



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 MINUTES
April 6, 2022**

A. CALL TO ORDER - Speaker Bove called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Alryati, Asante, Beazley, Blake, Bose, Bove, Breene, Buono, Chadronet, Collins, Cushman, Eustis, Gamache, Gibbs, Gibson, Goswami, James, Johnson O, Johnson, N, Kiernan, Montoya, Murray, Peckham, Rider, Scotti, Shindler, Siegle, Theil, Tyson, Williams.

Absent: Aidala, Del Bonis (Excused), Kittel (Excused), Palmer, Rizk.

Guests: Summerson, Cox, Diaz, Njeru, Hoover, Stiles.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Speaker Bove motioned to move special orders to after new business. Second by Senator Gibson.

Motion Passes.

Senator Gibson motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Senator Theil.

Motion Passes.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES -

Senator Gibson motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Senator Breene.

Motion Passes.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

F. PUBLIC FORUM .

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organization Committee

Chair Siegle reported that her final SOC bill is on the floor tonight and urged its approval.

- Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Shindler asked the senate to refrain from sending in academic complaints until the new Academic Affairs Chair is elected.

- External Affairs Committee

Chair Kiernen expressed her joy and sadness to be moving on from the External Affairs COmmittee and stated she is excited to take on the presidency.

- Cultural Affairs Committee

No report

- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Gamache reported that the Bluelight walk was successful and that she has passed on the data to the URI police.

- Executive Committee

Vice President Summerson asked graduating seniors to contact President Taiwo for a senate stole if they haven't already.

Director Cox read the results of the Senate Superlatives Poll.

Director Diaz read kudos.

Director Njeru expressed his best wishes to graduating seniors.

H. REPORT OF THE COURT

I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Elections Committee - Senator Rider stated that the elections certification bill needs to be approved tonight and thanked the members of the elections committee for their hard work, especially Chair Siegle.

J. SPECIAL ORDERS

Pass the Gavel

Swearing in of the President of the Student Body

Swearing in of the Vice President of the Student Body

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SS-21/22-44 Bill Calling for Amendments to the University of Rhode Island Student Senate Bylaws

Whereas, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate Bylaws currently grants the Chairperson of the Student Organizations Committee the ability to temporarily freeze the accounts of organizations which violate the Senate's financial rules and policies, and

Whereas, the bylaws for the Vice Director of the Treasury also contain text implying that the same power is granted to the Director of the Treasury, and

Whereas, this contradiction must be corrected, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that Article 2, Section 2, Part 1, Line 2.11 be struck from the University of Rhode Island Student Senate Bylaws, and be it further,

Resolved, that the sentence "they may freeze accounts that are in violation of established financial policy by a three-fourths (3/4) vote." be struck from Article 2, Section 9, Part 1, Line 9.03, and be it further,

Resolved, that the sentences "May freeze or suspend any organization's financial accounts on a temporary basis if they are in violation of established financial policies and procedures. This suspension must be reported to the Student Accounts Clerk. Organizations may appeal the suspension to the General Assembly." be added to Article 3, Section 3 of the University of Rhode Island Student Senate Bylaws and designated as Line 3.08 with all lines below being redesignated accordingly.

SPONSORS: Speaker Bove, Chairs Siegle, Shindler, Senators Johnson O, and Bose

BILL HANDLER: Speaker Bove

DATE: March 30, 2022

RECOMMENDATION: (5 – 0 – 0)

EXPIRATION: Valid Until Reviewed

ACTION: Vote Tonight

Bill Passes.

SS-21/22-45 BILL CALLING FOR THE CONFIRMATION AND CERTIFICATION OF THE SPRING 2022 ELECTION RESULTS

Whereas, the Spring Elections were held with no irregularities and with no filed challenges, and

Whereas, the Elections Committee produced a final count of the valid cast ballots and no recount was requested, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate confirms and certifies the following results (winners of

competitive races are in bold, declined positions have been struck through).

President/Vice President

Kiernan, G/Gamache, E - 347

Soares, L/Denson, S - 1

Off-Campus

~~Kiernan, G 123~~

Breese, J 116

Summerson, G 87

~~Palmer, L 84~~

~~Thiel, P 82~~

~~Hoover, C 81~~

Gibson, A 77

Waryas, G 77

Bose, E 74

Montoya, J 64

Bailey, R (W/I) 2

Myers, B (W/I) 1

~~Soares, L (W/I) 1~~

On-Campus

~~Njeru, W 72~~

~~Rizk, R 67~~

~~Peckham, L 66~~

~~Collins, H 54~~

~~Bove, C 53~~

~~Buono, S 53~~

Chadronet, C 51

~~Tyson, A 47~~

Scotti, J 39

Johnson, N 36

~~Breese, J (W/I) 1~~

~~Gronan, N (W/I) 1~~

~~Galliano, C (W/I) 1~~

~~Gibson, A (W/I) 1~~

At Large

~~Kiernan, G 177~~

~~Summerson, G 144~~

~~Njeru, W 130~~

Bove, C 123

Rizk, R 117

~~Palmer, L 114~~

~~Thiel, P 113~~

Tyson, A 103

~~Gibson, A 103~~

Johnson, O 98

~~Chadronet, C 94~~

Collins, H 92

Cushman, M 92

~~Hoover, C 91~~

Del Bonis, G 88

~~Eustis, J 82~~

~~Waryas, G 78~~

~~Johnson, N 70~~

~~Goswami, A 64~~

Cronan, N 63

College of Arts and Sciences

~~Summersen, G 29~~

Buono, S 26

Thiel, P 21

Tyson, A 21

Breene, Z 20

Muessig, M (W/I) 1

College of Engineering

Goswami, A 28

Chofay, Z (W/I) 1

College of Business

Palmer, L 43

Hoover, C 38

Diprima, E (W/I) 1

College of Pharmacy

Galliano, C 62

Rizk, R 22

Njeru, W 11

College of Health Sciences

~~Bococinski, G (W/I) 4~~

~~Cushman, M (W/I) 4~~

~~D'Ambra, I (W/I) 4~~

~~Gamache, E (W/I) 4~~

Leggett, I (W/I) 1

~~McPhee, K (W/I) 4~~

College of Environment and Life Sciences

Denecia, J 42

Bailey, R (W/I) 1

College of Education and Professional Studies

~~Hafey, J (W/I) 4~~

Sutton, A (W/I) 1

~~Zeitlin, R (W/I) 4~~

College of Nursing (TBD)

Douglas, J (W/I) 1

Jacobson, L (W/I) 1

McGreevy, E (W/I) 1

Oberheim E (W/I) 1

Roeder, M (W/I) 1

Thomas, M (W/I) 1

SPONSOR:

BILL HANDLER:

DATE:

Elections Committee

Senator Rider

March 30, 2022

RECOMMENDATION: (4 - 0 - 0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Review
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Bill Passes.

L. NEW BUSINESS

SS-21/22-47 Resolution Honoring the Student Senate's Graduating Senators for their Outstanding Services to the University of Rhode Island

Whereas, the following members of the Student Senate will be graduating in 2022, Bolu Taiwo, Leila Cox, Yasmin Diaz, Lulu Alryati, Mitchell Asante, Katherine Blake, Greta Del Bonis, Shawn Gibbs, Isaiah Kittle, William Rider, James Scotti, Kyra Shindler, Katie Siegle, Angelica Tyson, and Rebecca Williams, and

Whereas, many of this year's graduating seniors joined senate at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic while the Student Senate was conducting its proceedings virtually, and

Whereas, the above listed senators played a key role in maintaining the senate's functioning and preserving its long standing traditions, and

Whereas, the senate would like to give a special thanks to graduating seniors who have served in the Executive Board, and

Whereas, none of the senate's major accomplishments in recent years would have been possible without the hard work and tireless advocacy of our graduating seniors, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate sincerely thanks the above listed senators for their outstanding and extraordinary services to the University of Rhode Island, and be it further,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate extends to the above listed senators its best wishes for their happiness and continued success in all of their future endeavors, and be it further,

Resolved, that Chairwoman Katie Siegle is recognized as the Student Senate G.O.A.T.

SPONSORS: Speaker Bove, Chair Kiernan, Senators Johnson N, Gibson, Peckham
BILL HANDLER: Speaker Bove
DATE: April 6, 2022
RECOMMENDATION: (5 - 0 - 0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Reviewed
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Senator Theil motioned to add the following text "and be there further resolved, that Chairwoman Katie Siegle be recognized as the Student Senate G.O.A.T.". Seconded by Senator Gibson

Motion Passes.

Bill Passes.

SS-21/22-48 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “HEALTH HUMANITIES” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Health Humanities” mission statement is “to teach aspiring nurses, doctors, dentists, pharmacists, kinesiologists, PAs and all other pre-health students bedside manner and the importance of empathy and charismatic support for future patients, so that their time at URI is not only to prepare for the educational and knowledge aspect of their specific health fields of interest, but also to promote nurturing, good-hearted intentions early on in their careers. This is currently executed during weekly academic and following meetings as well as volunteer-based experience seeking.” and

Whereas, Health Humanities 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 Health Humanities as a recognized organization, and be it further,

Resolved, that Health Humanities 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 6, 2022
RECOMMENDATION:	(7-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION:	Vote Next Week

Senator Thiel motioned to immediately consider. Seconded by Chair Siegle

Motion Passes.

Bill Passes.

M. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

Dr. Stiles stated that the last two years have not been easy, and that he is extremely proud of the senate’s perseverance and hard work throughout the pandemic. He further stated that the senate has done incredible work on behalf of the student body, and he can’t wait to see what the senate achieves in the next legislative session. He wished the graduating seniors the best in their future endeavors and wished everyone good health.

Chair Tyson reported that one love is coming up and reminded senators to attend multicultural events.

Senator Breene asked for a round of applause for Speaker Bove.

Senator Rider gave a shout out to the Five Cent Cigar Reporter David Brocoli for his hard work covering the senate.

David Brocoli told graduating senators that they are not ready for what amazing things life has in store for them and expressed his confidence that everyone will go on to do big things and live highly successful lives.

Senator Breene thanked Vice President Gamahce for taking minutes.

Director Cox reported that she was just chosen to present her leadership portfolio to the leadership institute next week and that she is a finalist for the Rainville Award.

Chair Shindler reported that she has completed her observation hours for student teaching and that she received a 100%.

Chair Siegle thanked everyone for all the nice things that were said about her.

N. ADJOURNMENT - Speaker Bove adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.