



Memorial Student Union, Room 201 • 50 Lower College Road • Kingston, Rhode Island
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URI STUDENT SENATE – GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES September 29, 2021

A. CALL TO ORDER - Senator Asante called the meeting to order at 6:37pm

B. ROLL CALL

- **Present:** Alryati, Asante, Blake, Eustis, Gamache, Gibson, Johnson, Kiernan, Kittel, Shindler, Siegle, Tyson, Thiel, Williams
- **Absent:** Aidala, Askar, Harnett, Henry, Longolucco, Salvo

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Approved by Unanimous Consent.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Siegle motioned to correct the minutes. Seconded by Senator Alryati.

Approved by Unanimous Consent.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

F. PUBLIC FORUM

Faculty Senate President Dr. Audrey Cardney introduced herself and stated that she would like to work closely with the Student Senate this year.

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organization Committee
 - Chair Siegle reported that the second presidents meeting will be held Monday and that SOC has been meeting with clubs
- Academic Affairs Committee
 - Chair Shindler stated that she is working on a distress event for October 14th, 1:00-4:00pm

- External Affairs Committee
 - Chair Kiernan reported that she is working with Greek Life to start a new club (road warriors) for commuters
 - Commuter appreciation week will be coming up

- Cultural Affairs Committee
 - Chair Tyson reported that from October 4th-18th there will be a collection box in the Memorial Union for hats, scarfs, and headwraps to donate to breast cancer patients & other patients going through chemo.
 - Pumpkin painting event in Memorial Union with snacks, goodies, and giftcards 22nd 8-10pm.

- Campus Affairs Committee
 - Chair Gamache reported that the Bluelight Walk will be held Oct. 14th 7-9 (RSVP by Oct. 12th)

- Executive Committee
 - President Taiwo reported that community service events will be held every two weeks on Friday's.
 - VP Madyson reiterated that her meetings are mandatory, and that all members are required to serve on committees.
 - Director Diaz reported that the kudos wall is coming back with markers & sticky notes

H. REPORT OF THE COURT

I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

J. SPECIAL ORDERS

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

Bill SS-21/22-05 – Bill Calling for the transfer of funds from the Student Events Committee Concerts line 225 account to the special events line 225 account in order to cover the expenses for the upcoming Stephen Colbert event

Whereas, the Student Events Committee (SEC) will need funds to cover the upcoming Stephen Colbert event

Whereas, this event will provide all Students and their Families the ability to attend an event that will ultimately bring the Student Body closer together

Whereas, the SEC expects to make enough revenue off of this event to put some money back into their Concerts line 225 account, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate approves the transfer of funds from the SEC Concerts line 225 account to the SEC Special Events line 225 account in order to help cover the up front costs of this event which is taking place Friday, October 1st, and be it

further,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate recognizes that this transfer will not affect the current budget, and the SEC's ability to fund future events

SPONSORS: Chairs Siegle, Tyson, Kiernan, Senators Gibson and Thiel
BILL HANDLER: Chair Siegle
DATE: September 27th, 2021
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Reviewed
RECOMMENDATION: (5-0-0)
ACTION: Vote Next Week

Director Hoover was yielded the floor by Chair Siegle to explain the bill.

Senator Gibson motioned to immediately consider. Seconded by Senator Theil.

Motion Passes

Bill Passes

SS-21/22-06 – Bill Calling for the University of Rhode Island Student Senate to take action on the persisting issues surrounding University parking

Whereas, the Student Senate recognizes the issue of Students' being unable to obtain parking during class days and,

Whereas, many Students' and Senators advocating on behalf of the Students believe initial parking ticket costs are too extreme, and

Whereas, the increase in the number of Students' driving to campus, and the increase in the number of first year Students having resident permits has affected the Students' ability to find adequate parking in a reasonably timely manner, and

Whereas, the number of parking spots with electric vehicle chargers that are ready for use are extremely limited and,

Whereas, the cost of parking permits has risen, which has had an impact on the affordability of the permits, and also makes Students' feel that ticket prices are unfair given the current costs of the permits, now therefore be it,

Resolved, the Student Senate and the Campus Affairs Committee shall survey students' in order to gather opinions of the current parking situation, and be it further,

Resolved, the Student Senate will share its findings from surveys with the University Faculty Senate, and discuss on behalf of the Students' the many issues with parking that have occurred during the beginning of this academic year, and be it further,

Resolved, the Student Senate shall contact the University Parking Services for more information about their policies, practices, and discuss ways to improve the parking situation at the University

SPONSORS: Senators Gibson, Thiel, Asante, Chairs Kiernan and Gamache
BILL HANDLER: Senator Gibson
DATE: September 27th, 2021
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Reviewed
RECOMMENDATION: (5-0-0)
ACTION: Vote Next Week

Senator Gibson yielded the floor to Director Hoover to discuss the bill.

Chair Kiernan expressed her support for the bill.

Chair Kiernan motioned to immediately consider. Seconded by Chair Siegle.

Motion Passes

Bill Passes

Bill SS-21/22-07 BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF “CAPE VERDEAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION”

Whereas, the “Cape Verdean Student Association”’s mission statement is, “to promote and educate people of all races and ethnic backgrounds about Cape Verdean culture”, and

Whereas, Cape Verdean Student Association meets the requirements to be a senate recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the senate to do so, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges Cape Verdean Student Association as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Cape Verdean 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: September 29, 2021

RECOMMENDATION: (4-0-0)

EXPIRATION: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition

ACTION: Vote Tonight

Bill Passes

Bill SS-21/22-07 BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF “PRE-DENTAL CLUB”

Whereas, the “Pre-Dental Club”’s mission statement is, “to unite all pre-dental students and work together to familiarize ourselves with the dental school admissions process. The club will provide useful information regarding the Dental Admission Test (DAT), volunteering and shadowing opportunities, required courses and more. Furthermore, the club will schedule guest lecturers, such as dentists and dental students who will be able offer extensive information about the dental field. In the end, we hope that our members are fully prepared to apply to dental schools and ultimately are accepted”, and

Whereas, Pre-Dental Club 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 Pre-Dental Club as a recognized organization, and be it further,

Resolved, that Pre-Dental Club 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: September 29, 2021

RECOMMENDATION: (4-0-0)

EXPIRATION: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition

ACTION: Vote Tonight

Bill Passes

M. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

- Chair Kiernan asked Senators to join her committee.
- Stiles wants senate to sign up for tables at club fair event on october 6th; join activities
- Tyson asked Senators to join her committee.
- Jack ROTC Sexual assault will be holding an event on october 1st

N. ADJOURNMENT - Adjourned at 7:02pm.