



Memorial Student Union, Room: 201 | 50 Lower College Road,
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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
January 21st, 2026 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary: Lynn Sawyer

Meeting Start Time: 6:31

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Abbott

Bremer

Capraro

Connolly

Curry

Dannis

Dontula

Faye

Konte

Macrae

Niros

Neighbors

Roach

Ramos

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Chair Gonzalez and seconded by Senator Abbott

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to Approve the minutes made by Chair Troxell to amend the minutes and seconded by Chair Singh to change "Get ride of freshman forgiveness" to "Expand freshman forgiveness"

E. PUBLIC FORUM

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee
 - Chair Milner:
 - Don't have a lot to say today, we will get into initiatives next week with re-recognition and budget coming up
 - Submit your new organizations now and we are going to process them all in the next six week
 - New organization recognition ends on March 4th and starts January 21st
 - 29th at 5pm Spring Rhody fest
 - Close re-recognition the last week of february
- Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Troxell:

- For all of our new senators that are here for our second and third meeting. We deal with anything academic in our committee. Including mental health and self care. Fill out that committee assignment
- Update on presidents list: we will be going to the faculty senate tommorow. Voting on legislation to incorporate presidents list into the university manual. Expect to get passed. Basically if that does get passed if you have a greater than 3.8 GPA there will be a note on your transcript that you are on the presidents list as well as deans list. This will be effective this semester as in March.
- External Affairs Committee

Chair Singh:

- Been traveling for 40 hours non stop. We will be hosting the student senate impact fest on march 21st. Will incorporate all police departments that we work with including SK and NK, as well as campus police. Will be reaching out to non-profit. We will be hosting some booths some in collaboration. Having a community service drive with rhode island mutual aid campaign which is a student run non-profit organization. The student senate is not a professional space but instead is family to me. I got you all pens from my home country that helps a women empowerment organization. Please fill out your favorite color. This semester will be wrote, acted, and directed by external affairs
- Cultural Affairs Committee
 - Chair gonzalez: hope you all had a good break. Doing a poetry slam on february 23rd, if you guys like poetry. If you want to be apart of cultural affairs or initiatives of cultural affairs. Hosting an I.C.E. lemonade stand where we hand out lemonade and red cards so students can know their rights.
 - Senator bremer: Just to update people on my work on Disability activist leiaslon I have been nominated for.
- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Hudson:

- Deal with anything that is regarding to campus. We have a lot of things this semester as well. Lots of complaints are about dining: overcooked things, no forks. Want to be in contact with dining. There has been no warm water in brookside. If anyone has any insight please talk to me. Want to do collaborations for earth day. That's later in the

semester though. Wild idea: potentially getting talks in about maybe getting an elevator or improvement of disability access in washburn.

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly

Speaker Rinne:

- Have more for you
- Please fill out your committee assignment form. Basically you just have to be a part of one of the committees. You can be a part of a special committee but that does not count toward your attendance in committee. Just a warning to the people that are late to do things. We have one or two committees that are underfilled and you will be added to those if you don't fill it out
- Student Body President

President Reyes:

- Tomorrow attending faculty senate so keep us in your hopes that the bill happens. I will also be meeting with the faculty senate president next week to finalize some bills. For my seniors in the room I will be filling out a form for student senate stools. We had to postpone our retreat. It will be in two weeks, this way you can all plan around your schedule so you can attend. I know Lucas wanted to speak about some leadership stuff. Still fill out the risk form that was attached to the original email. Please sign up for booths if you have the time. If you have time to join a booth for at least 30 minutes VP hailu just might take some time off of your office hours. Juror nominations will be finalized next week and they will also be going through training.
- Student Body Vice President

VP hailu:

- Hope you have a lovely break. You will shortly get an email about office hours. They will be starting next week
- Director of the Treasury

DOT Unjende:

- This semester the priorities are very much the budget as per usual. The thing that we have seen as chair milner has pointed out. There are more clubs every single day more or less. We have to revamp the entire budget process. We might be cutting out the budget presentation and instead doing a spreadsheet where clubs put a budget in for every little thing they need the money for. Laqua presented something to the university for this. Will be needing a finance committee really soon. If you are interested it would be lovely to have you. Max total 5-7 people. Main goal of the finance committee would be reviewing these spreadsheets but also passing some legislation to lay some groundwork for the future administrations. As always the money is safe.
- Director of Communications

DOC heinrichs:

- Hey guys. Two things: google form will be going out tonight for spring merch. Please fill this out. Second: next Thursday we will be having a spring student involvement fair from 5-7. Please show up for five to ten minutes that'd be awesome. January 29th.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Constitutional Review Committee

Chair Niro:

- We met just before break. We have a document with comprehensive suggestions that

we want to formalize. Nxt meeting february 6th from 2-4

- Elections Committee
 - Meeting with lucas tomorrow
 - If you are a senior or are not a senior but are not running please join
 - Trying to get the elections up and running so everyone has time to fill out their packets.
- Podcast Committee
 - Doesn't have anything

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

- Roberts Rules of Order Review with Speaker Rinne
 - Went over the rules and basics of senate. Any questions about what roberts rules are or how to go about using them please reach out to Speaker Rinne. Important things: monday @ 6:30 to Speaker Rinne for bills that need to go on the floor.
 - Motions: Raise your hand "I move to". Some Motions do need a second and some do not. Incidental motions can be said at any time.
 - Presentation will be shared with everyone

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: 7:12