



Rensselaer

DIVISION OF
HUMAN RESOURCES

Memorandum

To: Justin Etzine, Grand Marshall
Matthew Rand, President of the Union

From: Curtis N. Powell, M.S., SPHR, SHRM-SCP 
Vice President for Human Resources

Date: September 12, 2017

Re: Position of Director of the Rensselaer Student Union

This is to clarify the Division of Human Resources' position with regard to the Director of the Student Union, and the authority of the Executive Board ("Board") of the Student Senate, to implement employment related decisions related to this position.

The ByLaws of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Article I – Powers of Trustees, outlines the authority of the President of the University. Specifically, the President of Rensselaer is charged by the Rensselaer Board of Trustees to, "approve annually the terms and conditions of employment and salary policies for all staff, faculty, administrators and other employees of the Institute." Further, the ByLaws of the Institute, Article VIII, Powers and Trustees of the President, state "....The President shall, as educational and administrative head of the Institute, exercise a general superintendence over all the affairs of the institution...".

The ByLaws of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute govern the Rensselaer Union Constitution, and Article VIII, Direct of the Union, specifically states, "...administration of the Union activities and monies in accordance with the policies of the Rensselaer Board of Trustees, the Union Constitution, its by-laws...". Thus, the Rensselaer Union Constitution must fall within the Bylaws of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Rensselaer recognizes and will continue to support, a student run union with the intention to provide student leaders with pedagogical and entrepreneurial experience. As such, it is the decision of the Division of Human Resources that the Director of the Rensselaer Student Union is appointed by the President, in accordance with the ByLaws of the Institute, and that the Director of the Rensselaer Student Union is responsible for the administration of the activities and monies of the Union.