

Saving the Rensselaer community since a while back

## The Stuff

- Comics ..... 5
- Editorial/Opinion ..... 8
- Events ..... 4
- Features ..... 6
- Sports ..... 10

## Do the Web Thing

Visit us on the interwebz at: [poly.rpi.edu](http://poly.rpi.edu)  
 Have grandma follow the facebook [facebook.com/thepolytechnic](https://www.facebook.com/thepolytechnic)  
 For all you hip teenagers, Twitter and Instagram: @RPIPoly



Scan this code, all the cool kids are doing it! Come on man it's fun!

<b>SPORTS</b> Page 10	<b>FEATURES</b> Page 6	<b>EDITORIAL</b> Page 8
 ECAV to become Quidditch pitch	 Reviewer moved by bully's art	Barack Obama Thanks, Obama. Jeremy Whileheffer A picture is worth a thousand words Staff Editorial [Redacted by the Administration]

## STUDENT SENATE

# Senate goes about normal agenda

Jay-kwellin Goodhoffer  
Senior Reporter

AS THIS WEEK'S MEETING OPENED, GRAND MARSHAL Kyle Keraga '15 reflected on the progress of the Senate. Since February, the Senate has slogged through the *Union Annual Report*, multiple *Union Constitution* amendments, and a petition site praised for its recent attempt to "bring sexy back" to the RPI campus. "We've set a concerning tone for our Union," Keraga said. "We've just gotten too much done in too little time, and involved too many people. People are starting to expect things from us." Vice Chair Tina Gilliland '15 agreed, citing that politicians have a sworn duty to make false promises and minimize progress. "In this time of misfortune, we think back to the wise words of Eugene McCarthy," concluded Keraga, "The only thing saving us from the bureaucracy is its inefficiency; So, let's be inefficient."

The first and only item on the Senate's agenda was a motion to immediately adjourn. Interfraternity Council Senator James Whelan '16 immediately called the question, motioning for an end to discussion. In the Senate's first vote of the evening, this failed 1-25-0, and discussion continued.

Michael Han '16 felt that it was important the Senate continue to having a long, boring, dragged out meeting, offering to reintroduce his thoughts on picnic tables. Spencer Scott, Graduate Senator, re-



Jack Wellhopper / The Polytechnic

### KYLE KERAGA '15 RUNS the meeting in hopes of avoiding any Judicial Board disputes

torted by requesting to postpone the current motion until next week so they could adjourn early, citing a concern that Keegan Caraway '18 had fallen asleep in his seat. Rules and Elections chairman Paul Ilori '17 agreed that circular discussion could be boring. He offered to "make it interesting," turning around and punching Judicial Board Chairman Anthony

Barbieri '15 directly on the nose. Barbieri, shocked more than the Senate, left the room clutching his nose and declining to comment.

Keraga declared he would take matters into his own hands via executive decision, citing the fact that committee chairs could be removed at any

See SENATE, **Page 2**

## STUDENT LIFE

# ResLife bans door use

## New policy protects residents

Kellsea MicWheellie  
Senior Reporter

THE FALL 2015 SEMESTER WILL SEE MANY changes to on-campus living from the Office of Residence Life in an attempt to improve campus security. Following the confusion caused by locking all doors but one in each residence hall during the Fall 2014 semester, the Office of Residence Life has decided to ban the usage of all exterior doors.

Dean of Interior Security and Strategic Disorientation Michael Michaels stated, "Prohibiting the usage of all exterior doors will eliminate any confusion students have as to which doors are locked or unlocked. We want students to know we're listening."

A trial period for the new security policy began in Barton Hall during spring break. Students, who had not been notified of the new security policy, were flabbergasted when their IDs could not open the doors. "I got back from spring break on Sunday night and all of the doors had 'emergency exit only' signs. I walked around the building multiple times and couldn't find an open door," claimed Barton resident Drew Nicholson '18.

Many students were confused as to how they will access their rooms. Michaels explained, "Students can use rope ladders to climb up to their windows. Rope can be purchased in the bookstore and rope ladders with steps can be purchased at an additional cost. This serves two purposes: improving campus security and increasing the physical fitness of the student body." Alexandra Schultz '17 wanted to know

how handicap students such as her were expected to access their rooms. "How am I, a wheelchair-bound student, expected to climb a rope ladder up to my room on the third floor?" questioned Schultz. The Office of Residence Life has set up a camp of tents on the '86 Field for disabled or injured students. According to Michaels, this is a huge improvement for disabled students' housing, as it allows disabled students to be even closer to their classes.

Some Barton residents have developed methods to circumvent the rope climbing challenge such as pulley systems or catapults. Physics I professors have praised the recent security changes, claiming that they've never seen test averages so high. "Students have been forced to apply the physics principals they have learned in class to real life. It's this type of out-of-the-box thinking that enables RPI to produce world-class engineers," raved Doctor Professor Patrick Jones.

Michaels reminded students, "Public Safety officers will now be checking for unlocked windows. Any windows found to be unsecured will be locked and an orange "Gotcha!" tag will be stuck to the window."

The new security policy will be tested in Burdett Avenue Residence Hall and Polytechnic Apartments later this semester. Michaels is optimistic that students will respond well to the policy change and expects the residence hall door ban to expand to the remaining residence halls by the start of next semester. If campus crime decreases during the upcoming semesters, the door ban may be expanded to include all campus buildings.

## SODEXO SHENANIGANS

# Father's to be replaced by Arizona factory

Justinian the Great Etzyne  
The Most Senioresst Reporter

RENSSELAER WILL BE SEEING A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE in Arizona Iced Tea found on campus, according to a joint press release from the Student Senate, the Union Executive Board and RPI Hospitality Services. The release, which was leaked through the Flagship documents service onto RPI Reddit by /u/OpaqueTitanium this morning, details a new, comprehensive collaboration between the Rensselaer Union and Hornell Brewing Co., Inc., which will take

See ARIZONA, **Page 3**

## Whether 2\*(2^2)-Day Forecast

Wed-nez-day	Homework day
<b>33° -34°</b> Precip. 254% Hum. % Chance of Rain Wind 15 mph	<b>10° -151°</b> Precip. 40% Hum. % Snow, probably Wind 10 mph
Thor's day	Monday
<b>40π° 52°</b> SO SUNNY WOOOOT Precip. sqrt(-1) Hum. e^x Wind πr^2	<b>99° 90°</b> Precip. 20% Hum. % Liberal Leave Wind 10 mph
Fried day	Tuesday
<b>9° 6°</b> Precip. what Hum. huh Fathery (get it?) Wind idk man	<b>00° 00°</b> I give up on weather, Mom. I tried. What really IS sun anyway?
Saturday	JOB AVAILABLE
<b>1° -1°</b> Seriously Cloudy Precip. 40% Hum. So dry Wind who cares	<b>WEATHER TELLER PERSON</b> Please, we beg of you Contact within

## PUBLIC SAFETY

# Public Safety relocates to roof

## Officers locked out by ResLife, finds "Gotcha!" tag



Jack Welhofffffffer/The Polytechnic

**A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER FINDS himself locked out upon his return to the Public Safety Office.**

**Jack-Jack Attack**  
Senior Reporter

IN A SURPRISING TURN OF EVENTS LAST Monday, a Public Safety officer returning from a call found himself locked out of the the Public Safety building. A "Gotcha!" tag, previously used by the Office of Residence Life to encourage students to lock their doors, was found on the main doors to the building.

In a statement released to the community, Public Safety stated, "we operate 24 hours a day, seven days a

week, 365 days a year. Since we never close, we have never had a use for the locks on our doors. We also keep the only keys to the building inside the main office." This has never been a problem before because Public Safety always has multiple officers on duty. However, a scheduling mistake left only one officer on-duty Monday night. At approximately 1:43 am, when returning from a call, the only on-duty officer found the doors locked.

Residence Life has come forward to say that they were the ones who put the

"Gotcha!" tag on the door of the building. "Gotcha!" tags were once a Residence Life solution to students forgetting or neglecting to lock their own doors. "Students didn't respond well to our 'Gotcha!' tags," said Associate Dean of the Student Experience Venient Notcom, "but we just had so much fun locking people out of their rooms that we had to continue." After some careful thought and planning, Residence Life determined that the best target would be Public Safety, so as to get some cheap points with students. "Mostly, though," said Notcom, "we just think this is hilarious."

Another moment of bad luck hit when Public Safety discovered that all of the locksmiths in the Albany area were on vacation to attend the International Locksmith Convention in Copenhagen. Without use of their main office, Public Safety has temporarily relocated to the top of their building. Officers have set up a variety of colorful beach chairs and umbrellas. An old flip phone is currently being used to receive 911 calls, and a megaphone is being used to dispatch calls to roaming officers. In the conclusion of their statement, Public Safety has asked students and faculty to "please avoid any and all emergency situations in the foreseeable future. We really don't know when we will be able to return to normal operations."

## Senate: a normal meeting with business as usual

From **Page 1**

time, and that he intended to take that meaning quite literally. He brought down the gavel, his eyes began to glow red, and blue lightning akin to Palpatine's shot out of his fingertips, striking Ilori. After the blinding light had faded, Ilori and his chair were gone. Jenna Freedberg '18 quickly asked if Keraga had killed Ilori. "Worse," replied Keraga, "I've sent him to Union College." Justin Etzine '18 immediately began a completely unnecessary explanation of how this should be handled according to Robert's Rules of Order, and the room broke out into side conversation. Whelan called the question again. It failed.

Some time later, the Senate voted on Scott's motion. It passed 5-3-19. Senators questioned the accuracy of Keraga's vote count, and so he pulled out his abacus to demonstrate its correctness, explaining that a recent J-Board ruling allowed him to vote "whenever politically convenient." Then, in a short recess, Keraga bought everyone pizza! The food was mediocre at best, and no drinks were provided, but all was forgiven.

With the motion to adjourn postponed, the Senate had wrapped up its agenda, and was prepared to adjourn. However, the Grand Marshal brought his gavel down once more. As lightning crackled around his fingertips, Keraga stated he had been given a bylaws amendment by the Student Life Committee, and it had to be brought up during new business.

The motion, citing overwhelming bureaucratic inefficiency in the Senate, the Senate's inability to defeat the E-board in broomball, and Keraga's Sith powers, would ordain Keraga "Supreme Emperor of the Union." He would be considered a voting member of all student government groups, and would preside over the newly instated Imperial Council, voting only in the event of a tie. The Imperial Council would consist of all officers of the Union as non-voting members, and could veto any action of any student government organization by majority vote—overridable only by a unanimous vote of the Senate.

Etzine expressed support for the motion, citing its alignment with the vague language in the current Constitution and his belief in a firm policy of blind trust for Keraga. Joe Venusto '17 questioned whether this was an overreach of executive authority. Edward Qiao '18 asked to amend the whereas clause in the motion, complaining about "overwhelming" inefficiency to instead read "insufficient" inefficiency: without opposition, this change was made immediately. Former Rules and Elections Chair Paul Ilori skyped in, asking the Senate to "search their feelings" and urged them to remember their failures with the Activity Fee. His speaking time expired, Ilori stated "Help me Joe Venusto, you're my only hope."

Senate-Executive Board Liaison Shoshana Rubinstein '16 proposed to change the words "Kyle Keraga" to "Erin Amarello." Etzine questioned whether this was against Robert's Rules. Ilori declared her an Executive Board traitor and "rebel scum." Parliamentarian Joshua Rosenfeld '16 opened a queue on Rubinstein's proposed amendment, and then opened a queue on opening a queue that is already within the original queue.

Discussion moved in agonizing, recursive circles, eliminating any pretense of productivity. When Caraway was called on by Rosenfeld, he woke up with a yawn and moved all previous questions to end all discussion. The Senate erupted into raucous cheers, and passed his motion unanimously. Rubinstein's amendment failed 4-22-0, and the main motion passed 20-5-1. Rubinstein, Ilori, Marcus Flowers '16, and Graduate Senator Mike Caiola voted no, while Mason Cooper '17 abstained.

As Keraga had now been appointed to a higher office, Gilliland presided over the remainder of the meeting as Acting Grand Marshal. Rather than adjourning, the Senate agreed to follow succession procedures and choose a new GM on the spot. Rubinstein nominated Gilliland, who accepted, citing her experience in student government. Etzine self-nominated, citing his interest in joining the dark side as Keraga's Sith apprentice. Other nominees included the Helix Fossil, the Moose, and the Inflatable Whale. Etzine and Helix were eliminated due to a lack of experience. Controversial remarks by the Moose during previous election cycles raised the question of whether he was prepared to serve in a professional matter. Citing the Inanimate Objects Party's long history of persistence, transparency, and object permanence, the Inflatable Whale was honored with the distinction of serving as the 150th Grand Marshal. The marathon meeting adjourned as the sun finally rose. This reporter, surprisingly well rested, retired in peace. I'm pretty sure this is what Frodo felt like at the end of Lord of the Rings—except Sauron won this time.

## STUDENT SCANDAL

# Sheer Idiocy caught in scandal

## Possibly largest controversy since Postergate

**Geff Exposenbrawl**  
Senior Reporter

**BREAKING:** THIS PAST week, in a joint investigation with RPI TV, *The Polytechnic* caught Sheer Idiocy, RPI's beloved improv group, rehearsing a show using a written script on hidden camera footage. "You'd be surprised the depths they go to for a show," our anonymous source within the group, who helped sneak in the camera, stated. "Usually we spin the wheel for a TV sitcom and find a script from one of the episodes and just use it. I was scared that someone would catch on after the fifth 'Big Bang Theory' show in a row, but no one has."

Prior to this, *The Poly* and some of the student body suspected something funny—pun intended. "I went to one of their shows; it seemed off when one of them walked on stage in a suit and screamed 'Legendary,'" declared Stefan Colonel-Ollie '18. "No one at this school is funny, so I knew immediately that something was wrong." And right he was. After reports of unusual activity at the improv shows, like people being there and laughing, *The Poly* decided to investigate.

This brings us to our anonymous source, who, with just



Me /The Polytechnic

**EVIDENCE STOLEN from the set of Sheer Idiocy includes repurposed scripts from popular television shows, such as *Sex and the City*.**

a small amount of monetary coercion, gave us all we know now about the group. "It's great when we're at the top; the money, power, fame, it's intoxicating. Someone once told me 'good job' after a show and I nearly fainted," admits Timothy—wait, I mean the anonymous source. "But when we don't perform, the higher ups threaten to pull our scholarships." As many are already aware, Sheer Idiocy members are recruited out of high schools across the nation, most members receiving full ride scholarships. "Most of them would make fun of

me since my scholarship only covered 90% of my tuition, but I can't help it if prop comedy isn't my strong suit."

We reached out to the director of Sheer Idiocy, Brandi McLier '15, for comment. "I don't care what Ti-mouthy told you, we're innocent," she wrote in an email response. "Perhaps we did write a few scripts, we just misinterpreted the way improv works. Obviously, it's not a show, it's just practice."

We at *The Poly* are shocked and angered by this betrayal of trust, and how they never even gave

Geff Exposenbrawl a fair chance during his audition. They should have made it clear beforehand that it was going to be a "PC" tryout, and that no nudity was allowed. Nevertheless, we asked some of the student body if they believed Sheer Idiocy is still deserving of their title as the best and only improv group on campus. "Absolutely not," argues Jackie Tellcougher '16. "They should give the honorific to a group more deserving."

# Arizona: *The future of Rensselaer*

From **Page 1**

Arizona's presence on campus to levels never previously believed to be possible.

*The Polytechnic* contacted members of the bodies involved in the report for comment. No members of the Executive Board responded to comment; however, an individual close to the Board, who requested anonymity, shared that, had Arizona declined, the Executive Board was prepared to create a Seattle's Best Coffee distribution facility instead. Grand Marshal Kyle Keraga '15, said the proposal was "a time consuming but necessary addition to the RPI community." He continued to explain that the vote to approve the proposal took three months to complete successfully due to student government's inability to decide on their favorite flavor of Arizona. Sodexo was very satisfied with the progress made on the proposal and cited that past incidents involving black ooze seeping from the roof of Commons Dining Hall were the unanticipated results of trying to create a Sodexo-branded Arizona alternative.

The cornerstone of the program is a state-of-the-art Arizona bottling factory to replace Father's Marketplace. Due to the quantity of iced tea that will be produced in the facility, the McNeil Room will be partitioned to create the largest tea storage room in a 6-mile radius and the Patroon Room will serve as the gift shop, where students will be able to purchase the iced tea.

Many new RPI-branded programs are planned to accompany



Magic Jack / *The Polytechnic*

**AN ARTIST'S RENDITION OF THE LONG-AWAITED NEW ARIZONA FACTORY WAS released alongside the state-of-the-art proposal.**

the factory's release. The most prominent addition is the creation of the School of Arizona Studies, which will have majors focused on the production, management, and sale of Arizona tea products and will mandate that every course number ends in 99 to match the pricing strategy of Arizona (i.e. ARIZ-1099 instead of ARIZ-1100). All students will be required to take four courses

within the School of Arizona Studies before being permitted to graduate. General Arizona Studies majors will be permitted to operate the factory as part of their Capstone project. Other Arizona programs to be brought to RPI include the Arizona Bridge Program, the Arizona Honor Society, and the introduction of Alpha Rho Iota Zeta Omega Nu Alpha (ARIZΩNA),

a new co-educational social fraternity that promotes service and brotherhood through Arizona.

Student opinion on the announcement is currently unknown, as no posts to YikYak that mention the change have arisen yet. Members of student government have already begun posterizing around campus about the proposal; however, students who prefer Brisk Iced

Tea and enjoy the competitively-priced products of Father's Marketplace have been tearing down these posters. RPI TV has been contacted to record the teardown of these posters and, according to Judicial Board Chairman Anthony Barbieri '15, a Judicial Board case is pending "to penalize anyone who dares defy the sign policy to hurt the great Arizona."

## INCIDENT BLOTTER

INFORMATION  
PROVIDED BY  
NUCLEAR SAFETY  
INVESTIGATOR  
MR. BURNS

### Friday, March 20

#### Rensselaer Union

Injury: An RPI employee was injured by a tree while the tree was stripped of branches and cut down. The employee was transported to Samaritan Hospital by Troy Fire Department.

### Wednesday, March 25

#### Darrin Communications Center

Attempted Larceny: Two individuals broke into the Darrin Communications Center in hopes of stealing the world's largest working Rubik's cube. The Department of Public Safety had already arrived on scene when the burglars realized that the cube did not yet exist. The suspects were arrested by Troy Police Department.

### Thursday, March 26

#### Rensselaer Union

Sabotage: Two candidates for Grand Marshal and three candidates for President of the Union were caught attempting to ambush members of Senate Rules and Elections Committee. The motive was believed to be retaliation for poster takedowns by R&E for alleged poster violations. A grounds for disciplinary action form was submitted and the Institute banned all signposting by students until a safer alternative is found.

### Saturday, March 28

#### Freshman Circle

Fight: Five parents got into a physical fight over a disputed parking space in Freshman Circle. One reported getting hair torn out and another reported eye pain following the incident. Two parents were arrested by Troy Police Department and three parents were transported to Samaritan Hospital.

### Sunday, March 29

#### Barton Hall

Injury: A student was critically injured after falling off the rope ladder leading to the fourth floor of Barton Hall. The student was transported to the Student Health Center by TFD. The Dean of Student's Office was notified.

### Monday, March 30

#### Blitman Residence Commons

Larceny: The caller reported seeing two suspicious individuals leaving his room as he returned from class. The first item was a silicone plastic device; the physical dimensions of the device were believed to be 11 inches by 4 inches. The second item was an ornate, glass object with a flared base and a circumference of 3 inches. The distraught student was transported to Samaritan Hospital by RPI Ambulance. DOSO was notified about the traumatic incident.

#### Pi Lambda Upsilon

Drugs: The caller reported drug overdose in Union 3418. DPS and EMT were on scene. The subject consumed 8 kg of Fanta purple drank and 5 kg of Italian-style circular consumables, which were illicitly taken from Pizza Bella. Subject was found unconscious on a couch. EMT performed first aid upon arrival; subject was then transported to I Love Pizza of Troy for full authentic pizza rehabilitation.