General Body Meeting
October 24, 2006

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Approval of Agenda
IV. Approval of Minutes
V. Pledge of Allegiance
VI. Public Sector  
   At this time, members of the public who wish to make announcements may do so.

NJPIRG – Adopted a whale. We registered 1,500 people on College Ave.

Dan – Water watch. Make a difference day event. Holding on Sat 10 am – 1 pm in Boyd park. Need directions stop by office or check online.

VII. External Representative Reports  At this time, representatives from other governing associations may report.

VIII. Guest Speaker 
Carl Kirschner (Dean of Rutgers College)

How many are you here seniors at RC? This is the last shot for us. I am soon to be the last RC dean which is good. Feel free to interrupt me as we talk. I am the fourth choice but never offended. Two children through here, neither of them got involved in student government (SG). I became involved in Taskforce Undergraduate Implementation Committee. All institutions have chances to improve themselves. We are not broken.

Mario Patel the food chef, any reservation with one day reservation. Speaker at 2005 graduation. So you couldn’t get Jim. Mine is a different perspective because college deans play different role. Because losing their responsibility and old set of ideas. “They may not be the ideal people.” Embrace the idea of change.

Should stop me. Had huge wonderful plan for student center. 25 million dollar for cinema spaces and breakout rooms. Don’t know what happen, got lost.

Pose 3 questions:
Where do we start?
Where are we now and how do we get to here?
Where are we going?

In 1982, the faculty was reorganized into arts and sciences responsible for teaching all arts and sciences classes on New Brunswick campus. Left with 2 system. Consolidated faculty and decentralized students. I don’t look at it if RC was great or DC great. These all contribute to RU. How do we serve students best? What the faculty think students should know and understand when graduate from Rutgers? What values should students have? What does it mean to have a Rut degree? We want to do it more than once in 30 years. Those are very important questions. Where we are today was easy to get here. Lot of crying, shouting and torture. I was standing those very emotional experience. Haven’t done the most important hard work. RU not Seton Hall, RU not Stanford, what
does it mean to graduate from RU? Does knowledge have meaning for you? Knowledge is exciting for me figuring out a system.

Speaker - 1920 U of Toronto was the most distinguish in Horan. As a result she couldn’t teach at university anymore because she was teaching western literature. The best part of being in this country is the different culture and you learn intensively.

Can we say we gave you a chance that you decide to play a role in society, basic value not policy? Do you have opinions about the world? There is no minimum for me. It is the big picture.

Why do we have this thing? Does anyone know what trigger it? Why do you go to improve something? What did you hear about or what make you think to fix something?

Grant – The RU image.

Dean Kirschner- Our structure confusing.

Mike – What RU degree means? It means different things based on the different campus.

Two students want to come to RU and major in history based on whether X, Y, or Z because of different graduation requirements. Two students, same exact things, grades, one is on the dean list the other didn’t get on.

Yelena – Some students can not get programs because of the campus.

It was an exclusive system rather than inclusive. How many had pot luck roommate? How many you are still best friends with roommate from last year? During the first year you met someone who you think would like to live together? But one live on Douglas and another lives on Rutgers.

Deans were not allowed to be on structure committee. Would fight to protect college. I was the only dean that was supportive on the recommendations who stood to lose his job. I wasn’t doing it because bored of being dean. Think of future. It is a problem solving things. There was community discussion about recommendation. Presented the president then to BOG. Resident made some adjustments. We got faculty and students, alumni involve in conversation as problem solvers. You identify problems and pose solutions. That is what learning is. In 101 you just pose solutions rather than identify it. As mature you are suppose to identify problems. Faculties are natural problem solvers. A potential solution for stem cell research. 90% of solutions are structural fixes, and 90% is structural problems. Problem solved on March 10th.

No relevant to different of colleges. One fixed degree requirements. Problems solve for programs. Aresty Research program is the first program is NB/Piscataway wide. We fixed the structure. The college had all these functions. The VP for students affairs do it. The Aresty Research will be runned by VP of undergraduate education. All of the functions of college done. Number units taking care, either VP or faculty.

Grant - How do you combine 4 or 5 different housing compartment or 4 and 5 different financial aid?
How do you not combine them? Look around the United States. Everyone is moving to the system we are moving to. Can list dorms or campus u want to live on. Will do lottery next year.

Recreation centers/ student centers – 4 or 5 each of them offers the same thing. Don’t duplicate but can make Werblin do XYZ and Cook for ABC and offer a wider range of things. Don’t want to have it offer the minimum. Now have reserve more for the MPR rooms. Can you move somewhere else because Daniel Elsberg is coming. It will be easier.

No solid decision making process unless have guiding principles. All students should have access to all programs regardless. It is a merit based system and should have access to the system. And that is principle. There should be equity such as in requirements across the board. What were the most important objectives? Reconnecting faculty and students outside of classroom experience. Increase quantity and quality and breath of academic intellectual.

What is the program with RC? What does RCPC do? What programs do they do?

Rutgerfest, Concerts, Museums, Hotdog Days.

One day RU staff wanted to do something to appreciate students and gallons of students to Busch Student Center by the bus stop. Went to student to serve ice cream. What does RCPC do? Guest speakers – the director of Crash.

Anyone in here work for RCPC? How do students come from RCPC? Do they get elected? Here is what programming needs to be eventually, in order to have full range and stimulate student. Program that is sort of social, general interest like Steve Urkel or a hypnotist or comedian or hotdog day. What do students organization do? They do what I call special interests and culture. Focus on agenda and culture. That is sort of different purpose or different students. There also big picture program. Friends go to other college, family come to spend time with students. Don’t do well due to 4 different colleges and could be not enough man power planning. University wide planning that needs to be done more.

Family day. Things that celebrate pride, and history. Fun to wear red now a days There is some pride in the RU community. There is some pride that comes from that. Academic intellectual program. Not many students were involved in programming before. RCPC students who decided to learned leadership to plan programs. Maybe one day you get a job that plans a concert. You didn’t get involve because you want to go to Law school or Med School. The key to the future. Still in discussion. Setting up 4 different kind of program processes. How do we make the students fees work the best possible for you? Do you fees for Steve Urkel or somewhere else. Need to get students to be involved in planning. So when you leave here, planning Rutegrsfest, faculty, or a speaker. Sort of what I wanted to share. You know have a single director of res. life.

There is a lot of interaction between engineering staff and Rutgers College. There is an interview process and a search committee. Dean Carbone is now the person in charge of res life. Should Cook be in lottery? Yes, all those straight from high school should participate in a single system. Cook arguing because they want to be a single entity. It is going to miserable for some of you next year. Choose Busch or College Ave but maybe on neither. The critical test is to look back in 3-5 years and say as a result of that implementation we have all the marvelous programs more than we had. Where students can go freely and don’t have to show member card. Faculty step forward. Fundraising help
keep bills lower. Faculty weren’t very involve in fundraising. But faculty will be more involve who is to say that students and faulty won’t get more involved and do fundraising together.

Akash – If we have been doing at this process since 1982, why do we still have so many question still in the air? For example, LC student if they wanted to take a class but as RC if have D you have to average since took class over?

Kirschner – Effective next year that is done. Single set of academic requirements and policy. Engineering different because it is professional school. There will be same grade replacements. We will be consistent across the board.

People have been thinking because faculty created problem which became more evident as time went on. It takes courage from president to do this. McCormick came as a young assistant professor, was here for 16 years. He was here in 1982. Never really went full forward.

Rold- What is the consolidation for a big class? Overcrowding of classroom

Kirschner – The real issue is the state of NJ doesn’t fund higher education. Part of that problem is a national problem. University don’t have money so find ways to cut costs. Every university has TA that is an American higher education problem. We have never attended higher education that is always been a problem.

OSRP, governour chose to line a 3 million dollar. Saying we don’t care if RU need to attract students from all over the place or higher achieving students. RU don’t need smart students only 2nd tier students. In 2003 the previous budget push, we are 66 million short this year so 8.9 percent increase. Fire staff and there was blood.

One of the ways to measure is the percentage of state budget. In 2003 California apportioned 13.4% maybe Carolina was the same for higher education. National median is 11.4. NJ is 7.3%

2.4 billions dollars, RU has only half of that. If NJ stayed with 11.4 apportioned for higher education, we would have lot more money

J.D. Carr scholarship for minority students, financial aid being audited will effect minorities. Are there any incentives with the plan now to maintain population for minorities?

Kirschner – You are really talking about access. African Americans and Latinos. Not sure of the answer but know 5 or so years ago. Scholarship is only 5,000 decrease in enrollment because other university is offering better. So students decrease. So now at 10,000. Every one wants the best and brightest students from disadvantage background. EOF is a state funded program. It is scandalist that EOF support didn’t go up. Don’t have response for financial aid. But the agenda is consistent.

Jim – From discussion in committee because of supreme court ruling, you cant award scholarship based on race. There is holistic review. Considering the whole package not just are you black, latino. Sort of a bad answer but I was told that it was a supreme court ruling.
Rude awakening in S. Columbia. Met president of Columbia (the country) son who was admitted in Harvard who had Mercedes.

Yelena – Go to large university, what now is being done to have a place that they belong?

I went to a large school SUNY- Buffalo. People tend to attribute more to the college rather than other colleges. The dorms or the student center or the student organization which makes a home a home. Doesn’t make difference how big the college you go to. Still find comfort levels home within a home.

Yelena – Reason I was asking is that they have no idea, what is going to happen to the older students for ease of transition.

Not sure if program is planned. Hoping that res life have some program planned. In life hope that you catch on with the plan. Strongly believe in human spirit. It is all about the people. Never lived on campus. Freshmen lived off campus. Next 3 years live with roommates in a town of Buffalo. Don’t remember about the roommate.

Milo – Agree with a lot of things you are saying. State University of New Jersey (SUNJ) – rename university. By becoming like every other state university, are we losing distinction of RU?

In 1972, did not admit women and suddenly didn’t. Same tradition as 1972. Faculty much better now than 1982. A purposeful change to be more helpful, supportive and for students in their need. There are principles, impediments and exclusivity. It is not that we want to look like the other university, but to provide better education.

Breaking claypots on graduation day, was like that in 1972 still existed in 1982 and still the same now. Don’t worry about history and tradition.

Kory – With whole restructuring unforeseen problems, one getting too crowded at student centers, is there a system in place?

Real good question. We can’t predict future correctly. Will be failing in system and will be address. Part of the implementation has an evaluation to it. What is neat about it is that the problem can be solved easily.

Are student center equally used now? System has potential to address that. 1994 became dean. Significant over crowding in residence hall when Easton open up. Douglass had empty beds and potential of 800 triple bed students. There was this bargain that went on to put 200 first year student to be put on Douglass. Wanted to make it coed. Douglass was women only The battle went on. Douglass women only. 200 first year students of women. Got sad letters from RC first year students. I applied to Douglass and RC, sister 2 years older. Got into Douglass with a scholarship and Rutgers College. Turned down Douglass because wanted to lived near sister. But ended up being in Douglass so now want the scholarship/money back.

IX. New Business
X. Old Business
XI. Officer Reports
   a. President Dave Cole
First one is has to de with restructuring of student government, what we need to do know we need to figure out how to make student government as one. 14 or 15 RCGA members are on the structure committees. This Sunday will have meeting with steering community. What institution need to be, membership, and the purpose? Put on website. Will debate on it and then referendum to students to be voted on.

Senate meeting on Friday in Camden. Go and show support for students in Camden. Rutgers College senator to go to reallocate senate seats. There will probably be debated on that. 5 from each Campus, one has to be commuter. That proposal will be going forth.

Bring uc student into the university. To get same opportunity doesn’t matter how old and where they live. Non traditional can join.

Greening committee is the last week for that. exhibit closes on Monday there are surveys there. Can send to me or Jill. Get students opinion and send them. On that Monday night there will be lecture on the different proposal. Why they design what they did? The winner will design College Ave. What you see may not be it based on funding. These are ideas on their capability.

   b. Vice President Jim Kline
Thank Dina and CPR for a great event. Midnight munchies, I heard this a great success. Second chair meeting tonight in office.

   c. Treasurer Michael Convente
   d. Recording Secretary Susan Ko
   e. Corresponding Secretary Khushboo Shah
Pass around envoy sheet. Members of this GA go to other GA to find out what is going.

   f. Parliamentarian Sharo Atmeh
XII. Committee Announcements

Karen – Pass around. Cumberland Community College on Thursday – Corzine will be there. LA meeting on Sunday at 5:15pm in the office.

Eric – For a number of reasons I step down as UA chair. Didn’t take this lightly. Can talk to me if distraught like Dusan. Still in committee. Akash is the chair.

Akash – Discuss everything from bus route to students. Look for enthusiastic member. Love for any one of you to come out and let us know your concerns. Will post meeting time and send meeting out to everyone.

Dina – Chair of SCA. Update on events we did. Bring a Friend. Midnight munchies was good. Ran out of food fast. Want to do it again let me know. Will do PR for restructuring stuff. 6:30 pm Fridays in office.

Khush – We work things on textbook, library hours. Currently working on add/drop hours. Fill out and let me know issues you have. Will talk to Beals next week. Give it back to Susan.
XIII. Internal Representative Reports

At this time, RCGA members may report on their other meetings.

Jill – I am student rep of BOG. I represent all students in NB, Newark, and Camden to BOG. Had meeting two Friday ago, didn’t have much business. Did have speakers to 5 athletic teams are being considered cut from budget since wont take place till next year. Trying to get hold of extra documents. Will be working with UA.

Education planning and policy meeting was cancelled.

Student rep on college ave jury. Take Dave advice to go see it and let me know what you think. I don’t know what to think yet. So just email me your opinions. Also as Dave mention constitution coming through with student government restructure. Talk about it discussion and ask questions. Read documents and really ask questions.

Grant – Are state legislator hearing this?

Jill – State legislator want to know why when they cut the budget. Doesn’t seem like much is coming out of that.

Eddie – So I was on the safety walk last night. It was pretty neat, identify lights that are out. Have CSO. If light is out should report it.

RHA pass recommendation for lottery system. It is a report. (Eddie reading from report.) Develop a quota system on campus for housing. Will pass it around, it is open info.

If you didn’t get an email let me know. If you don’t know you committee assignment let me know. If you need to get to Camden email the right people. Caucus relatively simple. Future student fees. Please come prepare if senator.

Grant – RHA Rep. Jack Molenaar as guest speaker. B bus and fees for parking permits. Started fundraiser in halls for Thanksgiving, Turkey gram. It is a dollar each for hall government programming.

Chris – LCGA meeting, pass RULA name change bill.

Dusan – Just started a new envoy to all the Latino Student Council, United Black Council, Black Student Union. Went to LSC and Queer club. Talk about SCA co-sponsorship bill and special event hearing. Queer club organize conference of the body. Won’t happen till next semester. LSC opening for heritage month on 10/30 RSC MPR. 11/11 9 – 4 pm. Apps were due Sunday night. Guest speaker for humanities. Dance marathon rep to get involve.

Barbara – Had general body meeting. Molenaar came in. It was informative and interesting. All NJ student commuters are going to be taxed 7% on your parking permit. Have next meeting 10/30 – 8:30 pm – 10:30 pm Halloween party. There will prizes. Pie eating contest.

Maurice – I am also United Black Council for SCA, switching logo. Also they discuss their Black Conference at Yale 11/3.
XIV. Press Questions
XV. Public Sector At this time, members of the public who wish to make announcements may do so.
XVI. Additional Information

Greg – If e-board can decide to make elections day excused absence?

Chris – They were discussing pledge of allegiance if the assembly next year have the pledge of allegiance at the beginning of every meeting?

Jill – There has been a lot of controversy. Actually DCGA decided to do it and people resigned over it. RCGA has avoided the argument. No decision. The assembly can decide once they are assembled.

Maurice – A Day without Hate, need people to table. 2 people max. Monday – Thursday for a half an hour shift. That is service hours.

Khush – These sheets and you filled them out hand them over there.

Samir – ELI Director, know any freshmen that want to apply I have apps.

XVII. Roll Call
XVIII. Adjournment at 8:14 pm