Eastin shares contentious email

Brookelyn Parslow
Senior Reporter

"OK, I’ll say it. Shame on you," wrote Professor and Director of the Bioinformatics Program Chris Bystroff, in an email directly addressing alumni who have stopped donating to Rensselaer since President Shirley Ann Jackson assumed her position.

Bystroff sent the original email to Rensselaer faculty on January 22 at 11:38 am with the subject “a letter in response to the fron-page [sic] TU article of Jan 21.” It was then forwarded to the Rensselaer Alumni Association by Vice President for Institute Advancement Graig R. Eastin at 4:07 pm with the subject “Important to get the truth out there.”

On January 29, Eastin sent a formatted version of the email to an alumni mailing list, with the subject “Albany Times Union formatted version of the email on January 22.”

The vote of no confidence was failed, 116-136-10. The vote of no confidence in the President (which "skewed questionnaire and a vote of no confidence in the President which failed)," warrants an apology. The recently launched comprehensive giving campaign is designed to position Rensselaer for its third century of leadership in research and education, and to further improve our ability to educate our students and prepare them to succeed in and contribute to the world after Rensselaer. The campaign is specifically focused on student financial aid, faculty support, and campus enhancements because we view those three areas as our greatest needs and the greatest benefit to our students. We hope our alumni will agree with the goals of the campaign and the worthiness of these goals and choose to support Rensselaer, the students, and the campaign to whatever extent they are able.

Graig Eastin (left) and Shirley Ann Jackson (in singing the alma mater during the protest outside EMPAC in April 2016. (file photo)
Live streaming discussed, no decision made

Darby Burns
Senior Reporter

The Executive Board meeting that took place on January 25 consisted mainly of the approval of proposals by the Interplanetary Society and Ultimate Frisbee, as well as approval of a new club training policy.

The Interplanetary Society started things off by asking for money to go toward their competition fees and snacks at the events and workshops that they host throughout the year. The E-Board decided to go with their standard policy of subsidizing 40 percent, which came out to be $170 for the club. The motion to approve the request passed 17-0-0.

The next club to come before the E-Board was Ultimate Frisbee, presented by Chris Duffy ’20. Duffy came asking for money to pay their coach, pending his approval by the Division of Human Resources. Money has already been allocated toward a coach in the next fiscal year’s budget, but that won’t take effect for some time. Duffy explained that the money to pay for the coach would come from an increase in club dues for the semester. When questioned, he told the E-Board that he had let club members know what was being proposed and asked anyone struggling to pay the increased amount to come to him for help.

When members of the E-Board asked about how the coach’s salary was determined for this semester, Duffy explained that Ultimate Frisbee is asking for exactly half of what has been approved for the next fiscal year. He also told the Board that while the coach hasn’t been allowed to work with the players directly, because he is still in the process of being approved by HR, he has been creating workouts for the team and sending them over.

After discussion, the motion was amended to include specifics on how much money was to be approved. The motion passed 15-0-2.

After Ultimate Frisbee, a motion came before the board to approve a new club training policy. The policy consisted mostly of current policies condensed into one place, with the inclusion of a new bystander intervention training section that, according to the document, “is mandated by New York State law for all officers of student organizations recognized or affiliated with institutions, as well as those seeking institute recognition or affiliation.” The motion passed 17-0-0.

At the very end of the meeting, a discussion was sparked regarding the potential to livestream E-Board meetings. Those in favor brought up that it would help to get the E-Board and its members more recognition as well as potentially getting people more interested and involved. Those opposed to the idea worried that it would be very difficult given how often the E-Board deals with sensitive financial information and closes its meetings. They also mentioned concerns that, currently, when the merits of a motion are being discussed, all interested parties are asked to leave the room, which would be logistically difficult if the meetings were streamed online.

The Executive Board meets on Thursdays at 8 p.m. in the Shelnut Gallery.
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| Safe Ride Launch & Vehicle Reveal  
15th Street; 10 am–12 pm  
Safe Ride at Rensselaer will launch on January 29. This program provides a free evening/late-night service to get students to campus and home safely. Two Honda Fit EV cars are the vehicles for the program. Come see the Safe Ride Cars and learn more about the program. | Troy Compost seeks Volunteers  
Campus-wide; 8 am–2 pm  
Troy Compost has been organizing a number of big composting initiatives in Troy, such as the Farmer’s Market foodscaps collection, a project that diverts food waste from landfills to get composted at local farms instead. Volunteering with us is a 2-hour, low-intensity, educational gig that does good work for a community organization, local farms, and the Troy waste stream. You don’t have to be an expert on compost to help out. | Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology Spring Seminars  
Biotec Building: 4–5 pm  
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology Spring Seminar Series Presents:  
Professor Donnalle Fabris, The RNA Institute, University at Albany. All are welcome. |
| **Study Abroad Information Session**  
Rensselaer Union; 12:15–1:15 pm  
The Office of International Programs will be holding an information session for students who wish to learn more about the available international programs and opportunities. Students who are interested in an International Experience during the Semester Away of the Arch, or students who plan to study abroad during the 2018-2019 academic year are encouraged to attend. | Elevator Pitch Competition  
CBIS Auditorium; 9 am–2 pm  
MANE Undergrads will compete for $1000, $750, and $500 in cash prizes with 3D printed trophies, presented by Naval Nuclear Laboratory (NNL). Lunch catered by Thunder Mountain. Event includes workshop by Archer Center and networking with engineering and hiring staff from NNL. | Eship.1 Problem Pitch Competition  
J Building; 5–6 pm  
Identifying problems is the first step towards being a change-maker. Before you can fix something, you need to understand the issue. With a chance to win one of several $500 prizes, this competition will allow you to choose an “unsolvable” problem and explain why it has not been solved yet. |
| **Wellness Wednesday at the Mueller Center**  
Mueller Center; 2–4 pm  
Resolutions and Goals: how to stick to them!  
FREE Zumba, snacks, trivia, art therapy, and chair massages! | Black History Month Festival featuring the Zuzu African Acrobats  
Rensselaer Union; 12–2 pm  
Enjoy a great family event with the students of the Black Student Alliance as they present a cultural festival of club performances with the finale by the acclaimed Zuzu African Acrobats, stars of the 2011 America’s Got Talent show. What better way to spend the afternoon with friends, family, children of all ages. | Foundry-RPI  
J Building; 6–7:30 pm  
Foundry-RPI is a working group where entrepreneurs, designers, builders and developers can meet weekly, get peer feedback, and execute ideas in an environment in which it is both expected that you are trying to do awesome things and it is okay to fail. Dinner is provided at 6 and the meeting starts at 6:30. |
| Co-Term Information Session  
Rensselaer Union; 11 am–12 pm  
Join us as the Rensselaer Lally School of Management hosts a Co-Term Program Information Session for current Rensselaer students. Earn your business graduate degree in your fifth year. At this event you can learn more about the Lally MBA and our five M.S. graduate business programs options. | **SUNDAY** | GCF Weekly Study - Colossians  
Library Conference Room; 6–7:30 pm  
Join us for dinner and socializing followed by a study and discussion. With the new semester we are starting a new study of the book of Colossians. While the studies will be linked, each week should be fairly self contained, so come when you can. |
| **February 4** | **February 4** | **February 6** |
| Resident Student Association Annual Super Bowl Party  
DCC 308; 5–10 pm  
Come to the annual RSA Super Bowl party and enjoy halftime trivia, wings, pizza, chips, and drinks and watch it on the big screen in DCC 308! | Resident Student Association Annual Super Bowl Party  
DCC 308; 5–10 pm  
Come to the annual RSA Super Bowl party and enjoy halftime trivia, wings, pizza, chips, and drinks and watch it on the big screen in DCC 308! | **SUNDAY** |

**Editor in Chief Brookelyn Parslow will have office hours from 2-3 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays in our office, RU 3418.**
TOP TEN LIST
Resolutions You Have Already Broken
10. Getting ahead on homework
9. Saving money
8. Going to the gym
7. Dieting
6. Not skipping classes
5. Not talking to your ex
4. Drinking less
3. Trying
2. Read more
1. Get a friend

WORDFIND
by Tyler Carney
Words can be found forwards, backwards, up, down, and in both diagonals.

People of The Poly

DILBERT
by Scott Adams

RSA is hosting a Super Bowl party with wings and pizza in DCC 308 this Sunday at 5 pm! Go support your team!
Z uxflpwpuxno pemn zwtny, “Zon gn xrqze anmrwn gn bzvn zc cxn wcxow, po yp gn bzvn zc cxnq anmrwn gn zon xrqze?” Upfecnww, onzlj... “Dp cxn wcxow bzvn azmt?” epg cxzcd z irnwcfe.

Join us Tuesday in RU3418 if you are interested in The Poly.
SEE THE FULL LIST OF EMPLOYERS, CAREER FAIR WORKSHOPS AND RSVP ON JOBLINK! DOWNLOAD THE CAREER FAIR+ APP!

CCPD SPRING CAREER FAIR

FEBRUARY 7TH
10:30 TO 3:30 PM
THE ARMORY

CENTER FOR CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
rpi.edu/dept/cdc (518) 276-6234 @rpi_ccpd
Film displays exceptional storyline, score

MOvie REVIEW

Tanner Vargas
A Special to The Poly

SET IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF A SUN-DRENCHED 1983 Italy, Luca Guadagnino’s masterwork film, Call Me By Your Name, is a revelation in cinematography and acting, rich in tone and tenderness. It’s rightfully garnered awards season buzz, landing four Oscar nods from Best Actor to Best Picture. Although the techniques are mastered, the raw performances of its leads transcend any preconception of what a love-and-coming-of-age-story really is.

17-year old Elio Perlman, played by Timothé Chalamet, spends his summer days lazily transcribing music and swimming in the sun, proving himself somewhat of a reserved but precocious prodigy alongside his father, played by Michael Stuhlbarg, a cultural professor conducting research at their 17th-century Italian Villa. When the tall and handsome Oliver, played by Armie Hammer, arrives as a graduate student assisting Mr. Perlman in research for the summer, the worlds of Elio and Oliver begin to draw inescapably closer. This is where the film so easily could fall into a predictable rhythm, but doesn’t—Guadagnino and Chalamet make sure of it. Elio is at once knowledgeable and insightful, exhibiting a complex worldview well beyond his years (no matter how much he denies it). Chalamet’s nuanced performance lifts the character to new heights, each emotion exhibited in a daring performance of action expression. You can feel each of his struggles so viscerally; the tug and pull between what his mind wants and heart needs is illustrated in every minute detail. The star-making performance really calls for more than one watch. Such an honest portrait is mirrored in the supporting role of Oliver, the two’s chemistry so untouchably palpable with each passing scene that you begin to dread the end of the film as much as they do the end of the summer. Guadagnino’s tactics are very direct here—in nearly every scene, there’s an instance of setting awareness. Melodic church bells chiming in the distance as Elio wanders the apricot orchards; cars rumbling along the streets of town as Elio and Oliver nearly yell at each other over the noise. By the end of the film, there’s such a vivid grasp on what it was like to live and love in Italy, it’s as if you were there yourself.

The soundtrack continues the incredible run of quality, helmed by three offerings of Sufjan Stevens (who himself was nominated for Best Original Song at the upcoming Academy Awards for “Mystery of Love”). The tender, and at times melancholy, instrumentals pair with a vibrant lyricism that calls back to the emotive Italy the film earnestly presents. It’s a seamless musical encapsulation of the complications that a love like Elio and Oliver’s faces, Stevens’ vocals working to devastating effect with each new listen. The director carefully and fully presents the characters as destined, flawed, and honest all at once, focusing on the incredible performances by Chalamet and Hammer as it clumsily develops into a transcendent narrative that rejoices and strains with a passion that still resonates today. It’s done so well and honestly that it has the rare power to change the life of some of its viewers.

Call Me By Your Name affectionately captures what it means to wholeheartedly desire every part of another person, and the reality of what such a love means beyond the two who find themselves wrapped up in it. The final scenes of the film pack such raw, unflinching performances by Chalamet and Stuhlbarg, it’s practically impossible to forget what this film has to say, much less how they say it.

THE FILM’S LEADS, HAMMER AND CHALAMET, SHOWCASE their incredible chemistry with memorable, honest performances.

Learn About Values Driven Leadership
First Sergeant Matt Eversmann (Ret.)

Hero of the Epic Film: Black Hawk Down & the Battle of Mogadishu

FEB 06 | 8 p.m. 
EMPAC, RPI

Please attend this free event from the Pinewoods Educational Foundation / Sigma Chi Leadership Series
Editorial

If you found me a year and a half ago and told me I would eventually be the editor in chief of The Poly, I would have most certainly said, “What is an editor in chief?” Looking back, the amount that I’ve learned from the paper alone is indescribable to me. I owe so much of that to the wonderful, knowledgeable people I’ve met through The Poly and late nights purging the depths of our website. I owe it to you, my readers, for introducing me so I’ll make it quick. For those of you who don’t know me, I’m Brookelyn, and I was elected to the position of editor in chief in December.

I’ll make it quick. For those of you who don’t late nights perusing the depths of our website. The Poly from the paper alone is unbelievable to me. I

One large source of entertainment is TV and movies. I have five TV series and seven movies on my list of things to watch, with even more coming on the horizon. The frustrating thing is that sometimes, I am bored and I just do not have any desire to watch anything on my list, but when I am busy, that is all I want to do. Having to force myself to watch something is not enjoyable, so I end up just refreshing Reddit too much and getting nothing accomplished.

I used to read two hours every day on the bus ride to and from school. I tore through books, but I have not read more than five during college. Books are the most time-intensive form of entertainment, in my opinion. Two hours for a movie versus a week for a book makes the inefficiency of reading, given my backlog of other entertainment, seem not worth it. I am somewhat sad that I have not read that much, so I am going to make it my goal to read on the bus trips when I go skiing.

Overall, it is a good problem to have.
Disheartened by RPI’s lack of understanding

On Monday night, RPI alumni from around the world opened their inboxes to find a forwarded email accusing them of racism, sexism, and heightism for discom- tinking support of their alma mater during Dr. Jackson’s tenure as president. I would be remiss not to address this as I interact and work with alumni on a regular basis and recognize that current students are future alumni. Importantly, I struggle to comprehend the administration’s reasoning behind sending this email, as opposed to tactfully responding to the well-researched concerns and analysis outlined by the Renew Rensselaer alumni group, which was featured in the news article at which the administration’s reply was directed.

It was exceptionally unprofessional and destructive for this email to be forwarded to all alumni. The email fails to acknowledge any of the fact-based arguments that have been championed by alumni to support their decisions to reduce or end their donations, which is especially alarming coming from an institution of higher education that values “Knowledge and Thoroughness” as a core tenet. Additionally, RPI’s misguided response appears to demonstrate a basic unwillingness to directly address the very concerns which necessitated their response in the first place. It was disheartening to hear a professor baselessly equate the entire alumni population to a particular stereotype. I’ve observed the diversity of our alumni, students, and faculty through my interactions with them—which occur on a frequent basis—every weekend at hockey games, alumni events, and even at random, both on and off campus. That being said, I understand that we are far from perfect, and there are instances of racism and sexism found on our campus; however, raising concerns on how RPI is managed is not equivalent to feel like it is truly “family,” the administration needs to genuinely communicate with its “family” and actively involve us in major decisions before they take place, such as ending the student-run nature of the Union. While I can’t speak for alumni, I imagine they don’t view “family” as someone who accuses them of being racist, sexist, or heightist, and who disallows us from attending Town Hall Meetings.

Since this email was sent to alumni, I’ve received a number of emails from distressed and appalled alumni regarding this. It pains me to know that these alumni no longer feel appreciated or accepted by the place they once called home. It is a sentiment that seems all too relatable for many students these days—myself, included—and it leaves but one thought echoing in my head: RPI must do better. For alumni to feel like it is truly “family,” the administration needs to respond with respect and actively involve us in decisions before they take place, such as ending the student-run nature of the Union. While I can’t speak for alumni, I imagine they don’t view “family” as someone who accuses them of being racist, sexist, or heightist, and who disallows us from attending Town Hall Meetings.

At the end of the day, we’re all in this together. I want to personally apologize to any alumni reading this if you felt offended or alienated by the administration’s email, as it was not reflective of student opinion. We completely understood why if you opted to withhold donations to your alma mater at any point in recent years. And to everyone reading: I promise that, as the chief representative of the student body, I will continue working to address concerns of the RPI community, as they affect us all, and I will continue my efforts to communicate with the administration. In the meantime, I would appreciate hearing your thoughts at gmn@rpi.edu.

Renee Rensselaer based in facts, analysis

To the RPI Community:

On Monday, June 17, RPI’s Vice President for In- stitute Advancement Graig Eastin sent an email to all RPI alumni in response to a recent Albany Times Union article about Renew Rensselaer. The body of Eastin’s email contained a forwarded open letter from Professor Chris Bystroff to the RPI faculty, dated January 22, 2018. Bystroff’s letter followed in the wake of the ad- ministration’s five page response to the launch of the Renew Rensselaer website, which was provided to the Times Union, and subsequently posted to its website. Sadly, both the administration’s five page response and Bystroff’s letter missed the mark, assuming they were intended to provide reasoned responses to Renew Rensselaer’s research findings, detailed in The Untold Story, and recommendations for improvement, outlined in our Platform. We continue to invite a diligent assessment of the facts we presented and steps for improvement.

As any good researcher knows, correlation does not equal causation. We provided data on our website for alumni giving rates at other schools that have also de- clined significantly, just not quite as much as at RPI. In his letter, Bystroff directed readers toward an article from Inside Philanthropy which argued quite convinc- ingly that there are many societal shifts and changes influencing both alumni giving rates and the amount of dollars donated. Nonetheless, we have been in contact with many alumni who are interested in giving to the Institute, if they were to see evidence that the Board and the administration would implement necessary changes. Our overwhelming sense is that some straightforward and basic improvements to governance practices, as stated in the platform on our website, would greatly help to boost alumni financial support for RPI.

After reading the aforementioned article, one can question the drop in RPI’s donor participa- tion rate appears quite normal. Then, viewing the dollar amount of gifts and bequests to RPI over time, the ques- tion becomes: “why aren’t more ‘mega-donors’ coming forward?” We suggest that former senior advancement officers from RPI know the answer; they were the sources for last July’s article in the Chronicle of Higher Education. Unfortunately, they felt compelled to remain anonymous as sources for that article. We believe the answer is clear: the approach that has been taken by the administration toward encouraging alumni giving, from many years now, has not been well received.

Several of our members met with RPI’s board chair- man and other trustees on two occasions to both voice our concerns and offer constructive suggestions for improvements to governance based upon the research we conducted. Our offers of help were declined, and our concerns rebuffed. Yet we attempted to keep things in the “family,” as Bystroff suggested in his letter. We made a sincere effort to bring about necessary change, but were met with stiff resistance. So those of us at Renew Rensselaer began to reach out to fellow alumni, knowing they would listen and be perfectly capable of sorting fact from fiction to guide their personal decisions. If some RPI alumni decide to withhold participation in giving, there is a message they are sending that apparently is not being considered by the administration and board. And, if there is any shame to assign, as suggested by Bystroff, it lies with those who are finding it difficult to assess the facts presented on Renew Rensselaer’s website, renewrensselaer.org.

On the whole, Bystroff’s letter appears to be a mostly emo- tional response; surely disappointing to most alumni who live in a world where facts guide personal decisions. To be per- fectly clear, Renew Rensselaer and the hundreds of alumni who support its platform are not interested in engaging in an emotional skirmish, nor do they have an ulterior motive. To subtly suggest otherwise is a tactic that will ultimately backfire as more and more alumni review the Renew Rensselaer website and realize there are no ad hominem attacks or even suggestions of such. Renew Rensselaer is committed to helping the Institute regain its former stature as RPI enters its third century. Our goal is to unite all of RPI’s constituencies and stimulate higher levels of alumni par- ticipation and financial support. But for that to happen, RPI’s alumni must be treated with respect, and necessary changes in governance must be implemented.

We think it’s time for Bystroff and Eastin, and all Board of Trustee members, to diligently review the Renew Rensselaer website and determine for themselves if the facts presented are relevant and worth serious consideration; we are confident they will see what our many alumni supporters have already seen. After that review, perhaps a reasoned dialogue will ensue between Renew Rensselaer and the Board of Trustees regarding the platform we presented. We firmly believe that a dialogue based on facts is an essential first step for RPI to regain its rightful standing as one of this nation’s premier technological institutions.

Renee Rensselaer
Have you been considering going vegan?

Michael J. Gardner II '17 G '18

My name is Michael J. Gardner II and I am a vegan. Being vegan is one of the most important decisions I have ever made. For those of you who are not vegan, can explain the merits behind a vegan lifestyle much better than I’ll ever be able to. If you’re curious, I’ve been vegan for a year and a half, and while making the transition. There are plenty of people who can explain the merits behind a vegan lifestyle much better than I’ll ever be able to. If you’re curious, I’ve heard that Earthlings and What the Health are great places to start.)

I want to start by saying that being vegan is not always easy. Just like any major change, it takes some getting used to—and sometimes, it’s simply not feasible. Focus more on being practical and doing the best that you can. It is okay if “being practical” means only being vegan for certain meals, only being an at-home vegan, cutting out everything but your favorite cheese, or eating free food regardless of what’s in it. While you’re not technically vegan if you do those things, anything is better than nothing.

I love the food I eat and, while there are still issues with the food industry and the products they create, I love the food I eat and, while there are still issues with the food industry and the products they create, I’m much more in line with my morals. If you take anything from this: transition slowly, go easy on yourself, and do your best to make it something that you enjoy.

The Polytechnic

Serving the Rensselaer community since 1885

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 poly.rpi.edu
Artist promotes restorative message through Latin, R&B influenced album

Although Cabello is better known for her past with Fifth Harmony, she is proving to be a strong solo artist. Cabello has been featured in various singers’ songs. “Know No Better,” a popular song by Major Lazer, features Cabello, Travis Scott, and Quavo. Additionally, her first solo single, “Crying in the Club,” gained much recognition since many were waiting to catch a glimpse of Cabello’s solo career. This song flows well into her most recent work, Camila, which carries on the strength of girl power as well as moving on.

“Havana,” initially released as a single, received much praise and charted highly. This song provided much anticipation for the album that was yet to come. Throughout the song, Cabello plays out a scenario where she has fallen in love, but knows that it is temporary. With Young Thug as a featured artist and a bouncy backdrop, there is a combination of youthfulness and carefreeness within the song.

Differing from the energetic feel of much of the album, the song “Consequences” shows a more somber side of Cabello. She talks of heartbreak, a recurring theme throughout the album, but does so with only soft piano accompanying her. A song like this highlights Cabello’s melodic voice and emphasizes the meaningful lyrics. It also shows that Cabello is versatile with her range of music.

One song that didn’t quite leave a strong impression is “Into It.” This song describes the typical “girl obsessed with pretty boy” scenario, which diverts from the message of healing Cabello is trying to send through this album. A song like this makes Cabello seem like just another young, careless singer trying to sell her music. Thankfully, the rest of the songs portray her story well.

Altogether, Cabello’s debut album is fun and refreshing to listen to. The songs vary from light and flirty to dark and sobering. As an outsider to Cabello’s music, I was impressed by her work, and was not expecting to enjoy the songs as much as I did. Camila is definitely worth a listen, showcasing Cabello’s journey thus far as a singer and foreshadowing what she has to offer.
When I think chicken nuggets, my mind automatically goes to “McDonald’s,” but are these really the best nuggets around, or are they just some of the most popular? This weekend, members of The Polytechnic—Jonathan Cacace ‘19, Rex Hu ‘19, Sidne Kochman ‘19, Nicholas Lomaz ‘20, Joseph Lyon ’20, Serge Piskun ’20, and I decided to do a chicken nugget review to find out which place in town has the best chicken nuggets.

To begin, we first must define our classification of “chicken nugget.” We decided that a qualified chicken nugget must have breading, be under a certain size—disqualifying chicken tenders—and be made out of chicken. By these means, we chose to review McDonald’s, Burger King, Wendy’s, Chicken Joe’s, and Grandma G’s. Below, I will summarize our reviews and give an overall ranking of the five.

McDonald’s

McDonald’s offers very consistent nuggets with a 2–3 bite size. The flavor seems to come from the chicken, which feels very processed and spongy, and leaves an aftertaste. The breading doesn’t have much of a flavor and seems to separate from the chicken, with the nuggets often having air bubbles between the chicken and the breading. The price for a 20-piece box is $5.50, which is on the cheaper side.

Wendy’s

Wendy’s offers a very crispy consistent nugget, also in the 2–3 bite size range. This nugget is juicy and has no noticeable artificial taste or aftertaste. The breading has flecks of peppers, and a perfect amount of salt. You can get 20 pieces for $7.97, which makes it the most expensive “standard” nugget.

Burger King

Burger King offers consistent nuggets in the 2–3 bite size range. Their nuggets had nice seasoning on the breading, and the chicken didn’t have a processed taste although it still had the processed texture and look. Burger King offers the best price, with a 20 piece ringin up at $3.66.

Chicken Joe’s

Chicken Joe’s provided a very juicy, high-quality chicken nugget. Served hot, the bulk of its flavor comes in the breading, while the inside is moist, very real chicken. The pieces can be eaten in 2–3 bites. Something unique about Chicken Joe’s is the way it is sold: it comes in a bag, sold by the pound with fries mixed in. It is on the pricier side—one pound of chicken nuggets and fries costs a hefty $16.

Grandma G’s

Grandma G’s was the most unique of the chicken nuggets we tasted. It is sold as “chicken chunks,” which may be why it’s so different. Overall, it was the nugget with the most flavor, but the least traditional. The nugget seems to be flavored with a little curry, giving it a spice and yellow look. They were a lot bigger than the nuggets reviewed, with each piece being around 5–6 bites. The pieces have a more homemade taste, with some being more dry or singed than others, but all being high-quality chicken. Grandma G’s comes in a four-piece plate with fries and homemade sauce, either barbeque or hot, for $6.48.

Conclusion

Our goal was to rank the nuggets in terms of flavor and quality. Last on our list were McDonald’s nuggets. Overall, its low price didn’t boost it enough to overcome the aftertaste and low quality of chicken. Second to last was Burger King. If you’re looking for a cheap fast food option, Burger King is your way to go! The chicken nuggets were good overall, but its low price didn’t boost it enough to overcome the aftertaste and low quality of chicken. Burger King was the most unique of the chicken nuggets we tasted. It is sold as “chicken chunks,” which may be why it’s so different. Overall, it was the nugget with the most flavor, but the least traditional. The nugget seems to be flavored with a little curry, giving it a spice and yellow look. They were a lot bigger than the nuggets reviewed, with each piece being around 5–6 bites. The pieces have a more homemade taste, with some being more dry or singed than others, but all being high-quality chicken. Grandma G’s comes in a four-piece plate with fries and homemade sauce, either barbeque or hot, for $6.48.