



Memorial Student Union, Room 201 • 50 Lower College Road • Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 • T: 401.874.2261 • E: info@rhodysenate.org

URI STUDENT SENATE – GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA 23 September 2020

Occurs every Wednesday effective 9/23/2020 until 12/2/2020 from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM

Meeting number: 172 823 4952

Password: mMrvAMZR673

<https://rhody.webex.com/rhody/j.php?MTID=m094d119bc994983af87c5b7a64d869a5>

Join by video system

Dial [1728234952@rhody.webex.com](tel:1728234952)

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone +1-415-655-0001 (US Toll Call) Access code: 172 823 4952

A. CALL TO ORDER at 6:36 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Alam, Bagley, Bentley, Bove, Cijigas, Diaz, Eustis, Hilyard, Khalfayan, Kiernan, Lewin, Mason, McGrath, Parker, Shindler, Siegle, Taiwo, Thiel, Urena

Absent: Akanegbu, Alryati, Campion, Fazio, Fournier, Gleason, Kittle, Nardone, North, Roufail, Salvo, Schreiner, St. Germain, Taylor

Guests: Campbell, Chang, Cox, Perrone, Margolin, Ramsey A, Stiles, Zangari

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – approved by Unanimous Consent

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS – no announcements

E. PUBLIC FORUM – no participants

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- **STUDENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE**
 - Met on Monday with prospective groups
 - Bringing a bill forth for vote in two (2) weeks
- **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
 - Met on Friday
 - Working a number of things including Faculty Senate's actions around changes to spring semester calendar and continuing conversations around Pass/Fail option for fall semester.
- **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
 - Met on Friday
 - Working on needs of off-campus students
- **CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
 - No report
- **CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
 - Met on Friday

- Working on Blue Light Safety Walk; waiting on updated blue light map from Director Baker
- Want to survey students in isolation/quarantine to make sure their needs are being met

- **INSTRUMENTS COMMITTEE**

- Need members
- No report

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

a. **Director of Information**

- No report

b. **Director of Communications**

- Please connect with Student Senate Instagram and share info
- No other report

c. **Director of Treasury**

- Met this week
- Put forth Contingency Grant for new desk and computer for Office Coordinator

d. **Director of Operations**

- No report

e. **Vice President**

- No report

f. **President**

- Campus Police will be increasing patrols around the Complex to educate and ask for compliance on mask wearing and to break up large group gatherings

G. REPORT OF THE COURT

- No report

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

a. **Liaisons**

• **Public Safety – Senator Bagley**

- Concerned with safety of students in off-site locations
- Concerned with compliance with safety and health related policies and protocols

• **Transportation – Senator Bagley**

- Concern brought forth on bus schedule for students residing in off-site locations (non-isolation/quarantine) and frequency of bus transport; reported that a single bus at 8 am and 4 pm are only offered

• **Disability Services – Senator Bove**

- Spoke with VP Ryder regarding non-subsidized cost of ParaTransit for students on campus; VP Ryder agreed to increase the subsidy so the cost mirrors the cost of the traditional discounted RIPTA program offered

b. **Elections Committee**

- 7 declarations submitted
- Deadline is October 2 – encourage people to submit

I. SPECIAL ORDERS

- No special orders

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No unfinished business

K. NEW BUSINESS

SS-20/21-04 CONTINGENCY GRANT REQUEST FOR URI STUDENT SENATE ADMIN

Whereas, the URI Student Senate Admin requests a contingency grant for a new desk unit and a laptop,

Whereas, and at an estimated cost of \$3800 for the new office secretary,

Resolved, that the assembly approves the contingency grant request from URI Student Senate Admin, in the total amount of \$3800.

SPONSOR: Treasury Committee
BILL HANDLER: Director Asante
DATE: Wednesday, September 23, 2020
RECOMMENDATION: (2-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Reviewed
ACTION: Vote Next Week

DOT Asante – explained request for new desk and computer for Office Coordinator and Senator Urena will be handling the bill on the floor next week.

Bagley – supports the purchase and asked why a new desk was needed

DOT Asante – current desk is broken and does not meet the needs of the Office Coordinator

SS-20/21-05 RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE OCCASION OF THE PASSING OF JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Whereas, on September 18, 2020, United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away at the age of 87 from complications caused by pancreatic cancer, and

Whereas, Justice Ginsburg, was an extraordinary woman who lived an outstanding and accomplished life and,

Whereas, Justice Ginsburg was one of the first women to attend the Harvard School of Law where she quickly rose to the top of her class before transferring to be with her husband, a cancer survivor, in New York City and graduating from the Columbia School of Law, and

Whereas, Justice Ginsburg would go on to serve as a Professor of Law, before entering the legal practice to fight against sex-based discrimination in the United States, and

Whereas, Justice Ginsburg quickly became one of the nation's leading women's rights attorney's, a leading force in the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, before eventually being nominated to the United States Supreme Court by President Bill Clinton in 1993, and

Whereas, after being confirmed by the United States Senate by a vote of 96-3, Justice Ginsburg led a distinguished career as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, where she fiercely advocated for the advancement of Women's Right's, LGBTQ+ Rights, and Rights for Americans with Disabilities, therefore be it

Resolved, That the University of Rhode Island Student Senate recognizes and celebrates the life and accomplishments of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and be it further

Resolved, That the University of Rhode Island Student Senate honors Justice Ginsburg's service to the United States and express our sincerest condolences on the occasion of her passing.

SPONSORS: Chairs Bove, Bentley, Kiernan, Senators North and Hilyard
BILL HANDLER: Chair Bove
DATE: September 23, 2020
RECOMMENDATION: (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION: Vailed Until Reviewed ACTION: Vote Tonight

Bove – explained the reasoning behind this resolution and the legacy that Justice Ginsburg leaves.

Bagley – asked that resolutions be submitted earlier so all, including guests, were able to read the resolution prior to the meeting

Vote	Aye	All in Favor
	Nay	0
	Abstain	0

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

Bagley – convening panel for sections of court

Chang (guest) – was the campus notified of the change to the academic calendar?

Stiles – believe a communication was issued by Communications to all members of campus regarding this

M. ADJOURNMENT – 7:05 pm by Unanimous Consent