THE STUDENT SENATE VOTES on the appointment of new committee chairs including one for the new Internal Reforms Committee.

Peter Gramenides
Senior Reporter

GRAND MARSHAL JUSTIN ETZINE ’18 opened the Student Senate meeting with committee reports. Those began with Interim Academic Affairs Committee Chairperson Varun Rao ’18 who expressed interest in creating a new position for a Senate liaison to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate is a critical component of governance of the Institute and Rao feels that it will be important to have a student representative expressing the interests of the student body during faculty meetings. The AAC is also working with Interim Rules and Elections Committee Chairperson David Raab ’19 to create a new process to elect professors to the tenure committee. Faculty have expressed that they do not wish to appoint their constituents to a committee deciding their own tenure, and would rather an unbiased group of student leaders make the decision. Rao stated that he expects the creation of the new process to be complete by the end of next semester.

Following Rao, the Hospitality Services Advisory Committee Interim Chairperson Jenna Freedberg ’18 was not present to deliver her report, but Ezine stated on her behalf that HSAC has finished creating a survey and has sent it to Rensselaer Hospitality Services to finalize. HSAC hopes to have the survey online by this Saturday. Interim Student Life Committee Chairperson Ellie Mees ’18 continued by stating that the committee is currently working avidly to allow for multiple points of entry to freshmen dormitories. In response to Mees’ comments, Ezine, former Student Life Committee Chairperson, said, “It is very unlikely there will be universal access like we did freshman year, but it is very likely there will be multiple points of entry since many of

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RPI hosts fabulous drag show
Track continues strong season

Recounting my three year Poly experience
Why the small things always matter most

Jonathan Caicedo/The Polytechnic

THE STUDENT SENATE

Etzine continues with appointments

Phalanx Honor Society denied funding

Peter Gramenides
Senior Reporter

PRESIDENT OF THE UNION MATT Rand ’19 began his first Exec-utive Board meeting with a presentation from former PU Chip Kirchner ’17. Kirchner, in a last act as PU, brought forward recommendations that RPI TV undergo conflict resolution and leadership training, as well as removing their exception for community membership, which currently consists of 40 percent of the club. The recommenda-tions were brought due to an email sent to the relevant bodies regarding the resignation of their president, Dan Bruce ’18.

Kirchner felt that the email’s tone suggested that the purpose of the email was to discredit Bruce, rather than apology for the circumstances surrounding his resignation. In addition, Kirchner cited instances where RPI TV had asked for “their” allotment of Grand Marshal Week mugs prior to GM Week, and unauthorized access to Field House locations.

Members of RPI TV were not present at the meeting, leading to a division among members of the E-Board about whether action should be taken immediately. Conrad Mossl ’17, among others, argued that he would like to hear from members of RPI TV before following through with the motion. On the other hand, Chris Hoskins ’17 argued, “Lots of the issues have been publicized, tak-ing the step is important.”

Eventually, a motion to begin a review of the operations and leadership of RPI TV and present recommendations as necessary. The motion passed 12-1-3.

The Phalanx Honor Society came before the Board to ask for money to cover the cost of their Tapping ceremony. Phalanx was forced to use external video, sound, and photography contrac-tors for their event, largely due to Accepted Students Day, which occurred at the same time. RPI TV usually films and streams the ceremony for Pha-lanx, however, then-President Bruce expressed concern about finding members available for the event due to Accepted Stu-dents Day. Bruce’s resignation made the coverage of the event unclear, and since no formal re-quest had been made to RPI TV, Phalanx determined it was best to hire an outside company.

A similar issue occurred with the sound system. The system in the Heffner Alumni House was experiencing difficulties, and Media Operations was unsure if it would be able to repair the system before the event. UPAC Sound said that it would be unable to cover the event. Due to the fact that Presi-dent Shirley Ann Jackson, vice presidents, and deans would be in attendance, Phalanx contracted an external company.

Lastly, the funds for the photogra-pher that covers the event ended up in the wrong account, unable to be accessed by Phalanx. The honor society was asking for $2385 to cover the costs.

Members of the E-Board were very hesitant to fund the group. Ines Roman ’17 said that because Phalanx is an honor society with restricted membership, the Rensselaer Union was not obligated to assist them. The first motion

See E-BOARD, Page 2
The Polytechnic will be holding elections for all positions on our Editorial Board this weekend. Everyone is welcome to run on Sunday, April 22, at 11 am in the office of The Polytechnic.
Editorial

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Editorial Notes

Reflection, farewell of my three-year journey

For the past three years, I have willingly
opened up my Tuesday nights to spend a full
working day or more in a small office on the
third floor of the Remsen Union. After all
that time, through all of the crazy that took
place, I became pretty sure I’d be able to
let the next generation take my place. In
my last notebook as Editor in Chief, I would
like to take time to reflect on my time, and
thank everyone who has been a part of it.

I never meant to be here, and all of this
is a big mistake. You see, I never really liked
writing. I found it tedious and boring, and I
was never able to translate my thoughts
to the page. It didn’t help that it’s not phonetic
(fonetic) I can’t spell it. Much of my embar-
ses were leaving the paper, many unexpectedly,
my second semester at RPI. I ran for Elections,
and then Photography Editor during the special
associate Photography Editor during the regular
season. At the end of my freshman year, disaster
struck The Poly. Five of our senior most mem-
bers were leaving the paper, many unexpectedly,
and with them their talent and experience. With
little experience running a newspaper, I took on
the role of Managing Editor. Soon-to-be
close friend and partner in crime Stephanie
Kern-Allely joined me as the second Managing
Editor, and together, with the guidance of Chris,
we learned to sacrifice our Tuesdays. That summer,
your role, I found running a newspaper in China
essarily because I wanted to or thought I was
ready, but because there was no one else. As
it turned out, it was the best decision I had
made all year. It allowed me to take the best
editorial board during my tenure. At the time,
I called it the golden age of The Polytechnic. We
had about 200 people working for us. It was
ime to reflect on my time, and
thank everyone who has been a part of it.

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and with them their talent and experience. With
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the role of Managing Editor. Soon-to-be

And, last but not least, I’m looking back at
what defines a good day for me. Slipping into
the sophomore slums, I’d adopted the attitude
that if I could reach any of the goals I’ve
simply pass by. Now, I’m striving for the positive
look that I used to have when I was younger. I’m
striving for the confidence that the quirks or passions by bee the uplifting things
that make us, as they once used to—because
in the end, life doesn’t have to be boring or miser-
ble. Nobody tells you it does, and neither
does RPI—because happiness is a choice.
Special election for Greek senator announced

Hey, Engineers! I can’t believe it either, but classes finish for the semester just three weeks from today! I hope everyone is finishing off the semester strong.

This week, the Senate approved a handbook for special election rules for the Greek senator position, specifically for the Interfraternity Council seat. As the Judicial Board found issues with the circumstances of the seat’s election during GM Week 2017, the Rules and Elections Committee has put together a plan for getting the seat elected and filled as efficiently as possible. In the meantime, IFC President Marvin Cosare ’18 has reprimed his role as Greek senator as the Union Constitution allows for Senators to serve until they are replaced in the next election.

As only IFC and Panhellenic organizations can vote in this special election, the Rules and Elections Committee will be working with IFC, Panhel, and the presidents of the houses to coordinate elections at each house. As more details are determined, I will be sure to keep you updated on the specifics for how this election will be carried out.

Additionally, the Senate confirmed a cabinet of officers and committee chairs for the upcoming term. Ellie Mees ’18 has assumed the role of vice chairperson of the Senate, and the positions of treasurer, secretary, and parliamentarian are now filled by Nino Polletta ’20, Timothy Wang ’19, and Jennie Miller ’19, respectively.

For committee chair appointments, Rhielle Gabbireddy ’19 is leading Academic Affairs, graduate student Michael Gardner is leading Community Relations, Nancy Bush ’19 is leading Facilities and Services, Steve Sperazza ’18 is leading Internal Reforms, Molly Caraway ’19 is leading Rules and Elections, and Sidney Kochman ’19 is leading Web Technologies.

We will also likely be hearing the President of the Union’s appointments to the Executive Board and my appointment for Senate-Executive Board Liaison.

The meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, at 8 pm in the Shelnutt Gallery (RU 3006). I hope to see you there, and I wish you all an enjoyable week!

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Hello RPI! As the weather gets warmer and Troy begins to escape the clutches of winter, I wish everyone the best of luck wrapping up the school year and preparing for finals. I know that I, for one, will have a bit of difficulty buckling down with the sun shining once again. However, with summer fast approaching, it will surely be worth it to push through these last few weeks.

I do want to remind everyone that today is the last day to apply for a position on the Executive Board for the 2017–2018 school year. The work of the E-Board is not as well known to all of our students as I might hope, so today I want to talk a little bit about what the E-Board is and what all of the representatives do.

The E-Board is the chief financial body of the Union. The Board oversees the operational budget of the Union, all of which comes from our Student Activity Fees. Every year, the E-Board decides the best way to allocate all of these funds to support our clubs, facilities, and student body. In addition to overseeing the budgeting process, the Board also monitors all of the Union’s facilities, and helps guide the operation of our clubs.

The E-Board is comprised of 20 members of the student body, representing all of our diverse backgrounds and interests. The best way to represent our community is to ensure that the Board be an accurate representation of our campus population. A well-balanced board is critical to upholding the ideals of the Union, “to expand the extracurricular life at Rensselaer, to coordinate all student organizations.” This statement, from the Rensselaer Union Constitution, describes only a part of the purpose of Union. To me, the Union is a home to all students. It is a place for academic and personal development, for gathering with friends, and for improving our quality of life. To ensure that all of our students share this sentiment, the E-Board must work tirelessly to improve our Union.

In order to do this, representatives must play two roles. The first is to advocate for the clubs and organizations that they work with. Each representative is assigned a few clubs for them to advocate for and assist with budgeting. They must meet with these groups regularly to maintain open lines of communication and to stay up-to-date on programs, events, and issues the club may be facing. In addition to this responsibility, a representative must also work with the entirety of the Board to best decide what improvements should be made to the Union and how to go about effecting those changes. Each board member sits on a committee that works on specific projects to help further the Union and improve it for all students.

Being a member of the E-Board is not an easy task. It is a significant time commitment. Representatives must attend weekly meetings where each member is expected to be able to articulate their opinions on each agenda item, all while keeping the best interest of the community in mind. Representatives must also continually communicate with their clubs and relay messages between them and the Board. While all of this sounds a little intimidating, I can assure you that being a member of the E-Board is one of the most rewarding things that a member of this community can undertake.

Over 200 student-led organizations rely on the E-Board, and to be able to help so many students truly is an honor and privilege. If this all sounds interesting to you, I encourage you to join the E-Board in making the Union a better place for all of our students.
DILBERT by Scott Adams

ID LIKE TO WORK ON THE VR HEADSET PROJECT ON TOP OF MY OTHER DUTIES.

THATS WEIRD, YOUVE NEVER VOLUNTEERED FOR EXTRA WORK BEFORE.

PEOPLE CHANGE.

OR NOT.

ZZZZ.

I WROTE A VR PROGRAM THAT CREATES THE ILLUSION YOU ARE ASLEEP.

WATCH ME DEMONSTRATE IT IN ACTION.

ZZZZZ. HOW LONG SHOULD I WATCH?

GAAAH!!! ITS AN EVIL ORC!

I GUESS YOUR PROGRAM RANDOMLY ASSIGN CHARACTERS TO REAL PEOPLE.

UM, YES, RANDOM.

WE RE GOING TO USE OUR VR TECHNOLOGY TO TAKE OVER THE CUBICLE BUSINESS.

WRITE A PROGRAM THAT MAKES USERS FEEL AS IF THEY ARE WORKING IN A FABRIC-COVERED BOX.

MAYBE WE SHOULD THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX.

STOP RESISTING CHANGE.

AS YOU REQUESTED, I WROTE A VR PROGRAM THAT MAKES USERS FEEL AS IF THEY ARE IN CUBICLES.

I PUT ONLY YOUR NAME ON THE CREDITS BECAUSE I EXPECT AN ANGRY MOB TO KILL WHOEVER CREATED IT.

I ALSO WROTE A VR JAIL PROGRAM IN CASE YOU WANT TO BE IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.

I MIGHT NEED THAT.

CAN I TRY THE NEW VR HEADSET?

YOU RE A ROBOT.

SO?

UM...

SUDOKU

Instructions
Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3-by-3 subsquare contains exactly one occurrence of the numbers 1 through 9.

Solutions from April 12 Issue
CRYPTOQUOTE

“Ea kqsnn! Kqsnn zwj afzlfw! Ea, sd xzn yetyfevwnfn zwj yetyfevnsdu rzjf bqfna. Sd xzn qsgf z kstj eb tztfnd-nivw afzlfw rfdzq et qsgf nsqlftu xswf bqexswy sw z nizhfnsi, ytzlsdu zqq wewnfwnf wex. Zn S nqeenasfj, S gwfx nvha qelfqu ishdvtfn!” -Zqfc
Z Hqehgxetg Etzwyf

XKCD

by Randall Munroe

I’M GLAD THEY FINALLY OPENED A 7-ELEVEN HERE ON MARS, BUT IT’S ANNOYING HOW IT CLOSES FOR 37 MINUTES EVERY DAY.

HOTTEST EDITORS
1995 — [EMACS-VIM]
2000 — [EDITOR WAR]
2005 — VIM
2010 — NOTEPAD ++
2015 — SUBLIME TEXT
2020 — CRISPR
2025 — CRISPR (VIM KEYBINDINGS)

ISSUE:
RECENT UPDATE BROKE SUPPORT FOR HARDWARE I NEED FOR MY JOB.

WORKAROUND:
IF WE WAIT LONG ENOUGH, THE EARTH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSUMED BY THE SUN.

SPLIT

Friday • April 21, 2017
7 pm, 9:30 pm, midnight • DCC 308 • $2.50

A Clockwork Orange

Saturday • April 22, 2017
7 pm, 10 pm, 1 am • DCC 308 • $2.50

Do you like drawing comics?
Draw comics for The Poly! Email us at comics@poly.rpi.edu.
Runners, fielder breeze past competition

Michael Baird
Senior Reporter

Both the Rensselaer men’s and women’s track and field teams finished in the first and second place, respectively, at the Capital District Meet. The RPI men’s distance athletes won the distance events at the meet. Freshman Danny Napora won the 3000 meter steeplechase in 9:57.59. Senior Ben Fazio took the 1500 meters in 3:59.97. The 4x400 meter relay team of sophomore Jason Hall, freshman Mike McNicholas, freshman Dino Martinez, and senior Matt Drexler defeated the five other teams in their heat to earn the fastest time in the event of 3:23.96. Freshman Alex Jonson won the 110 meter hurdles in 15.11, while freshman Dale Kelly finished second in 22.00. In the 400 meter hurdles, freshmen Leighton James and Patrick Butler placed second and third respectively.

In the field, the Engineers championed seven events. Junior Matt Vitaligiano won the triple jump, sophomore Joseph Vetere the pole vault, senior Michael Pesanello the hammer throw, and junior Terrence Lawrence the high jump.

Winning the discus throw was senior Sam Keller, who also placed second in the hammer. Freshman George Gonatas won the shot put with a throw of 14.24 meters, and placed second in the discuss. Senior Joe Grella took the javelin with a throw of 56.43 meters.

Fast approaching the end of the outdoor season, the Engineers will be competing in the Liberty League Outdoor Championship Meet on Saturday at Vassar College. They will host again the following Saturday for the Capital District Meet.

RPI wrestles Golden Bears, split games

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

The Engineers split last weekend’s double header against the Western New England Golden Bears, crushing them 8-0 in the first game, but falling short in an otherwise close second game 7-3.

Senior Jeff Sitarski battled back from an 0-2 count to a single in right centerfield. He stole second to put himself in scoring position, ripe for an RBI from a teammate. A lucky single in right centerfield. He stole second to put himself in scoring position, ripe for an RBI from a teammate. A lucky...
Avenue Q bridges gap from hilarity to '90s nostalgia

Elisabeth Ryan
Senior Reviewer

AFTER THE SOLEMN AND SINCERE OUR TOWN, THE RPI PLAYERS SWITCH GEARS AS THEY PREPARE FOR THIS SEASON’S MUSICAL, Avenue Q. FOR THOSE OF YOU UNFAMILIAR WITH THE SHOW, IT IS AN HOMAGE TO SESAME STREET THAT SATIRIZES THE STORY OF A YOUNG MAN ENTERING ADULTHOOD AND THE MANY DISILLUSIONING REALITIES HE HAS TO FACE.

Princeton, our protagonist, is fresh out of college with a desire to find his life’s purpose—the thing that makes him special. Along the way, he stumbles onto Avenue Q, a neighborhood that is in his price range. There, he meets a series of characters, some, like himself, presented in puppet form. They help him navigate this coming-of-age story, which spans a series of issues from unemployment to relationships and more.

Bryce Miller ’16 takes on the role of Princeton, presenting a well-meaning, if a little naive, persona that is a killer impression of the original cast’s John Tartaglia. It’s no surprise, however, that this veteran of one of RPI’s a cappella groups, Partial Credit, can take on such a role in broadway style. Alongside him is Pixie Sirois ’18 playing the part of Kate Monster, a sweet and romantic young lady with a dream for young monsters like herself. Once again, Sirois delivers in her performance. Last season, she displayed her strong and high voice in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. This season, she, like Miller, brings out the reminiscent feeling of watching characters on PBS, presenting a wonderfully entertaining character.

This production’s cast is one of the most convincing and talented that I have had the pleasure to view. Pranav Suppal ’19 will have you laughing with his Cookie Monster impression. Chiara Mancinelli ’19 will have you questioning yourself, “Am I attracted to a puppet right now?” And Bill Geltzeiler will do everything in his power to convince you that his character is not gay. In all seriousness, this cast has put in some major effort to coordinate their puppet’s gestures with their own, all while singing, dancing, and telling a simple, yet relatable, story.

If my review of the stellar performance can’t get you to go, how about some raunchy and inappropriate humor? As mentioned before, this show takes on a wide variety of social topics, which include race, sexuality, and promiscuity. The characters tackle these issues in song with titles such as “If You Were Gay,” “Everyone’s a Little Bit Racist,” and a personal favorite “What Do You Do With a B.A. in English?”

While this show is a guaranteed laugh, the Players’ sets are no joke. Upon the stage is a backdrop of familiar city-style homes. Scattered about are a series of old CRT televisions that periodically display words and images, contributing to the reminiscent feel of Sesame Street. Off along the sides are more sets, extending the performance area.

This is a truly entertaining show with well-rendered characters, fun and lighthearted musical numbers, and a touching story to tell. I encourage all to check it out this Friday at 8 pm. You can reserve your tickets ahead at https://poly.rpi.edu/s/players.

CAMPUS EVENT

Drag show displays professional, student talent

We are pleased to announce that we are welcoming a new column to the paper, called ASK BROOKELYN

Ask Brookelyn is a general advice column that we’ll be experimenting with for the next couple of issues. Be sure to send your questions to poly.rpi.edu/Ask.