

RESIDENCE HALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 04/26/2021

Location: Zoom

CALL TO ORDER | 9:03PM

**Matt:** I'm calling this meeting to order.

MYSTERY ACTIVITY | 9:03PM

**Matt:** What is your favorite RHSA or Hall Government memory?

ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS | 9:04PM

**Emily:** Hey y'all! So when I call your hall, if you can give me the number of people representing your hall, how many RHSA shirts you have on, how many NRHH shirts you have on, how many Conference shirts you have on, and a hall report from your hall gov if you have one.

Hall Name	Number Present	RHSA Shirts	NRHH Shirts	Conference Shirts	Hall Report
Ashokan	0	0	0	0	None.
Bliss	1	0	0	0	Nothing to report.
Bouton	3	0	0	0	Nothing to report.
Capen	0	0	0	0	None.
College-Shango	0	0	0	0	None.
Esopus	0	0	0	0	None.
Gage	0	0	0	0	None.
Lenape	2	0	0	0	Nothing to report.
Minnewaska	3	0	0	0	Nothing to report.
Ridgeview	4	0	0	0	Nothing to report.
Scudder	0	0	0	0	None.
Shawangunk	1	0	0	0	We had our Easter event last week Sunday this week.

SENATE | 9:07PM

**Chet:** Last weekend we had our Hawkfest and SUNY Fest event. I hope everyone had fun there. We're winding down for the end of the semester. Thank you everyone for having me. It's been great presenting to you all every week. Thank you very much! Enjoy your banquet!

NYPIRG | 9:08PM

**Chet:** We did have some very good Earth day events last week that I hope everyone was able to attend. We could possibly have a tenants rights event this Wednesday. We're hoping to educate everyone on how to get an apartment in New Paltz and be an off campus student. It's been great presenting for NYPIRG as well.

NRHH | 9:09PM

**Melissa:** I have no new information but we should be having a lot of interesting stuff coming next semester so that's exciting.

OLD BUSINESS | 9:09PM

Motion to Open Old Business: Bliss

Second: Shawangunk

Historian

**Cassie:** Hi pals! Paint & Sip was super fun, and we hope that if you attended, you had a good time and enjoyed painting with us! From what I could see, you all made some beautiful paintings! Keep an eye out for photos from the event coming soon!

Motion to Close Old Business: Ridgeview

Second: Lenape

NEW BUSINESS | 9:10PM

Motion to Open New Business: Shawangunk

Second: Bliss

Campus Clean Up

**Emily:** Hey y'all! If you're in the spring cleaning mood, come to Campus Cleanup with EcoAllies and RHSA! It's going to be on Sunday, May 2nd at 12:00pm and we're going to be meeting on Old Main Quad! You can sign up on Engage with this [link](#)! Be there or be square!

Elections

Motion to Open Nominations: Bliss

Second: Ridgeview

**Matt:** Jordan H was nominated for NCC, do you accept or decline?

**Jordan H:** Respectfully decline.

**Matt:** Jordan H was nominated for Vice President, do you accept or decline?

**Jordan H:** Respectfully decline

**Matt:** Cassie was nominated for NCC, do you accept or decline?

**Cassie:** I respectfully decline, but thank you for the nomination.

**Matt:** Cassie was nominated for Vice President, do you accept or decline?

**Cassie:** I also respectfully decline, but thanks for this nomination as well.

**Matt:** Are there any motions or anyone who wants to run for a position? If not, we will accept a motion to close nominations.

**Bliss:** What happens if no NCC or VP gets nominated?

**Matt:** The current acting President will take on their duties or distribute them amongst the Executive Board at their discretion.

Motion to Close Nominations for Spring 2021: Shawangunk

Second: Bliss

## Awards

### Participation awards

**Jordann M:** Participation awards are to thank you all for all your hard work this semester. It was awesome to see all the fun programs and events you put on and the communities you created within your halls. Thanks for attending our events and taking part in our spirit weekend. Here are the awards to thank you all for a great spring semester!

- Ashokan
- Bliss
- Bouton
- Capen
- College-Shango
- Esopus
- Gage
- Lenape
- Minnewaska
- Ridgeview
- Scudder
- Shawangunk

### E-Board Choice

**Jess:** I am excited to be giving out our E-Board Choice award tonight. This person is very active in RHSA, goes to many if not all of our AC meetings and always tries to participate and mentions points to advocating for other students. **Cherith-Renee** from Shawangunk thank you for all your hard work representing Shawangunk, despite changes in your hall government you stood tall and continued to be a valued presence at our AC meetings every week. With that, on behalf of the RHSA E-Board we are excited to give our E-Board Choice award to you.

### Appreciation for President

**Jordan H:** Matthew Alfred Peter Kreuz. The E-Board and I would like to give our things to you. From the moment that each and every one of us have gotten elected into these positions, you've done everything in your power and beyond to be their resource, a role model, and a friend to all seven of us. We all deeply appreciate everything that you've done for us from going to administrative meetings, after meeting after meeting, to quite literally running back and forth to work with every single one of us ever needed to. To be honest, I still remember the first time I

met you outside the Athletic and Wellness Center and when you were telling me and how I should get involved, and also how I wouldn't regret it. To be honest, never in 100 years that everything but I first met you in that moment that you were going to end up being my president and I'm very grateful for it. Now, It's bittersweet, because it looks like we're coming to a close here. Thank you so very much for everything that you bring into our lives as both an E-Board and Associate Council, you are amazing. Please never ever forget that. Don't ever doubt yourself. I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors and may the force be with you always.

### **RA Liaison of the Semester**

**Jordan H:** The RA Liaison of the Semester is an award that we give out to a Hall Gov Liaison who has far exceeded our expectations and what is required of them. They show crystal clear interest in RHSA and in their Hall Government and are phenomenally committed to supporting those around them and are always lending a helping hand to their Hall Government to maximize their efforts and reach their fullest potential. With that being said, although this person may be a bit more introverted, their decision and dedication to their Hall Gov speaks volumes. This person was an obvious choice for us to choose. He's consistently at RHSA events and supports his Hall Government no matter what in any possible way. Chris Gillin, you are a hardworking, committed and caring individual and phenomenal RA as well as RA Liaison and I'm glad to present this award to you.

### **Hall of the Semester**

**Jordan H:** As you guys know, Hall of the Semester is an award we give out to the Hall Government who receives the most GFP's throughout the semester. I would like to congratulate everyone first and foremost because we all know that this year was not a typical RHSA or academic year, but each and every single one of you have persevered and shown true resilience and we are very grateful for that.

3rd Place: Tie between Bouton and Bliss Hall

2nd Place: Ridgeview Hall

1st Place: Lenape Hall

### **Seniors**

**Matt:** I now would like to take a special moment to recognize all of our graduating seniors who have sat on the Executive Board throughout the years. Congratulations to all the graduating seniors. Thank you all so much for the work you have done.

- Pharez Varlack | National Communications Coordinator 2018 - 2019
- Marissa Richman | Historian 2018 - 2019
- Juan Pablo Molina | Treasurer 2018 - 2019
- Clare Del Grosso | Public Relation Officer 2018 - 2019 | President 2019 - 2020
- Sarah Creighton | Secretary 2018-2019 | Vice President 2019-2020
- Matthew Orlander | Secretary 2019 - 2020
- Jordann McKenna | Public Relations Officer 2020 - 2021
- Jess Jewell | Treasurer 2020 - 2021
- Matt Kreuz | Treasurer 2019 - 2020 | President 2020 - 2021

### **Bronze Pins**

**Matt:** A Bronze Pin is the highest honor of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls one can receive on a college campus. The pins can only be given out by an NRHH or RHSA President. This pin is to be awarded to individuals who provided leadership and direction to their college campus. The number of Bronze Pin awards each year cannot exceed 8, representative of the 8 regions of NACURH. Bronze Pin recipients are students or faculty who go above and beyond on what they're required to do. They show clear passion for what they do. These people are committed to creating an inclusive and respectful community among peers. Bronze Pin recipients have worked their hardest and have dedicated their time to making campus a better place. They are leaders, mentors, role models, and some of the best people this school has to offer. If you have ever been awarded a Bronze Pin, please stand now or type "B" in the chat.

### **Amanda Maldonado**

This individual is one of the most remarkable that I know of, they embody both service and recognition, have been a positive influence in their residence halls and embrace positivity. They dressed up for Halloween as princess Leia and played Star Wars on the trumpet for the families visiting. They work non-stop to make sure everyone they work with is doing alright, and provides inspirational quotes in every email they send. **Amanda Maldonado**, or RD Mandy was a NRHH advisor, a New Paltz alumni, and so much more. She is the embodiment of passion, in all she does, I have not met anyone so willing to help others, and this is shown in her service and dedication to taking on her role within the Food Pantry. Having spent three years with her there, and her working since 2013 shows her dedication to recognizing the needs of others. Mandy is one of the biggest supporters of others, encouraging people to challenge themselves and overcome the hurdles of life. She is a fantastic mentor, and role model, for her staff, the volunteers, and chapter whilst she advised, and for the greater community. She takes it upon herself to give gifts to those for service, and it is only fitting that someone show passionate for helping others, aiding in the regional philanthropy for this year, and continued devotion to caring in the lives of others that myself and NRHH chapter will be devoting the second bronze pin of the semester and 5th of the year to RD Mandy, please accept this award.

### **Jess Jewell**

The third bronze pin of the semester and 6th of the year is going to someone who has embodied innovativeness. Times this year were very tough, they require skill, mental fortitude, and determination to overcome. This person has worked in various clubs and organizations, on campus, being a role model for students, by helping them in peer tutoring. On top of all this there was quite a bit of innovation this year. **Jessica Jewell** had to commit to working from home and balancing the budget both of which is fairly atypical given the circumstances. While aid was provided in the form of a basic guideline, finding out a week into the semester did not give Jess a lot of time to realize without our budget how to proceed. Working from home also brought about change, whilst office hours and the like became standardized but the budget is a very different matter, Having the CAS office, and DO's be handled online is a tricky subject, yet Jess and an advisor managed to create a system that is not only effective but was also approved. Jess then had the transfer into coming back onto campus and continuing in her role, where she fit in flawlessly. Jess is someone who is able to be an anchor during E-Board meetings, is respected by the board, and is very respectful to everyone they come across. Jess is also one of the humblest

individuals who never talks about their own accomplishments, but is one of the first to recognize the achievements of others. Jessica Jewell for your hard work, dedication, humble nature, please accept this bronze pin.

### **Haley Hershenson**

The fourth bronze pin of the semester and 7th of the year goes to someone whom I knew a great deal of and spent a good four years at New Paltz. This person represents advocacy and leadership in my view. They are someone whose journey is parallel to that of my own. They started out their leadership as a member of the Leadership Community in Esopus hall, and then running for Secretary of Esopus hall, they however did not win. Despite this their passion for helping others came through and they applied for Student Senate. While doing that they were a member of the Emerging Leaders program, something that they embodied and excelled at, so they also became an emerging leader's mentor. A year being a senator and mentor, they then earned their place among the executive board of SA as Vice president of academic affairs where she attended faculty senate meetings and I was fortunate enough to take part and witness how comforting and informative they were when helping new members. This year they took their final year to follow the same path I took both as presidents of our respective orgs. **Haley Hershenson**, President of the Student Association, embodies many aspects of leadership, but most importantly is in my opinion, someone whose advocacy is their most worthy note. Four years of service and Haley is one of the most inspiring people, when it comes to listening to students and being able to be a friend, and advocate for all. Haley Hershenson, please accept my fourth bronze pin.

### **Emily Yulo**

My last bronze pin for both this semester and this year goes to a unique individual, I cannot quite remember when I met them or what our first interactions were like. They embraced student leadership in the number of ways and moved throughout multiple organizations. I will admit I am fortunate enough to have not only an incredible predecessor but also a successor. **Emily Yulo** in four years has gone from Hall Government to NRHH to Secretary to becoming our next president. I cannot begin to try and personify their character this year, or from the two priors. Emily last year represented NRHH at conferences, helped at Condom Casino, planned NRHH events, and more. This year was where Emily really came more into her own in my view. She not only takes minutes which tend to be 20 pages at times, which is insane, she also has done much more. She puts events on the Google Calendar, runs the Programming Committee, attends Safety Committee meetings, and plans the diversity event and Campus CleanUp. Emily also took it upon herself to package the Spirit Week packages, and the Mind, Body, Spirit day care packages. Throughout the year Emily has not only done all listed above but has also been going above and beyond in many other ways, whether it's aiding others in their duties, taking on roles during periods of absence or where we needed help the most, being a general team player, she has gone above and beyond in almost all aspects. In this regard, I would say that Emily is someone who embodies optimism, for her uplifting attitude, and the enduring nature to continue to reach for accomplishments. Emily Yulo please accept my last bronze pin of the year.

### **Special Recognition**

**Matt:** I would like to acknowledge a couple moments for recognizing the impact of others and different groups on campus. I wanted to acknowledge that Suny New Paltz resides on native soil

of the Lenape people. Dear President Emily, the future Executive board, my fellow board members, esteemed guests, advisors, the Associate Council and Hall Governments. I wanted to thank you for sticking by us this year, it was not easy, and had its ups and downs as I'm sure you all can tell. Everyone I wanted to thank you all on campus, for getting tested if you have, for those whom may have gone into quarantine, for following all the mandates and procedures to keep one another safe it truly means a lot to me to be a representative of a community dedicated to one another, Tonight is a time to recognize one another, and all the achievements you have made this semester.

To the **commuter students**, I want to acknowledge how hard it can be living off campus, or commuting, or even just working in a home environment. You've powered through the semester, and are truly happy for each and every one of you who has done so, as I know it cannot be easy.

To **NRHH**, our sister organization, I wanted to thank you for the trials you have been through and your work to continue to make campus a better place. I am hopeful that next year brings a new light upon your chapter where you could continue to focus on service and recognition, bringing joy to others, and making a name for yourselves.

To our cousin org, **SA**, it's been a wild ride. Thank you for your continued advocacy, and in building our relationship and here's to a brighter future to us both. I'm sure both of you could build a better tomorrow today.

To the **residential students**, thank you for your adjustment to changes in policy, and making due with all the changes and transitions and anxiety it brings. I don't know how you have managed to get by, but I really am thankful for all of you sticking with it and making do.

To the **Resident Assistants**, who inspire, and allow for individual students to develop and grow from the communities you create. You do some of the hardest work on campus. You work where you live and live where you work. I'm truly grateful that you continue to inspire the next generation of leaders today and you continue to make progress towards a better tomorrow.

To the **Resident/Complex Directors**, thank you for overseeing the residence halls and allowing for all that goes on and supporting all of us here tonight. Thank you for keeping us going and for being there for anyone who needs it, especially in these trying times

To the **Associate Council**, I want to thank you for not just dealing with me and my long and laborious speeches, but for bringing a new joy to this organization. It is because of you that we do the things that we are and you make up the village that founded our community.

To everyone in the **Hall Governments** we might not have met each and every one of you personally, the great work that you do is noticeable not just to the residents in your residence halls, but to the larger campus community. You are building great skills for leadership that I'm sure each and every one of you will embody at some point or another in your life.

I also want to thank **SUNY New Paltz** for hosting us at this institution, the **Campus Auxiliary Services** office for managing funds, and additional faculty and Staff who provide resources and are willing to benefit students as a whole.

I want to thank **additional faculty, staff, professors, and so on** for all the work they have done. Some of them could be as simple as cleaning the residence halls, or inspiring students to get that extra time on a paper to really make something special to help get you through this year. There are many people at SUNY New Paltz that work together in harmony to build our community. Well, I can't thank every single individual person, I want to acknowledge all the work that everyone has done, and acknowledge all the work that everyone will continue to do, even while I'm gone.

All that said I personally wanted to thank you all, for a wonderful last year as your president. 4 years ago, I was leaving for college nervous and scared, my sister took a photo of me heading out the door with my pack on. Now looking back from my first year just starting, to moving up and being where I am today is a truly astounding expertise for me, I hope that to each and everyone of you whether graduating, returning, transferring or leaving that you can take away a fragment of knowledge and joy from this year. I will cherish and remember these past four years fondly for all those I have come into contact with and served alongside, thank you all.

Motion to Close: New Business: Bliss  
Second: Ridgeview

#### UPCOMING EVENT | 9:44PM

- Campus Cleanup | Sunday, May 2nd at 12:00pm | Old Main Quad  
Sign Up on Engage: <https://newpaltz.campuslabs.com/engage/event/7085800>

#### HALL CONCERNS | 9:44PM

**Matt:** If there's something wrong in your hall that you have already talked to your RAs, SRA, and RD about and nothing has been done, this is your time to tell us. 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

#### STUDENT CONCERNS | 9:45PM

**Matt:** If you have general concerns for things going on campus wide (something's broken, wrong, administrative concerns, faculty concerns), this is your moment to tell us so we can relay the information to the administration. However, if you have any food concerns (type, quality, price, location), we will not hear them at this point but you can email us at [rhasa@hawkmall.newpaltz.edu](mailto:rhasa@hawkmall.newpaltz.edu). You can fill out this Google form for both hall and student concerns: <https://forms.gle/j7qrziK2aWq9guyt5>. Seeing none.

#### OPEN FLOOR | 9:46PM

**Matt:** If you have a program, meeting or any other announcement that you would like to share with the Associate Council, now is your time to share by typing an x in chat. If you would like your Hall Gov programs and events to be advertised on the Hall Government Google Calendar, please fill out the following Google Form: <https://forms.gle/LrwXyzJfyvX8SXby5>. Are there any open floors?



**Callie:** Hi, everyone. I just want to take a quick minute during open floor to say shout out to this year's E-Board. You are all so fantastic and this year would not have been good without you. You are amazing, fantastic people. I am so sad that so many of you are graduating because I know I love you all and I know that the AC loves you all. I just appreciation for you all because I love you so much.

**Clare:** Hello! I want to say something similar. I have not been super round this semester, which has been sad because I graduated and stuff but from everything that I've seen, all the work and not only the E-Board that Associate Council members and everybody who continued to put in work and the time during the most difficult year that any of us have really gone through as like a whole community. You all put in so much incredible effort, from an outsider's point of view, I wasn't very involved this year. It's just unbelievable the amount of work that you guys did for the school, the campus for your peers and for each other. I just wanted to say congratulations to everybody here for such an amazing year and congratulations to the E-Board for such an amazing year. It's just been really awesome watching you all grow. It's been amazing, congratulations everybody!

#### PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE | 9:48PM

**Matt:** Where's my moose? The IT's put honor cords on Molly!

#### TRANSITIONALS

**Matt:** I would like for the current Executive Board to acknowledge those who are transitioning into next year's E-Board.

#### Historian

**Cassie:** Allison, you've shown us that you have some great ideas for your time as historian, and I think you are going to do a wonderful job. This is a really fun position, and I hope you find that you feel the same about it. I can tell that you're outgoing and kind, and I think that makes you great for this position! I know you're going to do awesome things during your time on E-board and I'm excited to see what you bring to RHSA. I wish you the best of luck and I'll be here for you if you need any help! But you're going to be amazing and I can't wait to see you take on the role of historian and be spectacular at it!

#### CCC

**Jordan H:** Considering that these are my last moments as the Campus Communications Coordinator, I just wanted to thank everyone for such a phenomenal year, especially given the circumstances, I'm very happy if the community we all took part in to foster!!! RHSA isn't possible without all of you!!! So I thank all of you!!!! Now, I'll like to recognize Ethan! Ethan I'm BEYOND HAPPY AND EXCITED to see what you accomplish in this position!! Your passion, poise, energy, and sincerity is SO unparalleled and authentic!!! You're phenomenal, your confidence is undeniable, and most of all you're going to do fantastic in this roll! I cannot wait to see you grow in your new position and to see all the exceptional things you will accomplish!!! You're the Pokémon Trainer Gold to my Pokémon Trainer Red, and if you ever need me, I'm always here for you! Congratulations on now being Campus Communications Coordinator!

## NCC

**Callie:** At my first ever conference, I heard a keynote speaker say “Be all in. Let the goodness in you shine through each and every day.” I can say that without a doubt, this incoming executive board has so much goodness in them that I know will shine through with every single thing that they do. You have so much to offer this campus, the Associate Council, each other, and yourselves. I am so, so excited to watch how you will grow through these positions. You will become more yourselves than ever before, and embrace the beautiful changes that come with being an RHSA Executive Board Member. I simply cannot imagine a better group of people to take over this organization. With Emily at the helm, you can accomplish absolutely anything. Congratulations, I love you all, and I am always here for you!

## PR

**Jordann M:** My first time being PR on hall government I had the pleasure and opportunity to work with such a kind and creative person. She always had a positive attitude and down for any project. Together we made shirts and painted banners. Her dedication to hall government was clear & i know she will do amazing things on RHSA. Madison, I am so excited to be handing PR off to you and I know you are going to accomplish great things. Your creativity & passion are unmatched and I have enjoyed working with you so much. I wish you the best of luck and you don’t hesitate to reach out any time I can’t wait to see all of the fantastic things you make.

## Secretary

**Emily:** Saskia, I’m over the moon that someone with such ambition, determination, and passion for this organization is taking over the Secretary position. It was so inspiring not only how much excitement you exuded during Lenape’s Hall Government election when everything was pretty new and weird because of Covid, but also how it has never diminished throughout this whole year. I will not lie, the Secretary position although tedious at times, it’s one of the most essential positions on this E-Board. I am so glad and proud that, Saskia, you are the one to take on this position. I know you’ll do an amazing job due to how much of a hard worker you are paired with your dedication for advocacy as well as excitement for RHSA as a whole. I cannot wait to see how you make this position your own with your amazing pop culture taste and know that you will do absolutely amazingly! Congratulations to Saskia!

## Treasurer

**Jess:** Logan, with all the hard work and passion that you have shown for Ridgeview hall government and RHSA over the past 3 years, I could not ask for anyone else to be my successor. I know that you will put in so much work to be the best Treasurer you can be and will be a wonderful presence on the RHSA Executive Board. While on the executive board and in the Treasurer position you will many face obstacles, but I know you with your determination and hard work that you will clear them and make the most of the position. Being on the RHSA executive board is an amazing opportunity to make strong bonds with the other e-board members, advocate for residence hall students, build a strong community, grow as an individual and to have fun. The year flies by and at the end you will be amazed that all you and RHSA has accomplished, be sure to be present in the moment and take in all the experiences and learning lessons because it goes by faster than you think. Congrats Logan on being the next Treasurer of RHSA, I am proud and excited for all the things you will accomplish.

Vice President

**Serena:** To whomever gets this position, I wish you the best of luck in all your endeavors with this organization. I know you're going to be strong, be hardworking, be passionate, and have an immense love for RHSA. As for everyone else who is on the e-board next year I know you are all going to do amazing. I have enjoyed learning and hearing from all of you and cannot wait to see what you guys do next year! You rock!

President

**Matt:** Dear Emily, the position of President is not an easy one, there is a lot to look after in the role and many things can come up. The challenges I faced in my time here were hard to overcome, but my experience was one that I would never give up. As a President once said we do the things we do not because they are easy but they are hard. A single year as President leads to a lot of change, the position teaches someone more than just how to be a leader, or manage a team. The position is one that when looking back it makes you rethink and reflect on your time. It's something where you can take the time to grow, challenge and accept the different aspects of the task before you and how to approach them. There is no doubt in my mind that you are more than ready to take up this position, and will likely accomplish a great many things over the course of your term. I hope that your time in the position is as wholesome, and enjoyable as it was for me, I'm sure you're going to leave your own mark and make your own memories you never forget and congratulations and good luck.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK | 9:58PM

**Matt:** "Yesterday brought the beginning, tomorrow brings the end, though somewhere in the middle we became the best of friends." - Unknown

ADJOURNMENT | 9:58PM

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: Old Executive Board

Second: New Executive Board

**Thank you to each and every one of you for being part of the RHSA during the year of online programs and technical difficulties! Your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed and we are incredibly grateful to have such an amazing group of people to work with throughout this past year!  
Good luck with finals and we hope to see you next year!**

Love,

**The Old & New RHSA Executive Board**

