

## Do you support the addition of student elected recent alumni to the Board of Trustees?

\*\*\*As recently as 2005 the [Student Senate had student reps](#) on BoT: pg. 10, Dan Horvath, Nick Wood, Donald Pendagast

### RPI Board

- Predominantly RPI graduates.
- 66.7% of the board comes from classes graduated prior to the 1970s.
  - Compared to 14.54% average of institutions researched.
- Earliest graduate is 1990.

### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Junior Trustees would provide the BoT with a perspective consistent to the current campus environment.
- Voting rights have not been secured, but will be discussed.

### Peer Institutions with Junior/Alumni Trustees

- Princeton, Lehigh, Harvard, Stanford, MIT, Cooper Union, Cornell, and Yale have alumni positions elected by their alumni associations. (8/16 researched)
- Specifically:
  - Princeton elects a graduating student to a four-year term
  - Lehigh Alumni trustees are elected two - 15 years after their graduating
  - MIT elects 15 representatives from their graduating class
  - Cornell and Cooper Union elect two current student for two-year terms
- **Proposed selection process**
  1. Junior Trustees (J.T) elected by their graduating class. Each class electing one trustee
  2. J.T elections combined with the Alumni Class Officer elections
  3. The J.T position will have the same eligibility requirements as Alumni Class Officers
  4. Terms would be equal to the number of J.T on the board. I.e 5 J.T = 5 year term
  5. All J.T would be required to serve on the Student Life Committee. At least one J.T on the Academic Affairs and Finance Committees.

## Do you support student access to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's bylaws?

What the bylaws are

-"The rules and regulations enacted by an association or a corporation to provide a framework for its operation and management"<sup>1</sup>

- Detail the roles and responsibilities of the President and the Board of Trustees.
- Outlines items such as when the BoT meets, the committees that exist within the BoT, and de-facto members of the BoT.
- Currently bylaws can be requested from the Institute, but are not available online
- Peer institute with bylaws readily available on their respective websites:
  - [Princeton University](#)
  - [Lehigh University](#)
  - [Harvard University](#)
  - [Stanford University](#)
  - [MIT](#)
  - [Cooper Union](#)
  - [Cornell University](#)
  - [Yale University](#)

## Do you support restarting the practice of Student Senate discussion and endorsement of any changes made to the [Student Handbook of Rights and Responsibilities](#)?

- Includes topics such as:
  - Student Bill of Rights
  - Campus ID policy
  - Academic Integrity
  - Student Rights in the Classroom
  - Various Health & Safety Policies: Good Samaritan, etc.
- This practice is not currently outlined as a Student Senate responsibility in the Union Constitution.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Bylaws>

## Should the position "Executive Director of Student Activities" have administrative jurisdiction over the Rensselaer Union?

### [Job Description - Cached website version](#)

- "The Executive Director of Student Activities is a new position resulting from a reorganization of the Division of Student Life, and will provide leadership for a broad portfolio of co-curricular programs including the Student Union, Student Government, and Campus Recreation. Reporting to the Assistant Vice President/ Dean of Students, the Executive Director ensures high quality, out-of-class opportunities that advance CLASS."
- The Executive Director position is not explicitly outlined within the Union Constitution
- Is meant to help provide more oversight and work with the Director of the Union

Example of new chain of command:

- President of the Institute
  - Vice President of Student Life
    - Assistant Vice President of Campus Experience
      - Executive Director of Student Activities
        - Director of the Union/Student Government

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## Should only student government - in conjunction with the Director of the Union - govern the future of the Rensselaer Union?

- Student Union
  - Breadth of the Union
- [Director of the Union](#) - Paraphrased from Article V
  - The DoU is employed by the Union to perform administrative duties
  - The DoU may not veto any Executive Board action
  - May request the Student Senate to begin impeachment proceedings of Student Government officials if they are irresponsible with Union funds
  - The Executive Board may bring charges against the Director for financial irresponsibility.
    - These charges would be brought to the Judicial Board
- **Student Government**
  - [Executive Board](#)
    - Financial branch of Student Government
      - Chaired by the President of the Union (PU)
    - Manages the annual budget of \$2.675M (formerly \$4.4M, and even earlier \$8.9M)
    - Supervises clubs and Union facilities
      - Budgeting procedures shape the Annual
  - [Student Senate](#) - Paraphrased from Article VIII - Section 1
    - Responsible for initiating all Union related legislative actions
    - Approves Union Activity Fee calculated by the Executive Board

- Committees include: Academic Affairs, Communications, Student Life<sup>2</sup>
- [Judicial Board](#)
  - Has jurisdiction in alleged violations of the Grounds for Disciplinary Actions by students or groups
  - Has jurisdiction in civil cases between students/groups
  - Has jurisdiction over Student Governmental disputes
- [Undergraduate Council](#) - Paraphrased from Article VIII - Section 5
  - Provides oversight to the four Undergraduate Class Councils
  - All spending of Class Dues need to be approved by the Council
- [Graduate Council](#) - Paraphrased from Article VIII - Section 4
  - Responsible for initiating all legislative action within the Union pertaining to graduate students that is not specifically dealt with by the Senate or Exec Board
- -----Maybe even pros to the Executive Director position

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<sup>2</sup> [Student Senate Union page](#)