



**URI STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES
21 April 2021**

A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:33 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL -

Present – Aidala, Asante, Blake, Gamache, Gibson, Hilyard, Johnson, Kiernan, Kittel, Longolucco, Duarte, North, Salvo, Shindler, Siegle, Thiel, Tyson, Williams

Absent – Alryati (Excused), Askar, Bove, Eustis (Excused), Harnett, Henry, Turano

Guests – Campbell, Diaz, Hoover, Markward, Perrone, Stiles, Taiwo

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Director Stiles requested a moment of reflection regarding the conclusion of the Chauvin trial and all the experiences and events that have transpired over the past year.

F. PUBLIC FORUM – No one spoke during the public forum.

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES -

- Student Organization Committee – Chair Siegle reported that there were two bills on the floor to be voted on tonight.

- Academic Affairs Committee – No report.

- External Affairs Committee – No report.

- Cultural Affairs Committee – No report.

- Campus Affairs Committee – No report.

- Executive Committee –

President Taiwo announced that there was an email from URI, that had been sent to the entire community, with information regarding a vaccination clinic this coming weekend.

Director Hoover requested that anyone who was interested in joining the Treasury Committee should reach out to him for more information.

H. **REPORT OF THE COURT** – There was no report of the court.

I. **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES** – There were no special committee reports.

J. **SPECIAL ORDERS** –

- There were three nominations for the Elections Committee. Senator Blake nominated Chair Siegle and that nomination was seconded. Senator Gibson nominated Senator Bove and that nomination was seconded. Chair Siegle nominated Senator Blake and that nomination was seconded. A motion was then made and seconded to close nominations and vote tonight. The motion was approved with 15 votes.
- Senator Bove, Senator Blake and Chair Siegle all received enough votes to be elected to serve on the Elections Committee.

K. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – There was no unfinished business.

L. **NEW BUSINESS** –

SS-21/22-2 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “MOCK TRIAL” AS A URI STUDENT SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Mock Trial” mission statement is, “to help students looking to go into legal careers gain experience on what a trial is like. This is an academic club that will help students critically think, build persuasive arguments and improve on public speaking. We will divide into two teams, one side prosecuting and one side defense. We will build our arguments in order to prove which side had better arguments. This club will give experience on how the court works and what it is like to go to trial. Hopefully as the club grows, we can look into competing or scrimmaging against other universities who also have mock trial teams.”, and

Whereas, Mock Trial 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 Mock Trial as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Mock Trial is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$100 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Siegle
DATE:	Wednesday, April 21, 2021
RECOMMENDATION:	(4-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition

ACTION: Vote Tonight

Chair Siegle commented that this club has met all criteria to be recognized. A motion was made to vote. This bill was approved with 16 votes.

SS-21/22-3 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “LATIN AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION” AS A URI STUDENT SENATERECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Latin American Student Association” mission statement is, “LASA is a multicultural organization dedicated to increasing Latin American cultural awareness throughout the university. It is LASA’s’ commitment to educate our members as well as the university about Latin American culture, heritage, customs, and roots.”, and

Whereas, Latin American Student Association 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 Latin American Student Association as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Latin American Student Association is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$100 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

SPONSOR: Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Siegle
DATE: Wednesday, April 21, 2021
RECOMMENDATION: (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Chair Siegle commented that this club has met all criteria to be recognized. A motion was made to vote. This bill was approved with 15 votes.

M. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM –

Director Stiles requested that everyone please check their email over the summer for important information and updates.

N. ADJOURNMENT – 6:54 p.m.