



Student Senate Logo

University of Rhode Island Student Senate

General Assembly Agenda

Location: [Memorial Union, Room, Memorial Union, 50 Lower College Rd, Kingston, RI 02881]

Date: [8, April, 2026]

Time: [6:30 PM – 8:00 PM]

Recording Secretary: Max McConville

1. Call to Order

Time called: ___ 6:30 PM ___

2. Roll Call

Present:

Bennett

Bremer

Capraro

Conte

Curt

Danis

Dionne

Dontula

Faye

Gonzalez

Hudson

Keomany

Konte

MacKenzie

Macrae

McConville

Niro

Penny

Ramos

Rosa

Singh

Troxell

Waddell

Absent:

3. Approval of The Agenda

Motion: Senator Troxell

Second:

Senator Waddell motions to have new senators sworn in prior to speaker and chair elections...

Senator Waddell: This is how it's listed in the By-Laws.

VP Lyn: We are doing the swearing in of new senators next week.

Senator Hudson: Can we swear in the people who are here this week but then swear in the other people who aren't here next week?

President Hinrichs: Not everyone was told in advance.

Senator Gonzalez: Are we voting on internal pistons?

VP Lyn: We are doing chairs this week.

Senator Waddell: I call to order the consideration of the motion on the floor.

Senator Waddell calls to order the consideration of the motion on the floor.

President Hinrichs: A good amount of people who cannot vote are here.

Senator Waddell: How would those who are internally nominated be able to vote if not here.

Senator Troxell: You cannot speak unless the acting speaker calls on you in order for Senator McConville to take the minutes.

Senator Singh: I move to amend the motion.

VP Lin: We are taking a recess.

[5 minute recess]

VP Lin: All motions have been removed from the floor.

Motion to Amend the agenda to vote on nominated senators nominated last week, sworn in, and then vote on chairs.

Motion is unanimously passed

Result:

4. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Previous meeting date: __ 4/1/26 (Pre-Annual) & 4/1/26 (Post-Annual)_____

Senator McConville: I motion to add Tom Cooley's public form to the pre-annual meeting minutes.

Amendment to Pre-Annual Minutes (4/1/26)

Motion: Senator McConville

Second: Senator Hudson

Result: Unanimously passed

[Senator Hudson requests to amend last week's post-annual minutes to say he nominated Ethan Dintino for At-large and for Thomas Drankwalters name to be fixed. seconded by Dionne.]

Amendment to Post-Annual Minutes (4/1/26)

Motion: Senator Hudson

Second: Senator Dionne

Result: Unanimously passed

Pre-Annual Minutes (4/1/26)

Motion: Senator Troxell

Second: Senator Caparo

Result: Unanimously passed

Post-Annual Minutes (4/1/26)

Motion: Senator Troxell

Second: Senator Caparo

Result: Unanimously passed

5. Public Forum

(Open to students and guests — time-limited if needed)

Speaker Name / Topic:

Notes:

6. Reports of Standing Committees

(Keep consistent order every meeting)

- Student Organizations Committee
- Academic Affairs Committee
- External Affairs Committee
- Cultural Affairs Committee
- Campus Affairs Committee

Notes:

7. Executive Branch / Cabinet Reports

- Speaker of the Assembly
- Student Body President

President Hinrichs:

- Hi, nothing much.
- Student Body Vice President
- Director of the Treasury
- Director of Communications

Notes:

8. Reports of Special Committees

- [Committee Name(s)]

Notes:

9. Report of the Court

Notes:

10. Announcements

[Important updates, deadlines, events]

11. Special Orders

Final Nominations

Endorsements for last meetings nominations :

VP Lin: 3 endorsements per person, 2 minutes each, speeches 1 per person, 2 minutes per chair/speaker speeches.

List of open assembly positions

College of Business Representative

VP Lin: Do we have any endorsements?

Senator McConville:

Hi, for those of you who don't know me my name is Max, I'm the recording secretary, and this will be my second term in the Senate.

Over the past two years I've become good friends with Jalen Summers and I will say he's one of the most loyal and friendly people I've met during my time at URI so far.

I believe that as your College of Business Representative, Summers will bring this same loyalty into his advocacy of Business Students interests and concerns to department faculty.

Summers has a strong academic record, being a part of the Honors program, and comes across a large scope of our study body's population through his involvement in club track, tennis, and intramural football.

As the son of a college of Business graduate, I know the importance and impact these young business leaders found at URI have in our society. And I believe Jalen Summers represents the best of them.

I give Jalen Summers my complete and total endorsement for the College Of Business Representative.

Thank you.

Senator Waddell:

I am endorsing my good friend Jalen. I've known him early on. He's always been there and we help one another. He's a motivated and involved student and I'd love to see this involvement extended into the student senate and I think he'd be a great candidate for college of business representative. Thank you.

VP Lyn:

Your options are Jalen Summers or Tyler Mullen.

VP Lyn:

16 in favor of your new college of Business representative is Jalen Summers. We will now pass out ballots for At Large.

Senator Dionne:

I'd like to nominate Chase Maxwell. He's been in the Senate office a lot. Good friend. Good roommate. I'd love to see him on Senate.

Senator Ramos:

Thomas Drankwalter. He's the best guy. He's always listening to me talk about the senate. Vote for Thomas.

Senator Troxell:

I want to enforce Byonce Martin. She's been on senate before.

Senator Capario:

I'd also like to enforce Byonce Martin.

Senator Hudson:

I'd like to enforce Ethan Dintino. He's going to make a change. Full weight is behind him.

VP Lin:

16 in favor of Maxwell, 12 in favor of Martin, 12 in favor of Drankwater. These are you new at-large representatives.

At Large (3)

On-Campus (5)

Voted on unanimously

Off-Campus (6)

Voted on unanimously

College of Pharmacy Representative

Voted on unanimously

Waddell:

- Shouldn't those sworn in join the table?

President Hinrichs:

They will be sworn in first.

President Hinrichs Swears in the new senator's elect and become Senators in the positions they where voted in as.

President Swears in the new senator elect for off-campus senator and become Senators in the positions

they where voted in as.

Speaker

Gonzalez:

I would like to endorse Ryan Niro. He's been my VP for cultural affairs. He's loyal which is important to look at for when choosing a speaker. He chaired the constitutional committee. I enjoyed working with him as my vice chair and in general. He's one of the most intelligent men I ever met.

VP Lyn: please write all chair positions on this ballot.

Senator Troxell: I endorse Senator Capario. I've known her since 2nd grade. She puts her all into everything. I think she'd be great as speaker. She was my vice chair. I believe she is the best option for our speakership.

Senator Singh:

This is a decision for the kind of senate we choose to be. That only happens with strong, steady...with action. Ryan doesn't seek this position...the speaker sets the tone...that reaches this chamber. He has the integrity to carry this position...elevate everyone around him. He listens...this is a moment for clarity, not comfort...to vote for conviction...if you want a more...we demand a speaker...this speaker is Ryan, I speak in full confidence...

Senator Dannis:

I'd like to endorse Aaron Ramos on behalf of previous President Rayes...grasps the many pressing issues...he works in partnership with senators and faculty to improve the...Aaron is also a great individual...he is a vital...character and experience make him a great pick...lead the senate in a productive year...

Senator Hudson:

I want to endorse Aaron Ramos...he's been my roommate for a year and a half...his drive [is] ambitious...so you know, I endorse Aaron...I hope you guys vote for Aaron.

Troxell: I yield the floor to Jacob Milner.

The floor is yielded to Jacob Milner.

Jacob Millner:

I enforce Senator Capario...we did a lot of good work together...she's nice and calming...super capable of managing the chaos...great reputation...speakership is a role not taken lightly....

Cole Rinne:

I was the speaker last year I officially enforce Memonie Capraro, I worked with her...she is the pinnacle of a driven student advocate...good decision making and judgement...responsible for flow of innovation...well organized and connected...positive demeanor for the body...get out of here in a timely manner...incredible leadership...think about who you'd want to ask for 2 hours...make right decisions...I...

Senator McConville:

Hi, me again. I will now proceed to read off an endorsement for Aaron Ramos for Speaker from Tom Cooley, AVP for Student Affairs and Campus Living Tom Cooley.

Aaron has distinguished himself as a steady, solutions-focused leader who approaches his work with a clear sense of responsibility to the student body. In my interactions with him, he comes prepared, asks informed questions, and follows through on the details that matter. He has been particularly effective in elevating student perspectives in a constructive, grounded way, whether by offering input on residential policies, identifying gaps in how information is shared with students, or raising practical considerations related to dining access, hours, and overall experience. Aaron navigates conversations with a level of professionalism that builds trust, and he balances advocacy with an understanding of how decisions are made. He is someone who works to move issues forward, not just raise them.

I'd like to add that Aaron has a really nice speaking voice! I mean have you heard this man speak. *It's very majestic...*

Senator Waddell:

I'd like to endorse Ryan Niro. I'd known him since Kindergarten...he will run this with the utmost difficulty...he has been one of the most impactful new senators...chair of the constitutional committee and [is in the] faculty senate...he has a vision for this senate and there is no one better for this position than Ryan...following the by-laws and Roberts Rules of Order...independent capstone on Roberts rule in decorum...thank you.

Senator Niro:

...[lists positions]...any environment in an institution to be...amplifying voices...as the former Arts and Sciences representative...[advocate for students]...allowed me to advocate for undergraduates and graduates alike ... one is a lighthouse ... awaiting sailors returns ... the ... in our voices ... as speaker I would continue this work with [bringing in the GSA and Faculty Senate] ... with gratitude ...share this burning cadence. Thank you.

Senator Capraro:

My name is Melonie Capraro... I'm going into my senior year... this will be my 3rd term in Senate... congrats to new senators. Although I may be harder to spot in a crowd than our former Speaker Cole... President of HDF Club... VP of Academic Affairs Committee... Commencement Committee. I have... time management skills... I believe are... teaching assistant for the Psychology Department... plenty of experience in Student Senate and Constitution and Bylaws... if elected Speaker, I will... [review Robert's Rules]... my goal is to run...

VP Lyn: That's 2 minutes.

Senator Ramos:

...Since I've joined senate I've wanted to do big things. I want to be sure of what I wanted to do...I will be able to attain big things and the assembly as well...can compose a wicked good email, invite...speakers...immense passion for campus...work through campus affairs position...shout out to Cam and Riley...thank you.

External Affairs Chair

Senator Gonzalez:

I endorse Bella Contie...although we don't work together...means we haven't been together...I've seen her work as vice chair of the committee...you want someone from day one ... vote for Bella Contie.

Senator Niro:

As former Vice chair I can speak to...having worked with her [Senator Conte]...witness her growth...those changes are of the utmost importance for any aspiring student to know of..as the chair of the external affairs committee, change will be able to happen. Thank you.

Senator Ramos:

Hi, me again...I would like to endorse Riley...Dionne. I've known him since 6th grade. We've grown up together and...getting things done on time...beautifully dressed...he'd be a great choice for external.

Senator Hudson:

...I've known Riley for 3 years...he cares for what he believes in...he's going to get things done...[that's] what I like about him...they get places...he gets my full endorsement.

Senator Singh:

I served as the last external affairs chair...my soon to be external affairs chair isabella conitew...i attest to her 100%...when i used to send bella random texts...bella with her super ambitious voice said 'Arpan we are getting this done...'...meeting with the police...supproting groups and organizations during impact fest...Bella, ive always said that...i know you will do grera...vote leaders, leaders who can lead...external affairs it...point of informaiton Riley left external to leave another committee. Bella was served as my Vice Chair...

Seator Dionne:

Gppd eveaning Senators, thank you for those who supported my campaign...when making this choice i know from the start which psitovn i'd run for...i learned valuable lessons...as External Affairs DOC I learned all the ins and outs of working for it. If elected for this seat...I'd like to...champion new ideas...my objective is ismpel,...with hteb students intrtess un mind...leading my example...thab you all fort my attention...i will not let you dpwn...if anyone has quesutins feel free to ask me.

Senator Contie:

I'm bella, and im curenely thre VP of external affairs...i stayed on top of communications,...made sure oru prescenece is felt beyond cvampus...the most importantly i've shown up...i truely do care about the...followthough consisitancyly and[under arpan] how to work effectively. I hoep you guys can all obvte for me. Thank you.

Campus Affairs

Senator Ramos:

I'd like to formally endorse Cam Hudson for Campus Affairs.

Senator Keomany:

I'de like to enforce Senator Rosa for Campus Affairs Comittee...whren Senator Rosa was given a task...willingness that set him apart...an amazing job in external...when Rosa first joined he made an impact to get to know everyone individually.

Senator Conte:

I endorse Sebastian for the Campus Affairs Chair...shows up to make everything better on campus...Sebastian works with...integrity...showed up to everyting...what sets him apart...it's about people...students feel uspproted...sebastions will advocate us...I enouage all of you to vote for Sebastian Rosa fot your next Campus Affairs Chair.

Senator Martin:

I would like to endorse Senator Hudson...open to new ideas...I can't remember a time he had a bad energy or expressed what you want to ...that's why you should vote for him.

Senator Singh:

...I love both of them equally...students deserve leadership that turns ideas into immediate results...turn meeting into...results...I've seen him as a capable leader...he knows how to bring people together...he has the skill to ensure students voices are heard...make campus affairs...effective...he has committed to making realistic and visible change...for leadership that...Senator Rosa is the clear choice for campus affairs chair...to change the extent of the committee...I leave you for a few questions...are we to continually...or driven by a force...calculate...with senator Rosa with your chair...to prosper. Thank you.

Senator Hudson:

I want to thank my committee for the past year...all of you...even if change was small...I know we did positive things...[names senators in the previous Campus Affairs Committee]...we've all done good collaborations...I appreciated the...I've been here for 3 and 1/2 years...I love the committee and passion...my initiatives...advocate for food ideas from the dining booth survey in March. I know that's a big concern...better snow removal as you all know...a lot of us were slipping...I want to get better snow removal...hire a new private company or have campus safety do it...address and disseminate student information...

VP Lyn:

2 minutes.

Senator Rosa:

...Before continuing, I'd like to confront something up front...[I have not lived on Campus]...I've dealt with the same struggles as on-campus students have...what the concerns of our student body on every issue...I as your Campus Affairs Chair should attack this hands on...I would work closely with my committee members...this is my first time running for leadership in senate...in high school I served as...in my graduating class. It's about solving problems in trial and error...I may have not lived on campus...I am living and contribution on behalf of the student experience...thank you.

VP Lyn:

[announces the winners of Speaker, External Affairs, and Campus Affairs as: Speaker Niro for Speaker, Senator Contie for External Affairs Chair, and Sebastian Rosa for Campus Affairs Chair].

Cultural Affairs Chair

Unanimous vote for Senator Gonzalez.

SOC Chair

Senator Singh is conformed with 2 absentions.

Academic Affairs

Unanimous vote for Senator Troxell

President Hinrichs swears in the new speaker and Chair-members.

Speaker

Motion: Senator Singh nominates Senator Niro for Speaker

Second: Seconded by Senator Waddell

Motion: Senator Macrae nominates Senator Capraro for Speaker

Second: Seconded by Senator Singh

Motion: Senator Hudson nominates Senator Ramos for Speaker

Second: Seconded by Senator Dionne

Student Organization Committee Chair

Motion : Senator Troxell nominates Senator Singh for Student Organizations Committee Chair

Second : Seconded by Senator Caparo

Academic Affairs Chair

Motion : Senator Capraro nominates Senator Troxell for Academic Affairs Chair

Second : Seconded by Senator Macrae

External Affairs Chair

Motion : Senator Singh nominates Senator Conte for External Affairs Chair

Second : Seconded by Senator Gonzalez

Motion : Senator Hudson nominates Senator Dionne for External Affairs Chair

Second : Seconded by Senator Ramos

Campus Affairs Chair

Motion : *Senator Ramos nominates Senator Hudson for Campus Affairs Chair*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Dionne*

Motion : *Senator Conte nominates Senator Rosa for Campus Affairs Chair*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Keomany*

Cultural Affairs Chair

Motion : *Senator Troxell nominates Senator Gonzalez for Cultural Affairs Chair*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Capraro*

College of Business

Motion : *Senator Waddell nominates Jalen Summers for College of Business Representative*

Second : *Seconded by Senator McConville*

Motion : *President Hinrichs nominates Tyler Mollen for College of Business Representative*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Dionne*

At-Large

Motion : *Senator Ramos nominates Chase Maxwell for At-large Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Dionne*

Motion : *Senator Capraro nominates Gianna Longo for At-Large Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Troxell*

Motion : *President Hinrichs nominates Farrell for At-Large Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Singh*

Motion : *Senator Ramos nominates Dionne Drankwalter for At-large Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Dionne*

Motion : *Senator Hudson nominates Byonce Martin for At-Large Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Dionne*

On-campus

Motion : *Senator Gonzalez nominates Angalie Junga for On-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Rosa*

Motion : *Senator Singh nominates Terrez Osborne for On-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Hudson*

Motion : *Senator Troxell nominates VinChenzo Ferro for On-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Capraro*

Motion : *Senator Troxell nominates Violette Caruso for On-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Capraro*

Off-Campus

Motion : *Senator Niro nominates Evvon Monteiro for Off-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Gonzalez*

Motion : *Senator Waddell nominates Shamus Baxter for Off-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Niro*

Motion : *Senator Danis nominates Riley Gudas for Off-Campus Senator*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Capraro*

Pharmacy

Motion : *Senator Troxell nominates Ainsley Struble for College of Pharmacy Representative*

Second : *Seconded by Senator Capraro*

2. Swearing of new Senators

- President Hinrichs
-

12. Unfinished Business

No unfinished Business

13. New Business

No new Business

14. General Discussion & Open Forum

15. Adjournment

Speaker Niro:

congrats to all running.

[applause occurs]

Speaker Niro: You are...the cream of the crop.

[Another round of applause]

[applause occurs]

Time adjourned: __ 8:00 PM _____

