General Body Meeting
February 20, 2007

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Approval of Agenda
IV. Approval of Minutes
V. Pledge of Allegiance
VI. Public Sector  At this time, members of the public who wish to make announcements may do so.
Akash – As soon as spring break is over there will be poll booth all over. Poll worker and promoter position. Still open. Paying 7.25 and 8.50

Jessica – Targum circulated since 1869. Circulation of 17,000 Monday – Thursday. 15,000 on Friday. Offer an experience to have a hands on experience in the journalism world. Close to a news room. Focus on issue that affect your university.

Krupa Patel – Represent business department. It is a good experience. Student work who receive life time experience. I get to make decision such as budget, hiring, and recruiting. There is a few things I want to go over. Business manager and marketing positions open. Promotions and marketing director for reducing ad rates. Any questions can email our marketing director. marketing@targum.com. As a tribute to a great football season, Targum has designed posters for students to purchase. Will be available within the next week. Poster put together with different memories. They will be available at NJBooks, Scarlet Fever, and Targum office and online as well. Prices have not be offer.

Sharo – Is Targum to release their budget each year?
Krupa – Yes, the audited budget.

Sharo – What is the number?
Krupa – Can’t say the exact number. Budget is broken down into retails etc.

Sharo – Will Targum be willing to release a draft of budget during the referendum process?
Krupa- When met with student affair committee, yes will be willing to show it.

David – Just in case will not yes the referendum pass, will stay for another year?
Akash – If Targum referendum fails, 25% of SAS to vote yes. Then Targum will not be able to supply to the campus locations of the next three years. Since they are not on students fees, they are not require to put it at certain campus locations.

Krupa – If it was not to pass. Lot of changes will change in terms of content and locations. It will survive in one – two years. We will also have to do something else to it. It is one of the second most read paper in the nation.

Sarah from NJPIRG – Tomorrow night, free screening of Inconvenient Truth. Congressman Palone will come to speak about global warming. Will be speaking before the screening. 8 pm Scott 123.

VII. Envoys and External Representative Reports
DCGA – We are not doing anything. Only passing resolutions for events. DCGA taking on organizing for a formal. If anyone wants to help to plan.

Sharo – Is DCGA doing a wishlist?
DCGA – Not that I know of. If you would like, the president can compile one.

Rohid – The ECG meeting was a mini party. We had a dance and a ball. We had food. Regular meeting, celebrate for RUSA. It was called RUSA Rave. We are working on mid-semester fund. This Saturday at Busch MPR for speed dating.

VIII. Guest Speaker
Jack Molenaar (Director of Parking and Transportation)

Jack – Everything you hear about the transportation master plan similar to what you hear from Inconvenient Truth. Stop thinking about how late the bus is and your car. What is it going to look like in 20 years? When you are my age, this plan is where it is going to be. It comes a lot sooner than you think. The end of this, is this the right direction or not? That would really help me. I don’t usually get much feedback. I don’t mind answering your questions. But just also give me some feedback. Make it easier for students to get around. Want that because it makes my job easier. Referring to 2003 physical master plan of the presentation. What happens when you look at the parking aspect? Parking does not go up a lot. We have to do something about moving around and parking. I have to tell you that to tell you this. We have half a space for every faculty and students here. I need a 14% reduction.

Mike – Is this project when we are your age?
Jack – There is no such thing as built out. NJ is built out. Built out can be engineered. That 60,000 on a horizon number.

Jack - This is also a deck. Lots of decks propose. Lot 35 next to Stonier, get rid of those. It is nuisance and not environmental friendly. There are many university at the ratio of .32. That is a lot of spaces in comparison with other university. The blue bar is the exact supply of what we have. The stripe bar is what we are using now. More people want to park on College Ave but we restrict it. The red bar is what it would be after the master plan. Demand on Busch gets higher. Need a14% reduction. Need to push on a little bit in each area. We want to adjust things as we go along. Permit prices is one way to do it. Land value is high in NJ. Therefore, parking is not free. Lot 100 is 14 acres and that is worth a lot of money. Bloustein student did what if Livingston is a real town. Have money to do a lot of things.

Try to keep people parked in one spot. My biggest battle is dealing with faculty parking. Dealing with students issue is easier than faculty. Where we can offer cheaper places to go? Make College Ave more expensive and Livingston cheaper. So to create more alternative. When you buy permit now, we encourage you to drive. Cost more to drive on peak hours on NJ Turnpike. We can change the price. Remote parking vs premium parking. This will help us manage it.

The best way to do it is pricing. Deck vs surface space. We only have 3%. As more and more go into deck, the price will go up. It 1,500 a year to maintain a deck. We are going to build more deck. As you charge more, the demand goes down. Push down demand by raising price and reach equilibrium. Decks are not a great use of land. We don’t think it is efficient or sustainable.
Our complaints are down 30% from the year before. Without transit system, nothing will work. Hardest part is getting to Cook and Douglas. It will be a problem today and when Rt. 18 is done. Even when Rt. 18 is done, we will have issues. We have to work with NJ Transit, state, and city. Create bus lanes. After 18 is done, will look at routes again to create express route and local routes. Rt. 18 will supposedly be done in Spring 2009. Put more nextbus in place. If it doesn’t work, let me know.

Evening, weekend services. They cost a lot of money. Is it more effective to run during demand only and during off peak, have something similar to a knight mover. Move bus layover from Passion Puddle. College Ave, wherever it ends up it will work. Livingston has something different every semester. It is flexible to work with everything. Try to improve sidewalks. Less bus stops means the system works faster. Better lighting and sidewalk and bicycle system if less stop. I know how to fix this. This is a county road and a state facility and a city facility. I have to hire DOT to do a count. I would rather have both.

The bicycle system probably holds most promise at the university. It starts piece by piece. Things have improve but have to start today. Bicycle station for commuters. Faster getting around on bikes.

Greg – What percentage of RU students are commuters? Most commute because they do not have money to do so. Why is it fair to create throw extra cost at commuters from the remaining half of the university?
Jack – About 14,000 students out of 35,000. It could be half a little more than half. There are other options that commuter have. I am looking at this in a 15-20 year. There are ways for commuters to get away from cars. If I plan for today, it is not working. We have done modeling of where people live, and see where there are existing transit routes to make it easier to use that instead of driving. Some area are more flexible.

Akash – I think it is a great plan. The clocks for the car is pretty cool for managing time for student. If the plan works, it would be amazing for Cook and Douglas students. So is there anyway to plan Busch and Living express route? A lot of students against the new B bus.
Jack – That is one of the thing we looking at it. There are pros and cons to express. Locals need to take another bus. You have to look at both of these things.

Milo – Demand parking as well. Faculty on College Ave or staff that are not faculty, people that are making less money like the Scott Hall janitor, are you going to make them park on Livingston?
Jack – Run a shuttle for employee. NB authority is charging 145.00 a month, I can charge 50 a month and we can make a profit. Things happen gradually.

Will – The plan force the commuters to use mass transit. Rutgers hasn’t close in two years. It ignores the commuter already.
Jack – My goal was to screw over the student as many as I can. It was a joke. There is always those issues. Trains run in the worst weather. Regular people that go to work run through the same issues. You are also taking today’s condition and always being that way. It has been improve and better. It is incredible how much better today than 20 years again. I have to rely on different institutions.

Mike – What is being done in conjunction from the train station with the intra bus system? Are logistics being look at for to run smoothly?
Jack – The train station will be one hub and College Ave might be another hub. The train hub may be on the Johnson and Johnson is. Not where the gateway is. Ours is probably going to be more on the College Ave. It will improve.

Caroline – I am a commuter, the pricing are fine now. For me I am parking on the Busch now. I am off at night because afraid of someone at my car. I feel safer to park on College Ave.
Jack – The Livingston parking space is closer to the stop than Busch. More and more cameras.

Jim – Mention in plan, old master plan is for 2003, is this one for 2023?
Jack – Make it flexible so it can happen anytime. The physical master plan was showing where building could go. This should last ten years. But look at it in 5 years and change if it doesn’t work. It is origin and destination that is critical not the modes. As long as those things are walkable, can make it work.

Joe – Are monorail something in the future?
Jack – More advance cities, more of them have light rails and trolley. The infrastructure is cheaper for light rail than monorail. Things change. Depends on federal funding.

Sharo – The plan overall I am in support of with exceptions of a few things. The plan for walkability is great. The issue of affordability is bought up a lot. There need to be exception on taxable income. There needs to be a long term affordable plan. Fall in between spot but still need a car.
Jack – I don’t disagree. If something can be justify and want to subsidize then we can look at it.

Greg – In regards to master plan, you are going on best case scenario, for the next 10 – 20 years, worst case happen over best case scenario, if I need to commute to school and the tuition is higher, what makes me want to go to RU or Ryder if I am going to be treated as a second rate student?
Jack – The price does go up or the university use state fund. If they use state fund, that is less money for academics to use state fund. If we are going to meet demand, we have to suck up state fund. It is pick and choose.

Sarah – Alternative fuel buses?
Jack – Yes.

Yelena – If you have a College Ave campus, and the kids don’t have idea of bus to go from Scott Hall to FH. How do we justify having three bus stop instead of one?
Jack – Trying to consolidate now.

Will – If College Ave is high in demand, why changing parking there only?
Jack – Goal is better to use more sustainable option. It is cheaper. The roads may not get any bigger even if we built more decks. There may not be enough road space. The physical constraints.

Akash – Are we going to see more of the low floor buses?
Jack – Yes

Milo – Say we get rid of College Ave in terms of role in the Greening Project?
Jack - I am involve with all the meetings. Working with WRT in Philadelphia. Gave them this presentation. I am involved in that.
Joe – How this plan going to integrate Greening Project?
Jack – There are a lot of other options. My consultants have look at it lot of ways. You have to look at the demand. Make adjustments. Close it during peak times and close it off during offpeak time.

DCGA – Rockoff bus stop?
Jack – Express route. Don’t change during mid-semester.

Whitney – Is it more of having bus from one campus to the next or having bus on campus? What is the problem?
Jack – Look at both. Want to identify problem and then solve it. The problem now is stopping at too many places. Keep consistent frequency so bus don’t get overloaded.

Chris – Have you decided freshmen living on Livingston get a car on campus next year?
Jack – Don’t know.

Akash – Don’t know if people get on the stop at Public Safety building?
Jack – It is a drop off. Use it to go to Douglas.

Kalindi – The A bus and the H bus in front of the student center? What happen to that?
Jack – It is for the pedestrian safety. It blocks pedestrian. I try to pull that away from there. It has been that way since September.

Mike – Even if the buses are stopping before that, there are people still jay walking in front of the buses?
Jack – You have to design pedestrians an all terrain vehicle. People will always choose the shortest distance. Below grade or above grade, which get in way of system.

Nisha – I was told today that if you park at a meter you get violations?
Jack – You are not a visitor. You are students on campus. You don’t use it. You can get up to three violations. It is separate thing,

Usker – Is there someway to better way regulate their breaks?
Jack – That drives me crazy as well. We are trying to fix that. Changes on contract are putting penalty on company. We try to keep them on schedule. It should work for the most part. It is a matter of them managing their own system.

Eric – The three ticket issue, as a student rep seeing that. I think it is harsh.
Jack – Alright.

Greg – Going in the same step, the price for parking on unauthorized campus is 50 dollars 2.5 times that of the city authority, why we paying for state university charge 2.5 of any surrounding municipality?
Jack – You have fines and meter to create a system that walks better. Not to take money from you but to make you use it the right way. Thinking of short term meter for quick errands. That fine has been here before I got here. It has not been risen.

Erik – Can you make info available for how much students pay for tickets?
Jack – Violations in 1.7 million per year.
Greg – Are you using it to in your budget?
Jack – Using it to change the parker first and then towards the buses.

Kalindi – Cameras on buses, how effective?
Jack – The bus contractor did it, we didn’t. It captures inside and outside. It is up to the driver to turn it on. Also if they brake, the camera turns on.

IX. New Business
X. Old Business
XI. Officer Reports
   a. President Dave Cole
   Obviously, the referendum will stand since there have been no appeals. Thank to the people in this room to make it possible. Thank to Yelena, Arjun, Dymir and Eddie. The last day is the higher turnout. Appreciate everyone getting out there. Write standing rules, allocation and election guidelines. Can certainly get involve. The election guidelines will come back to the GAs. The standing rules will be approve by the assembly. Meeting of steering committee next week to coordinate this. Andrew Geibel stepped down. Senior position is hard to fill. Please if you have friends, let them know. The targum oversight committee, I send an email. Eddie and Mike. If you have issues you can talk to them. Another option, is the RU DC lobbying trip. The president and one other person. Will try to do election if more than one wants to go. It is going to be on Tuesday, 3/24. Mandatory, 3/30 luncheon on campus. Available for those days and receive financial aid let me know. Get to meet members of the legislator. Try to go see the documentary. Everyone can agree on the issue. That is tomorrow at 8 pm.

   b. Vice President Jim Kline
   We have Senator Lesinak coming on 3/6. Discussing potential merger of UMDNJ. I will be sending on info on listserv. Me and Eddie will be doing a student fee presentation. GA social, DCGA is heading that up. Great opportunity to get together for next year. Blog is no working. So blog. Will have chairs meeting next year after general mtg.

   c. Treasurer Michael Convente
   d. Recording Secretary Susan Ko
   e. Corresponding Secretary Khushboo Shah
   Pass around envoy sheets. So sign up. (Susie)

   f. Parliamentarian Shar o Atmeh
   The DC trip is great. The more financial aid the better. As the PR chair, we are taking suggestion for 3/4 for what you have learn about.

XII. Committee Announcements
Yelena – We are going to have exciting event for March 4th between 1:30 – 3:30 to learn things about Trenton and media release. Thank everyone. Most importantly, I do want to call one person out. Have flyer handed out in the computer lab. Eric, you’re the man.

Dymir – Some of the members of LA will be going to Trenton of higher education. Still in movement to rally if necessary. Hope to get at least level funding. 27th, Thursday at 11 am.
Akash – Thank you for everyone for asking such good questions. It is important to see what the student services is like. This past Sunday, we met with sports team member. Had a great committee session. Thank Eric for that. Going to have resolution come out with their ideas and our ideas about how we feel about these cuts. Will see a resolution next week. If you have wish list forward them to me and parking issue forward them to me as well.

Usker – BC and CAC referendum pass. So next week we are writing the standing rules. Wednesday at 9 pm.

XIII. Internal Representative Reports

RULA – Met over last week. Beginning to formulate grand scheme of worst case scenario, op-ed campaign. Make legislators come onto campus. Making preparation for a potential documentary. Contingency plan for level funding. We meet at 9 pm on Thursday. If you have any other suggestions, please bring them to me. Email me at sharo@rutgers.

Jim – Students fees. We are on this committee to consolidate the fees. Students from Newark, Camden, and New Brunswick. High priority in terms of having students on committee. We want to get your feedback.

Eddie – Student fees used to be 30 columns long. Among the different former colleges, there are fees for various things. What is proposed now, fees consolidate into 3 categories. Campus fees like transportations, health centers, student centers, school fee, and a course fee (theatre appreciation, charge for tickets, fees be lifted before registering for classes).

Jim – Everyone in NB will pay same fee. It is a weighted average of what we pay now. The school fee is set by the administrator and student. The breakdown is 5 categories for your campus fee. Most notable is the student affair budgeted by the VP of student affair. They have more disgression of where our fees go.

Eddie – What we have now is rigid in terms of where money goes. This new plan allows for fluidity and there are checks and balances.

Jim – Created student advisory fee. Need to have this committee up and running. Will get 2 RCGA volunteers.

Eddie – Look on the 8th page, rewrote the description to justify in retrospect.

Dave – The fee Mike is talking about is the student fee. The student activity fee should be set by RUSA. It is a weighted average of all the colleges.

Erik – This advisory is to input with the VP. Final decision is by VP?
Jim – It is for both. Yes.

Eddie – Feedback on certain things and it is important we bring it to the table now. If questions or concern bring it to table.
Dave – Thank Eddie and Jim or going to these meeting extensively.

Jim - LCGA – Director Molenaar was at the meeting. Went to Latino SC, talked about RUSA.

Eddie – For Cook, have several things on their constitution. They decide to have two campus system. The committee to redesign student assistance. Will have a draft report in two weeks. Will send over listserv.

XIV. Press Questions
XV. Public Sector  At this time, members of the public who wish to make announcements may do so.

Kerri – I am back. I miss you guys. I am here to give you opportunity. I am VP for advisory recreation. We do a lot of community service events. A lot of mentally challenged kids, and you hang out with them. Some are children and some of them are older. March 4th, 10 – 3. Go and do a bunch of activities. Lot of fraternities and sororities. If interested, I can leave my contact info. If you did not want to be a buddy, you can table. Located in annex. A lot of organization do that. You have lots of arts and crafts things to do. Contact me and make me look great.

XVI. In-body Election
Class Representative of 2008
We are suggested to go into close session. It is not required but it is suggested. That motion to go into close session, is not debatable.

Mike – In RUSA, it is open election? Are we going to transition to close meetings?
Dave – No. RUSA don’t have to follow what we do.

Nominations: Kevin Patrick, Spencer Daley, Greg.
Nominations closed at 8:15 pm.

Class Representative of 2010
Nominations: Anish, Livingston
Nominations closed at 8:16 pm.

Motion to close meeting at 8:16 pm. Passed.
Motion to open meeting at 9:23 pm. Passed.

Kevin Patrick will be our Class Rep of 2008.
Anish will be our Class Rep of 2010.

XVII. Additional Information
Eddie – Unanimously pass senate revision. Senate execute committee approve NJPIRG referendum.

Usker – Planning on graduate school. Practice test on March 3rd at Scott Hall 123. They will give you a focus feedback on how to study. Let me know if any questions.

Erik – Student walk out on March 30th.

Jim – Thank you to Director Molenaar for sticking around.
XVIII. Roll Call
XIX. Adjournment at 9:27 pm