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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
December 3rd, 2025 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary: Lynn Sawyer

Meeting Start Time: 6:32

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Chair niro and seconded by Chair Singh

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes made by Chair Singh and seconded by senator Connolly

E. PUBLIC FORUM

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee

Chair Milner:

- Last meeting of the year been a great semester lots of good stuff
- Putting out the student issues survey had 140 responses going to keep sending it out to get more responses, goal to create channels of culture and debate: over on December 10th on the last day of class. Informs our policy decision for next semester
- Senator Curry has a bill, takes presidents meeting from once a month to once per semester. Had a good event on the 13th. Encourages people to go and get the information
- Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Troxell:

- Recap of faculty senate: president reyes and I went. Presidents list was presented, there wasn't too many comments. Some support afterwards. Faculty senate has drafted legislation to put into the manual. That will be on the floor next meeting for them. They have motion to take away "freshman forgiveness". That is something that I think you all should know about
- Academics having a booth in the MU on monday from 2-4pm. Collabing with I Stand

Speaker Rinne:

- If I wanted to read their meeting minutes about this bill, where can I find that

Chair Troxell:

- On their left

- External Affairs Committee

Chair Singh:

- Hope you all had a great thanksgiving, mine was terrible I was sick. While you all were having turkey I was having medicine
- Had two more meetings to talk about next semester
- Having a voter registration booth
- Meeting with the chief of police tomorrow to give him the resolution, that will be on the 16th
- That's it: have a good night
- Cultural Affairs Committee

Chair Gonzalez:

- Good afternoon guys, It's going to be hard to talk about. I know a good chunk of you,
- I know a lot of you have heard about the college of republicans, I just want you all to know that the senate and university are aware of the situation and are working into investigate it. I am sorry if that's not enough to hear but I wanted to let you know that we are taking steps
- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Hudson:

- No report but good luck on finals and take care of yourself

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly

Chair Rinne:

- Super excited we have made it to the end of the semester. Round of applause to all of our great committee members. Round of applause for everybody.
- Last meeting till our spring semester: Chairs have expressed to me a need for new committee assignment process. This is a chance to try something new. Since schedules are changing you may need to change the committee that you are apart of. Chairs please use this time to solidify their times for next semester
- Next semester speakers: If you have any ideas or know of anyone cool please let me know
- Student Body President

President Reyes:

- Yay last meeting, presidents list was received positively and will be put on the floor next week on the 11th
- looking to have a senate retreat next semester, different than last semester more fun and relaxing indoors. This will be on the 20th of January the say before classes begin. Just keep that in mind for those that are traveling or moving back in. That's it! Have a good happy end of the year. Take an actual break.
- Student Body Vice President

VP hailu:

- Hi guys hope you all had a nice break. I however do not have a report but you do not need office hours for the rest of the semester. I will see you all next semester hopefully.
- Director of the Treasury

DOT Njende:

- Last full week of classes HOORAY. There is going to be a category transfer. Know we've been talking about this for the past few weeks but we needed to do this correctly and with due process. Hope to see you all next semester

Chair Singh:

- One question is the money safe?

Dot Njende:

- THE MONEY IS VERY SAfe

Speaker:

- Let the minutes reflect the money is very safe
- Director of Communications

DOC:

- No report

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Constitutional Review Committee

Chair niro:

- Had a meeting last week, very successful. Thank you all for your cooperation this semester
- Elections Committee
- Podcast Committee

Chair Neighbors:

- Happy end of the semester, excited to be out of here. I am going to hawaii
- Next episode coming out tomorrow it is with speaker rinne. Hope you have a great end of the semester

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SS-25/26-29 BILL AMENDING THE STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS

Whereas, the University of Rhode Island Student Bylaws Section 9, Part 1 Student Organization Committee 9.9 reads as follows:

The Chairperson and committee members shall organize and attend monthly meetings of all recognized student organization presidents and or their designees in order to promote communication, community involvement, and training as deemed necessary.

Whereas, the current mandated monthly meetings are less efficient, less attended, and less consequential, oftentimes failing to garner any significant audience of student leaders,

Whereas, revising the requirement to one meeting per semester for organization leadership allows for greater attendance, more efficient training, and streamlined communication between the Student Organization Committee and recognized student organizations,

Whereas, the meeting is to be advertised at least three weeks in advance to give student leaders ample time to prepare and send representatives; with only the president of the senate recognized organization required to attend,

Therefore, updating the frequency in which meetings are to be held will allow for more accountability and engagement between the Student Organization Committee and recognized organizations,

Resolved, be it enacted by the University of Rhode Island Student Senate, that the Student Senate Bylaws, Article 9, Section 9, be amended to replace the current subsection with the following:

9.9 *The Chairperson and committee members shall organize one meeting each semester of all recognized student organization presidents and/or their designees in order to promote communication, community involvement, and training as deemed necessary. Attendance shall be required for both the president and/or their designees of each organization. The meeting is mandatory; any organization which fails to send a representative will receive a penalty at the discretion of the committee and relevant professional staff.*

SPONSOR:

BILL HANDLER:

DATE:

RECOMMENDATION:

ACTION:

Student Organizations Committee

Senator Curry, Chairman Milner

Wednesday, November 19th, 2025

(6-0-0)

Vote Next Week

Senator curri:

- Bylaws say that we need to have a presidents meeting once a month every semester. This is unobtainable because we are all busy and it is hard to get that many people together once a month.

Chair Milner moves to vote by role call which is seconded by chair singh

- Voice vote: Passed

Speaker: If it is unclear we are voting to vote by roll call even though we normally vote by blind ballot. Which means everyone will be called on one by one

- Motion to vote by roll call passes with 2 nays

Roll call:

Abbott: Abstain

Bremer: Yay

Caprarto: yay

Connally: yay

Curry: yay

Gonzalez: Yay

Hudson: Yay

Giomani: Yay

Martin: Abstain

Milner: Yay

neighbors : Yay

Niro: Yay

Rinire: yay

ramos : yay

Rossa

Sawyer: yay

Singh: yay

Torres: yay

troxell : yay

Bill passes with 2 abstentions

New senators were not called, revote. Bill passes again with 2 abstentions

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-25/26 – 30 BILL CALLING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF CATEGORY TRANSFERS FROM THE PROGRAMMING LINE TO THE OPERATIONAL LINE AND FROM THE CONVENTION/REGISTRATION LINE TO THE HOUSING LINE FOR URI ALPINE

Whereas, the URI Alpine submitted a budget request on time for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and is thereby eligible to apply for category transfers, and

Whereas, on November 19th, 2025, URI Alpine submitted a Category Transfer Request Form to transfer \$4,500.00 from Category 130 (Programming) to Category 213 (Operational) to allocate more funds to benefit team members during training camp and more events to the proper operational category, and

Whereas, on November 19th, 2025, URI Alpine submitted a Category Transfer Request Form to transfer \$800.00 from Category 236 (Convention/Registration) to Category 700 (Housing) to increase the housing budget for increased membership, and

Whereas, the Director of Treasury has met with the E-Board of URI Alpine and has determined that these category transfers will better align the club's budget with their operational needs for training camps, events, and housing accommodations for their growing membership, and

Whereas, in accordance with the Student Senate Finance Handbook, category transfers exceeding \$1,000 require approval by the Student Senate General Assembly, and

Whereas, URI Alpine has demonstrated fiscal responsibility and has sufficient funds in Category 130 (Programming) and Category 236 (Convention/Registration) to complete these transfers without compromising their programming and convention registration needs, and

Resolved, that URI Alpine receive a \$4,500.00 category transfer from Category 130 (Programming) to Category 213 (Operational) to better support team members during training camps and ensure proper categorization of operational events, and

Resolved, that URI Alpine receive a \$800.00 category transfer from Category 236 (Convention/Registration) to Category 700 (Housing) to accommodate the increased housing

budget needs resulting from increased membership, which will enhance the club's ability to provide quality alpine skiing experiences and strengthen URI's commitment to student recreation and competitive sports development.

SPONSORS: Chairs Singh, Hudson, Gonzalez, Troxell, and Senator Williamson
BILL HANDLER: VDOT Keomany (DOT Njende)
DATE: Wednesday December 3rd, 2025
RECOMMENDATION: (5-0-0)
ACTION: VOTE TONIGHT

Dot Njende:

- Thank you very much speaker, this is a category transfer. Essentially we are not giving them money with a category transfer. WE are just moving money from one of their accounts to another. They have found that it would be more efficient for the club this year. Because it is in excess of the 1,000 they need the senate to approve this with a simple majority.

Chair Singh motion to call to question and is seconded by chair milner

Bill passes

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

- Pass the Gavel A.E.
 - (very heartfelt messages from various individuals)

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

President Reyes:

- **Couple things for seniors if you are graduating next spring please let me know so that we can have a headcount so that we can start coordinating stools for the seniors. That way we can make sure we have that studd ahead of time. Second applebees after if you want to go if you can go please join.**

Chair niro: Which applebees

President Reyes: South county commons

Chair Milner: Check out SOC for next semester we do a lot of great work especially for those that get involved. I will stop there

Chair Singh: It is senator McConnells birthday we should sing for him

Sang happy birthday to Senator McConnell

Senator niro: special committees as well as actual committees, these committees differ in their involvement. Constitutional review committee meets once a month. THIS IS THE COMMITTEE RIGHT HERE.

Speaker: to clarify you have to be on a standing committee: SOC, Academics, external, campus and cultural

Chair Gonzalez: Shameless plug, really want to welcome the senators to my committee. You don't have to committe to much time if you can't. We are working on a huge poetry slam for next semester. I would love to have some new folks help me and give me some new perspective

Chair Singh: If it is not obvious external is the committee to bring in, your voices actually matter in this committee. Please join

Senator Connolly: Please join the committees really in shambles

Senator Waldes: Are we planning to leave the college of business seat open till spring elections

Chair Sawyer: We are not going to have an internal election for the college of business seat

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: 7:19