



## Introduction

- 1. Question and Answer Session (15 minutes)**
- 2. President's Report (5 minutes)**
  - Met with Christian Potter and ODOC
  - Wintercession office will be taking on the responsibility of building virtual community
  - Worked with Allen Liu and Christian Potter to create a shared resource list with other universities in New Jersey
  - NetID for the Ideas Incubator was approved

## New Business

- 1. Spring 2020 Referendum Discussion: Shiye Shu (20 minutes)**
  - Summary of referendum: Limit the print distribution of the Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities Handbook so prevent unnecessary paper waste.

Guidelines from Kate Liu (Historian):

- USG cannot implement this referendum
- Senate can read it over to ensure that the wording is neutral and that it is clear and concise
  - Next steps can only be taken when the Senate approves of the wording

Suggestions from the Senate:

- Section 1 Point 1 could include a quantity that specifies the extent to which print distribution of RRR will be limited.
- Change “abolish” to “limit” in the Condensation to remain consistent with print distribution goals delineated throughout the referendum.
- Completely abolishing print copies of the RRR may not be possible. Print copies provide the handbook with a form of legitimacy.
- Specify which type of printed copies the referendum aims to limit (e.g. copies handed out to upperclassmen)
- Focus only on undergraduate distribution
- Either delete mentions of carbon emissions or integrate a conversation about carbon emissions throughout the referendum, even into sections like the Condensation for continuity.

- Maintain neutrality towards the preference of students. Stating that “most students prefer” is too generalized. The referendum should not assume a representative view of students.
- Clarify that RRRs should be available in residential college offices or to undergraduates to request a copy.

#### Votes

- Yes: 24
- No: 0
- Abstain: 0

## 2. USG Brainstorming Session: Chitra Parikh and Andres Larrieu (25 minutes)

#### Suggestions from the Senate:

- Continue Humans Campaign on Instagram if students can send photos from home.

#### Budgetary Suggestions:

- Total USG surplus for this semester is \$183,383.93, which will be used as a student fee fund. A portion of this surplus will be allocated towards Movies and Social Committee.
- Surplus must be used for services that are open to the entire student body because all students contributed through their student fees.
  - Cannot be used specifically for students staying on campus
  - Cannot be used specifically for graduating seniors. In addition, the senior class government is given an expanded budget for senior-year expenditures.
- Hire comedians to do virtual performances for students to compensate for the cancellation of Lawnparties.
- Support local businesses in Princeton
- Keep it as emergency fund
- Allow the surplus to rollover to be used for future semesters
- Launch a pilot program for the Community Dining Task Force. This may not be feasible given the shelter-in-place orders in New Jersey.

#### Future plans from Task Force leaders:

- Katya Kopach (Alumni Affairs Chair)
  - Continue Zoom sessions with alumni
- Allen Liu (Mental Health)

- Will continue meetings with the task force to get feedback from students about emergency funds
- May postpone Awareness Campaigns in collaboration with MHI
- Juan Nova (Transparency)
  - Made a list of topics that would be discussed during town hall
  - A pilot town hall will be difficult to implement over Zoom
  - Considering implementing the town hall during next school year's freshman orientation
  - Will be creating a video graphic
- Bradley Phelps (Community Dining)
  - Met with Dean Gonzalez last week
  - Will be doing a conference call with Jack Morrison and Dean Gonzalez
  - Planning on how to launch pilot program next fall
- Jacob Gerrish (Study Abroad)
  - Have scheduled a meeting with OIP
  - Planning on integrating current disruptions of study abroad due to COVID-19 into planning the task force's operations

Electronic Voting Discussion: Lehman Montgomery (Chief Elections Manager) and Kate Liu (Parliamentarian)

- The Election Handbook requires an amendment to account for COVID-19's disruption of the signature collection process. Currently, the handbook does not allow for electronic signatures to contribute towards the necessary 10% of the student body's signatures required to pass a referendum.

Suggestions from the Senate:

- Use Google Forms to collect signatures. It allows creators of the form to ensure that only Princeton emails are submitting responses.
- There needs to be policy considerations about sending Google Forms on listservs, including those for which students are not members. Current handbook rules allow only for individual-to-individual contact to collect signatures, which is impossible given the circumstances.
- Amendment should be expanded to include group chats.
- Add a section to the handbook stating that the Chief Elections Manager is permitted to make changes to the election process in circumstances such as these.

# Referendum Question X

**Princeton University Undergraduate Student Government Election - Spring 2020**

Sponsored by Shiye Su '20 and Austin Wang '20

## Condensation (Ballot Question)

Shall the undergraduates call on Princeton University to limit the widespread printing and distribution of the physical copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*?

## Explanation

The purpose of this referendum is to demonstrate the commitment of the undergraduate student body to avoid paper waste. Currently, each new edition of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* is delivered in paper copy to each student. However, the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* is already available on the University website, and as a PDF document. As a reference and guide, these electronic forms allow the user to search for keywords related to their particular enquiry.

In our personal experience, the paper copy is far too under-utilised by the student body to warrant its widespread distribution. We have observed that students by far opt to consult the electronic rather than paper copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*. We have observed that the majority of physical copies of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* are immediately discarded upon delivery, or shelved away in an obscure and forgotten location. Some paper copies are never claimed from the Frist mailroom.

We would not oppose the highly limited printing and distribution of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibility*, for example to the Residential College Offices. However, the current state of widespread printing and distribution is an unjustifiable expenditure that involves the wasteful consumption of energy and paper resources.

## Referendum Resolution

Calling on the administration to take a concrete step towards reducing carbon-emissions on campus by improving the functionality and student awareness of the online version of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* and ceasing the widespread distribution of the paper copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*.

Whereas the Princeton University 2019 Sustainability Action Plan outlines a current commitment for carbon neutrality by 2046, established by the 2015 CO2 Task Force convened by President Eisgruber;

Whereas resolution 1-2019 passed in 2019 calls upon Princeton University to more actively engage students in the process of reaching carbon neutrality.

Whereas the printing and distribution of over 5000 copies of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* annually represents an excessive and unnecessary burden on the environment.

Whereas the search functions of the online version of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* could be further improved to facilitate easier navigation.

## SECTION 1. FACULTY, DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND ADMINISTRATION

The undergraduates call on the faculty and administration to reduce the environmental impact related to the widespread printing and distribution of the physical copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* by:

1. Limiting the printing and distribution of the physical copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*. This means making limited quantities of physical copies available publically in select locations such as residential college offices and restricting the distribution of the physical copy of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* to only those students who explicitly request a physical copy.
2. Actively directing students to the online version of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* when any consultation of University policy is required.
3. Improving the search functions on the online version of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*. Currently, the search results for “drugs” on the website [rrr.princeton.edu](http://rrr.princeton.edu) does not return section 1.6.1 which contains University policy on drugs. Better search functions are needed to make the online version of the *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities* more accessible.

## SECTION 2. USG SENATE

As per Section 8 of the Referenda Handbook, the USG Senate will write a position paper detailing action items to be taken by the administration, as laid out by this referendum. The position paper must be written and sent to the administration by no later than the end of Spring 2020 final exams on May 23, 2020.

## SECTION 3. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION

The Executive Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an official copy of this resolution to each of the following university officers:

- (1) President Christopher L. Eisgruber '83, President of the University.
- (2) Rochelle Calhoun, Vice President for Campus Life.
- (3) Shana Weber, Director of the University Office of Sustainability.