



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 March 22, 2023

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

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Bailey, Barbosa, Bose, Bove, Chadronet, Collins, Confessore, Cronan, DeLorenzo, Dumas, Galliano, James, Johnson N, Johnson V, Mehorter, Mayers, Montoya, Newman, Peckham, Piacentini. Reyes, Rudolph, Sama, Scotti, Small, Stahl, Summerson, Sutton.

Absent: Breene, Buono, Goswami, Milner, Palmer, Rathbun.

Guests: Kiernan, Gamache, Hoover, Rizk, Steinweh-Adler, Larsen, Labelle.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Speaker Bove motioned to amend the agenda to move Vice-President Elect Steinweh-Adler to the beginning of public forum. Seconded by Chair Montoya.

Motion Passes.

Chair Montoya motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Senator Peckham.

Motion Passes.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Montoya motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Senator Rudolph.

Motion Passes.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President Gamache announced that the Senate will not be forming a team for RhodyThon as only two senators signed up to participate. She stated that she would still like to make a donation and asked individual senators to donate \$10 if they are able to.

F. PUBLIC FORUM

Vice President-Elect Jonah Steinweh-Adler

Vice-President-Elect introduced himself to the general assembly. He also told the assembly to speak to him if they had any questions.

Presentation from URI Title IX Officials

Kara Larsen and Keith Labelle.

Keith Labelle introduced himself and explained that he works under the Title IX office and runs the iStand program.

Kara Larsen introduced herself as the University's Title IX Coordinator. She explained her role of addressing sexual assault and misconduct complaints. She explained pending changes to Title IX regulations, which are likely to overturn Trump Era regulations from the US Department of Education.

Keith Labelle then explained that even though Title IX is limited in its resources the bystander intervention program does everything it can. He explained that there is a Brightspace training. That NCAA requires a presentation to all athletes and staff. He detailed all the work that URI Stand does.

Senator Small asked what the procedure should be for someone who hears about misconduct or an assault.

Keith Labelle and Carol Larsen explained that he should report it.

Senator V. Johnson asked what key areas Title IX was lacking and how can student senate help

Carol Larsen explained that staffing is a problem. Reaching faculty and staff by having the university make the training mandatory would be great. Finally standing up and intervening when necessary.

Chair Summerson asked if URI Stand goes to every Greek life chapter.

Keith Labelle explained that they go by request.

Senator Rudolph wanted to know how far Title IX's jurisdiction went.

Carol Larsen explained that jurisdiction goes anywhere where the university has control of the activities. But even if things occur off campus it is still a student conduct problem.

Chair N. Johnson wanted to know how a general URI student that isn't associated with a major organization can get training.

Keith Labelle, said that there's an event with female leader in sports and that anytime a COM professor cancels class they can call URI Stand to have a presentation. There's also booths here and there. And since April is sexual assault awareness month there will be a week of action.

Chair Johnson wanted to know what differs between national policy and URI policy.

Keith Labelle said that Title IX is the floor. He said that URI goes above and beyond Title IX. URI has a lower burden of proof to help victims.

Senator Small wanted to know what the statute of limitations with Title IX reports.

Carol Larsen said that the statute ends when the person's involvement with URI ends. Keith Labelle also explained that first-degree sexual assault has no criminal statute of limitations in Rhode Island.

Senator Scotti asked a clarifying question.

President-Elect Ramez Rizk

President-Elect Rizk introduced himself. He expressed that if anyone wants to apply for DOC or DOT to apply through the online form. He said he was really excited to work with anyone

Chair Montoya expressed that he would strongly recommend someone with previous senate experience for the DOT position.

President-Elect Rizk said he would take that in mind.

Chair Summerson recommended including Cheryl from accounts on any DOT interviews.

President-Elect Rizk said that was a good idea.

Chair N.Johnson expressed that if any students reach out for those positions that are outside of senate the President-Elect should ask them to run internally

Speaker Bove motioned to add Amy White to Public Forum, seconded by Chair Chadronet.

Amy White

Amy White the new executive coordinator for Student Senate introduced herself.

Speaker Bove asked what she was the most excited for

Amy expressed that she hadn't worked in pants in three years so she's excited.

Chair Johnson wanted to know what Amy's job description was and what senators can come to her for help

Amy expressed that in general that the website is beautiful, its out of date though. She also expressed that standardizing things is a big point for her.

Senator Piacentini expressed that having someone in the office to keep notes and pass information is super important.

Chair Johnson shared that improving communication with clubs, particularly proper forms. Whether it is using the correct forms, etc.

Speaker Bove expressed that setting up the guests by coordinating with staff is something Amy can work on.

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organization Committee

Chair Johnson, Thanked everyone on SOC in terms of re-rec and stipend review. If you know anyone in a club that has not filled out the re-rec form.

- Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Summerson, 2 events on Friday, one from 1:00-5:00PM , a professional headshot taken by senator Galiano. A finals workshop from 5-6PM. She then gave a headshot to her committee members.

Chair Johnson asked if there was any promotional material. Chair Summerson said its on instagram

- External Affairs Committee

Chair Montoya, voter registration booth this Friday. From 1:30 to 3:30PM at the MU. Nothing else to say right now.

- Cultural Affairs Committee

Senator Newman, no report this week.

- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Chadronet, blue light walk is coming up, probably on April 4th. We need at least 15 students. We do half the campus and its really really important.

Senator Johnson asked if there was a sign-up anywhere.

Chair Chadronet responded that not yet

- Executive Committee

Speaker Bove, formal is officially booked for April 21st. There will be a bus, three stops. The stop and shop in Point Judith, the CVS in Bonnet Shores, and the Memorial Union. Tickets will be around \$70. Looking for the best quote possible for a DJ. I am meeting with someone on Friday for a student senate merch store. Ticket

sales should begin Monday.

Senator Small asked if we could have a shirt just with Speaker Bove's face on it.

Dr. Stiles reminded everyone that this is not an official senate event

Chair Summerson, expressed that no police presence is required. If a cop comes there will be consequences.

Director Hoover, Hey everyone, budget is on the floor. Please look at it. Solely a discussion on the budget tonight. No amendments will be entertained tonight

Chair Summerson shared Director Thiel's report. Please share more pictures for the spring break post, and more submissions for senator spotlight. Every annual meeting we do superlatives. Please fill them out when you receive them. Also fill out the sheet if you are interested in doing something nice for the graduating seniors.

H. REPORT OF THE COURT

I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Elections Committee- Chair Summerson, no report

J. SPECIAL ORDERS

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

SS-22/23-45 BILL CALLING FOR THE ANNUAL RE-RECOGNITION OF URI STUDENT SENATE'S RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Whereas, the Student Organizations Committee must review all recognized organizations at least annually, and

Whereas, all Student Senate recognized organizations must successfully complete re-recognition to be re-recognized, and

Whereas, the following organizations did not meet the requirements for re-recognition, and

Amnesty International, URI Chapter
Chabad of URI
Colleges Against Cancer
DRIVE: Diversifying Recruiting Inspiring Volunteering Educating
EMPWR (Formerly WOWW)
ENRESA (recognized 4/27/2022)
Global Brigades

Health Humanities

Her Campus URI

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Korean Student Association

MSAC: Minority Student Athlete Crew (9/21/22)

Music Boosters

Musically Inclined

Neuroscience Club, URI

Papuan Student Association

Sankofa Christian Ministries

Skateboard Club

Society: Phi Sigma Pi, National Honor Fraternity

Sojourn, URI

Spirituality & Manifesting Club

SVO: Student Veterans Organization

Ukrainian Club

URI APES (4/27/22)
URI Surf Club
Bridge USA

Whereas, it is the duty of the student senate to only recognize student groups annually who meet the requirement to be a student senate recognized organization, now therefore be it,
Resolved, that the URI Student Senate acknowledge the following groups as recognized clubs until the next re-recognition process.

Club	SOC Recommendation
Active Minds, URI	5-0
Alima	5-0
Anime Club	5-0
Arts and Crafts Club	5-0
Asian Student Association	5-0
Best Buddies	5-0
Bike Club	5-0
Black Student Union	5-0
Brother on a New Direction	5-0

Cape Verdean Student Association	5-0
Chinese Student Association	5-0
Club Baseball	5-0
Club, Soccer, Men's	5-0
Club, Soccer, Women's	5-0
Club Dance	5-0
Club Softball	5-0
Club Softball	5-0
Club Track and Field	5-0
College Democrats	5-0
Community Wellness Leaders	5-0
Dress History Association	5-0
Economics Student Association	5-0
Engineers Without Borders	5-0
Exposure	5-0
Fashion Merchandising Society	5-0

Fine Arts Club	5-0
Gaming Club	5-0
Italian Club	5-0
Kinesiology Club	5-0
LSA (Latinx Student Association)	5-0
Marine Science Society	5-0
Middle Eastern Student Association	5-0
Mock Trial	5-0
MSAC (Minority Student Athlete Crew)	5-0
Multicultural Unity Student Involvement Council	5-0
Musician's Guild	5-0
Muslim Student Association	5-0
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)	5-0
National Society of Leadership and Success	5-0
NESA	5-0
Orthodox Christian Fellowship	5-0

Outing Club	5-0
PENSA URI	5-0
Persian Cultural Student Association	5-0
Pharmacognosy Club	5-0
PINK Women	5-0
Powerlifting	5-0
Pre - Dental Club	5-0
Pre PT Club	5-0
Pre-PA club	5-0
Public Relations Student Society of America	5-0
Ram Hacks	5-0
Renaissance Yearbook	5-0
Rhody Archery	5-0
Rhody Catholic Organization	5-0
Rhody Christian Fellowship	5-0
Rhody Ridiculousness	5-0

RhodyThon	5-0
Rotaract	5-0
Sailing Club	5-0
Science Fiction and Supernatural Club	5-0
Scuba Club	5-0
Self Defense Club	5-0
Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA)	5-0
Shark Club	5-0
Society for Women in Computing	5-0
SOLC	5-0
South Asian Students' Association	5-0
Student Action For Sustainability	5-0
Student Advocacy for Disability Awareness/Action	5-0
Student Alliance for the Welfare of Africa (SAWA)	5-0
Student Alumni Association	5-0
Student Entertainment Committee	5-0

Student Led Theatre Collective	5-0
The Daily Ram	5-0
The Good Five Cent Cigar	5-0
The Puppy Raisers Club	5-0
The Rhody Rhapsodies	5-0
The Women's Network	5-0
Theme Park Engineering and Design	5-0
Timmy Global Health	5-0
Uhuru Sasa	5-0
URI Young Democratic Socialists of America	5-0
URI Alpine Race Team	5-0
URI Chess Club	5-0
URI Climbing Club	5-0
URI Club Pickleball	5-0
URI College Republicans	5-0
URI Dance Company	5-0

URI Fencing Club	5-0
Uri Flow	5-0
URI Geology Club	5-0
URI Habitat for Humanity	5-0
URI Hillel	5-0
URI Music Therapy Club	5-0
URI Quidditch	5-0
URI Roller Hockey	5-0
URI S.A.V.E.S	5-0
URISLHA	5-0
URI Social Dance	5-0
URI Triathlon Club	5-0
URI Women in STEM	5-0
WRIU	5-0

SPONSOR:

Student Organizations Committee

BILL HANDLER:

Chair Johnson

DATE: March 22, 2023
RECOMMENDATION: (5 – 0 – 0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION: Vote Next Week

Chair Johnson, please look it over.

SS-22/23-46 – BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET FOR RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024

Whereas, The Treasury Committee is presenting the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, now therefore be it, Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate allots the following fiscal amounts according to the final recommendations of the Treasury for all recognized student organizations eligible for funding, and be it further, Resolved, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate allots the final contingency lines as provided in the final recommendation of the Treasury, and be it further, Resolved, that the presented budget amounts are enacted for Fiscal Year 2024, which is to begin July 1st, 2023.

SPONSORS: Treasury Committee
BILL HANDLER: VDOT Bose (Director Hoover)
DATE: March 22, 2023
RECOMMENDATION: (3 – 0 – 0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Next Fiscal Year Budget
ACTION: Vote Next Week

Chair Johnson asked for a brief explanation from the DOT.

Director Hoover expressed that senate needs to have a contingency fund so we can recognize clubs. He explained all the factors that go into. Clubs highlighted in red did not do their paperwork or presentation. They will receive \$0.

Speaker Bove asked why clubs that received the base \$250.00 all went into programming. He wanted to know if clubs could still use that money for Rhody Fest and advertising and recruiting.

Director Hoover said yes

Chair Summerson asked if Exposure asked for the basic \$250.00

Director Hoover said yes

Chair Johnson asked if Office Supplies for the Fine Arts club allowed for specific things for that club.

Director Hoover said yes

Senator Stahl asked what the procedure will be for clubs that didn't fill out their budget requests.

Director Hoover said that no club will lose their budget status, and can apply for contingency money.

Chair Summerson wanted to know why MUSIC got half of their requested money for speakers and talent. Also when it came to recruitment

Director Hoover explained that the increase was too much and we don't have that kind of money which would need to be taken from SEC.

Chair Johnson asked, involving MUSIC, how collaborative events would work with their funding.

Director Hoover explained that MUSIC used to get a cosponsorship line, but now Senate will be the only club with that line. This because most clubs got what they requested and no clubs ever really use their co-sponsorship lines.

Chair Summerson asked what PENZA URI was.

Dr Stiles answered that PENZA was a Pentecostal Christian club.

Chair Summerson asked if recruitment was \$100 for all clubs.

Director Hoover said yes, for all Year 4+

Chair Johnson asked for the Yearbook and SEC, how do we take things into account when taking their own fundraising accounts into account.

Director Hoover expressed that for SEC Senate usually works to offset costs for students to make prices smaller.

Senator Peckham, wanted to share that PINK's recruitment process is longer, and therefore their recruitment budget should be higher.

Director Hoover expressed that they can still use their programming money for those types of things.

Chair Johnson expressed that it was important not to have clubs that charged for membership.

Chair Summerson wanted a breakdown for Sailing Club.

Director Hoover explained that they needed a boat repair. And that this would be the last one from senate, in the future they would need to go to campus rec.

Chair Summerson wanted to know why we were paying the secretary/worker for the sailing club

It was explained that it was a contractual obligation

Chair Johnson wanted to know if we could see what positions were funded by campus rec.

Senator Stahl commented that she was taking a class at the sailing center, she wanted to share that it was a great place.

Lucas Masiello (Good 5 Cent Cigar reporter) shared that he is on the sailing team. If anyone has questions please approach me.

Chair Summerson asked for a breakdown for SEC.

Director Hoover expressed that SEC asked for more money so that they could bring in people. Especially the diversity of genres.

Dr. Stiles wanted to clarify that Ryan Center events are different from SEC events.

Chair Summerson wanted a clarification as to what SOLC was, and why we are funding them.

Dr. Stiles clarified that SOLC is not a part of the leadership minor.

Director Hoover explained that there were office costs that we as a senate can help them cover.

Speaker Bove, wanted to know what happened with SVO's recognition status,

Chair Johnson explained that it is in the works

Senator Newman wanted a definition for programming, In reference with SEC.

Director Hoover explained that is a change this year, to make sure it is all in one programming account instead of multiple accounts.

Chair Montoya asked why we're are paying for a telephone line

Speaker Bove explained its a legal requirement

Senator Peckham asked why SEC charges money for tickets

Director Hoover explained that a club can charge for an event if they put all the money for that event.

Chair Johnson, for SEC there is a different cost for students vs outsiders.

Director Hoover broke down the Senate Admin costs.

Chair Johnson explained that there are many clubs, like student-led theatre, that are brand new.

Chair Johnson wanted a breakdown of the general contingency line.

Director Hoover broke it down. He explained it is better for clubs to get what they need and for them to apply for more, than for them to get more than they need and for senate to have no access to that money in case it doesn't get used.

Chair Summerson, wanted to know why WRIU needed money for maintenance and repair.

Director Hoover answered that it is for general equipment repair and maintenance, not the tower.

Speaker Bove asked why bump down the telephone funding of WRIU.

Director Hoover said that \$4,500.00 has been what they spend.

VDOT Bose motioned to strike the last three lines of the budget and to correct any grammatical errors. Seconded by Chair Montoya

Chair Johnson, explained that SEC only swapped the stipends of two positions.

Senator Peckham was asking why pay \$100.00 for staff photographers.

Lucas Masiello explained that its cheaper to pay them internally than to pay for the rights of using someone's photograph.

Chair Summerson wanted to know why there was such a gap between the editor in chief and all other stipended positions for the Good 5 Cent Cigar.

Lucas Masiello explained that the work load for the editor in chief is so burdensome in comparison to all other positions.

Chair Johnson shared that a lot of the job descriptions in the senate bylaws are very vague. He expressed that the bylaws are the job description. In cabinet it was discussed that job descriptions should change, and stipends should change with them.

Chair Johnson motioned to table the discussion, seconded by Chair Montoya

Chair Summerson disagreed.

Chair Johnson removed his motion.

Chair Summerson shared that people should ask stipended positions what they have done.

Senator Stahl was wondering why stipends changed so much for senate while things did not change for other clubs.

Senator Peckham wanted to know why there was so much focus on the bylaws. She shared that she found it problematic that all female positions got decreased while male positions got increased.

Chair Montoya shared that his position was paid less than all other stipended positions. He also shared that bylaws need to change and that stipends need to reflect that as well.

Senator Sutton shared that it was wildly unethical to base the stipends of other clubs on work, while we are basing them on the bylaws.

Chair Johnson shared that he is not able to be as scrutinous with other positions.

Senator Piacentini shared that all chairs submitted the amount of work they did. She was wondering if that was taking into consideration

Chair Johnson said yes, but it is important to also look at the bylaws for the sake of continuity.

Senator Piacentini shared that the discrepancy comes in when hearing that the process between all positions.

President Kiernan asked why is it that in the past the presidential position has always gotten an increase but this year its the year that the president gets a decrease. She again made comment to the decrease of the female led positions and increase for male led positions.

Senator Piacentini wanted to validate everyone who was worked on the budget, and end things on a positive note.

M. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

President Kiernan, apologized for just arriving, she thanked the room for everyone being so professional for handling themselves over the budget.

Senator Piacentini congratulated Senator Peckham on her birthday. The Assembly sang Happy Birthday.

N. ADJOURNMENT - Speaker Bove adjourned the meeting at 9:05pm.