

The Polytechnic

GM Week 2017

GRAND MARSHAL - PRESIDENT OF THE UNION

UNDERGRADUATE PRESIDENT - ALUMNI PRESIDENT

2020 CLASS PRESIDENT - 2019 CLASS PRESIDENT - 2018 CLASS PRESIDENT

CLASS OF 2020 V.P. - CLASS OF 2019 V.P. - CLASS OF 2018 V.P.

CLASS OF 2020 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2019 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2018 SENATORS

INDEPENDENT SENATORS - GREEK SENATOR - CLASS OF 2020 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF

2019 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2018 REPRESENTATIVES - ALUMNI VICE PRESIDENT -

ALUMNI TREASURER - ALUMNI SECRETARY - GRADUATE SENATORS - GRADUATE

REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2020 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2019 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2018

SENATORS - INDEPENDENT SENATORS - GREEK SENATOR - CLASS OF 2020 REPRESENTATIVES

- CLASS OF 2019 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2018 REPRESENTATIVES - ALUMNI VICE

PRESIDENT - CLASS OF 2020 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2019 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2018

SENATORS - INDEPENDENT SENATORS - GREEK SENATOR - CLASS OF 2020 REPRESENTATIVES

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CLASS OF 2018 SENATORS - INDEPENDENT SENATORS - GREEK SENATOR - CLASS OF 2020

REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2019 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2018 REPRESENTATIVES -

ALUMNI VICE PRESIDENT - ALUMNI TREASURER - ALUMNI SECRETARY - GRADUATE SENATORS -

GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES - ALUMNI TREASURER - ALUMNI SECRETARY - GRADUATE

SENATORS - GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES - ALUMNI TREASURER - ALUMNI SECRETARY -

GRADUATE SENATORS - GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2020 SENATORS - CLASS OF

2019 SENATORS - CLASS OF 2018 SENATORS - INDEPENDENT SENATORS - GREEK SENATOR -

CLASS OF 2020 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2019 REPRESENTATIVES - CLASS OF 2018

REPRESENTATIVES - ALUMNI VICE PRESIDENT - ALUMNI TREASURER - ALUMNI SECRETARY -



Grand Marshal



What makes you the best fit to lead the student body?

Justin Etzine

Since I first joined student government almost three years ago, I have seen the impact and relevance that student advocacy and self-governance can have in bringing changes that benefit the student body. However, that impact has not always been consistent.

I'm running to be your next Grand Marshal because I believe I am the best fit to lead the student body to both maximize this impact in the coming year and solidify this impact as a consistent benefit to the students for years to follow. I understand the importance of simultaneously supporting a student-run Union, advocating for the interests of students, and maintaining productive and respectful relationships with administrators.

During my tenure as the chairman of the Senate's Student Life Committee and Web Technologies Group over the past two years, I have tested and developed my ability to inspire other students to channel their passion and lead charges to bring changes that improve the overall student experience at RPI. I believe I am best equipped to take these efforts to a Senate-wide implementation.

From working closely with the past three Grand Marshals, I have seen firsthand what approaches are most effective in advancing student priorities. My platform is a reflection of these observations and experiences, and it forms a detailed schematic for how the student government will further student interests.

What qualifies you to hold the position of Grand Marshal?

Justin Etzine

I have had the distinct honor of representing the RPI student body as a member of the Student Senate. I have served as a Class of 2018 Senator and a member of the 2018 Class Council for three years, where I have had the opportunity to advocate for student interests and resolve concerns. I have also served on a number of student government committees over the course of my involvement.

As chairman of the Student Life Committee, I have guided the committee in pursuing and achieving meaningful progress and have seen its membership grow to over 30 passionate students, Senators and non-Senators alike. We have seen successes in our project and initiatives, such as in our partnership with the Counseling Center to enact changes guided by student feedback, our efforts working with the administration to introduce new study spaces across campus, and our advocacy for the reintroduction of multiple entry points for residence halls.

As former chairman of the Web Technologies Group, I lead the group in the re-envisioning of the elections service, which has provided candidates a level playing field for promoting their campaign and platforms online. Furthermore, we worked to stabilize and restructure WTG's infrastructure, accompanied by a multi-year plan for the future, to ensure that the group can continue to provide helpful, free services to the student body without interruption.

Outside of student government, I am currently a resident assistant for Barton Hall, where I have been able to share my passion for RPI with my residents and other first-year students when beginning their first semester. I have also been involved in RPI TV, where I served in the roles of Facilities and Equipment Manager and Business Manager from January 2016 to February 2017, which provided me with the ability to coordinate the organization effectively and understand the club officer-student government relationship. Earlier in my time at RPI, I had the privilege of serving on the Editorial Board of The Polytechnic , where I was able to guide one of the oldest student newspapers as Managing Editor. Finally, I recently became a trainee of RPI Ambulance, where I am proud to support to my classmates in times of need.

I have been heavily involved in many areas of student life at RPI. When coupled with my experience as a dedicated member of student government, I believe that these experiences have given me the wide perspective needed to effectively serve as Grand Marshal.

What do you think are the incumbent Grand Marshal's strengths and weaknesses? What would you do to improve upon them if you are elected?

Justin Etzine

Paul has worked hard to promote a sense of "directness" in the Senate; if he feels that a topic needs to be addressed, with administrators or otherwise, he is not afraid to relay the concerns and student opinions across as directly as possible. Paul has also made substantive efforts towards "cutting the red tape" of the Senate by advocating for senators to embody that similar directness.

I believe that, in pursuing this candidness, Paul sometimes can appear as unprofessional to those who are unfamiliar with his personality. He does provide the disclaimer of not taking his jokes seriously, but it can lead to some seeing the Senate in the same light as the jokes. Paul has proven his productivity and seriousness when needed, but sometimes his comments can reduce productivity and turn people away from the Senate and its committees.

As Grand Marshal, one of the areas I plan to build upon is blending Paul's efforts toward candidly representing student opinions with an increased focus on ensuring professionalism and proactive communication. From my involvement in student government, I have learned how student advocacy can be tact without the core message being diluted.

Name three short-term and three long-term goals that you have for the Student Senate.

Justin Etzine

In the short term, I plan to focus on resolving three widespread student concerns. Firstly, with Sodexo's contract up for renewal in the coming months, I will work with Hospitality Services, Sodexo, and the Senate's Hospitality Services Advisory Committee to ensure that any concerns students have with on-campus dining are resolved for the upcoming year.

Secondly, I will work with the Office of Student Living and Learning to assist in the review of the second-year and upperclassmen housing process to ensure that the process can run as smoothly as possible in coming years. Furthermore, I plan to advocate for the reintroduction of the room retention option for upperclassmen.

Thirdly, I will address the recent concerns involving Greek life. Two changes made to the Greek housing arrangements, involving housing for the Summer Arch semester and a minimum grade point average for living in a Greek house as a sophomore, were not introduced in accordance with the Greek Commons Agreement. I plan to advocate for the ability for Greek students to live in their houses year-round, with the requirement they are in good standing with their houses, which the policy currently permits.

In the long term, I will promote the importance of establishing two positions of the Board of Trustees reserved for recently-graduated alumni. These alumni would have graduated within one decade, and they would be able to provide insight based on their time at RPI.

Additionally, I will advocate for both the reinstatement of policies that provide the Union with an auxiliary service status and the adherence to the Rensselaer Union Constitution . I believe that the hiring of a new director for the Union is the first step towards this, and promoting the advisory relationship between the director and the vice president for student life will be vital.

Finally, I will establish a long-term plan for the Senate to stabilize the body's ability to effectively advocate for student rights and build constructive relationships with administrators. This will entail revising procedures for transitions between terms, along with improved documentation and data retention.

These plans are just some of the goals I intend to fulfill during and beyond my term. My platform can be found in full at www.justinforgm.com/platform!

In your own words, what do you feel are the roles of the Grand Marshal and the Senate?

Justin Etzine

The Student Senate is the representative and legislative body of the Union, given its authority by the *Rensselaer Union Constitution*. The Senate represents students in student rights policies and decisions, pursues projects to improve student rights, and serves as the collective voice of the student body to the administration. The Grand Marshal, first and foremost, leads the Student Senate and the Union as the chief representative of the Union.

The Grand Marshal works with committee chairs and Senators in executing the Senate's mission to represent students, advocate for their interests, and pursue positive change for their benefit.

However, the role of Grand Marshal extends far past its responsibilities on paper. The GM is expected to be the respectful, collective liaison between the student body, the faculty, and the administration, so the GM should act with poise and optimism in representing the student body. Furthermore, the Grand Marshal must be a known name and face on campus that students feel comfortable approaching—in person or otherwise—with any question, idea, or concern.

What does the student-senator relationship look like? What should it look like?

Justin Etzine

The relationship between the student body and the senators is one of service and representation. The Senate serves as the collective, representational voice of the student body, and, as such, senators should make sure that their statements and actions as senators are reflective of their specific constituencies' views.

Ideally, the senator role should fuse thorough student representation with ideas, passion, and initiative to enact change for the benefit of their constituencies. As Grand Marshal, I will push the current senator role closer to this ideal. I will ensure that senators are voting based on their constituents' views and best interests, and I will enact changes to the senator responsibilities to promote frequent collection of student views.

Finally, senators are, of course, still students, and they can use this as a tool to regularly poll their classmates for opinions and views. Senators should be both recognizable and approachable in their roles, so that constituents feel comfortable sharing feedback with them directly.

What does the senator-administration relationship look like? What should it look like?

Justin Etzine

Throughout my time in Senate, and from what I have seen from past terms, I have noticed a fluctuating trend between two approaches to the Senate-administration relationship. One emphasizes strong administrative relationships, potentially at the expense of representing student concerns if and when they arise, and the other takes a more aggressive stance towards the administration in advocating for student ideas and concerns.

I believe neither approach is the best means of productively advocating for and delivering on student concerns and initiatives. My achievable vision for the relationship between the Student Senate and the administration is an amicable and respectful working relationship, which includes mutual respect for the roles and responsibilities of both parties.

Currently, some senators express apprehension in supporting motions, resolutions, or petitions that take a definitive stance on an issue, especially those on topics that are considered more controversial. I believe that there is an inherent difference between standing by a prevailing opinion of our constituency and acting disrespectfully or even aggressively toward administrators. The latter should not be considered appropriate, but the former has valid purposes and, if handled with tact, can catalyze collaboration, compromise, and positive change.

To achieve this vision, as Grand Marshal, I plan to simultaneously prioritize increasing student representation and improving administrative relationships. Many of the changes needed are small, simple, and easily achievable. For example, I will emphasize the importance of maintaining a certain level of professionalism in Senate meetings that portrays the Senate as a body worthy of collaboration and "a seat at the table." Additionally, I will guide the Senate's committee chairs and officers in building meaningful relationships with administrators, with standing meetings scheduled at regular intervals to normalize those conversations.

How would you handle a crisis involving the student body, like the issues surrounding the hiring of an executive director of student activities, if such an issue arose during your term?

Justin Etzine

If a situation arose in which students’ rights or privileges were being encroached upon, or otherwise was a crisis, I would give it my full attention as the role of Grand Marshal would be my top priority. Firstly, I would work to get accurate information on the situation as swiftly as possible; to uphold the professionalism needed for the position, I would still maintain level-headedness and caution, both for myself and for the Senate.

I would inform the student body as soon as possible, especially if they did not already know. I would call on fellow student leaders, such as the presidents of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils, the class presidents,

and the presidents of the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils, to pass on the accurate information, stressing the importance and time sensitivity.

Then, I would work to act on the information with the objective of solving the concern as swiftly as possible. This could mean a meeting with the relevant administrators or the Institute president, a recommendation for a resolution by the Senate, meetings with other student leaders, or a combination of these approaches. I would ensure that frequent and pertinent updates are provided to the student body whenever possible.

I believe that these situations are when the true importance of the Grand Marshal’s role are exemplified. Persistence, respect, and directness are all simultaneously necessary in relaying the student body concern to administration. As Grand Marshal, I will be prepared to fulfill those duties to the fullest extent.

What qualities should a leader have? How does the Grand Marshal differ from a senator? How are you a leader?

Justin Etzine

The effectiveness of a leader depends on more than their own passion—a leader needs to be able to use personal passion to get others involved and inspired with that same level of passion. A leader must be able to build their legitimacy through their reputation, their ethics, and their authenticity. Finally, an effective Grand Marshal must be able to maintain close relationships with leaders across campus, not just with a particular portfolio or division.

I believe that my involvements in student government, both as a senator and a committee chairman, have enabled me to achieve these qualities. The Student Life Committee has seen a record year, both in terms of student involvement and project throughput. Over 30 students have been actively involved in the committee over the term, and every one felt impassioned about enacting changes for the benefit of their classmates, both current and future. I believe that I played a substantive role in growing their sense of passion, and I am confident that I will bring that same passion to a Senate-wide level.

Furthermore, I have been able to establish productive relationships with Institute administrators, student leaders, and campus partners over the past three years, so I will be able to spend more time on working with them to find middle-ground that is amicable for all parties, which is vital for delivering on our promises to the student body.

Undergraduate President

Why do you want to be Undergraduate President?

Kayla Cinnamon

I have been a Representative on the Class of 2018 Council for most of my time at RPI, and I have always wanted to have more responsibility. I have been on committees within Class Council, and I want to share my knowledge with other Class Councils. I want to be Undergraduate President to further establish the Undergraduate Council’s role in RPI’s student government as well as share my experiences with the other Class Councils while assisting them in any way I can. The Undergraduate Council is a place for the leaders of the Class Councils to collaborate and provide advice to each other for them to perform at their best. I want to provide a solid layout of the Council’s duties and a structured way of conducting meetings and events throughout the semester while also creating a space where students can bounce ideas off each other and come up with new and exciting events and activities for their class.

Matt Heimlich

I want to be Undergraduate President because it is time for me to step into a larger leadership role in student government. My favorite part of RPI’s student government has always been the class councils and I believe that I can use my experience to better class councils in the future.

Name three short and long-term goals that you have for the Undergraduate Council.

Kayla Cinnamon

The first short-term goal I have is to improve the attendance of the members in the Undergraduate Council. As of now, the Council does not maintain the attendance policy and some Class Councils are not able to pass budgets when their President or Vice President is not there to represent them. The second short-term goal I have is to increase attendance at class events by emphasizing communication and advertisements to the undergraduate student body. With increased communication, the constituents of the Council stay informed of what their Council is doing and can decide on their own if they would like to partake in any events. My third short-term goal is to create an introduction packet to give to the Class of 2021 Council members after their elections. This packet will contain a brief history of the Union as well as their responsibilities and examples of class events. This way, they will be able to hit the ground running and start creating events for their class immediately.

My first long-term goal is to establish substantial and regimented documentation that will be carried throughout future Undergraduate Councils. With this documentation, future members will be able to reference information as well as provide future Councils with new information. Along with this, I would

like to have the classes create general calendars so future classes can have a timeline of when they should start working on class activities such as picking the class tree and creating the class ring. Additionally, I would like to have a document that includes all of the contact information for various people and services, such as Sodexo or Jostens, thus providing a useful resource for the Class Councils. The second long-term goal I have is to introduce a mentoring hierarchy in which the upperclassmen councils mentor the underclassmen councils. This helps give the younger Class Council members people to go to for advice as well as give the older Class Council members an opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge. This hierarchy will ideally continue on past my term in order to keep a mentoring dynamic within the Council. My third long-term goal is to make the reputation of the Undergraduate Council one that is held in high regard within student government and the student body. I will strive to accomplish this by holding structured meetings and communicating with the student body about Class Council budgets and what their class money is being used towards.

Matt Heimlich

- Short Term
1. Have a detailed welcome packet and information session for new members and the incoming freshman class so that they have all the information necessary to start in their positions.
 2. Hold the members of the Undergraduate Council accountable for showing up to meetings and running their own Class Council meeting.
 3. Update the Undergraduate Council section of the RPI Student Government website and have the Class Councils post more of their events and announcements on the site.
- Long Term
1. Have a folder of detailed documents outlining the logistics behind each event that each Class Council does so that they have all that they need in one place to make their events run smoothly.
 2. Expand the outreach of each Class Council through social media so that they can get more members of their class to their events.
 3. Keep good relations with the other parts of student government.

Describe your experience in student government.

Kayla Cinnamon

I joined the Class of 2018 Council the spring semester of my freshman year as a Class Representative. As a Class Representative, I have served as the Council’s Publicity Director for the past two years as well as been a member of the Class Tree and Class Ring Committees. As the Publicity Director, I maintain the Council’s social media profiles as well as advertise events to the student body. Being on the Class Tree Committee gave me the experience of gathering the class’s opinions and making decisions based on what they wanted. As a member of the Class Ring Committee, I gained the experience of working with a professional ring company, designing the ring based on class preferences, and planning the ring dinner with other committee members and RPI administration. Along with these

positions, I have helped plan class events such as hockey nights and barbecues as well as tabled and assisted during the events.

Matt Heimlich

I have been involved in student government at RPI since freshman year elections. I was first elected as a representative to the Class of 2018 Council. I was also elected internally as the treasurer of the class council. Freshman year I helped out with the class tree planting ceremony and freshman hockey night. I continued to be a representative and the treasurer of the class council sophomore year when I helped with another hockey night and a class barbeque. At the end of sophomore year I was elected as a 2018 Senator. I have continued to be treasurer of the class council and have been active in helping out with events. As a senator, I have been on the Facilities and Services Committee (FSC) and the Student Life Committee (SLC). I have worked with the IFC President in SLC’s Greek Policy subcommittee to look at judicial policy, summer arch’s effect on Greek life and a SPAM alternative. I worked with Auxiliary, Parking, and Transportation Services in FSC to look at the future of RPI shuttles.

What are the roles of the Undergraduate President, the Undergraduate Councils, and the Class Councils?

Kayla Cinnamon

The roles of the Undergraduate President are to assist the Class Councils in putting on successful events as well as hold meetings for the Undergraduate Council members to collaborate and provide advice for their events and activities. The Undergraduate Council has the role of keeping all of the Class Councils informed of what each Class Council is doing as well as approving budgets proposed by the Class Councils. The roles of the Class Councils are to create events for the students within their class as well as provide constituents with the opportunity to participate in traditional class activities such as planting the class tree and buying the class ring.

Matt Heimlich

The objective of each Class Council is to unify their class and create a legacy for their class on campus. The unifying comes from events such as hockey nights, senior events and other fun events. The legacy of their class comes from the class tree, class rings and class gift.

The role of the Undergraduate Council is to approve the expenditures of each Class Council and to share information between the councils. It is vital for the working of each Class Council that they get all the information they need to plan their events.

The Undergraduate President presides over the Undergraduate Council meetings and makes sure that each council has what it needs to succeed. The President makes sure that all positions are filled and follows procedure for those that need to be filled. It is important that the President holds each officer accountable for their Class Council.

Candidate Profiles

Grand Marshal



Justin Etzine
CSCI/ITWS '18

President of the Union



Keegan Caraway
ELEC '18



Rasikia Ekhalikar
CSCE/CSCI '18

Undergraduate President



Kayla Cinnamon
ITWS '18



Matt Heimlich
CHME '18



Harrison Leinweber
CSCI '18



Matthew Rand
MATL/MECH '19

Class of 2018

President

Brenna Buckley
AERO

Vice President



Sean Waclawik
CSCI

Hello, my name is Sean Waclawik and I am a junior-year Computer Science major who is running for Class of 2018's Vice President. I have been serving as Vice President for the Class of 2018 since my freshman year. During that time, I have planned and assisted in the planning and execution of numerous class events such as class hockey nights, BBQ's, the Class of 2018 Tree Planting Ceremony, our class ring dinner, and more. I have consistently been involved in Rensselaer's student life and clubs on campus. This includes my work with RPI Ambulance, RPI's chapter of Knights of Columbus, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Greek Life though Sigma Chi. If elected, I will continue to work to promote class unity through my effort planning quality class events. If you have any questions please contact me at waclas@rpi.edu.

Senators

Varun Rao
CSE/CSCI

Hannah Merrow
PSYC/STSO

Ellie Mees
ELEC

Steven Sperazza

Graduate

Senators

Anthony Ashley

Jordan Angel

Kinshuk Panda

Michael Gardner
CSE/CS

Stephanie Jennings

Representatives

Hined Rafah

Spencer Scott

Ezra Teboul

Amanda Youmans

Class of 2019

President

Vignesh Babu
NUCL

Vice President

Colin Williamson

Senators

Mary Clare Crochiere
BMED

Kinsley Rowan
BMED

Yuvi Chopra



Nancy Bush
CHEM/SUST

As an incumbent, I will continue working on projects that improve the student experience here at RPI. The projects I am currently working on include being the class ring committee chair, the fight for more diverse food options in the Union, and the creation of a campus wide sustainability definition.

I am passionate about sustainability projects and believe that RPI should be addressing such a pressing global issue on its campus. By working with sustainability clubs and the Union, I hope to make Rensselaer a more environmentally mindful campus.

I will be a voice for all of my constituents. An issue currently facing student government is the lack of general student body involvement. Without student concern and their passion for change campus would not be what it is today. I plan to cultivate student ideas/concerns and act on them to produce tangible results.

Representatives

Mark Birkbeck

Yuvi Chopra

Stephanie Tan

Benjamin Morrison

Adi Mitra
CSCI/ECON

Samantha Spano
CHME

Class of 2020

President
Josh Drinkhouse
CSCI

Vice President
Joey Lyons
MATH

Senators

Evan Abreu
BIOL

Lily Wang
BMGT

Joshua Thomas
BFMB

Sruja Machani
BCBP

Chris Duffy
AERO

As Class of 2020 Senator, I will focus on improving life at RPI for our class. To achieve this goal, I will work to push forward innovative ideas, dedicate myself to committee initiatives, and survey my peers regularly to get an accurate picture of my constituency's views.



Nino Polletta
MECH

As Class of 2020 Senator, I will address the issues of student housing and student representation. I aspire to work with hospitality services on the Hospitality Services Advisory Committee to address issues pertaining to dining hours and quality of food. I also believe it is important for the Student Senate to advocate for a change in policy to allow for registered service animals for the benefit of the mental and physical well-being of my constituents.



Meagan Lettko
MECH

Clarisse Baes

Sruja Machani
BCBP

Tejas Narayan
MATH

Milena Gonzalez

Ariana Gerdis
CHME

Gabriella Fantell

Representatives

My top priority will be promoting our legacy as the Class of 2020 for future generations of RPI students. As Class of 2020 Representative, I will achieve this goal through two major tenants. Firstly, I will prioritize the importance of finding a class gift that embodies our class's unique personality. Secondly, I will work to mentor future class councils by creating best practice records for future councils to benefit from.



Alexis Castrellon
BIOL

With our class members contributing dues each year to fund the Class of 2020 Council, our constituency deserves events that are simultaneously high quality and well publicized. As Class of 2020 Representative, I pledge to focus on growing our Council's event offerings to provide our class with the optimal social experience.



Emily Kaplan

As a Class of 2020 Senator, I will promote the importance of growing our class's sense of unity and pride for our alma mater. Through creative events with a focus on class spirit, such as hockey nights, football tailgates, barbecues, and other social gatherings, I believe I will be able to achieve this goal for our class.



Sarah El-Ghandour

The Class of 2020 Council plays a fundamental role in navigating our class through the many traditions found at RPI, such as the class tree, the class ring, and senior week. As a representative, I will ensure that our class' experiences with these traditions, and other events, contribute to a record-surpassing RPI experience for our class and future classes.



Jeanine Moreau

Alumni

Alumni President

Shannon Gillespie McComb
BMED

As Alumni President and Reunion Chairman, I will actively represent the interests of our class as RPI graduates and work in conjunction with other alumni officers to plan reunions and alumni events that will create memorable experiences for us long after we've graduated.

One short-term goal is to support the creation of junior positions on the Board of Trustees for recent alumni. These members will be in a position to provide the Board of Trustees with a current perspective of the campus environment and students' preparedness for post-undergraduate opportunities.

My primary long-term goal is to increase alumni involvement through communication and participation. As a result of my work across campus and with the Alumni Office, I've cultivated a wealth of relationships with classmates and administrators alike, putting myself in a unique position to serve our class in the years to come.



Michael Cuzzo
MECH

Alumni Vice President

Chris Hoskins
DSIS/COMM

If elected, the first issue I will address is adding recent alumni to the Board of Trustees. Recent alumni members will be able to provide the rest of the Board of Trustees with a current view of the campus environment. The entire student body will be positively affected by this change, because the issues that current students care about will be better conveyed to the Board.

In addition, I will work hard to ensure that the Class of 2017 stays connected, informed, and active. Instead of just relying on various social media platforms to help achieve this goal, I will also develop a Class of 2017 website that will serve as a central hub for our class. In addition, I will work closely with the Alumni Office and my fellow Alumni Officers to create reunions and other alumni events that the class will enjoy.



Erica Braunschweig
CSCI/ITWS

Alumni Secretary

Conrad Moss
ITWS

Alumni Treasurer

Michael Gardner
CSE/CS

Independent & Greek

Inedependent Senator

Tianyi Qiao
CHME/BMED '18

Stefanie Warner
ARCH

Yuvi Chopra

Greek Senator

Jennie Miller
PHYS

Sean Ferracioli
MECH

Ross DeVito
CSE

the polytechnic

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President of the Union

Why do you want to be President of the Union?

Keegan Caraway

I would like to be President of the Union for a few reasons. I want to continue the legacy of a student run union here at RPI, which I feel has been threatened in the past. I want to help improve and rebuild the lines of communication that student government has with the administration. I want to help plan for the coming summer arch and future summer arches and their effect on Union operations. I want to ensure that the search for a new Director of the Union moves forward and that the position is filled with an adequate candidate so that the position doesn't sit vacate for another year.

Rasika Ekhalikar

The Union is a place where people of all backgrounds are able to come together to support and connect with one another. The Union is an integral part of student life that provides students with the opportunities to get a full collegiate experience and improve themselves through activities not available anywhere else on campus. I have loved representing students and clubs on the Executive Board this past year. I want to be the President of the Union because I believe I can positively impact the Rensselaer Union community by increasing club-collaborative events, spreading knowledge about the services the Union provides, exposing students to different experiences to increase personal development, and leading Rensselaer Executive Board to better decision-making. I have shown my dedication, passion, innovative ideas, and ability to lead to advance students' vision for the Union.

Harrison Leinweber

I believe I am the best qualified candidate. I would not be running otherwise. The Union needs protection from administrative overreach. We've been seeing a lot recently, and students need someone to stand up for their rights as well as the uniqueness of the Union. I not only recognize the importance of standing up for others, I enjoy going toe-to-toe with the Administration. I believe I can make a real change by sorting out inefficiencies within the Union and defending our position in the Institute. and chair the Committee to Help Inform the Public.

Matthew Rand

I want to be President of the Union because I believe that the work of the Executive Board positively impacts the lives of all students at RPI. After two years on the Board, I want to take the next step to lead the Board in this endeavor. I have a vision for the Union that will ensure that it remains the hub of campus life for years to come. I want to help my fellow students not only have a better student experience, but build a stronger sense of pride for our Union and for our Institute.

What qualifies you to be President of the Union?

Keegan Caraway

My qualifications for President of the Union would probably start with my experience in student government. I've been on the student senate for two years and of those two years I was secretary for the senate for most of that time in addition to my senator duties. In that time, I worked on a range of senate projects and senate sub committees. For the past 3 semesters I have been sitting in Executive Board meetings, attending Executive Board committees, and meeting with union administrators to make sure I fully understand the finances of the union. In the past 2 semesters I worked on the policies committee, the Business Operations commit-

tee and the UAR committee which have given me a breadth of knowledge about what the President of the Union needs to know to do his job in an informed manner. One unique experience I bring is having been on both the committee that approves new clubs and been part of a group trying to build a new club; I was one of the founding members of the Destination Imagination club who worked to get the club union recognized and union funded.

Rasika Ekhalikar

This past year, I was an Executive Board Club/ICA Representative, and it has been an extremely rewarding and exciting experience. Through my experience of being on the Executive Board, I have the knowledge of Union operations, budgeting, needs of clubs and the ability to get things done. For the past two years I have been the chair of the Business Operations Committee of the Executive Board. During my time as chair, the committee has replaced the McNeil Room carpet, chairs and tables, opened the basement for club storage, and increased communication among the businesses in the Union and students. In addition, we have begun preparing for the future by identifying areas in the Union that need to be upgraded and making plans for those renovations. Being chair has given me the opportunity to learn about club and student's needs and make changes to the Union with those requirements in mind. It is a rewarding experience for leadership development as well as problem solving skills. Meanwhile, it has prepared me to be President of the Union by exposing me to students' needs and what Union can provide for them.

Harrison Leinweber

My leadership ability and experience qualify me. The President of the Union needs soft skills more than hard skills. They need to appoint an excellent quality Executive Board; be able to interface with clubs, administrators, and Union employees; and stand up for the Union's best interests. They also need to be quick on their feet when negotiating with others, but patient enough to wait out bureaucracy. I have been fighting with unwavering tenacity to reverse the door access decisions of Fall 2014. Additionally, I recently began a campaign to help free RPI Ambulance from Institute Procurement's unilateral decision to change our vendor for medical supplies. Both these initiatives have required coordination with Union officials, Institute administrators, and compromise. I have been a club officer for two years and work as a Union Systems Administrator; both of these have given me extensive exposure to the budgeting process and Executive Board proposals. The aforementioned soft skills as well as my ability to quickly learn complement my hard experience with budgeting and working with the Executive Board.

Matthew Rand

I joined the Executive Board as a freshman in the fall of 2015 as the Class of 2019 representative, which I still serve as. In addition to this role, I serve as the Chairman of the Policies Committee where I led projects to update the Executive Board's Bylaws, Budgeting Guidelines, and Club Classification system. I have worked with the Business Operations committee upgrading the McNeil room and implementing a new system for allocating storage space within the Union. For the past two years, I have gone above and beyond my obligations as a Board member by joining multiple committees, by working with Chip and Nick on smaller projects outside the scope of my specified position, and by working with the Administrative Staff to understand the issues they see within the Union and how the Executive Board can alleviate those. I have also served as the Vice President and Treasurer for the Men's Club Lacrosse Team, so I understand just how the Union operates from both the club side and the Executive Board side.

Name three short-term goals and three long-term goals that you have for the Executive Board.

Keegan Caraway

As far as short-term goals for my term as president of the union, I would like to see the position of Director of the Union filled, or at least the next phase of the process started. In conversations with Union administrators I have heard that there are prospects for the position and I believe that these prospects should be looked at to see if they can fill the seat of Director of the Union adequately. I want to create a committee or subcommittee with the sole purpose of helping news clubs through the club formation process; I hope to accomplish better lines of communication for new club officers to talk to the Executive Board so that they can fulfill the requirements to become Union recognized. While I'm in office I'd like to create a stronger public media presence for the Executive Board. Recently the Executive board approached the senate to create their own communications committee, I believe the better option to be for the Executive Board to communicate with the Student Government Communications Committee to accomplish a public media presence.

In the more long-term picture of things I'd like the lines of communication with administration to be reinforced, with the reorganization of the administrative portfolio I would like to see a conversation had about where certain student issue should be heard by the collection of Assistant Vice Presidents. I think one lack luster area of student government that could use long term work would be improving student government's involvement with the community. I think the best way to address this would be to pus for more initiatives with clubs that have effects outside the university. Lastly I'd love to see an improvement on long term saving for clubs for larger projects and emergency funds. This could be addressed by allowing clubs to create savings funds for projects that require more planning or equipment that wears out but is necessary could be placed on plans for purchase.

Rasika Ekhalikar

Short Term Goals

1. Ensure Executive Board members and club officers are knowledgeable about club operations and budgeting procedures by frequently holding financial, travel, marketing and leadership workshops to continue supporting clubs in a smooth and organized manner.
2. Make information about the Union's operations and services more accessible for students and clubs by updating Union guidebook.
3. Encourage club collaboration in programs and events to allow more horizontal communication in between different clubs as well as larger participation groups in order to enlarge student involvement in the Union in terms of both size and extent.

Long Term Goals:

1. Investigate Union facilities to ensure the Union is providing services that cater to the needs of clubs and students and incorporate new ideas into a future renovation
2. Increase communication among the students, Student Government, and the Administration through regular meetings to discuss student concerns
3. Create a Summer Arch model that would allow year-round programming for clubs, and ensure continuity between semesters for clubs and students.

Harrison Leinweber

My short term goals are to improve club officer training, increase communication across the student body, and improve transparency in club saving.

My long term goals are to ensure the Union remains student run, keep the Union on track for upcoming renovations, and provide a platform for future Executive Boards to build on for Summer Arch.

Matthew Rand

Short Term goals:

1. Redefine the structure of Joint Committees operating under the Senate and the Executive Board. As of right now, Joint committees exist solely in the Senate Bylaws, their chairs are appointed solely by the GM, and approved solely by the Senate. In order to increase transparency and redefine how the bodies work together,

- transparency and redefine how the bodies work together, I want to redefine the structure of Joint Committees.
2. Establish bi-weekly committee meetings between the heads of the five branches of Student Government: The PU, the GM, the Presidents of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils, and the Chairman of the J-Board. By increasing communication talking about how to improve the function of the 5 bodies and their roles and responsibilities to students and to each other, we can establish a more efficient, more transparent student government.
 3. Create educational documentation for Club officers and hold more training sessions (once a month) in order to not only educate our club leaders on Union Policies, but also leadership techniques and tools to implement to better guide their clubs (Bystander Intervention, Leadership styles).

Long Term goals:

1. Establish the outline of a long range plan for the Rensselaer Union. Develop guiding principles for the Union to operate under and for future Executive Boards to make their decisions based around. Establish pillars for the Union to focus programming and services around, such as Inclusivity, Work-life balance, Personal Achievement, etc.
2. Increase the public media presence of the Rensselaer Union. This goal will be supported by the Executive Board Marketing and Publications Committee, but also the Communications Specialist position within the RU staff that will be filled in the near future. By increasing our social media presence, we can get messages out to students more effectively, but also out to our Troy community and even into the National spotlight. Our Union is unique, not only for its structure but for the people who make it up. That is something I want the world to realize.
3. Focus on establishing more space for students, both within the Union and in the facilities the Union operates in. Many of the facilities in the Union are outdated and to increase their usefulness, I want to establish renovation plans for these spaces to be more accessible to students.

What do you think are the incumbent President of the Union’s strengths and weaknesses? What would you do to improve upon them if you were elected?

Keegan Caraway

One of the things I admire most about Chip is his ability to interact with people. His level of positivity is seen in every Executive Board meeting by the air of calmness and level of happiness seen in Executive board members. It seems as though everyone has a real passion for student government and likes being at Executive Board meetings. The only thing I think Chip has struggled with this past year has been some slight organization issues. I have attended meetings where I felt a lack of organization resulted in less productive meetings.

Rasika Ekhalikar

Charles Kirchner has done a lot for the Union over the past year and has been a great President of the Union. I admire Chip’s ability to stay level headed during discussions over controversial issues. He also has been a great leader by being professional, leading by example, and motivating people to be better E-Board representatives. It is true that he has paid a lot of attention to the Executive Board Committees; however, he spent little time communicating with the joint committees. Both UAR and SGC committees have large room for improvement and this margin could have been avoided focusing on more communication with committee chairs to make sure the committees were operating to their fullest capacity. If I were elected as PU, in order to make sure committees are focused and accomplishing their goals, I would meet with the chairs regularly and create a list of goals and timelines at the beginning of semesters to increase accountability and maintain efficiency.

Harrison Leinweber

Chip is great at accomplishing projects. He is also an effective coordinator of the Board. He’s amicable and easily approachable, and encourages productive discussions during meetings. Chip doesn’t provide enough communication back to students on policy and accomplishments of the Board. He has also been relatively quiet about administrative encroachments on the Union and what’s being done to prevent them.

If elected, I will explore additional avenues communicating information back to the student body. I’ll also ensure the public is well informed about projects and policy developments. I will make sure the students know that I am working with them to protect the Union and comment on student rights issues in the Derby and online.

Matthew Rand

Chip Kirchner has been a phenomenal President of the Union. He has been a strong leader, he has stayed impartial and allowed his Board to make their own decisions, and he has been an advocate of student rights to the administration. However, I believe in some cases he has allowed for a lack of communication and transparency with the operation of the Executive Board, by not publicizing our operations and our ongoing projects. My goal is to improve communication between the Board and the student body to ensure concerns are met and that all students are aware of the work of the Board and our vision for the future of the Union.

What is your plan for dealing with the changes that will accompany the rollout of Summer Arch?

Keegan Caraway

When it comes to Summer Arch I believe it is important to ensure that Union Services are adjusted to include these new months of more “full” operation. I think more research and discussion needs to occur on how clubs will operate over the summers and what opportunities and drawbacks of doing so are. The first summer arch session will definitely be a time of collecting data for decisions on how things will be run for future sessions from a Union standpoint.

Rasika Ekhalikar

The Executive Board will need to create a model for Summer Arch operations that can be translated for clubs. One of my thoughts was to have students who are on campus meet once a week as a committee and tackle various projects that can be completed over the summer. This summer, I would have the committee work with the Admin office to help clubs program and create proposals to allow clubs to spend the money out of the RU Summer Arch Budget. Furthermore, the committee would begin gathering student input on the events they would like to see during the summer. Clubs can use this idea as a similar model, by having members on campus meet once a week and do programs on a smaller scale. In terms of Union Operations, the Business Operations Committee has already met with the businesses in the Union and talked about increasing their hours for the summer. The administrative office will also have to increase its hours to provide support for clubs.

Harrison Leinweber

There are two main problems that affect the Union for Summer Arch: lack of programming, and lack of E-Board’s decision-making presence. In order to solve the first problem, we’ll have to explore what sorts of programming students would like to see as well as what is necessary and practical. The Union Administration Office staff have been working on some plans for this summer, but future summers will require feedback from the student body. To solve the second problem, I foresee monthly virtual meetings as well as monthly checkups by E-Board reps with clubs that elect to remain active during the summer term. We’re required to have meetings at least twice a semester, and with summer being considered a semester, we should adhere to the bylaws. I don’t foresee many large projects coming up midsummer, so most of the meetings could be quick reports on what’s occurred.

During the calendar year, we’ll need to examine the effect of third-year representatives going elsewhere for their semester. I would like to see them stay involved with the Executive Board digitally at meetings, but it is possible they may not be able to properly represent their clubs, in which case, a replacement appointment would need to be made. It is very difficult to predict the exact effects, but I’ll analyze the issues that do occur and investigate possible changes to the E-Board’s bylaws and procedures with the Policy Committee.

For the future summers, we’ll need to solicit feedback from students this and next summer about how they felt their clubs and activities went. Hopefully, we can apply some of this feedback to further improve the program.

Matthew Rand

Summer Arch provides new opportunities to our students while also introducing interesting new challenges. The one thing that we must ensure stays constant throughout the rollout of Summer Arch is that the Union continues to stay at the forefront of Student Life. Beyond increasing summer programming (such as movie nights, musicians, and performers), the Union must make sure that facilities like the McNeil room and the Rathskellar stay open to students. Additionally, the structure of the Executive Board will need to be revised for the summer months when our body might not be available. During my time, I worked to rewrite our Bylaws multiple times in preparation for this rollout and to make sure that the Executive Board stays functional and continues to be a resource to students, to clubs and organizations, and to our Administrative Staff.

How do you intend to encourage students to fully utilize the resources of the Union?

Keegan Caraway

I intend to encourage students to fully utilize Union resources by encouraging them to join clubs on campus, take part in intramural sports on campus, and use the Mueller center as well as other similar resources. I believe the best way to do this is through publicity campaigns about when and where things are; when intramural sports seasons start, what events are going on in the union and Mueller center. Additionally, I think some of the more auxiliary services the Union provides, like the Union lawyer, should be better publicized so students can utilize these less obvious resources.

Rasika Ekhalikar

In order to get students to use Union resources, we need to make sure students know about them. I propose to use the marketing work-study students in the Union to create a pamphlet that could be distributed to first-year students through the Resident Hall staffs during SO. In addition, these pamphlet could be in the Admin Office, so any student could get one. The website also needs to be reorganized to make it more user friendly so students can easily access information about clubs and events.

Secondly, the best way to use Union resources is by joining a club and going to events! The Executive Board needs to make sure that all students attend the Activities Fair and that clubs market their programs well to increase the attendance at events and programs. Finally, increasing advertising for the intramurals, which will increase attendance and encourage students to use the facilities.

Harrison Leinweber

I think the Student Government Communication Committee and the website need to be reworked. Once that happens, we’ll be able to provide the students with notification of activities, and easier access to information. Since many students currently don’t know everything the Union offers, we could have a monthly feature online. Furthermore, we may be able to work with the Office of Student Living and Learning (previously Residence Life) to promote Union activities and services to freshmen, thereby establishing a base of knowledge and hopefully developing habitual usage of services.

Matthew Rand

I believe that the best way to encourage students to utilize Union facilities is to invest in the physical plant of the Union and work to upgrade its facilities. I helped work to get new tables and chairs in the McNeil room when I first joined the Board and want to continue that work. I want to increase the availability of outlets in the Union, the availability of study spaces, and increase the space available for club meetings throughout the building.

Endorsements

Monday, April 3, 2017



Grand Marshal

THE POLYTECHNIC ENDORSES JUSTIN ETZINE '18 for Grand Marshal. As the highest elected student official at Rensselaer, the GM serves as not only the head of the Student Senate, but as the leader of the student body. It is his or her responsibility to understand and voice the concerns of the student body to the proper parties. Consequently, the GM bears a significant amount of responsibility to not only those in the Senate but also to the entire RPI community.

Etzine has been a part of student government since he arrived at RPI as a freshman and became a Class of 2018 senator. Additionally, he is the current chairperson of the Student Life Committee, and he has served as the chairperson of the Senate's Web Technologies Group. Outside of student government, Etzine is an RA in Barton Hall and a trainee at RPI Ambulance. He has also been involved with RPI TV and has served on the Editorial Board of *The Polytechnic*.

As chairperson of the Student Life Committee, Etzine has led initiatives to improve the quality of care available at the Counseling Center, reallocate space to create more areas suitable for use as study spaces, allow students to enter residence halls through multiple doors, and create a policy

on students' preferred names. Throughout his time on the committee, Etzine has demonstrated a commitment to the well-being of students and an aptitude for working with administrators to accomplish his goals.

The Polytechnic endorses



Justin Etzine
for
GM

Etzine understands the importance of relationships. He plans to help Senate committee chairs build relationships with relevant administrators so that they may advance the goals of their committees. At Senate meetings, Etzine plans to increase student representation through having senators gather weekly feedback from their constituencies, introducing non-voting representatives, and creating a less-intimidating atmosphere for students not involved with Senate to share their opinions. Additionally, one of Etzine's long-term goals is to work toward the establishment of positions for new alumni to serve on the Board of Trustees. This would give the

Board student-based perspectives on issues at RPI and provide additional avenues for information to reach members of the Board.

The Poly believes that Etzine will faithfully represent student interests and provide the Senate the guidance it needs to be both productive and effective in improving RPI for everyone. To learn more about Etzine's platform, see Page 2. ♦



President of the Union

THE POLYTECHNIC ENDORSES RASIKA EKHALIKAR '18 for President of the Union. Running the juggernaut that is the Rensselaer Union is no small task, with more than 200 clubs and millions of dollars to account for. Ekhalikar is the candidate we believe can manage the beast. She is well versed in the workings of the Union, both from her time as an Executive Board representative, and as the chairperson of the Business Operations Committee. This intimate knowledge of the Union and the skillset she has gained while serving on the E-Board will ensure the smooth operation of the Union in the year to come.

The Poly was impressed at the thoroughness of Ekhalikar's platform. Of all the candidates for PU, we felt that she put the most time and preparation into her words. Her short term goal about encouraging horizontal communication between clubs was well received—the idea is not one we have seen suggested by candidates, but an idea that would greatly benefit the Union's clubs. Additionally, we liked her thoughts on adapting the Union for the coming Summer Arch changes. Creating a committee of on-campus students to tackle summer projects is a positive first step to understanding how the Union will operate during the summer with only a small portion of the student body present.

Ekhalikar has presented herself as someone welcoming and approachable, a quality that we value in student leaders. In difficult situations, Ekhalikar has proven herself to be someone who truly listens to both sides of the story and understands the concerns of the parties involved. A student, club, or other group will not be scared to voice opinions.

The Editorial Board of *The Polytechnic* is confident that the Rensselaer Union will enjoy further prosperity should Ekhalikar be elected. ♦

The Polytechnic endorses



Rasika
Ekhalikar
for PU



Undergraduate President

THE POLYTECHNIC ENDORSES KAYLA CINNAMON '18 for Undergraduate President. The Undergraduate President presides over the Undergraduate Council, and it is her responsibility to nominate officers, assume the duties of unfilled officer positions, and upholding bylaws as well as preside over meetings.

Cinnamon is well qualified for the Undergraduate President position due to her plethora of experience on her class council. She has gained a deep understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Undergraduate Council due to her participation in committees

and her position as publicity director. These prior experiences have helped her craft her platform, which involves several goals oriented at improving participation in student government and improving the flow of current student government operations. Among her goals are creating an attendance policy and improving attendance at student government meetings. Cinnamon also plans to create documentation to aid new council representatives from the Class of 2021.

Cinnamon has the personality and disposition required to maintain relationships within

The Polytechnic endorses



Kayla
Cinnamon
for UP

student government, and ensure that student government activities run smoothly. She also has the motivation required to ensure that projects are completed in a timely manner, and is willing to take on outside projects to ensure the smooth operation of the Undergraduate Council.

The Polytechnic is enthusiastic about Cinnamon's plan to improve communication between the student government and the students, as well as her plans to increase involvement in student government events through outreach on Facebook and a redesigned student government website. ♦

Graduate Council

THE GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL MET WITH candidates running for Grand Marshal and President of the Union. Candidates were asked to describe their platform along with several other questions about how they would involve and support graduate students in their goals for the Student Senate and the Rensselaer Union. Based on their responses and platforms, the GSC has voted to endorse Justin Etzine for GM and Matt Rand for PU. The primary role of the GM is to serve as the leader of the Student Senate and guide Senate committees in their pursuit of student life, academics, and facilities projects. We were unable to arrange a meeting with Stephen Duduch, the campaign proxy for GM candidate Dorer. After meeting with Justin Etzine, we found him to be a qualified candidate for the GM position. Etzine's passion for student government has been noted by the Council, but we find more impressive the fact that, over the last year, Etzine has shown a renewed interest in working with the GSC and its graduate senators. We are particularly looking forward to following up on his promises for improved communication with the Graduate Council, such as including the Graduate Student President or Vice President in meetings with the administration.

Our next endorsement is for the position of President of the Union. Each candidate had interesting project ideas, but Rand's approach to increasing coordination between undergraduate and graduate councils seemed to offer the most potential for beneficial, rapid, and effective policy changes. Rand's extensive experience with both the administration and student government make him equally capable of quickly and effectively implementing some of the changes we discussed. In addition, the GSC has sought to more fairly distribute Union activity fees between the graduate and undergraduate populations. We look forward to working with Rand on his proposal to collect statistics on the usage of the Student Union and its various programs. ♦



Interfraternity Council

AS THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL Fraternities on the Rensselaer campus, the Interfraternity Council seeks student government candidates that understand the circumstances and issues pertaining to Greek Life, as well as intend to further the interests of the Greek community.

Grand Marshal

The Council believes that Etzine's extensive experience within the Student Senate and portfolio of accomplishments identifies him as the preferred candidate as the leader and chief spokesperson of the Rensselaer Union. Although Etzine himself is not affiliated with a Greek organization, he has shown commitment to furthering the interests of the Greek community throughout his tenure in the Senate. As the lead of the Student Life Committee, Etzine provided the initiative in projects that were for the benefit of the Greek community, such as the Student Peer Alcohol Monitoring alternative proposal as well as the review of Summer Arch housing. During his speech to the Council, Etzine outlined plans to ensure the health and continuance of the Greek system. These include increased communication with Greek Leadership through regularly scheduled

meetings with the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council, as well as increased representation of Greek Life on the Senate. The Council is confident that Etzine will be effective in advocating for the rights and ideals of the Rensselaer Greek community, especially in dealings with Institute officials and the Rensselaer community as a whole.

President of the Union

As one of the two candidates that have served on the Rensselaer Union Executive Board, Rand's experience as the Class of 2019 Representative as well as the Policies Chair of the Executive Board makes him well versed in the operations and proceedings of the Union. As a brother of the Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity, Rand understands the issues facing Greek Life on campus, and brings his own insight and perspective in proceedings with the Executive Board. As a Greek himself serving on the IFC Executive Board, Rand has experienced first-hand the difficulties Greeks face on campus, and the Council is more than certain he would be able to take these into consideration as President of the Union. Furthermore, another pillar of Rand's platform is to open the lines

of communication with leadership of the Greek community by supporting the concept of regular meetings between GM, PU, and the Greek Councils. With his knowledge of the community, and countless experience in the Executive Board, the Council wholeheartedly supports Rand's endorsement for President of the Union.

Undergraduate President

Cinnamon has extensive experience within the Class Councils, serving as the Representative for the Class of 2018 for the past three years. Cinnamon has also served on the Class Ring committee and as the Publicity Director. Furthermore, the Council has chosen to endorse Cinnamon as she has expressed interest in involving the Greek community in more Council events as a part of her platform. Through her speech, Cinnamon has welcomed including fraternities and sororities as a regular occurrence during open class events, which both further the public image of Greek Life and is beneficial for the Rensselaer community as a whole. The Interfraternity Council is certain that under Cinnamon's leadership, relationships between the Greeks and the Class Councils are bound to flourish. ♦