



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 January 25, 2023

**A. CALL TO ORDER** - Speaker Bove called the meeting to order at 6:32

### **B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Bailey, Barbosa, Bose, Bove, Breene, Buono, Chadronet, Collins, Cronan, Galiano, Goswami, James, Johnson N, Johnson V, Mehorter, Mayers, Milner, Montoya, Newman, Palmer, Peckham, Piacentini, Rathbun, Reyes, Rudolph, Scotti, Stahl, Summerson, Sutton

Absent: Confessore

Guests: Kiernan, Gamache, Hoover, Theil, Njeru, Stiles

### **C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chari Summerson motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Senator Rudolph.

*Motion Passes.*

### **D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Senator Montoya motioned to approve the Minutes of the November 30, 2022 General Assembly Meeting. Seconded by Senator Scotti.

*Motion Passes.*

Senator Montoya motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 7, 2022 General Assembly Meeting. Seconded by Senator N. Johnson.

*Motion Passes.*

### **E. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Speaker Bove welcomed everyone to the chamber. He announced that President Parlange will be delivering his first State of the University address on February 1<sup>st</sup>, and told senators to look out for an email allowing them to RSVP.

President Kiernan wished everyone good luck with the first week of classes, and reminded senators of the importance of closing the office door when the leave so that personal items are not left unattended.

## F. PUBLIC FORUM

## G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

### - Student Organization Committee

Acting Chair Johnson reported that there is an upcoming Student Organizations fair scheduled on February 9<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 2pm. He stated that clubs will need to RSVP to go, and asked senators to sign up to work the Student Senate table if they are available.

### - Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Summerson reported that the Academic Affairs Committee will be meeting on Mondays at 5:00pm. She also expressed that she hopes everyone is having a good first week of the semester.

### - External Affairs Committee

Acting Chair Montoya reported that the External Affairs Committee will be meeting Mondays at 4:00PM, although that may be subject to change. He asked senators to support him as the next External Chair, and stated that if he is elected, he will soon be seeking a vice chair.

### - Cultural Affairs Committee

Acting Chair Bailey reported that the Cultural Affairs Committee will be meeting on Friday's at 4:00pm. She reported that the committee will be working on a big Multicultural Student Organizations Festival, and also that they will be working with Vice President Ellen Reynolds to make credit based housing and course enrollment more equitable. She concluded by asking senators to support her to be the next Cultural Chair.

### - Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Chadronet reported that the committee is looking to do more campus clean ups, especially near CBLS where there are hundreds of cigarette butts that need to be cleaned up, He also stated that will be talking to operations about adding additional walking paths to places where students frequently walk but where no path exists. He further reported that he has reached out to Directors Frankie Minor and Pierre St-Germain to request meetings with them. He concluded by stating that the committee will be meeting on Thursdays at 7:30pm on zoom.

### - Executive Committee

Speaker Bove reported that he sent out his final committee assignments for the semester. He reminded senators that they are required to attend their committee meetings, and encouraged them to reach out to him if they have any issues with their committee assignments.

President Kiernan reported that she is working with RhodyThon to see if Senate could possibly form a team and participate in the marathon. She expressed that she believes this would be a good team bonding experience for senators. She also asked that any senator who is interested in taking on a leadership role in the next senate term to reach out to her.

Vice President Gamache echoed Acting Chair Johnson's announcement in regards to the Student Organizations Fair being held on February 9<sup>th</sup>, and asked senators to sign up to work the Student Senate table. She also reported that she would like to form a senate team for SEA's Trivia Night happening on February 11<sup>th</sup>, and that she'll report the time of the event when she finds out.

Director Hoover stated that he hoped everyone had a nice winter break. He reported that he and the Treasury Committee will be working on budgeting soon, and also that he will be starting new "consulting hours" where clubs can attend and ask questions about the budgeting process should they need help.

Speaker Bove said that he spoke with Acting Chair Bailey about potentially having a joint Cultural and Treasury Committee event where clubs can attend and actually fill out budget requests as a group, and asked Director Hoover if he will be working with her on that.

Director Hoover replied that he and Acting Chair Bailey have set up two events for that purpose.

Director Thiel reported that he recently sent out a senator spotlight form and asked everyone to fill it out.

Senator Peckham asked if senators who filled out the form last semester needed to fill it out again now that it has been resent.

Director Thiel replied that only senators who have not previously filled out the form need to complete it.

## **H. REPORT OF THE COURT**

## **I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### **J. SPECIAL ORDERS**

#### *Nominations and Elections for Chair of the Student Organizations Committee*

Senator Montoya nominated Senator Nick Johnson. Seconded by Senator Barbosa.

Acting Chair Johnson encouraged senators to ask him questions if they have any, and stated that he intends to work hard during the re-recognition and stipend review processes.

Results: Johnson: 28                      Abstentions: 0

*Senator Nick Johnson is elected Chair of the Student Organizations Committee.*

#### *Nominations and Elections for Chair of the External Affairs Committee*

Senator Bailey nominated Senator Montoya. Seconded by Senator Scotti.

Senator Montoya spoke in favor of his nomination, and stated his intention to improve the reputation of the URI student community in surrounding towns.

Results: Montoya: 28                      Abstentions: 0

*Senator Jose Montoya is elected Chair of the External Affairs Committee.*

#### *Nominations and Elections for Chair of the Cultural Affairs Committee*

Senator Montoya nominated Senator Bailey. Seconded by Senator Piacentini.

Senator Bailey stated that this position is more than a job to her, and that she wants to make sure everyone is properly represented and seen on campus.

Results: Bailey: 28                      Abstentions: 0

*Senator Rosie Bailey is elected Chair of the Cultural Affairs Committee.*

*Nominations and Elections for Off Campus Representative (6)*

*Nominations and Elections for On Campus Representative (1)*

*Nominations and Elections for At-Large Representative (5)*

Senator Peckham nominated Gianna Delorenzo. Seconded by Senator Buono.

Senator Peckham nominated Samuel Dumas. Seconded by Chair Summerson.

Results: Dumas: 28                      Delorenzo: 27                      Abstentions: 0

*The nominees are elected.*

*Nominations and Elections for College of Nursing Representative (1)*

*Nominations and Elections for College of Health Sciences Representative (1)*

*Swearing in of New Senators*

President Kiernan swore in the new chairs and senators.

## **K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **L. NEW BUSINESS**

## **M. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM**

**N. ADJOURNMENT-** Speaker Bove adjourned the meeting at 7:09 PM.