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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
November 13th, 2024 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary: Lynn Sawyer

Meeting Start Time:

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

E. PUBLIC FORUM

Paige Ramsdell, Assistant Dean of Students for Accessibility and Inclusion and Director of the Disability, Access, and Inclusion (DAI) Office

Senator Kiersten Sundell and Dylan Murdock, Vice-President and President of Student Action for Sustainability

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee
- Academic Affairs Committee
- External Affairs Committee
- Cultural Affairs Committee
- Campus Affairs Committee

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly
- Student Body President
- Student Body Vice President
- Director of the Treasury
- Director of Communications

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Elections Committee

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

Nominations for Student Organizations Committee Chair

Nominations for Campus Affairs Committee Chair

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-22/23-16 – RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUSTAINABILITY CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Whereas, the University of Rhode Island (URI) currently lacks a centralized network to support and coordinate sustainable projects across URI Kingston campus, resulting in fragmented efforts and missed opportunities for collaboration, and

Whereas, over 115 professors at URI are working on sustainable research projects, with 50+ programs and labs dedicated to sustainability, their efforts are not coordinated, limiting the potential for inter-college collaboration and impeding URI's progress towards sustainable goals for the university, and

Whereas, student organizations like Student Action for Sustainability have successfully initiated projects such as post-consumer composting, demonstrating the demand and potential for sustainability initiatives on URI Kingston campus, and

Whereas, the establishment of a Sustainability Center would support URI's four core priorities: broadening impact, enhancing student achievement, fostering an inclusive culture, and powering the university of the future,

Whereas, a faculty proposal for the Institute of Food Systems and Sustainability has been brought before the University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, and a student proposal for the Center for Sustainability has been brought before the President's Executive Council, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate supports all current efforts in establishing a Sustainability Center on URI Kingston campus, and

Resolved, that the Student Senate urges university administration to reference all current proposals and consider establishing a multidisciplinary Sustainability Center to coordinate sustainability efforts across URI Kingston campus, and

Resolved, that this center should be led by a Sustainability Director (or equivalent position) to serve as a central point of contact for sustainability initiatives, research, and collaborations, furthering URI's mission of enhancing student achievement and creating an equitable environment for future generations.

SPONSOR: Senators Sawyer, Estes, Gonzalez, Wentworth, Chair Hudson
BILL HANDLER: Senator Sundell
DATE: November 13th, 2024
ACTION: Vote Tonight

SS-24/25-17 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “OCD MIND WARRIORS” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “OCD Mind Warriors” mission statement is, “Benefit the URI campus by spreading awareness on mental illness and giving support for those who are struggling”, and

Whereas, OCD Mind Warriors 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 OCD Mind Warriors as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that OCD Mind Warriors is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$100 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Hook
DATE:	November 13th, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	(4-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: