



Wednesday, March 4th, 2026

RHA wins bid for Outstanding Advocacy Initiative at CAACURH RBC



March 4th, 2026 - The Maryland Residence Hall Association (RHA) attended the Central Atlantic Association of College and University Residence Halls (CAACURH) Regional Business Conference (RBC) at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio two weekends ago. President Emily Shoemaker, National Communications Coordinator and Chief of Internal Affairs Saniyah Jean, and Resident Life Coordinator Nicole Barnes went to the Regional Business Conference representing the University of Maryland RHA.

During this weekend, the University of Maryland RHA won the bid for Outstanding Advocacy Initiative which means that it will now work with the regional board to improve the bid and get their support to submit for the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) National Conference in May.

"We had a great time up in Cleveland rocking with Case Western Reserve University and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame! Even though the snow had us worried, we had a safe and warm trip as we went through board rooms," Shoemaker said. "We chose our next RBC location (see you next spring Rutgers!) and took home outstanding advocacy for the region -- which will be taken to nationals over the summer! We thank CWRU for a great show!"

"RBC was an amazing experience and was such a great way to connect with other RHA and NRHH chapters in our region and see the work they're doing on their campus," Barnes said. "It

has also been so exciting to see the hard work of our Executive Board recognized with our win for the Outstanding Advocacy Initiative bid!"

"The conference team at Case Western Reserve University did an amazing job with this year's regional business conference," Jean said. "While we didn't have much time to explore their campus, this conference served as an opportunity to learn more about our region and engage with numerous institutions. I had an amazing time with the regional board of directors and fellow National Communication Coordinators. I'm grateful for the opportunity to attend with my fellow executive board members and excited to see everyone again this May at NACURH!"

For more information on CAACURH, click [here](#).

During last week's Senate, the RHA also hosted an open forum where Senators could engage in conversation about different campus happenings and what initiatives they believe would be important to address.

Topics discussed last Tuesday touched on dorm facilities and different forms of community engagement. Senators shared how kitchenettes in dorms are underutilized and may not always work leading to disappointment. Regarding other resident facilities on campus, Senators shared discontent feelings towards out of service or faulty laundry machines that don't dry clothes, as well as inaccessible water fountain placements in South Hill.

Senators also discussed the role that food has played during events, notably how it can foster more engagement from the community. Lastly, Senators shared that it might be worthwhile to explore community meetings for those with councils of fewer people.

NOTE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT



Hi Terps!

I hope the wild weather isn't messing you up too bad, but I hear it's supposed to be really warm this weekend! RHA has been working hard with all our committees to address and discuss issues ranging from facilities to transportation and so much more. We've got a number of events coming up, including our Town Hall after Spring Break, and we're slowly ramping up into our elections season. Be sure to nominate anyone from your council that you know would be a great fit for the executive board! I'm so glad to be working with all of you to represent our on-campus students and looking forward to all the opportunities we have before us this semester.

- Anya Olson, RHA Vice-President 2025-2026

Senate Summary (2/24/2026)

- **MINUTES**
- **Open Forum**
- **Executive Team + Committee Updates**

Committee Corner

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): works with the University's Department of Transportation Services (DOTS). Committee Coordinator: *Attowla Kouadio* (akouadi1@terpmail.umd.edu)

- Meet virtually on Wednesdays biweekly @ 4-5
- Come with any ideas, complaints, concerns, or curiosities about transportation!
- Stay on the lookout for any announcements about the Shuttle UM Route Resets, DOTS will want any and all inputs!

Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee (DIACom): works to ensure students feel safe and comfortable on campus. Committee Coordinator: *Giselle Maravilla* (gmaravil@terpmail.umd.edu)

- DIACom will be meeting next Wednesday March 4th from 7:30-8pm on Zoom

Sustainability Committee (SCOM): works on issues that concern the university's green initiatives. Committee Coordinator: *Claire Bushar* (cbushar@terpmail.umd.edu)

- 2 grants for sustainability projects in the works!!
 - Tennis ball recycling program
 - Annapolis hall garden project
- Meetings this semester (Zoom):
 - 5-6pm Wednesdays through March
 - 5-6pm Mondays beginning in April (I'll send out a notification!)
- I'm running for UMD Senate!

Dining Services Advisory Board (DSAB): works with the dining services directors to accommodate student's dining recommendations. Committee Coordinator: *Inemesit Udoakang* (iudoakan@terpmail.umd.edu)

- Meeting's: Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30pm. South Campus Dining (RM. 1107)
- Bring any concerns & ideas pertaining to the dining halls

Resident Life Advisory Team (ReLATE): works directly with the Department of Resident Life to understand the issues faced by the on-campus residents and solve them. Committee Coordinator: *Nicole Barnes* (nbarnes3@terpmail.umd.edu)

- ReLATE meetings will be biweekly on Wednesdays from 4-5pm on non Senate weeks in Annapolis Hall!
- If you have anything ResLife adjacent that you would like to discuss please reach out and I would be happy to meet with you to begin those conversations!

Resident Facilities Advisory Board (ReFAB): works with the structures and attributes that directly affect students living in the resident halls. Committee Coordinator: *Jonas Marquart* (jmarqua1@terpmail.umd.edu)

- Spring Schedule: Non-senate Thursdays, 4:00 - 5:00, Zoom
- Anyone with any interest or questions join ReFAB slack; share critiques, concerns, ideas, opinions, and more!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT A COMMITTEE!](#)

Looking Ahead

- **(TODAY) Wednesday, March 4th:** UMD Giving Day!
- **Tuesday, March 10th:** RHA Senate (7 p.m. @ STAMP Prince George's Room 1211)
- **Friday, March 13th:** Executive Board Nomination Deadline (11:59 p.m.)
- **Sunday, March 15th:** Spring Break (until March 22nd)
- **Thursday, March 26th:** Spring Town Hall (7 p.m. @ ESJ 1202)
- **Friday, April 3rd:** Game Night Extravaganza (7 p.m. @ the Atrium in STAMP)
- **Sunday, April 19th:** Maryland Beautification Day (12:00-3:00pm @ CC1 parking lot)



JOIN US FOR

MARYLAND BEAUTIFICATION DAY!

“HELP US MAKE OUR COMMUNITY CLEANER AND GREENER”

APRIL 19, 2026

12PM-3PM

**PARKING LOT CC1
(BEHIND ANIMAL SCIENCE BUILDING)**

**ALL SUPPLIES
PROVIDED!**

**JOIN SOA & RHA IN A CAMPUS WIDE
CLEANUP EFFORT!**



SIGNUP



The Residence Hall Association and Sustainable Ocean (SOA) Alliance are excited to announce Maryland Beautification Day 2026! This annual collaboration between SOA and RHA involves a campus-wide cleanup in the spring. This year, it will be **Sunday, April 19th from 12-**

3pm starting at the **CC1 parking lot** north of the Animal Science Building. To register, just scan the QR code above!

Support RHA

MARYLAND GIVING DAY

Wed, March 4, 2026

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT
STUDENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES!



Giving Day is this **Wednesday March 4th (TODAY)**! Every year the University of Maryland community comes together for a 24-hour fundraising event. Your contributions will support

students' living and learning endeavors as well as student leadership initiatives! Scan the QR code to make a donation!

Photo Gallery

Photos from CAACURH Regional Business Conference!



Nicole, Emily, Saniyah, and Daniel @ CAACURH RBC



Nicole, Emily, and Saniyah serving @ CAACURH RBC



Everyone @ CAACURH RBC



Merch haul from CAACURH RBC



RHA clips for CAACURH RBC



Outstanding Advocacy Initiative from CAACURH RBC

Photos from Executive Board Meetings



RHA clips for CAACURH



Senate/Exec Board (no Senator recognition this week)

Photos from Executive Board Bonding Event (visiting the International Spy Museum in DC)



Group Photo w/ George Washington @ Spy Museum



Photo @ UMD Bus Stop



Group Photo @ Spy Museum



Inemesit being thoughtful @ Spy Museum



Attowla and Jonas saluting USPS building



Attowla (nonchalant king) part 2

Missed a previous newsletter? Click [here](#) to see all of the RHA newsletters from past school years.

Have an on-campus idea, comment, or concern? Contact us or visit our website!



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