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**University of Rhode Island Student Senate**  
September 3rd, 2025 General Assembly Agenda

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*Recording Secretary: Lynn Sawyer*

*Meeting Start Time: 6:35*

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. ROLL CALL**

**Present**

**Excused absence**

**Unexcused absence**

**Acharya**

**C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Senator/Chair moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Senator/Chair \_\_\_\_\_*

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

*Chair Gonzalez moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator Stover*

*Motion unanimously passes*

**E. PUBLIC FORUM**

**N/A**

**F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

- **Chairs using this time to share committee/meeting information and any communications they need to make**
  - Student Organizations Committee  
Chair Milner
    - Ask committee members to meet after the meeting to discuss when to meet
    - Pushing for streamline communication with clubs
    - Currently 121 registered student senate recognized organizations
    - We want to get them to where they need to be and work as an advisor to them
  - Academic Affairs Committee  
Chair Wentworth
    - Academics committee works to improve the academic environment on campus

- with promoting academic writes and improving the experience on campus
- Please join the group chat if you are in the committee meetings and fill out the when to meet!
- Please make sure you can attend your committee meetings as they are mandatory
- External Affairs Committee

Chair Singh

- Most of the committee members have been added to the groupchat
- If you want to join external affairs you are more than welcome to
- Please stay after the meeting if your in the committee
- Cultural Affairs Committee

Chair Gonzalez:

- The meeting has already been set, thank you!
- The committee is very small so if you are open to joining the committee please join or try it out!
- A lot of things planned for this year!
- If you can't make your meeting times this is a great one to join
- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair hudson:

- We do a lot involving the campus including: housing, parking, and a lot more
- If I don't already have your number please let me know if your in the committee so we can start more communication

## **G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET**

- Speaker of the Assembly

Speaker rinne:

- Hope everyone is doing well, and a good first day of classes
- Please reach out if you can not make general assembly because it is mandatory and we do have a limited number of absences
- Paper being passed out later
- Student Body President

President Reyes

- The Faculty senate is looking for some representatives to be on their committees, if any of them peak your interest please let me know so we can schedule some meetings!
- CED wants a representative of senate for disability advocate spot
- There have been some changes to the retreat! We will only be at the challenge course for three hours from 9 to 12pm. What we had planned will all be included at that time! Please fill it out today so I can give them a number! Also please fill out the risk form. If you had already done it you should be good. If you have it on paper that is also fine, it will be needed before Sunday!
- Student Body Vice President

VP Hailu:

- Hi guys! I hope you had a wonderful summer and a nice first day of classes. I will assume you got my email the day before yesterday! We will be using clockify, and if you can not have the gps on please reach out to me. If you are attending events it has to be the same weeks that you're using to cover your office hours. With the exception of this week. Make sure to describe in the time sheet labeled as "Office hours for your last name". So it can be easily recorded. Working with a lot of committees and it is going well so far with all of them and meeting soon. Collab with dining services has been

postponed. Two warnings before consequences for not doing your office hours.

- Director of the Treasury

DOT Njende:

- I hope everyone had a great summer! Nothing too much for the DOT signs. Over the summer we just approved clubs for some early events. Getting name plates and stipends soon.

- Director of Communications

DOC Heinrichs:

- Welcome back! Hope you're all doing well! We're going to do a senate summer and send me pictures/blurbs about that. Meeting tomorrow to discuss senate merch. Enjoy the rest of your week!

## **H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

- Podcast Committee

Chair neighbors:

- I'm Isabella. I run the podcast committee. If you are on the committee please stay after. We do have our first guest thank you Chair Hudson. If you are in another committee and they asked you to stay after come to me after that committee

## **I. REPORT OF THE COURT**

## **J. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **K. SPECIAL ORDERS**

- Creation of the elections Committee

Senator Sawyer:

- Do we have elections in the fall

President Reyes:

- We can fill the first year seats and for anyone that left and we can fill the open seats

Nomination for election committee :

Senator Sawyer nominated by chair gonzalez and seconded by chair singh

Senator Ebrahimpour nominated by chair singh and seconded by chair hudson

Senator Dickson nominated by chair singh and seconded by chair milner

Senator Roach nominated by chair gonzalez and seconded by chair hudson

Senator Stover nominated by chair singh and seconded by chair hudson

- Motion to approve the committee made speaker Rinne by senator Ibrahimpour
- Motion passed unanimously
- Reformation of the constitutional review committee
- Motion to resign the motion to reform the constitutional bill.
- Motion passes

Chair Gonzalez nominated by senator Bremer and seconded by chair singh

Chair Singh nominated by senator niro and second by senator waddle

Chair Milner nominated by Chair Singh and seconded by chair

Speaker rinne nominated by chair milner and seconded by chair singh

Chair Niro nominated by senator ebrahimpour and seconded by chair singh

Senator Diello nominated by chair milner and seconded by chair singh

- Motion to approve the committee members made by speaker Rinne
- Motion passes unanimously

## **L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **M. NEW BUSINESS**

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

### ***- Review of Student Senate Rules and Expectations***

- Every meeting you need to read the agenda and make sure that you know what is on the agenda
- Side conversations are not allowed
- When we have debates on motion please share your opinion even if it's not popular, no one is going to think less of you. Please do not be aggressive. There is a summary of motions and the most common motions. These motions are one that you have to raise your hand for under section 3. If you have something to interject directly to the speaker follow section 4. If you need to get us back on topic please call to order. Certain votes to end debates or amend bylaws you need a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority.
- Roll call votes are used if we are not sure that a vote is unanimous or if it will pass or not. There is no dress code, but if we have a speaker in our meeting it is important to dress nicely to show respect to the speakers that we have. Coming up we do have a couple of heavy topic speakers. So I will be issuing content warnings in the coming weeks. For our next meeting Keith label will be coming from i stand and he will be talking about assault and violence. If you do not want to come you don't have to tell me and you are more than welcome after. It will not count as an absence. We will be limiting debate to three minutes to keep us on track in our meeting unless a majority votes. Anyone have anything for open forum

Senator Stover: If you are asking a clarifying question do you have to raise your hand. Also what time do we normally get out

Speaker Rinne: It is not required but respectful to raise your hand. We don't have a hard stop but it is up to us to keep the meetings short.

President Reyes:

Just something to add please make it clear who is making motions for our secretary, and to the new senator please speak up!

Speaker Rinne: Major motions are done through bills. If you have a motion that requires something to be written down please get it to me by Monday at noon, because our mills and motions are super lengthy and detailed. It is important for you to raise your hand, if something is really pressing you can blurt it out but please raise your hand if you can

Chair Singh: One last time I want to speak about the importance of the committees, we are all elected and you should care about the committees

President Reyes: Yielding time to assistant vice president and director of the memorial union

- All of Greek life, all of student involvement, memorial union and SEA all under her. I want to thank our speaker and cabinet for giving Roberts rules. Ran for public office and was elected and served for four years. My role here is to advise all of the student organizations and sign senate contracts. Working closely with the treasury and cabinets. We revised some new conduct for student organizations! I want to work with the senate to work with all student organizations and not just ones we give money to. NON-hazing policy at URI and make sure all student organizations are following it. Finally working on new furniture. Working on parking and renovations for housing. Hope and real hope for the memorial union to be renovated. New grad student TJ who will be working

with the senate! New student senate specialist to be hired. Would love you all to be on the hiring committee with me! My team is happy to be with you and as a resource for you.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting End Time: 7:20*