



**STUDENT
AFFAIRS**
**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2024–2025



“

This year challenged us to lead through rapid change with clarity, compassion, and courage. I continue to be inspired by the resilience and dedication of our Student Affairs team, whose service remains deeply rooted in our shared commitment to supporting students. In every decision and initiative, we center their success, well-being, and sense of belonging — because they are the reason we do this work.

Dr. Ellen M. Reynolds
Vice President, Student Affairs

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A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

The University of Rhode Island is a special place, one in which our mission and shared values enrich the lives of those lucky enough to be a part of our campus community.

As we reflect on the 2024–25 academic year, we are proud to highlight areas of significant progress and positive developments within the Division of Student Affairs.

Over the past year, our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to promote a vibrant and inclusive campus environment for students that fosters academic and social success, personal growth, and holistic development. This report is a comprehensive overview of our division’s strategic priorities, accomplishments, and data that demonstrates our collective impact on students and the campus community.



This year challenged us to lead through rapid change with clarity, compassion, and courage. I continue to be inspired by the resilience and dedication of our Student Affairs team, whose service remains deeply rooted in our shared commitment to supporting students. In every decision and initiative, we center their success, well-being, and sense of belonging — because they are the reason we do this work.

Thank you to all of our campus and community partners, from students and faculty to staff and stakeholders, who help enhance the student experience. Together, the work we do is profoundly important and impactful.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, we also look ahead with great anticipation and excitement. We are eager to build upon our work by exploring new avenues for growth and continuously improving our services and programs to meet the everevolving needs of our students.

Go Rhody!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen M. Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Ellen M. Reynolds
Vice President, Student Affairs





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Student Affairs

At the University of Rhode Island, the Division of Student Affairs is committed to creating inclusive and collaborative learning experiences that ignite a lifelong pursuit of knowledge, equity, justice, and well-being in every student. We strive to anchor students in a diverse and welcoming campus community that supports the development of independent thinkers and global citizens who inspire hope for the future.

Through our many university partners and our staff of scholar-practitioners, our division provides access to the resources students need to succeed outside of the classroom while creating an inclusive campus environment that encourages all students to step outside their comfort zone, get involved, and become active and productive members of our campus community.

Whether we're organizing and facilitating activities and events to promote student involvement and leadership development or providing guidance on career paths and personal challenges, our work complements the academic experience by creating opportunities for holistic student growth.



Our foundation and vision

Who we are

The Division of Student Affairs is comprised of the following departments: Campus Recreation, the Counseling Center, the Dean of Students Office, Dining Services, Housing and Residential Life, Health Services, the Memorial Student Union, and Talent Development.

Our departments also work with more than 300 student organizations through the Office of Student Involvement, Greek Life, commuter affairs, off-campus housing, conferences and special programs, fitness and wellness, the Rhody Outpost food pantry, the Center for Student Leadership Development, and myriad resources for all students.

What we do

Student Affairs plays a vital role in fostering student success, engagement, and well-being both inside and outside the classroom. Through programs, services, and experiences that support personal growth, leadership development, health and wellness, and a strong sense of belonging, Student Affairs helps create a vibrant and inclusive campus community where all students can thrive.

Why we do it

We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, feel supported, and find their place within the university community. Our work is driven by a deep commitment to student success — to helping them overcome challenges, discover their passions, and develop the skills and confidence needed to lead meaningful lives. We do this because we know that when students feel seen, heard, and valued, they are empowered to thrive academically, personally, and socially at URI and beyond.

What we've been up to

All departments enjoyed tremendous success and growth during the 2024–25 academic year, from implementing new policies to raising money through various charitable endeavors. Here's a look back at the year that was.

Setting new standards

The Dean of Students office continued to enrich the academic and social fabric of the university by taking on key teaching roles and supporting students' academic endeavors beyond the classroom. Several staff acted as faculty, leading courses that shaped students' leadership, peer development, and mental health awareness.



Greek Life raised more than \$350,000 through Philanthropy Week, Greek Week, and chapter initiatives, contributing to a four-year total of over \$1.2 million raised for charitable causes.

Disability, Access, and Inclusion (DAI) issued 11,487 accommodation letters to faculty on behalf of students registered with the office. Of the 2,741 students supported by DAI, 1,707 used accommodations, which may include academic, housing, dining, parking, transportation, or temporary supports.



Coming attractions

In addition to announcing plans to build two new undergraduate residence halls on Flagg Road, Housing and Residential Life completed strategic objectives that included: enhancing common space furniture, updating hardware for the campus-wide door lock system, and professional development opportunities for current employees.



Rendering of new residence hall on the south side of Flagg Road

A user-friendly experience

In another landmark move, the University announced a new agreement with Follett Higher Education to assume operation of URI's Campus Stores, located in the Memorial Student Union and the Ryan Center.

This new partnership will help ensure that the Campus Store and Rams Zone Gift Shop serve as vibrant, student-centered retail destinations and key contributors to campus life and student success.

The new amenities will include a fresh look to the Campus Store and a refreshed in-store customer experience, providing a welcoming experience for all guests.

Victory road

Campus Recreation enjoyed another banner year as its club sports teams earned numerous accolades in 2024–25.

In the fall, pickleball played its first match as an official club sport while men's club soccer finished 8-1-1 and advanced to the NIRSA Regional Tournament for the first time in five years.



Sailing also finished 14th in the College Sailing National Championship Finals with Abbie Chipps '25 and Kerem Erkmen '25 earning All-New England and Inter-Collegiate Sailing All-American awards.

On the ice, Athletics Hall of Famer and hockey program architect **Bradford R. Boss** had his jersey retired at Boss Arena. The men's team finished with 23 wins, which included an impressive 14-4 record at home, and advanced to the ESCHL semifinals.



All-American sailors Abbie Chipps, left, and Kerem Erkmen

A. Robert Rainville Student Leadership Awards

With big smiles, unmatched energy, and heavy hearts, the University of Rhode Island's best and brightest student leaders gathered to celebrate one another at the 37th annual A. Robert Rainville Student Leadership Awards.

The annual awards celebrate students who are successful in various leadership roles while maintaining a good academic record.

This year's ceremony struck a deeper chord with the URI community as the Student Leadership Award was officially renamed in honor of Maureen McDermott, the former Student Involvement and Memorial Union director who passed away in November. McDermott's family attended this year's event as

colleagues and students spoke about her "grace, joy, and passion for helping others succeed" and willingness to help countless students "find their place and sense of belonging."

This year's Rainville Award recipients were:

- Lauren Peckham '25, Servant Leadership Award
- Evan O'Neill '26, Student Employee Excellence Award
- Muslim Student Association, Team Excellence Award
- MacKenzie Fitzgerald '25, Maureen McDermott Student Leadership Award.



Strategic Action Plan

2023–2028: A commitment to student success

In keeping with the University’s FOCUS URI Strategic Plan, Student Affairs is committed to student success and access that supports life-long learning, well-being, leadership, inclusion, and innovation.

Our Strategic Action Plan defines **goals and actions** for Student Affairs at the University of Rhode Island from 2023–2028, demonstrating our commitment toward **our pursuit of excellence** along with the actions we will take to achieve them in our service to current and future students.

Student Affairs strives to be a nationally-recognized student-focused division and to do that we will use this plan as our roadmap for the future in our pursuit of supporting the development of independent thinkers and global citizens who inspire hope for the future.

Recognizing that a strategic action plan must be nimble to meet unforeseen needs, Student Affairs leadership will review this framework periodically to assess, continuously **improve, and establish ongoing goals** for the division and its units that support the strategic priorities of the division and the University.



Year 2: Action items

Strategic goals

Aligning with URI **Goal 1** (Invest in upgrading and modernizing our infrastructure to meet current and future needs), Housing and Residential Life enriched custodial services, enhanced spaces and amenities, and created more inclusive, diverse housing environments.

HRL also worked on strategic initiatives for URI **Goal 3** (Cultivate a transformative living environment that enhances and enriches the student’s lived experiences), by enhancing the Residence Life program and increasing student satisfaction by 25% while creating a robust marketing and communications strategy within the department.

Committee updates

The **Student Affairs Rebranding Committee** is reshaping how Student Affairs is seen and experienced by students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. The committee collected feedback through an internal brand perception survey and is using that data, along with comparison benchmarking with peer universities present in their Student Affairs divisions, to guide its decisions. The next step is to gather input from a wide range of voices by holding focus groups, connecting with student organizations, and meeting with campus departments to ensure the rebrand reflects the needs and expectations of the entire URI community.

Student Affairs launched a **Postvention Committee** co-chaired by Dean of Students Dan Graney and Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success Dean Libutti, which drafted a website and a Guide to Postvention at URI and created a tool kit that different constituencies can use when responding to untimely deaths.

The **Mental Health Task Force** began work on providing structure and support through strategic planning initiatives aimed to improve students’ mental health and well-being. Composed of students, faculty, and staff from across the University, the Task Force created seven subcommittees based on the JED Campus Foundation work charged with identifying measurable goals and objectives for the year.

A person with dark hair in a bun, wearing a tan t-shirt, dark cargo pants, a black climbing harness, and white Crocs, is climbing a grey rock wall. The wall has several brown climbing holds. The background shows a blue sky with light clouds and the tops of trees with reddish-brown leaves. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, facing left and slightly away from the camera.

“

The staff was amazing,
warm, and welcoming! Most
importantly, I felt seen and
cared for.

”


Anonymous
Spring 2025 Health Services Student User Survey

Dean of Students

Our mission:
The Dean of Students Office at the University of Rhode Island supports student success through compassionate advocacy, crisis response, and holistic services that promote well-being, equity, and engagement.

Through its coordinated units — Community Standards/Student Conduct, Student Support and Advocacy Services, Greek Life, Disability Access and Inclusion, and Commuter Affairs — the office fosters a student-centered environment grounded in equity, accountability, well-being, and leadership while promoting a safe and inclusive campus community.

Community Standards reported that **repeat alcohol violations have declined 4% over three years** at URI in addition to no repeat drug violations in 2024-25 for the second year in a row as the office works with DAI on developing a student-centered conduct guide.



Year in review
The Dean of Students Office led policy development for postvention initiatives, ensured compliance with the Stop Hazing Act, and implemented an evaluation of the Behavioral Intervention/Threat Assessment program.

The office also developed inclusive programming with Housing and the Gender and Sexuality Center while DAI's neurodiversity programs expanded drop-in services and peer mentoring for returning students, reducing wait times and improving access.

“
I genuinely would not have my degree without your help. You made a huge impact on me and my future.
”
— DAI student testimonial




Our impact: By the numbers

40,000+
Accommodations completed by DAI, ensuring timely and personalized access support for more than 1,700 students




3,662
Students active in Greek Life



37,434
Pounds of food distributed through Rhody Outpost



716
Conduct cases adjudicated by Community Standards



49%
of Student Support and Advocacy Services (SSAS) referrals in 2024-25 were for **mental health support**

Housing and Residential Life

Our mission:
Housing and Residential Life aspires to deliver unparalleled student living experiences, fostering a tight-knit community grounded in excellence with premier services and facilities.

Through thoughtful engagement and collaboration, we aim to create a pivotal and enriching lived experience where students feel supported and valued.



HRL launched a Housing Master Study to **assess maintenance needs** and also implemented a Student Satisfaction Survey to solicit feedback from campus residents in an effort to better serve the URI community.

Year in review
As part of a busy year ushering in new and returning students to campus living spaces, HRL worked tirelessly in 2024-25 to enhance the student experience by improving department-wide operations.

The staff hosted several events in residence halls – Winter Wonderland craft and ice cream socials and special vision board design nights – while increasing the department’s social media presence through collaboration programs and community-building events.

“
Living on campus helps make those connections with others that you may not realize you need right away.
”
— Trevor J., URI student



Our impact: By the numbers

5,391

Number of students who lived on campus during the 2024-25 academic year in our undergraduate residence halls, apartments, or graduate apartment complex



160,000+



Number of packages delivered through the Amazon Locker Program and processed by the Union Express in 2024-25

700

Support IT Tickets completed in the last 12 months



400+

Furniture work orders completed during move-in and move-out weekends

97%

of students surveyed who lived on campus during 2024-25 said they would recommend their Living and Learning Community (LLC) to other students



Health Services

Our mission:
Health Services is a comprehensive ambulatory health center nationally-recognized through accreditation by The Joint Commission and membership in the American College Health Association.

Services provided include on-site ambulatory medical services, office visits, specialty clinics, immunization and psychiatric services in addition to pharmacy, x-ray, and laboratory services. Our Health Promotion Department provides educational programs along with nutritional services and counseling.



Health Promotions launched a weekly podcast hosted by students called **The Rhody Wellness** podcast aimed at providing information to students in a quick, digestible format that they can download and listen to on their time.

Year in review
A year of building renovations and operational improvements included Health Services implementing a Health-Related Social Determinants screening tool and a nationally-recognized Exercise is Medicine on Campus (EIM-OC) program.

The department also worked with Health Promotions to host its annual Winter Wellness Fair and was instrumental in launching a campus-wide Mental Health Task Force in addition to an automated health insurance waiver system.

“ **I have utilized Health Services so many times and have received great care that is quick and efficient for my needs.** ”

— Anonymous, Spring 2025 Student User Survey



Our impact: By the numbers



30,151

Total visits to Health Services by students during 2024-25, including 7,713 unique student visits



32,420



Lab tests, which includes blood glucose, pregnancy tests, rapid tests for strep and flu, and HIV screening

25,554

Pharmacy prescriptions filled

10,473

Total pounds of produce harvested by the Free Farmers Market and distributed to more than 2,000 URI students



708

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls between July 2024 and June 2025

97%

of students surveyed stated that staff treated them with respect, consideration, and dignity



Counseling Center

Our mission
The URI Counseling Center is dedicated to fostering students’ personal wellness, academic achievement, and social fulfillment through a comprehensive range of mental health services.

We are committed to delivering affirming, inclusive, and culturally-responsive support, grounded in principles of social justice.



Assistant Director and part-time faculty member Dr. Michael Starkey was recognized by the Office of Innovation in General Education for implementing his **PSY 103: Toward Self-Understanding** Health Sciences course as part of the General Education Program.

Year in review
Counseling continued to make progress with providing students with the help they need in a timely fashion. On average, the center managed to get students started with individual therapy on or off campus within a week upon their initial outreach.

Counseling also added an additional University Psychologist to its staff for the first time in eight years and moved one step closer to accreditation by completing its first round of reviews by the International Accreditation of Counseling Services (IACS).

“
The Counseling Center changed my life and helped me work through so many of the issues I was having.
”
— Anonymous student testimonial



Our impact: By the numbers

6,344

Appointments attended by students this year at the Counseling Center, including 1,045 unique visitors



3,132

Total users on the 24/7 TELUS Health Student Support app, including 1,052 new users and 2,080 individuals who re-accessed the platforms



\$8,990

A new **record-setting total** raised for the Heather Fund and Suicide Prevention efforts

61%

of students met with clinicians within a range of one to five appointments during the 2024-25 academic year



507

Total number of visitors in the **Body Pump for Well-Being** group exercise class taught by URI psychologist Dr. Michael Starkey

Dining Services

Our mission:
Dining Services offers more than just meals – they’re all about good food that does good.

From their all-you-care-to-eat dining halls to quick bites around campus, they focus on fresh ingredients, local sourcing, and sustainable practices that reduce waste and support our community.

Student feedback helps shape their menus, improve service, and keep the dining experience on point. They offer options for every appetite and every diet, because everyone deserves a seat at the table.



To help improve campus-wide sustainability, Dining Services **composted an additional 28.5 tons of food** from each of its dining halls thanks to the university’s Sustainability Ambassador Program.

Year in review
Dining supported the Latinx community by hosting a traditional Day of the Dead Celebration at the beginning of Family Weekend and partnered with the Asian Student Association to host its second annual Lunar New Year Celebration.

In addition, the Corner Store sold more than \$2.2 million in products to students and employees this year.

“
What I love most about URI Dining is they are so accommodating to so many dietary needs!
”
— Anonymous, Spring 2025 Student User Survey
.....



Our impact: By the numbers

1,701,555

Total meals served by Dining Services in 2024-25



198

Supported students with dietary restrictions

3,647



Catering orders processed between July 2024 and June 2025

162



Dining art and design projects



60

6



Available meal plans, which include unlimited and flex options

Conferences and events booked, totaling more than \$1 million in revenue

303,083

Total GrubHub meals served (via retail and Mainfare)

\$2.14M

GrubHub sales



Talent Development

Our mission
Talent Development recruits and serves high school graduates from Rhode Island with college potential, most of whom come from under-performing schools.

With core values of respect, academic excellence, mental health and wellness, and scholar success, TD cultivates the intellectual and cultural development of its scholars while inspiring them to discover, create, and innovate through leadership and personal growth to build a foundation for persistence.

In collaboration with URI Global, Africana Studies, and other faculty, Talent Development assisted in reestablishing the **Earl N. Smith III Cabo Verde Study Abroad Faculty Led Program**, which included six TD scholars in this year’s May–June 2025 cohort.

Year in review
In addition to celebrating its historic 5,000th graduate, Talent Development worked with Africana Studies to create a new course, AAF 235, which will study the history of TD and its impact at URI.

TD also received \$50,000 to assist scholars studying abroad as part of the Earl N. Smith III Study Abroad Scholarship. TD team members were recognized by University College for Academic Success (UCAS) as UCAS Champions for the 2024–25 academic year in recognition and appreciation for outstanding collaborations with UCAS staff and support toward student success.

“
This program didn’t just open doors — it gave me the foundation and support to break barriers and create my own path.
”

— Anonymous student testimonial



Our impact: By the numbers



5,000+

Total number of scholars to graduate from Talent Development over the past six decades, which includes this year’s milestone 5,000th graduate



\$7,470

Amount of money raised by Talent Development for the University’s Day of Giving in April

275

Talent Development scholars who made the Dean’s List in the Spring 2025 semester



68,179

Total views on Instagram during peak months of March–May 2025



1,045

Number of enrolled Talent Development scholars for the Fall 2024 semester

86%

of Talent Development scholars are first generation students – the first in their family to attend college



Campus Recreation

Our mission
Campus Recreation enriches the holistic well-being of the URI Community through diverse recreational opportunities and a commitment to inspiring a sense of belonging.

After a successful academic year in which the facility enjoyed a total participation of 5,558, the **Tootell Aquatic Center** began renovations during the summer, highlighted by a new roof, to ensure the best experience for the URI community.

Year in review
Highlighted by success on the playing field in both club sports and intramurals, Campus Recreation continued to raise the bar in providing exceptional spaces, programs, and services focused on fitness, fun, and overall physical and mental well-being.

The department's Fitness & Wellness programs, which include group and individual fitness sessions, saw a total participation of 26,959, which included 193 personal training sessions.

The Sailing Center, one of the department's eight facilities, enjoyed a total participation of 670. All told, Campus Recreation employed 375 students in 2024-25, maintaining its presence as one of the largest student employers on campus.



“
This department was how I broke out of my shell. I am forever grateful to Campus Rec. These people hold my heart.
”

— Anonymous, Campus Recreation student worker



Our impact: By the numbers

244,124

Total **facility visits** during 2024-25, which includes the Keaney Complex, Mackal Field House, Tootell Aquatic Center, and the Anna Fascitelli Fitness & Wellness Center



10,527

Followers across all social media platforms, including Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and LinkedIn



651

Number of students who participated on one of URI's 21 club sports teams



842

Intramural teams in 2024-25, which includes 19% participation from first-year students

43%



of club sports teams participated in postseason play in 2024-25, including sailing, men's rugby, men's soccer, and men's ice hockey



7,505

Swim passes sold at the **Tootell Aquatic Center**, which includes an eight-lane lap pool, deep-diving well, and recreational pool

Memorial Union

Our mission
The Memorial Union is the central hub for student life at the University of Rhode Island. More than just a building, it's a place for students, faculty, and staff to connect, relax, and engage with the campus community.

The Union is home to more than 120 student organizations, the Office of Student Involvement, Center for Student Leadership Development, Dean of Students Office, multiple dining options, and the URI Campus Store.

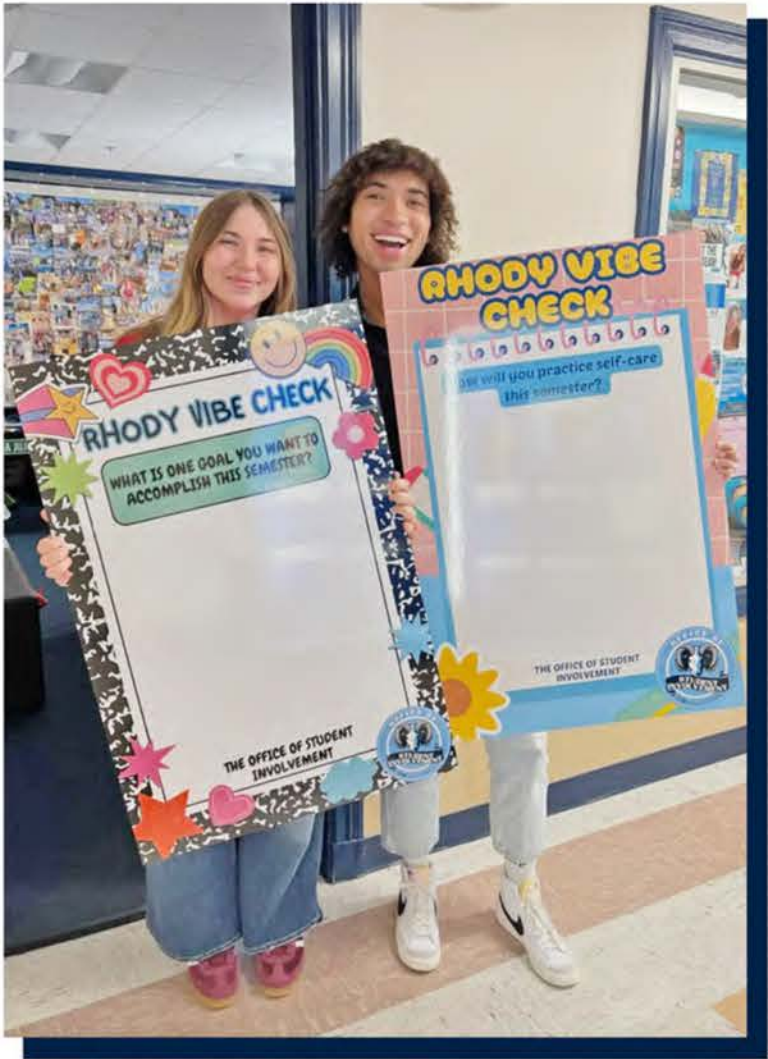
A new academic partnership with the Communication Studies program resulted in an additional section of **COM 402: Leadership and Motivation**, taught this year by Center for Student Leadership Development Assistant Director Alison Jackson Frasier.



Year in review
In its 33rd year, the Leadership Institute featured 97 participants, including 29 student peer leaders and coordinators. The Office of Student Involvement hosted 42 events with more than 13,000 in attendance covering myriad themes from mental well-being to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Union also remained the hub of student activity with 3,151 student bookings in 2024–25 and more than 17,000 event hours covering a total of 5,586 bookings.

“
I’ve gotten far because of my experiences with faculty and staff, and I’ll apply those lessons to every aspect of my life.
”
— Center for Student Leadership Development graduate Isabella Leggett '25



Our impact: By the numbers

105,087

Estimated attendance for the **more than 5,500 events** booked at the Memorial Union from July 2024 to June 2025



710

Events booked by student organizations through URInvolved between August 2024 and May 2025

5,319

Total number of student members in the **121 Student Involvement organizations**



5,695

Total attendance for the 2024 Family Weekend Show with Sal Vulcano and Joe Gatto at The Ryan Center

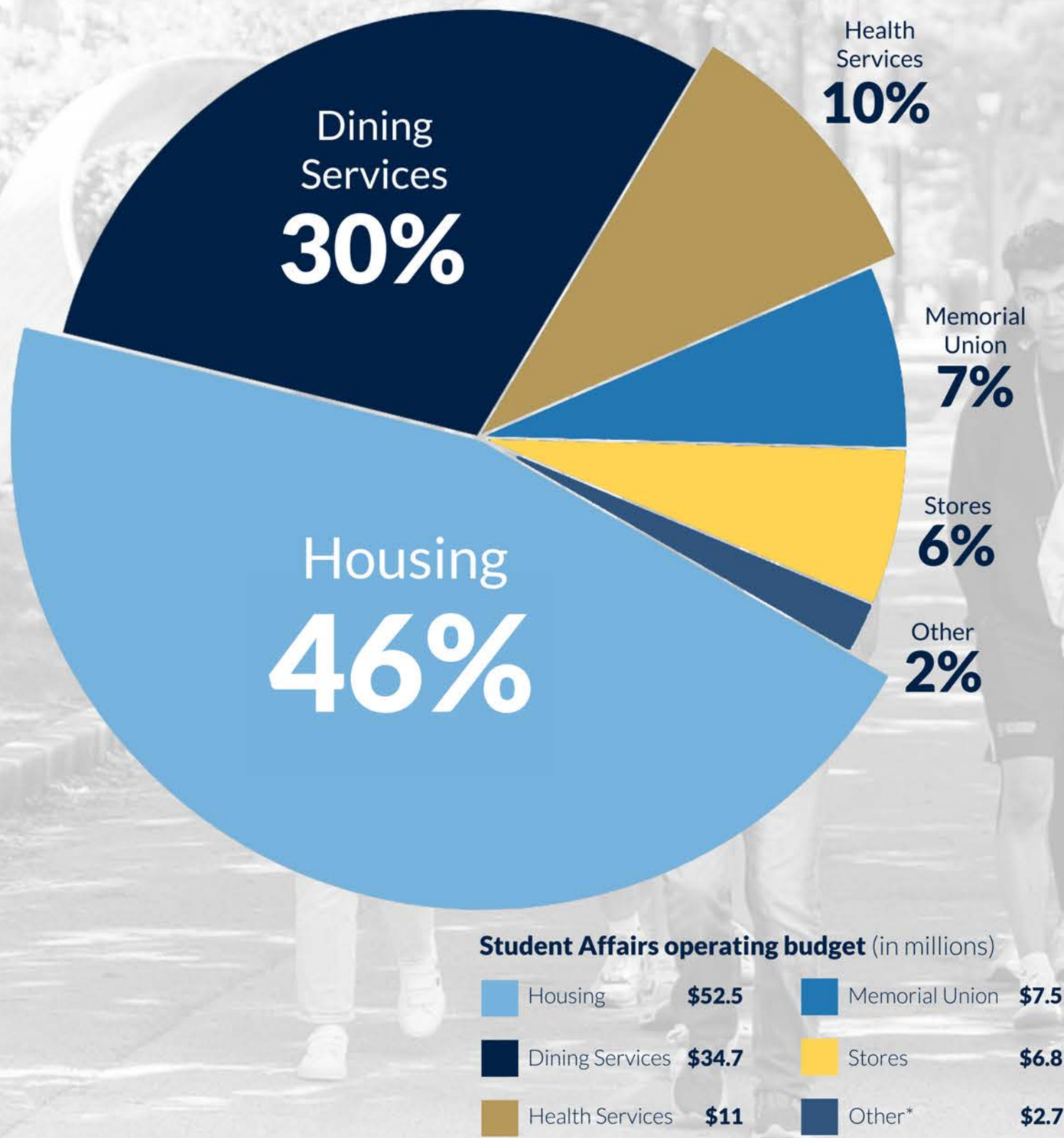
87.8%

of Leadership Institute participants felt **more comfortable connecting with the greater URI community** through their involvement



Student Affairs: 2025 Operating Budget

By the numbers



Total: \$115.2

*Includes Campus Recreation, Conference Services, Counseling, Dean of Students, Talent Development, and VPSA

1,932,420

Square feet of building space



250+

Student organizations

45+

Acres of playing fields

1,200

Student employees

430+

Staff

22

Graduate assistants

\$115M

Total budget for FY25



“

Talent Development helped with **building a community and allowing me to better understand what college would look like.** If I ever needed anything, I just reached out. ... Without TD, I would have never been able to really process everything in a healthy way.

”

– Emily Stewart '25
On her experience arriving at the University of Rhode Island as a Talent Development scholar

STUDENT AFFAIRS ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

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 uri.edu/student-affairs

