

# RUSCA NEWS

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY SUPPLY CHAIN ASSOCIATION

Rutgers University Supply Chain Association | April 2020

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RUTGERS UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL

## ABOUT THE RUSCA NEWSLETTER

We are a team of writers and editors who write content based on current news and events happening in the supply chain world.

To stay updated with release dates and information, visit (pg. 10) for our social media platforms and contact information. Feel free to leave us any feedback or suggestions as well.

For previous newsletter editions, visit  
<http://rutgersrusca.weebly.com/newsletter.html>

# NOTE FROM RUSCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Dear RUSCA Community,**

**Thank you for being involved in RUSCA this academic year! It has been a pleasure to see the club grow in membership and value. We are grateful for those who participated in our Monday night meetings, our committees, the mentorship program, and the executive board. This organization's development is possible because of the passion our members put into the club. In these unprecedented times, we send out our love and support to those experiencing hardships due to the effects of COVID-19. The executive board is here to support our RUSCA community in any way we can. Unfortunately, the spring semester was cut short leaving out key events such as the supply chain banquet, corporate events, and the rest of the semester's general interest meetings. We thank you for your involvement and look forward to seeing our organization grow in the Fall. Stay safe and healthy!**

**Kindest Regards,**

**RUSCA E-Board**



# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

The RUSCA Community appreciates all the hard work our graduating members have contributed to the club. We wish you the best of luck!. Read more to see what they loved about RUSCA!



**NAME:** EMILY CHANG

**Position :** Executive Vice President Of RUSCA (2019-2020)

**What Did You Love The Most About Rusca E-Board?:** I loved being able to interact with people who are as passionate about supply chain as i am and help build a rusca community.

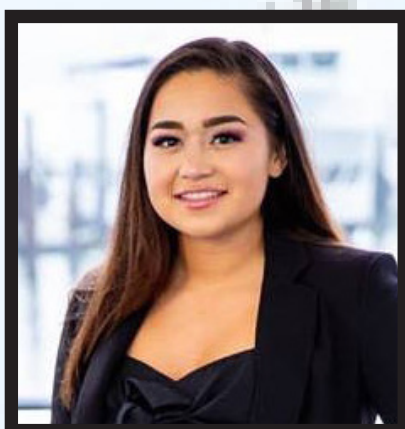
**What Do You Look Forward To After Graduation?:** Traveling!

**NAME:** VICTORIA GILSTRAP

**Position :** Vice President Of Finance (2019-2020)

**What Did You Love The Most About Rusca E-Board?:** Getting to work with really great people.

**What Do You Look Forward To After Graduation?:** No class and real life experiences.



**NAME:** SOPHIA SEPUVEDA

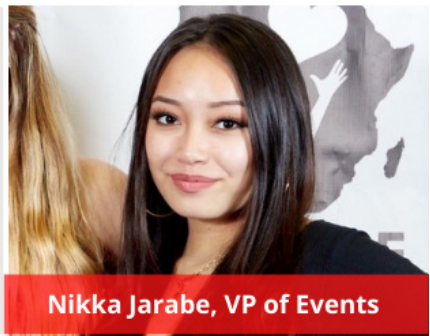
**Position :** Vice President Of Operations (2019-2020)

**What Did You Love The Most About Rusca E-Board?:** I really enjoyed working with great students and becoming friends. Everyone was unique and I looked up to many of their accomplishments

**What Do You Look Forward To After Graduation?:** I look forward to having time to dedicate to new experiences and traveling to new countries.

# INTRODUCING: THE 2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## 3M's MASK OVERHAUL

BY ANTHONY LEUNG

The COVID-19 outbreak (commonly called the coronavirus) originated in China and has grown exponentially over the past few months into a global pandemic. Unfortunately, the amount of people suffering from this virus continues to grow by thousands daily and hospitals around the globe are being filled to capacity; especially in hard-hit countries like Italy, Spain, and the United States. The term “social distancing” which means keeping a set distance (at least 6 feet) between others outside your home, has been mentioned numerous times through all media outlets. Elected officials and medical professionals are doing their part to try and contain and mitigate the risk that is rising. One of the issues in stopping the spread is the seemingly unending demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) N95 masks for medical personnel. The N95 masks work by shielding users and filtering out 95% of airborne particles that have been produced through sneezing or coughing, some of which can be the coronavirus. Because of the mask’s effectiveness, it has led to a shortage, exclaimed by these brave nurses, doctors, and first responders who are using them more and more. A major manufacturer of N95 masks, 3M, is trying to meet demand in the fluid situation humanity finds itself in currently. 3M has an extensive supply chain for these vital resources and is stepping up by innovating on the fly to make sure our medical professionals have the PPE needed to care for the population.

It is crucial for healthcare workers to have these in stock but unfortunately, consumers have begun to hoard these items. Making matters worse, people are price gouging or selling these items at prices several times higher than normal. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said this regarding the global pandemic: “The U.S. would need 300 million N95 masks to respond to an emergency” (Evans, Hinshaw).

“The N95 masks work by shielding users and filtering out 95% of airborne particles that have been produced through sneezing or coughing, some of which

How will 3M satisfy the demands of our courageous healthcare professionals?

3M has developed a response strategy to produce the masks by mass hiring warehouse workers and offering employees overtime to meet capacity. With plants working non-stop, 3M has made encouraging statements: “The company has in two months doubled global production of N95 masks to about 100 million a month, and it’s planning to invest in new equipment to push annual mask production to 2 billion within 12 months” (Gruley, Clough). The millions of masks being produced are being sent to critical areas such as New York City. Due to the resources, strategic planning, and realizations made from past pandemics, 3M was able to quickly increase N95 mask production.

Workers at 3M are not blind to the situation around them and realize their work is just as essential right now as the medical personnel. A machine production operator from 3M said this regarding longer hours in the factory: “We know what we have to do and we know we have to keep our numbers up and we know we have to keep ourselves safe and we need to put out great quality and that’s what we come out here to do” (Mody). Many people are working hard mentally and physically to get through this pandemic, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Their efforts will lead to the numbers attributed to COVID-19 to improve and our society can begin to rebuild. Everyone around the world is hopeful that there will be promising news in this uncertain time.

This serves a lesson about safety stock to operations and inventory managers who are dealing with this pandemic. In the future, in order to minimize the risks and manage it effectively, hospitals need to have the resources to respond in pandemics or larger emergencies. The current model needs to be reworked in order to be able to treat each patient who comes in the door.



“The U.S. would need 300 million N95 masks to respond to an emergency”

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# APRIL SHOWERS BRINGS WEBEX CONFERENCES

By Katherine Perez

The month of April usually brings great joy to students across the country: longer days, warmer weather, and fonder memories. College campuses seem to come alive in the springtime as students gradually fill the courtyards to study and bask in the warm spring air. Seniors prepare to say goodbye to the best four years of their lives, as incoming freshmen begin to explore what the next four years have in store for them. As the countdown of days left until summer break begins, students begin to wind down and prepare for their summer engagements whether it be summer class sessions, internships, Co-Ops, or a part-time job. Instead, students' lives have drastically changed along with the seasons.

As COVID-19 shocked the nation, many were forced to relocate mid-semester and leave their homes away from home until next fall. Seniors said goodbye to their long-awaited graduations, incoming freshmen have lost the warm welcomes of admitted student events, and everyone else is faced with the challenge of adjusting to remote learning. (Hafizi) As we near summer many internships have been canceled, Co-Ops have become a remote experience, and many part-time jobs have been forced to lay off large portions of their staff, completely uprooting many students' roadmaps. Jonathan Li refers to it as, "How many students had it all mapped out—summer internship A leads to summer internship B, which leads to job C and then graduate degree D, which prepares job E, and so on? But life took a twist." (The Many Ways the Coronavirus Crisis Has Changed Our Lives) In this time of uncertainty, it's important to find a routine that works and remain positive. Here are some tips to ensure success while we enter into unprecedented times:

- Designate an area for schoolwork: It's important to set aside an area only for schoolwork so the brain acknowledges that it's time to focus. Doing work in an environment used for other activities, such as in bed, can cause the brain to falsely acknowledge it as a work environment, making it difficult to sleep.
- Set a steady sleep schedule: Try to sleep relatively early so that the body is ready to go the next day. It's beneficial for college students to get about 6-8 hours a day to ensure we are allowing ourselves to recharge.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle: Now that we're not running on dining hall food it's important to have three meals a day and maintain a well-balanced diet. Take advantage of all the homemade meals possible. Also, make sure to go outside and exercise while practicing social distancing. (Haf)
- Keep your usual routine: If you have class from 1:40-3:00 on Tuesdays and

Thursdays, try to do your work for that class during that time period. Keeping a set routine is important during times like this. It also helps manage the amount of time you set aside for each class.

- Communication is key: Reach out to professors and be patient with them. This is often their first time navigating remote classes as well so bear with the technical difficulties. Go to online lectures and recitations and be sure to ask tons of questions if you're struggling to understand the material.
- Take a deep breath: What's going on in the world is new to many of us, so make sure to take care of your mental health during this time as well. If you're dealing with high anxiety and stress due to classes or being stuck at home, be sure to take short breaks in between assignments.

As for Rutgers, the university has been graciously doing its part to help its students acclimate to online classes. Rutgers has partnered with Cisco Webex to provide classes and organizations with a secure alternative to the now popular Zoom group conferences. The university has also opened some supplemental resources, such as the Adobe Creative Cloud, for the rest of the semester. They have also promised prorated refunds in regards to housing, meal plans, and parking passes, to alleviate some of the stress caused by this time of uncertainty. The university continues to update students on their actions to address the COVID-19 pandemic and has exceeded student expectations. All in all, please remember to stay home and stay safe; let's flatten the curve together!

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# RESTRUCTURING OF GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

By Emily Hsiao

These are unprecedented times. Coronavirus has forced millions of layoffs, countrywide shutdowns, and already taken over a hundred thousand lives. In the wake of the pandemic, there is an exponentially increased demand for items such as medicine, PPE, ventilators, and food. While ramping up production can ease the pressure, it's not enough. Efficient global supply chain networks are essential to providing these items, and countries and companies are rushing to meet the demand by restructuring their supply chains.

Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubei province was the first citywide lockdown. Although China has begun easing restrictions on Wuhan on March 8th, a 3-month factory closure from a country that makes up 20% of the world's GDP has thrown a wrench in global supply chains (Tan). It could take months to catch up on manufacturing. Meanwhile, the virus has taken hold across Asia, Europe, and North America. Bruce Pang, head of macro and strategy research at China Renaissance Securities reports that because COVID-19 has spread so far "even if Chinese manufacturing companies were to resume their work at full scale...countries and regions might receive a second hit from the drop in a trading partner's supply, and vice versa,".

Experts in the agriculture industry have made it clear that we're not lacking in supply- the problem is that getting products where they're needed most. In the US, a 'disconnect in the food chain' has left food worth billions of rotting food banks and grocery stores struggle to keep inventory in-store (Cagle).

After the 2011 tsunami in Japan, key suppliers shut down and disrupted global supply chains, affected companies like Boeing, who implemented new risk management policies(Wharton). Companies will have to restructure on a larger scale to handle this crisis. While past risk management systems were designed to handle several weeks' worth of shock, these new strategies will have to provide longer-term solutions (Alicke, Azcue, Barribal).

A McKinsey report recommends a set of immediate steps to address the demand and better prepare companies for the future. These steps include better breaking down origins of supply, having alternative sources on hand, and collaboration to leverage full freight capacity with the most efficient mode of transport possible. These changes will not only help us during these trying times but also leaves us better prepared to tackle future emergencies.

**"Disconnect in the food chain' has left food worth billions of rotting food banks and grocery stores struggle to keep inventory in-store"**

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About the author(s) Knut Alicke is a partner in McKinsey's Stuttgart office. "Supply-Chain Recovery in Coronavirus Times--Plan for Now and the Future." McKinsey & Company, [www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/operations/our-insights/supply-chain-recovery-in-coronavirus-times-plan-for-now-and-the-future](http://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/operations/our-insights/supply-chain-recovery-in-coronavirus-times-plan-for-now-and-the-future).

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#### ABOUT RUSCA:

We are a student organization dedicated to inspiring our RBS students to learn more about Supply Chain Management and its opportunities, as well as to serve as an intermediary organization on behalf of the RBS student and support the student in the pursuit of a successful internship, co-op, or full time offer, especially for our Supply Chain majors.

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