competition with judges who did live on-mic critiques on each dancer. The categories at the time were Hip Hop "Pop" Dance and Indian dance. During the intermission of the event was a breaking (breakdancing) battle between the founders of R.A.M. Squad vs the Bboys of the Penn State Filipino Association. This battle had made a lot of noise and portrayed a real urban street style battle between two crews. Although breaking was not the main focus of the event, it had brought a lot of attention for the next years to come. After that first year, the event was handed over to JB, the Co-Founder and first President of R.A.M. Squad. The next year, R.A.M. Squad did a huge make over of the event, but still struggled with attracting dancers outside of Penn State to compete. The 2nd Rhythm Spotlight consisted mostly of R.A.M. Squad members competing. A memorable battle was Mikey P vs another dancer on a Ghostbuster track. This had awoken everyone. That year the final battle was between Ron aka Future and a dancer from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Rhythm Spotlight 3 brought a new aspect to the competition by offering a Men and Women All-Styles Category and a 2v2 B-boy battle. It was difficult to recruit dancers from Philly and Pittsburgh and other far cities to come to University Park that year, but word had spread about Rhythm Spotlight. After that year, JB had resigned from his 3.5 years of being President and handed the future over to individuals named Tony Ta, Casie Goshaw and Ron aka Future. These individuals each brought something new to the R.A.M Squad. with the next Rhythm Spotlight. Rhythm Spotlight 4 eliminated gender categories and just had Co-ed All-Styles 1v1 and 2v2 Breaking battles. After word had spread, some top b-boys in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh had come out to Penn State that year. Rhythm Spotlight 5 was even crazier. Crews such as

Repstyles, Illadelph and other top B-boy crews in the Tri-State had come out to rock the house. The best part of Rhythm Spotlight was always the crowd. Rhythm Spotlight has always been great at attracting the local Penn State community, most of whom have never seen underground dancing. The cheers and pops from the crowd were loud and boosted the esteem of the dancers. Rhythm Spotlight has been pushing to incorporate a fun and “old-school” type of party feel by promoting ciphers (circles) and great music. Some notable dancers who have come to Rhythm Spotlight to either judge or compete: DOMkey (Lions of Zion), Knuckles (BeatWhakz), Chem (Floor Obsessions), Fleg (Lions of Zion), Atomic Goofball (Lions of Zion), Smart Mark (IamPhresh), SamO (X-Fenz), Pete Nasty (Repstyles), Napalm (Lions of Zion), Ookie(Dirty Dozen), Ruffio, Omen (Supreme Beings), etc. This event typically occurs within the early months of the new year in January and has continuously grown over the past decade.

- How will this event benefit on campus students?
 - Aside from being an unique experience that celebrates an influential piece of cultural history, Rhythm Spotlight can benefit Penn State students a lot. For example, dance, especially freestyle, is a universal language. It offers people an opportunity to connect with individuals they may not have otherwise. Rhythm Spotlight in particular draws in a lot of diversity, whether it be different ethnicities and cultures, dance styles, or dance ability. RAM has built a foundation on promoting positivity and non-judgement, and we try to transfer these values to the jam as well. In this way, students have a chance to learn not only about dance and hip-hop, but each other.
 - Similarly, it’s extremely inspiring watching and taking part in the competitions. Aside from dance professors, students don’t have a lot of exposure in State College to professional dancers. Rhythm Spotlight offers a unique opportunity to connect with people in the industry and gain insight that they can pass on for future Penn Staters and dancers. There is a huge focus on passing down knowledge orally; the traditions and unwritten rules of hip-hop are not things one can take a class on. For example, Brian Green created an entire style of dance in the 1980s called house style, that is still popular in many clubs in New York. More importantly he created a style that resonated with many dancers around the world. Lastly, Rhythm Spotlight has become a huge motivator for students to improve their dancing and get more involved with the art form.
- Have you applied for UPAC Funding?
 - Yes, received \$8,489
- How much financial assistance are you requesting from ARHS?
 - \$1500-\$2000
- How will this funding be used?
 - Funding will be used primarily for judging costs. We have used all of our honorarium on four of our judges but we still have two more judges that we cannot use honorarium on. We would like to use this funding to offset the costs for our other two judges and potentially our DJ and MC. It is important that these judges are paid fairly because we hire famous professional dancers to both judge and bring dance competitors to our event. Funds will also be used for prize money. Prize money is important to competitors as it is another incentive to want to compete in our event.