



WHAT'S GOING ON WITH RSG?

RSG NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Please feel free to join us!
These events are open to the student body.*

- **RSG Senate**— Every other Thursday, 7:30pm in Buckman 110
- **Wine Tasting**— Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 7 to 9 in the Rat Loft

WHAT CAN RSG DO FOR YOU?

RSG has office hours every Wednesday from 8 to 9 in the Middle Ground (Free Donuts!). Come talk with us!

Letter from the President

“Say Goodbye to the Rhodes Runaround”



Jill Carr
RSG President

Between the hammering, delivery trucks, and reduced parking, if you haven't noticed that something is going on in the old Burrow Library, you might just not be paying attention. Over the last four years, Rhodes has been working to put together a totally new student services experience to be housed in the Burrow.

The Burrow Center for Student Opportunity will provide a variety of services for students, consolidating many of the existing student services offices into one location. Some inhabitants of the new building you can expect to see: Bursar, Financial Aid, Registrar, Admissions, Academic Services, Dean of Students, Study Abroad, Data Services, Student Involvement and student organization work space. Even Career Services will now have a new non-“modular” home.

The best part of the relocation to Burrow isn't even the

spiffy renovations, but actually the changes that have been instituted in the student services culture. With the main goals of reducing runaround and “delighting students with ease of use,” the Burrow Center for Student Opportunity has been designed to simplify services from the everyday to the uncommon.

So, it looks like we'll all get to benefit from this new culture of convenience starting in January. Now we just need to figure out what to do with all of that free time ...

Internal Affairs Committee



By Lindsey Dortch,
Chair
Members:
Casey Mohan,
Jonathan Berube, Grace Weil, & Mac Plosser

Internal Affairs has been moving along swimmingly this semester. With regular elections, new Class Councils, and countless run-offs, we have been busy in the RSG office with voter verifications. Congratulations to senior Noah Pittman, the

Election Commissioner, for running his last election in this position. You've been good to us, Noah. That said, if anyone is interested in applying for Election Commissioner, please contact me at Dorlk@rhodes.edu. Aside from handling the inside realm of elections, Internal Affairs members have begun to rewrite the RSG constitution. We plan to continue this project in the upcoming months in hopes for a new constitution to be ready for the February RSG Presiden-

tial election. Furthermore, members of Internal Affairs have stayed busy this semester with appointments for the positions of Vice Treasurer of Allocations, a new senator for the class of 2011, and for the dozen or so positions available for Faculty and Administrative Committees. All appointments were very competitive; congratulations to all of those selected!

DO YOU NEED MORE PLACES TO STUDY? OR EVEN JUST TO HANG OUT?

The Lair will soon be open 24 hours a day to accommodate students' need for open areas to talk or study.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CLASS COUNCILS:

2010

Pres: Whitney Faust

VP: Priyanka Chatterjee

2011

Pres: Bill Bell

VP: Stephen Spainhour

2012

Pres: Max Hardy
VP: Adam Rivkin



By Morgan Rote, Chair
Members:
Andy McGeoch,
Dan Schrader
This year the

Student Services committee is made up of Dan Schrader, Andy McGeoch, and Morgan Rote. The committee has completed several projects this semester, as well as established an agenda for the spring.

Campus Safety: At our request, officers have set a standard location for the "drunk cone." We discovered that the cone's purpose is actually to slow incoming cars and direct them at an angle that allows the cameras to view

license plates. Also dealing with campus safety, in October we hosted a Student Safety Forum led by John Blaisdell and Lt. Moffatt of the Memphis Police Department. They addressed safety concerns on campus and in the surrounding area.

Physical Plant:

Thanks to the cooperation of Blaisdell and Brian Foshee, the Lair will soon be open 24 hours. It will increase students' options for a late night meeting, study, or social space. Fob access is currently being installed, and locks for the beer taps are being ordered.

Food: Dan Schrader, head of Food Committee, has worked diligently to address students' concerns over food selection, service, and pricing. For example, students will soon

see vast improvements in the weekend food at the Rat. In addition, we are currently still soliciting homemade recipes to be served at the Rat, so if you are interested, email us your recipes! On December 3, we will hold our semiannual wine tasting in the Loft- we would love to see all of you legally-eligible students there!

Library: The next item on our agenda is to look into extending the library's hours. We are currently discussing the issue with Bob Johnson and the library staff, and we plan to focus on it more intently in the spring!

We welcome all suggestions/questions/complaints about any student service issue, so feel free to contact us via email.

Special Committee Report: Social Satisfaction



By Rachel Harpool,
Co-Chair

Colin Cox,
Co-Chair

It seems as if every Rhodes student, at some point or another, has struggled with their social life. Maybe it's having too much to do; maybe it's not having enough to do on campus. It could be not having a car; being Greek or not being Greek. It may be because their roommate is a slob – or they keep getting A.V.'s from the RA that seems to know everything. Regardless, it seems that on a campus as small as Rhodes, being

socially satisfied – if not socially happy – is a necessity for wanting to stay. Last summer, Colin Cox approached me wanting to form a RSG committee examining why students choose to leave Rhodes, looking primarily at social factors. At first, I was very hesitant to accept his offer. I found the topic to be somewhat overwhelming. I felt that people left Rhodes for such a wide variety of reasons – it was never just one thing. As Colin and I began to mull over this idea, we decided that it would be better to create a committee that focused solely on

the students who choose to stay at Rhodes – what makes them happy and what could they change given the option. Thus, the social satisfaction committee was formed. This commitment is comprised of Senators and non-Senators, Greeks and not Greeks. Its purpose is to examine the items that affect the social scene at Rhodes – both positive and negative – and make recommendations to the administration as to what can be done to improve it. Some items on the agenda? We are currently in the process of creating a survey that will

– campus-wide events (RAB and the Big Diehl), Greek events, the alcohol policy, and the best night to host X, Y, or Z. Sick and tired of surveys? Well this is not a typical survey. It will be short, to the point, and RSG will be raffling off some great prizes for filling it out. On the behalf of the Social Satisfaction Committee, I invite you to take the survey and express what you love or don't love about the social scene at Rhodes College.

Campus Outreach Committee



By Matt McCulloch,
Chair

Members:
Neha Mehta, James

Chang, Alex Woods, &
Juliana Lynch

At the beginning of the semester, our committee met at the annual RSG Retreat to discuss goals and set an agenda. We decided to emphasize transparency; we feel that it is critical for RSG to

pro-actively communicate its goings-on to the student body. That being said, we also aimed to emphasize the power of student voices in RSG's decision-making processes. One of the ways in which we accomplished that goal was by heavily promoting all RSG events through flyers, facebook, and email in a timely manner.

This semester, Outreach organized

weekly RSG office hours—where Senators are available to answer students' questions—Wednesdays in the Middle Ground from 8 to 9. Encouraging student interest in and awareness of RSG, this program embodies our goal of being transparent with and connected to students. This event will continue into next semester.

Additionally, our committee (in conjunc-

tion with the Vice President) helped campus celebrate the Presidential election by holding an Election Watch Party in the Lair. Our committee is also responsible for producing this newsletter each semester.

Looking ahead, Outreach is excited to announce plans for an open off-campus bus party during the upcoming spring semester.



By Allyson Pellisier, Treasurer
Andrew Millis, Vice-Treasurer

As Treasurer, I consider the management of the RSG budget and the effectiveness of the Allocations process my primary concerns. My main objective for Allocations lies in increasing the transparency of the Allocations process, for both the petitioning representatives and the Allocations Board. As a consequence of last year's by-law revisions, organizational leaders now petition for funding of more immediate necessity, allowing a more accurate delineation of budgetary constraints for anticipated programming.

The dedication that organizational leaders and Board members showed throughout Fall Allocations was truly commendable. Petitioning representatives presented thorough, well-researched budgets, allowing the Board members to make educated voting decisions. In turn, Board members took special care to justify their decisions regarding funding. Upon completion of Fall Appeals, the Vice-Treasurer (Andrew Millis '11) and I will begin compiling a report outlining how organizations spent their budgets this semester. If you have any questions about Fall Allocations or the Treasury, please feel free to email me at pelal@rhodes.edu!

BY-LAW REVISION REMINDERS: We now apportion 50% of the non-mandatory allocations in the fall (for the following spring semester) and 50% in the spring (for the following fall semester). Additionally, in an attempt to reduce the end-of-the-year surplus, organizations must spend 95% of their allocated budgets or incur a penalty in subsequent Allocations; this alteration provides further incentives to exercise financial responsibility within organizations.

Vice-President's Update

By Aaron Fitzgerald, RSG Vice-President



Thanks to the hard work of your fellow Senators several big things are in store for the Rhodes Community in the coming weeks. As Vice President my main duties are to preside over the Senate and oversee both the Standing and Special Committees of RSG. Although, I feel my most important charge is the one you all gave me back in January, and that's being the unbiased voice of the Student Body and bridging your concerns to the administration. That's why I've been very busy this semester working for you guys. I sit on several joint faculty, administrative, and student committees all of which affect every student in one way or another. One of which is the Alcohol Task Force, it has been working diligently to define the role alcohol plays on campus and its influence on a student's life. Another is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP); this is a large project plan that focuses on Scholarships-to-Fellowships. There are several students who are currently affected by this change yet there remains a large portion of the student body that still is unaware of the changes about to occur. It is the hope of the committee that by next semester every student will have discussed and formed an opinion about the QEP. One all-student committee formed and disbanded this semester was the Voter Registration Committee; this committee was made up of students from all political beliefs. Throughout the Presidential campaigning the committee got much accomplished such as 'the request for an Absentee Ballot drive' and 'the Lair Election Party' all of which were well attended by you. I've appreciated working for you this semester and am looking forward to the semester ahead. 2009 is quickly approaching and that means new issues, that if they are within RSG's ability to handle I assure you we will.

RSG Members, 2008-2009

President	Senators, 2009	Senators, 2011
Jill Carr	Alex Woods	Lindsey Dortch
Vice President	Colin Cox	Matt McCulloch
Aaron Fitzgerald	Christian Dewhurst	Guy Handley
Parliamentarian	Ben Lyon	Morgan Rote
Mac Plosser	Peyton Bell	Jordan Cook
Treasurer	Senators, 2010	Senators, 2012
Allyson Pellisier	Rachel Harpool	Neha Mehta
Vice Treasurer	John Hensley	James Chang
Andrew Millis	Casey Mohan	Andy McGeoch
Advisors:	Dan Schrader	Jonathan Berube
Carol Casey	Juliana Lynch	Ginny Keel
Bob Johnson	Secretary	
	Grace Weil	



Edited by Matt McCulloch
& Neha Mehta