

RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Note From the VP:

Hello again!

It's Quentin with some final vice presidential updates for the semester. I am so proud of how strong our Senate has operated this semester. In our most recent meeting, the RHA Senate passed five pieces of legislation. Some of this legislation dictates RHA's stance on student fee increases. As we move forward into the next semester, we are looking to collaborate with some student groups on any advocacy initiatives that you are passionate about. Don't hesitate to reach out and we look forward to hearing from you next semester!

Sincerely,

Quentin Hoglund

RHA Vice President

HAVE AN IDEA/COMMENT/CONCERN? CONTACT US!



@marylandrha



rhapresident@umd.edu



3142 South Campus Dining Hall

SENATE SUMMARY

Senate - Tuesday, November 28, 2023

LEGISLATION

UNDER REVIEW

PASSED (22-1-2): Resolution MAA001F - RHA's fee proposal for the non-mandatory dining services fee.

IN SIMPLE TERMS: RHA supports the 3.59% fee increase for dining plans in fiscal year 2025 (2024-2025 school year).

INTRODUCED BY: Michelle Ameyaw (Senator-at-Large)

"I think that dining services do not include any costs that we don't need. This proposal serves as a benefit for anyone who eats in the dining halls." - Mikal L. (BCC Senator)

I think that it is really impressive how they have been able to increase the hours at 251 with no additional costs... The fact that this was able to happen without a cost to students is really remarkable." - Michelle A. (Senator-At-Large)

SENATE SUMMARY

FAILED (9-8-4): Resolution NBA002F - RHA's fee proposal for the mandatory transportation fee.

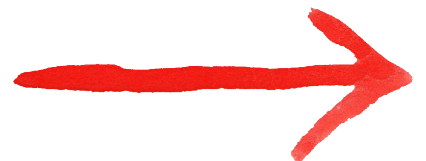
IN SIMPLE TERMS: RHA does not support the 16.1% mandatory fee increase for transportation services (including SHUTTLE_UM) for fiscal year 2025 (2024-2025 school year).

INTRODUCED BY: Natalie Asbury (Senator-at-Large)

“The transportation services of the bus is really essential for a lot of our residents here. It provides access to many places and is an essential part of campus life to have access to these types of services.” - Jax M. (Cumberland Senator)

“I am opposed to this in its current state. In comparison to other student fees this increase is a bit drastic.” - Natalie A. (Senator-At-Large)

Continue to the next page for more legislation



SENATE SUMMARY

PASSED (24-0-1): Resolution ASO001F - RHA's fee proposal for the non-mandatory resident life and resident facilities fee.

IN SIMPLE TERMS: RHA supports the 3.61% fee increase for dining plans in fiscal year 2025 (2024-2025 school year)

INTRODUCED BY: Anya Olson (North Hill Area Senator)

"I support this bill as well, especially because I know how much work has been put in to keep the rates as low as they can. Realistically if it was cut down anymore we would be unable to have the same type of campus we have been enjoying this past semester." - Maurice B. (Denton Senator & member of ReLaTe committee).

"This is a great proposal, Andi and Dennis have worked very hard on this. I believe that it should be passed, and it accurately reflects what is necessary to make improvements to our campus." - Margarita G. (Easton Senator & member of ReLaTe committee).

SENATE SUMMARY

PASSED (20-0-1): Resolution NBA003F - A Resolution to Amend Article 1, Section 1 of the RHA Bylaws to Update Clause 2 and Create Clause 3

IN SIMPLE TERMS: A resolution to adjust the responsibilities of the RHA president to hold them more accountable since they are being compensated (in the form of room and board with a basic dining plan), effective immediately.

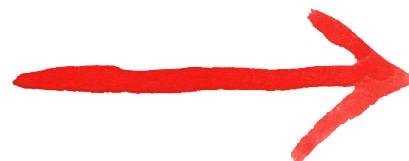
INTRODUCED BY: Natalie Asbury (Senator-at-Large)

PASSED (19-0-1): Resolution SAA002F - A Resolution to Support the Implementation of Modern Digital Services for Students

IN SIMPLE TERMS: RHA supports the Elevate program to simplify class registration through Workday Student, encourage the implementation of a single sign-on, and support clarity upgrades for TerpLink.

INTRODUCED BY: Syed Azan Ali (South Campus Commons Senator)

Continue to the next page for more legislation



SENATE SUMMARY

PASSED (19-0-1): Resolution SAA003F - A Resolution to Support the Expansion of the Self-Signed Excuse Note

IN SIMPLE TERMS: RHA supports the initiative of expanding the self-signed excuse note to two times per semester with more inclusive language adding both physical and psychological difficulties.

INTRODUCED BY: Syed Azan Ali (South Campus Commons Senator)

SPRING SENATES

³
All Senates will be at 7 p.m. in the Charles Carroll Room in STAMP

TUESDAY - January 30

TUESDAY - February 13

TUESDAY - February 27

TUESDAY - March 12

TUESDAY - March 26

TUESDAY - April 9

TUESDAY - April 23

ADVOCACY

Residential Facilities (ReFAB)

The Resident Facilities Advisory Board, ReFAB, deals with the structures and attributes that directly affect students living in the residence halls (Kevin Duru - kduru1@terpmail.umd.edu).

What we accomplished this semester:

- Improved the work order system with better ways to inform students about construction for residence halls

Resident Life (ReLaTe)

The 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 (Steven Berit - snberit4@gmail.com).

What we accomplished this semester:

- Worked with Res Life to propose a housing fee that is fair to students and ensures that student needs are being met
- Discussed ways to attend to and improve mental health of on campus students
- Provided feedback on Res Life emergency communication such as during the water outage in North Hill

ADVOCACY

Transportation (TAC)

The Transportation Advisory Committee, TAC, works with the university's Department of Transportation Services (DOTS) (Akash Balenalli -abalenal@terpmail.umd.edu).

What we accomplished this semester:

- Started a [Reddit account](#) for people to message and interact with and post on
- Initiated conversations with Facilities Management about raised crosswalks
- Working on improvements to DOTS shuttle funding

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DIACOM)

The Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee, DIACOM, works to ensure students feel safe and comfortable on campus (Mya Williams - atmwilli36@terpmail.umd.edu).

What we accomplished this semester:

- Highlighted and spreaded awareness about the Native American culture and community
- Crafting care packages and encouragement cards for students, to recognize their hard work and that their mental health is important (look out for them this week!)
- Very proud of all of the dedication & creative ideas by the members of DIAMCOM

ADVOCACY

Sustainability (SCOM)

The Sustainability Committee, SCOM, works on issues that concern the university's green initiatives (Illene Stark - istark@terpmail.umd.edu)

What we accomplished this semester:

- Many successful events and tabling with organizations on campus
- Began writing legislation for the spring semester
- Connected with more on-campus students and educated on waste management

Dining Services (DSAB)

The Dining Services Advisory Board, DSAB, works with the dining services directors to accommodate student's dining recommendations (Jake Middleton - jakemidd@outlook.com).

What we accomplished this semester:

- Successful First-Gen Feast to celebrate National First Generation College Student Day
- Brought back voting boxes - a place to vote on what foods end up in dining halls
- Snack Pack coming into existence - more details to come!

EXECUTIVE BOARD PHOTO

GALLERY



RHArcade
(8/25)



First Senate
(9/19)

Free Fest
(8/26)





Townhall
(10/16)

DOTS Chalk
The Walk (10/8)



Campus
Sustainability Month
Celebration
(10/27)



EXECUTIVE BOARD PHOTO

GALLERY



Halloween Senate
(10/31)

Regional L
Confre
(11/11-1

First Gen Feast
(11/8)





Leadership
Conference
(11/12)



Final Senate
(11/28)

ENSPIRE Event
(11/16)



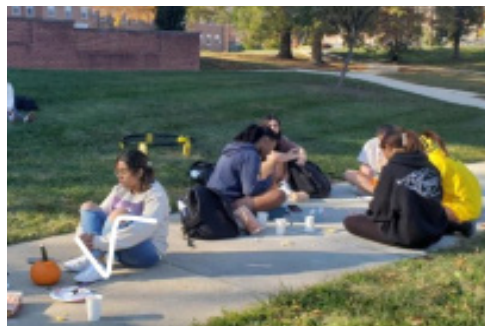
COUNCIL PHOTO

GALLERY

Cumerland Hall
Pumpkin Painting
(10/18)



Ellicott Hall
Pumpkin Painting
(10/13)



North Hill
Fall Festival
(11/5)





Denton Hall
Ice Cream Social
(10/18)



LaPlata Hall
Cookies with the
Council
(10/24 & 10/26)



South Hill
Tac-ober Fest
(10/20)

