



Memorial Student Union, Room: 201 | 50 Lower College Road,
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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
March 4th, 2026 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary:

Meeting Start Time: 6:31 (27 tonight)

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to amend and accept the agenda to read march 4th instead of feb 25th:

Senator Capraro, moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Chair Troxell

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Hudson moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Ramos

E. PUBLIC FORUM

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee
 - Chair Milner:
 - 4 recognition bills and club sports bills tonight
 - encourages participation
 - Club re-recognition due Friday at 12.
 - model constitution and recognition form due tonight for new clubs
 - Rhody club connection coming soon.
 - Academic Affairs Committee
 - Chair Troxell:
 - teaching excellence awards open (students & faculty), part-time faculty nominated by Google Form.
 - class spotlight coming. 10-15 second video, class name, course code due for submission. Reach out to the chair if you want to be in the video.
- External Affairs Committee
 - Chair Singh:
 - Clothing drive big success (sends love to the committee and thanks President Reyes). - offcampus newsletter coming on March 11th.
 - SK town council meeting was attended.

- SK town council will be invited to the Impact Fest.
- Cultural Affairs Committee
 - Chair Gonzalez:
- Black History Month post.
- March 10th Coco and ICE booth from 12-2. Collaboration with the Graduate Student Senate.
 - Campus Affairs Committee
 - Chair Hudson:
 - Dining both didn't happen in February. Will happen on March 10th in front of the Memorial Union.
 - Abby Benson meeting. Parking prices won't go up in the next few years. 3.5% increase in tuition alongside increase in graduate programs.
 - Snow Removal complaints: Snow removal is done by a private company, not URI.

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly
 - Speaker Rinne:
- Justin Watkins, president of the Graduate Student Association coming next week. Come with questions.
- Student Body President
 - President Reyes:
- Bills for access codes and syllabus bank.
- Student Body Vice President
 - VP Hailu:
- Congratulations to those campaigning.
- Campaigning initiatives will be finalized. Info will be coming soon.
- Director of the Treasury
 - DOT Njende:
- Remind president/treasurer of the club to get the re-regontion/budget form in by Friday by noon.
- Money is safe.
- Director of Communications
 - DOT Hinrichs:
- Merch site ready. Will be sent options through Group Me.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Constitutional Review Committee
 - Chair Niro
- Met on Friday.
- Elections Committee
 - Chair Curry
- Election period successful.

- Posters can stay up till Sunday. Recommend
- President/VP Debate is tomorrow 5pm at MU Aurtirum 1.

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

Discussion and preliminary planning of club sports bill – open session for feedback and interface with CSIC and members of club sports.

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEW BUSINESS

- President Reyes considers 42/43 first, Secluded my Chair Millner.

SS-25/26-38 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “E-COMMERCE CLUB” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “E-COMMERCE CLUB” mission statement is, “ to explore and grow student’s interests in E-Commerce/online sales, to properly design their storefront to appeal to customers as well as regularly analyzing the market for trending products for a chance to boost sales and increase revenue, and to learn how to deal with customer relations”, and

Whereas, E-Commerce 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 E-Commerce Club as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that E-Commerce Club is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(8-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds
Bill SS-25/26-38 passes unanimously

Chair Milner: E-commerce is a businesses related club to Amazon, shien...connected to the businesses college. Granted \$50 in funding.

Senator Bremer: Is this based on experiences or sustianinable bisnsises practices?

Senator: Neighbors: Is focused on the design.

Senator Keomany: What happens to the funds they make?

Chair Milner: it will be sent to the treasurer.

Chair Singh: Can we vote on all the SOC bills at once?

Speaker Rinne: No.

SS-25/26-39 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “DIVERSITY DIALOGUE” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Diversity Dialogues” mission statement is, “to create a safe space for the exploration and discussion of difficult topics centered around race, social inequality, diversity, and social justice”, and

Whereas, Diversity Dialogues 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 Diversity Dialogues as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Diversity Dialogues is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(8-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-39 passes unanimously

Chair Gonzalez: I move to amend Diversity Dialogues to ‘Diversity Dilaogue’. Seconded by Senator Bremer. Unanimously passed.

Chair Gonzalez: I was the President and now VP. We do workshops about DEI (ex: microagressions) to spread awareness, and a Malcolm X one aswell.

SS-25/26-40 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “MODEL UNITED NATIONS” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Model United Nations” mission statement is, “to offer students hands-on experience in diplomacy, public speaking, research, and global problem solving through simulations and statewide conference participation”, and

Whereas, Model United Nations 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 Model United Nations as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Model United Nations is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(8-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds
Bill SS-25/26-40 passes unanimously

Chair Milner: Model UN has lots of chapters around the world. They are receiving a \$50 package.

SS-25/26-41 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “URI AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “URI Amnesty International” mission statement is, “to promote and protect human rights through education, advocacy, and action in accordance with the principles of Amnesty International.”, and

Whereas, URI Amnesty International 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 URI Amnesty International as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that URI Amnesty International is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$50 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(8-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	

Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-41 passes unanimously

Chair Milner: Final topic of the night. Amnesty National is a NGO that campaigns for human rights. We fully support. They get a \$50 package.

SS-25/26-42 BILL CALLING FOR THE REASSIGNMENT OF CURRENT STUDENT SENATE SPORTS CLUB ORGANIZATION TO CAMPUS RECREATION/CLUB SPORTS UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE CLUB SPORTS AND INTRAMURAL COUNCIL (CSIC)

Whereas, the URI Student Senate currently allocates the Board of Trustees endorsed student activity fee of \$42/student to the Club Sports and Intramural Council (CSIC) in support of the 21 URI recognized Club Sports organizations under CSIC (approximately \$520,000/year), and

Whereas, the URI Student Senate additionally provides approximately \$60,000 in support to 14 currently Senate recognized sport clubs annually, and

Whereas, CSIC has a successful record of providing extensive resources in partnership with Campus Recreation to these organizations including relationships with national governing boards, fiscal management, peer governance, fundraising support, scheduling assistance, liability support, and

Whereas, the URI Student Senate does not have the same ability to provide content specific knowledge or support to the 14 current Student Senate sports club organizations or future sports club organizations, and

Whereas, CSIC and Club Sports have proposed serving as the responsible entity for effectively supporting these 14 club sports organization at URI in partnership with the Student Senate, and

Whereas, there are enhanced benefits available to currently recognized Student Senate Sports groups under this proposed reassignment, therefore it be

Resolved, that the URI Student Senate endorses the reassignment of all existing Senate club sport groups to the oversight of CSIC in partnership with Campus Recreation and Club Sports, and will support the successful transition of these organizations by:

Maintaining, at minimum, current financial allocation levels for two years, and

enacting a moratorium on the *transfer* of ownership and oversight from URI student senate to Club Sports of any new sports-centered organizations unless approved jointly by URI Student Senate and Club Sports.

SPONSORS:	Speaker Rinne, Chair Milner, Senators D'Aiello, Curry, Dickson
BILL HANDLER:	Speaker Rinne, Chair Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(5-0-0)
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-42 passes unanimously

John Butler, President of CSIC

- Is a group of 21 club sports teams on campus
- 9 teams went to nationals
- Club sport GPA: 3.4
- Student lead: 1) organization, 2) Initiative, 3) Funding.
- Have professional staff. Wilbur and Hopkins in attendance.
- 14 senate recognized club sports.
- Have strict student travel.
- CSIC gets its funds from the student activity fee. Gets \$520,000 from the Senate. Fundraising \$408,000.
- Has the same budget but 24% purchasing power decrease since getting their funding. Has led to an increase in dues and cut back on programs.
- Wants to take charge of senate recognized club sports, take on initiation, and raise student activity fees.
- 3 Step Program: 1) recognize 14 Senate Clubs. Keep the budget as is. 2) \$10 increase, Senate clubs get CSIC funding. 3) Budget increases to keep in line with inflation.

- Senator Dickson: Does this include forwithcomming inflation.
- Butler: No. Will have to re-perpose it in several years.

- Chair Millner: What are your coming initiatives?
- Butler: Meet the needs of current club sports and allow faculty adivsieiment.

- Speaker Rinne: What's current dues for rowing?

- Bassner: \$1,600. \$3,000 for ice hockey. CSIC wants to fund sports by 50%.

- DOC Hinrichs: Can you tell us about liability for these clubs?

- Club Sport Faculty: Everyone has to be CRP, AED ceritiffied, on Univerisity payroll, staff oversight, and ensure transportation needs.

- Other Club Sport Faculty: Purchasing power.

- Club Sport Faculty: Athletic trainers are provided.

- Speaker Rinne:
 - Steps down from the speakership for a moment.
 - SS 25-26-32 calls for reassignment for the 14 clubs to CSIC. SS 25-26-43 will see the price increase to \$10 in 28' and \$10 in 29'. Price increases will occur under Senate Ballot. Questions?

- Chair Niro: As a club sport president, this club initaitves would be a big help. I have felt the issues that have arisien though this.

- Chair Singh: Tonight we have the opportunity to pass a historic bill. Let's leave the institution to be better than we found it. We have the possibility to do this tonight.
- Chair Milner: I endorse this idea, it's been in the work for a while.

SS-25/26-43 BILL CALLING FOR THE REFERENDUM POLLING THE STUDENT OPINION ON INCREASING THE CSIC TAX APPROPRIATION:

Whereas, the Club Sports and Intramural Council, hereafter referred to as CSIC, only received \$42 the Student Services Fee, and

Whereas, Club Sports, CSIC, and existing Senate sports clubs have expressed concern that the budget appropriation last adjusted in 2019 is not sufficient to provide current and future CSIC recognized organizations with the desired levels of support and competition, and

Whereas, there has been extensive research conducted by the staff of the Memorial Union and Campus Recreation/Club Sports in collaboration with CSIC on the budget constraints of CSIC and student club athletes, and

Whereas, there are 14 current Senate sports club organizations in addition to the 21 existing recognized Club Sports groups that could benefit from an increase in the CSIC appropriation of \$10/student in FY '28 and 'FY '29, therefore it be

Resolved, that a referendum is put forward to the undergraduate student population to gauge their opinion on supporting the proposed CSIC Tax Appropriation increase through elections beginning on March 6th.

SPONSORS:	Speaker Rinne, Chair Milner, Senators D'Aiello, Curry, Dickson
BILL HANDLER:	Speaker Rinne, Chairman Milner
DATE:	Wednesday, March 4th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(5-0-0)
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Voting proceeds
Bill SS-25/26-43 passes
 (26-1-0)

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

- President Reyes
- Seniors look out for stolen message.
- Senate formal update.
- Please unmute Group Me.

- Speaker Rinne:
 - Supports the Senate formal update.

- President Reyes
 - More Senate formal updates.

- Speaker Rinne:
 - Financial information on the Senate formal.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: