



Memorial Student Union, Room: 201 | 50 Lower College Road,
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881
Telephone: (401) 874-2261
Email: info@rhodysenate.org

University of Rhode Island Student Senate
February 19th, 2025 General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Recording Secretary: Lynn Sawyer

Meeting Start Time: 6:30

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Abbott, Buono, Capraro, Connolly, Curry, DeLorenzo, Desmond-Igbo, Dickson, Fleming, Gonzalez, Hailu, Hudson, Lagasse, Macarae, Martin, Milner, Neighbors, Njende, Paulino, Reyes, Rinne, Roach, Romano, Sawyer, Singh, Sorto-Justiniano, Sundell, Troxell, Walding, Williamson

Absent: Acharya (excused), Alemany, Boucher (excused), Hinrichs (excused), Reffelt, Small, Wentworth (excused)

Executive: Peckham, Cronan, Goswami, Feroz

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Senator Gonzalez moves to approve, seconded by Chair Cayer

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Senator Walding moves to approve, seconded by Chair Buono

E. PUBLIC FORUM

Keith Labelle ~ Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Education, Outreach, and Training

- *CSV 302: bystander intervention training*
- *It is up to us to take responsibility for educating each other and holding people accountable*
- *Need to be comfortable talking about uncomfortable topics*
- *People are in most danger of being killed when they are trying to leave a relationship that is abusive*
- *We need to spread awareness*
- *Need more people in the class, more people are educated on this and spread the resources across campus*

- *Most vulnerable and the most vulnerable on a college campus are freshman women*
- *Four D's: Direct, Delegate, Distract, Document*
 - *Way to help a woman*
- *No student organizations should be adjudicating sexual assault, harassment, or rape behind closed doors.*
 - *If you kick an offender out of an organization, they are still on campus.*

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Student Organizations Committee

- *Two bills on the floor tonight ask any questions*
- *11 april corn hole tournament*
- *Working on streamlining the SOC process*
- *Getting a secured registration process*
- *Lecture session next thursday*
- *Re-recognition form due next week*

Academic Affairs Committee

- *Not much to report because committee didn't meet on Monday due to holiday*
- *Valentines day booth was great success, saw a lot of people come through, cash only was a difficult option*
- *Thank you to the people that donated a little bit extra*

External Affairs Committee

- *Friday I met with the head of the narragansett 2100 foundation, historically involved with the external affairs committee, a very good resource!*
- *Last night the Narragansett Town Council had a public hearing for ordinance which got tabled to april*
- *Senator Romano new Greek life liaison*
- *Want to start working with Greek life more because they have a very big off campus presence*

Cultural Affairs Committee

- *Sad news we have to postpone the gala due to some catering problems, postponing to April*
- *Currently working with our advisor and director for possible dates*
- *Because we have much more time to plan it there will be more things happening during that night, don't miss it*

Campus Affairs Committee

- *Hope your having a great week, don't have to much because of the holiday*
- *Wanted to remind you all that the campus cleanup will be on February 28th hosted by SAS at 4pm*
- *Definitely come it is going to be fun, doing this with SAS, super excited*
- *Follow our campus instagram which is @rhodycampusaffairs*
- *Gloves and trash bags will be provided*

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

Speaker of the Assembly

- *Hope your having a good week and are prioritizing yourself*
- *Formal is April 18th 6-10PM at Quidnessett Country Club*
- *Trying to get ticket prices out*
- *All of the people at the table need to be called on to speak, need to follow procedures and rules, do not be on your phones during the meeting/if you need to use them please leave the room and then come back*

- *Please be mindful of the comments your making*
- *If you have any questions or concerns about committees, absences, or anything please let me know*

Student Body President

- *Over the weekend I attended a conference at Harvard due to which I got to connect with a lot of students, great resource for networking*

Student Body Vice President

- *Third week for the survey for transportation and parking, you'll see it on the display board*
- *Advertises receiving a free parking pass if you fill it out*
- *600 responses*
- *Ten question survey*
- *Once we get the responses, really figure out what the responses mean and how we can implement bidirectional shuttles*

Director of the Treasury

- *Still in the middle of the budget meetings*
- *The presentations are going to be done on Friday*
- *Treasurers going to meet next week to discuss the finalization*
- *Hoping budget will be done and presented the week before spring break*
- *GO TO FORMAL*

Director of Communications

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Elections Committee

Chair Sorto-Justiniano:

- *Be on the lookout*

Lucas:

- *Didn't have a chance to connect this week but anyone that is returning this year, you need to go through the declaration process, open tomorrow morning*
- *2 week declaration period*

Constitutional Review Committee

Lucas:

- *Met for the first time today, started looking at constitution and bylaws*
- *This is a suggestion committee and will not be finalized and official until it goes to student senate and campus community*

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Really important as a team to learn more about and become friends with each other, that's why sitting next to new people is important*

Lucas:

- *Invitation to URI day at the state house that is 4/1/25, Student Senate has been asked to participate in that. There is a bus that is provided for interested parties, returning by 5pm. If interested please let me know ASAP.*

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-24/25-36 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “CLUB CRICKET” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Club Cricket” mission statement is, “To promote the sport of cricket at the University of Rhode Island by providing opportunities for education, skill development, and community engagement. The organization shall facilitate formal training sessions and serve as a platform for individuals to deepen their understanding of cricket, its techniques, and its strategic elements”, and

Whereas, Club Cricket meets the requirements to be a senate-recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the senate to do so, therefore be it

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges Club Cricket as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Club Cricket is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, February 19th, 2025
RECOMMENDATION:	(6-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

*Chair Cayer moves to begin voting, seconded by Senator Singh
Bill passes unanimously*

SS-24/25-37 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “Hack@URI” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Hack@URI” mission statement is, “to provide a platform where students from all backgrounds can push boundaries, explore new technologies, and develop impactful solutions to real-world challenges as well as to create an inclusive space for both seasoned hackers and first-time builders to learn, grow, and showcase their skills. ”, and

Whereas, Hack@URI meets the requirements to be a senate-recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the senate to do so, therefore be it

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges Hack@URI as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Hack@URI is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, February 19th, 2025
RECOMMENDATION:	(6-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Senator Roach moves to begin voting, seconded by Chair Buono

Bill passes unanimously

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: 7:58