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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
March 25th, 2026 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary: Max McConville

Meeting Start Time:

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Senator Rosa moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Chair Singh

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

E. PUBLIC FORUM

Director of housing and Dining:

Director of Housing (Thomas Cooley):

- Campus Living Update

Overview:

- Who we are
- How we can plan for the future.
- Updates
- Working with Campus Chair going forward.

HRL Overview:

- Over 20 resident halls
- Is auxiliary

Dining Services Overview:

- Does the entire campus.
- 14,000 undergraduate students and 3,000 graduate students fed.
- 67!

- Provides meals and staffing.
- Has operational , staffing, and deducted expenses.

HRL Success:

- ShrekFest in the quad in a few weeks. Free towels for the first 150 students.
- 786 students programs in the fall.
- 600 work orders completed.
- 56,000 packages in the fall. Over 100k in the spring.
- 503 applications for RA.

Satisfaction Survey:

- 58% of the population housed responded.
- Scores jumped.
- Safety and security - 6.19
- Hall student staff - 6.09
- Programming - 5.96
- Community environment - 5.83
- Takeaways: Students feel safe, people are the major asset, students feel supported, housing contributes to student success. Need to work on cleaning consistency, postal service, and network.
- Next Steps: working with networks to improve them, focuses on facilities and services, focus groups for room re-selection.

Satisfaction Survey Impact:

- New routers to be grouped.
- Shadowed 2.4 GHz to reduce noise.
- Added noise channels to reduce co-channel interference on 5 GHz.

Pierre St. Germaine

Dining Services Successes:

- Rams Den was renovated.
- Floating discount for food. 1 thing each day of the week for \$5. Done in partnership with Rayes/Hailu admin.
- Lunar New Year Event
- The Interfaith festival is tomorrow.
- 10,000 pounds of food produced by the Agronomy Farm. Mostly goes to dining but leftovers goes to free farmers market and Rhody Outpost.

- Dining survey circulating by Monday. Will be up for 2 weeks. Asks the senate to push it. Provide your email on it for prizes.
- Working on a strategic plan with a consultant for a 5 year plan.

Dining Service Strategic Planning:

- Financial stability with low costs
- Stretching workforce
- Modernizing programs.
- Operational excellence.
- Student centered dining experience.

Director of Housing (Thomas Cooley):

- Mainframe being renovated.

Pierre St. Germaine

- 250-300 extra seats being added. Will hold around 800 people.
- Opening 'Heaven', an allergy free station. Only eggs, dairy, and soy in the space. Will have daily meals. Fusion station will be made live action again.

Director of Housing (Thomas Cooley):

- Browning Hall Furniture put in over spring break.
- Residence hall groundbreaking.

Upcoming Schedule of Events:

- flagg waterline 3/16
- Foundations at north 3/23
- North elevator shaft 4/20
- South excavate for foundations 4/13
- Steel at north
- Wants to bring the Senate to a construction site.

Future Consideration:

- Want to listen to students. Talk to Chair Hudson.
- Self checkout perspective for dining. Pre-made, after-hours food being considered. want student feedback on this.

- Thank you!

Speaker Rinne:

Thank you guys for coming!

(Senate applauses in unison)

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee

Chair Milner:

- Lots of SOC bills. 5 recognition bills. Annual re-regonition bill.
- Ask questions if you have them.
- Academic Affairs Committee

Chair Troxelle:

- Email about a note program.
- Resolution on the Floor tonight. It was President Reyes' idea.
- New Instagram post. Thank you Andrew.

- External Affairs Committee

Chair Singh:

- IMPACT Fest March 31st, 12-3pm. SHOW UP!

- Cultural Affairs Committee

Senator Bremer:

- Assessing new initiatives.
 - Getting ready for new senators.
 - Possible new disability liason.

- Campus Affairs Committee

Chair Hudson:

- 1 resolution on the floor tonight.

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly

Speaker Rinne:

- Thank you for coming.
 - Please speak up if something doesnt look right.
- Student Body President

President Reyes:

- Welcome back!
- Formal on Friday
- Annual photo is next week. Dress nicely.
- Bring snacks to the next meeting too!

- Student Body Vice President

VP Hailu:

- Nothing done on the vending machine.
- Draft policy on record management and 3rd party platforms. Please comment on the policy.
- Digital Accessibility Virtual event march on Monday. Please share for those that want to use resources.

- Director of the Treasury

Senator Keomany:

- The budget is on the floor.
- Please reach out to dot@rhodysenate.com if you have any questions.

- Director of Communications

DOC Hinrichs

- Senate Merch out. The window for the deadline will be extended. Will be sent out on Group me.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Constitutional Review Committee
- Elections Committee

Chair Curry:

- Elections over.
- Will be amended on the floor. 3 senate seats won positions not currently listed.

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

Elections Committee Dissolved with one abstention.

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-25/26- 47 – RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND TO PROMOTE THE USE OF FREE EDUCATIONAL PLATFORMS AND DECREASE MANDATORY PAID THIRD-PARTY PLATFORMS AND ACCESS CODES FOR URI COURSES

Whereas, the University of Rhode Island (URI) is committed to equitable access to education for all students, and

Whereas, many students are required to purchase costly third-party platforms or access codes for course content, assessments, and homework, often ranging from \$50 to \$300 per course, and

Whereas, these additional costs place a burden on members of the student body, and

Whereas, the university already provides access to Brightspace and supports Open Educational Resources (OER) and other zero-cost alternatives that can house course content and assessments, and

Whereas, studies¹ show that paid platforms and access code costs can negatively impact academic performance from barriers to accessing essential materials, and

Whereas, institutions across the country, such as University of Connecticut, Louisiana State University, and Princeton University, have begun adopting no-cost and low-cost textbook and platform policies to reduce student expenses and increase accessibility, and

Therefore, The URI Student Senate formally supports the decrease of mandatory third-party platforms and access code requirements in URI courses where viable alternatives exist, and

Therefore, The URI Student Senate urges faculty to utilize Brightspace, OER, and other free university-supported platforms in place of paid platforms or codes when feasible, and

Therefore, The URI Student Senate requests that URI's administration and Faculty Senate create a task force or advisory committee to evaluate scalable, no-cost courseware solutions and propose a pathway for broader institutional adoption, and so be it

Resolved that, The URI Student Senate encourages The University of Rhode Island to move towards no-cost and low-cost student access platforms.

1. Colvard, N. B., Watson, C. E., & Park, H. (2018). The impact of open educational resources on various student success metrics. IJTLHE, 30(2), 262–276

SPONSORS:

Academic Affairs Committee

BILL HANDLER:

Chair Troxell (President Reyes)

DATE:

Wednesday March 25th, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

(5-0-0)

ACTION:

VOTE TONIGHT

President Reyes:

- Was presented in a previous administration.
 - Supported by GSA and others.
 - Want's to use free over paid platforms.
 - While we cannot infringe on professors' academic rights, we can advocate for students.
 - Resolution advocates for professors to use free academic resources and Brightspace.
 - Hope's professors transfer platforms from costly to free.

Chair Hudson:

- I really like this. I had to spend \$120 on McGraw Hill.

DOC Hindrics:

- This was on my platform and will allow me to work towards alternatives with professors.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-47 passes unanimously

SS-25/26-48 – BILL CALLING FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2025-2026 STUDENT SENATE SPRING ELECTIONS

Whereas, the Student Senate Spring election results as presented by the Elections Committee for the election for President, Vice President, and Representative seats for the 2026-2027 term.

Resolved, that the passage of this bill officially accepts the election of the following students for the respective positions, to be inaugurated at the 2025-2026 annual meeting, 4/1/26.

Student Body President (1)

(President-Elect) Madison Hinrichs (63.34%)

Student Body Vice President (1)

(Vice President-Elect) Kyanna Lin (63.34%)

At-Large Representatives (XX)

(Senator-Elect) Ryan Niro (5.78%)

(Senator-Elect) Annie Keomany (5.69%)

(Senator-Elect) Jackson Troxell (5.02%)

(Senator-Elect) Cassia Bennett (4.495)

(Senator Elect) Ryleigh Dionne (4.93%)

(Senator-Elect) Sahasra Dontula (3.73%)

(Senator-Elect) Jack Curt (3.11%)

(Senator-Elect) Bineta Konte (3.38%)

Off-Campus Representatives (XX)

(Senator-Elect) Aaron Ramos (8.26%)

(Senator-Elect) Cameron Hudson (7.46%)

(Senator-Elect) Bella Conte (7.46%)

(Senator-Elect) Kiary Gonzalez (7.11%)

(Senator-Elect) Arpan Utkarsh Singh (6.88%)

(Senator-Elect) Max McConville (6.31%)

On-Campus Representatives (XX)

(Senator-Elect) Sokhana Faye (21.06%)

(Senator-Elect) Caroline MacKenzie (20.83%)

(Senator-Elect) Conlan Bremer (16.43)

College of Arts and Sciences Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Sebastian Rosa (14.54%)

College of Education Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Alexa Danis (83.33%)

College of Engineering Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Dylan Waddell (62.5%)

College of Environmental Life Sciences Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Lyla Macrae (65.9%)

College of Nursing Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Cierra Penny (100%)

College of Health Science Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Melanie Cpraro (60%)

College of Pharmacy Representative (1)

Resolved, that the passage of this bill shall open the internal election process for these remaining seats immediately.

College of Pharmacy Representative (1)

At-Large Representatives (1)

College of Business Representative (1)

Sponsors:
Bill Handler:
Recommendation

Elections Committee
Chairwoman Curry
6-0-0

Date:
Action:

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026
Vote Tonight

Chair Curry moves to amend SS-25/26-48 to include Senator's-elect Dionne, Gonzalez, and Cpraro, seconded by Chair Milner

- Speaker Rinne:
 - This is who will be sworn in next week.
- The second part means other seats are open for internal elecitoion

Voting proceeds
Bill SS-25/26-48 passes unanimously

Speaker Rinne:
Thank you curry for admending

SS-25/26-49 – RESOLUTION CALLING FOR HEALTH SERVICES TO WRITE SICK NOTES FOR UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENTS

Whereas, The University of Rhode Island Health Services is the primary on-campus medical provider for students and is uniquely positioned to offer timely, accessible, and credible documentation of illness; and

Whereas, the URI Health Services has not provided “sick notes” according to the director of health services since at least 2024, and

Whereas, this practice places an unfair burden on students who are ill, forcing them to seek off-campus medical appointments to acquire a sick note, incur unnecessary costs, miss class and not get excused absences, or attend class while sick in order to avoid academic penalties; and

Whereas, public health best practices emphasize reducing barriers to staying home when sick, especially in communal living and learning environments such as residence halls, classrooms, and dining facilities; and

Whereas, peer institutions across the region and country routinely provide illness documentation through their campus health centers, showing that such a policy is both feasible and beneficial to student well-being; and

Whereas, providing sick notes would strengthen communication between students, faculty, and health services, reduce academic stress during illness due to excused absences being given out by professors, and promote a healthier campus environment overall; and

Therefore it be resolved, that the Student Senate calls upon the University of Rhode Island Health Services to give students sick notes for students who show symptoms of a sickness/sicknesses, and

Be it further resolved, that adoption of this should assist students in getting necessary excused absences from classes, and

Be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Health Services, the Dean of Students, the Faculty Senate, and other relevant administrative bodies for review and implementation.

SPONSOR(S): Chair Singh, Senator Torres, Senator Ramos, Senator Abott, Senator Dionne, Senator Martin, Senator McConville

BILL HANDLER:

Chair Hudson

DATE:

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

(7-0-0)

EXPIRATION:

Valid Until Review

ACTION:

Vote Tonight

Chair Hudson:

- Health services stopped giving out sick notes a year ago. Has been trouble for getting excused. Leads to inconsistencies.
- I had a lot of excused absences for being sick.
- This could benefit everyone

Chair Singh:

- I second this opinion and resolution.

Senator Waddell:

- I also second this.

Advisor DeWitt:

Why was it stopped?

Hudson:

I don't know why.

Senator Martin:

I also support this. My friends discuss this. Something it's just a day thing. This can't get achieved this semester but it opens up a conversation for having standards for professors in references to absences since they all seem to have their own policies

President Reyes:

To answer Lucas. Students will ask for excuses for the way they didn't have to miss class and professors said students were missing class for no reason.

Senator: Bremer

This is an accessibility issue. This is important for those who are immuno compromised.

Chair Singh calls the question to be answered immediately. It is passed.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-49 passes unanimously

Speaker Rinne:

Congrats Chair Hudson.

SS-25/26-50 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “COOKING WITH RAMS” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Cooking with Rams” mission statement is, “to promote cultural diversity, community engagement, and creativity through food,” and

Whereas, Cooking with Rams 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 Cooking with Rams as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Cooking with Rams 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:

BILL HANDLER:

DATE:

RECOMMENDATION:

EXPIRATION:

ACTION:

Student Organizations Committee

Chairman Milner

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026

(7-0-0)

Valid Until next re-recognition

Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:

- \$50 in funding.
- On rereognition.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-50 passes unanimously

(applause breaks out)

SS-25/26-51 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “LET’S TALK ABOUT IT” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Let’s Talk About It” mission statement is, “to produce a student-run podcast that entertains, connects, and informs the student body by creating a fun, comedic space where students can laugh, relate, and stay informed both on-campus and off-campus life,” and

Whereas, Let's Talk About It 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 Let's Talk About It as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Let's Talk About It 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 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(7-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:

- Fills a niche.
- \$50 financial package.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-51 passes unanimously

(applause break out)

SS-25/26-52 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “CREATIVE WRITERS COALITION” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Creative Writers Coalition” mission statement is, “to create an environment where writers can share their work and exercise their creativity,” and

Whereas, Creative Writers Coalition 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 Creative Writers Coalition as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Creative Writers Coalition 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 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION:	(7-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:

- Fills a niche.
- Great, organized.
- \$50 financial package.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-52 passes unanimously

SS-25/26-53 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY SCIENCE CLUB” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Human Development and Family Science Club” mission statement is, “To foster a supportive community for Human Development and Family Science students to connect with peers and faculty, explore academic and career pathways within HDF, and engage in meaningful, enjoyable experiences that promote personal growth and well-being.” and

Whereas, Human Development and Family Science 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 Human Development and Family Science Club as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Human Development and Family Science 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 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION: (6-0-1)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:
- Greenlight.
- Getting \$50

Voting proceeds
Bill SS-25/26-53 passes unanimously

**SS-25/26-54 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
“ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS STUDENT
ASSOCIATION” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION**

Whereas, the “Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Student Association” mission statement is, “to bring together the members of our unique major to build a community outside of the classroom that is dedicated to furthering their experience through connection, collaboration, and learning through events, discussions, and opportunities that unify like-minded peers passionate about environmental and economic issues.” and

Whereas, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Student Association 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 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Student Association as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Student Association 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 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION: (8-0-0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:

- We did it. This is the last recognition bill of the year.
- Greenlight.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-54 passes unanimously

(light applause breaks out)

SS-25/26-55 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ANNUAL RE-RECOGNITION OF UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT SENATE APPROVED ORGANIZATIONS

Whereas, the Student Organizations Committee (SOC) must review all Student Senate-recognized organizations annually, and

Whereas, all Student Senate-recognized organizations must successfully complete the re-recognition process to be re-recognized for the next fiscal year, and

Whereas, the following organizations failed to complete the re-recognition and budget process on time, or did not meet the minimum requirements to continue being a student senate-recognized organization:

American Society of Pharmacognosy
Birdwatching Club
BridgeUSA
Climbing Club
College Democrats
College Republicans
Confidence Club
Dress History Club
Eating Concerns Advisory (ECA)
Engineers Without Borders
Exercise is Medicine on Campus
eXposure
Fashion Merchandising Society
Flow
Haitian Student Association (HSA)
Lego Club
Med Life
Multicultural Student Athlete Committee (MSAC)
Papuan Student Association (PSA)
Planned Parenthood Advocacy (PPA)
Pre-Physician Assistant Club
Psychology Club
Ram Hacks

Red Cross Club
Rhody Culture Collective (RCC)
Rhody Flicks
Sports Fanatics Club
Student Organ Donor Advocates (SODA)
Transfer Student Association (TSA)
Women's Club Soccer
Women and data science

Whereas, all the organizations listed below have met the requirements for re-recognition, and

Whereas, it is the duty of the University of Rhode Island Student Senate to recognize these student groups annually, now therefore be it,

Resolved, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges the following organizations as Student Senate-recognized clubs valid until the next re-recognition process.

African Student Association (ASO)
American Heart Association Heart Club (AHA)
American Society of Landscape Architecture URI (ASLA)
Animal & Veterinary Science Club (AVS)
Art Helps Hearts
Asian Student Association (ASA)
Billiards Club
Black Student Union (BSU)
Brothers On a New Direction (BOND)
Cape Verdean Student Association
Chamber Music
Chinese Games Club
Club Dance
Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP)
Colleges Against Cancer (CAC)
Cooking with Rams
Creative Writers Coalition
Crochet Club
Club Sports and Intramural Council (CSIC)
Dominican Alliance
Economic Student Association
Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Student Association (ENRESA)
Filipino Student Association
Gaming Club
Geology Club
Hillel
Human Development and Family Science Club

Influence Campus Ministries
Italian Club
Judo & Jiu-jitsu Club
Kinesiology Club
Latinx Student Association (LSA)
Let's Talk About It
Marine Science Society
Middle Eastern Student Association (MESA)
Mock Trial Club
Multicultural Unity and Student Involvement Council (MUSIC)
Music Therapy Club
Musicians Guild
Muslim Student Association (MSA)
National Marrow Donor Program URI (NMDP)
National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
National Organization for Rare Diseases URI - NORD Students for Rare
Neuroscience Club
Northwoods Hiking & Conversation Club
Outing Club
Pentecost Student and Associates (PENSA)
PENSA
Photography Club
Powerful Independent Notoriously Knowledgeable Women (PINK)
Pre-Dental Club
Public Relations Student Society of American (PRSSA)
Puppy Raisers Club
Rhody Bikes
Rhody Catholic Organization
Rhody Christian Fellowship
Rhody Drag & Makeup Club
Rhody Flrst
Rhody Rhapsodies
Rhody Ridiculousness
Rhody Round-Up Linedancing
Rhody Stronger Together
Rotaract Club
Sailing Club
Sankofa Campus Ministry
Scuba Club
Science Fiction & Supernatural Club
Social Dance Club
Society for Women in Computing
Sojourn Collegiate Ministry
South Asian Student Association (SASA)

Student Action for Sustainability (SAS)
Student Alumni Association (SAA)
Student Entertainment Committee (S.E.C)
Student Organization Leadership Consultants (SOLC)
Student Veterans Organization (SVO)
Students Actively Volunteering and Engaging in Service (SAVES)
Surf Club
Surfrider Foundation
The Garden
The Good Five Cent Cigar
The Rhody Exchange
Timmy Global Health
Uhuru Sasa
URI Dance Company
URI Habitat for Humanity
URI Student Speech Language Hearing Association (URISLHA)
Women in STEM
WRIU
Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA)

Whereas, the following organizations shall retain their recognition status but have the ability to opt into a reduced financial allocation of \$100 per year due to failure to complete the required initial forms unless the budget requirement is waived. These organizations will remain eligible to apply for contingency funding to support operational costs during FY 2026–2027, subject to approval by the DOT, in coordination with the Accounts Office and the Student Senate General Assembly.

Resolved, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges the following organizations as Student Senate-recognized clubs under the previously stated provisions, valid until the next re-recognition process.

Alima International Dance Association
Anime Club
Chabad
Best Buddies
Electronic Music Association (EMA)
RhodyTHON

Whereas, the recent passage of SS-25/26-42 reorganized fourteen student organizations under the oversight of the Club Sport & Intramural Council (CSIC), the organizations listed below will be acknowledged as senate-affiliated organizations while not retaining their official recognition statuses for FY 26-27

Resolved, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges the following organizations as Student Senate affiliated organizations under the previously stated provisions, valid until the next re-recognition process.

Alpine Ski Club
Badminton Club
Club Baseball
Club Softball
Club Track & Field
Cricket Club
Golf Club
Fencing Club
Powerlifting Club
Rhody Archery
Rhody Rifle
Sailing club
Trailathon Club
Roller Hockey
Water Polo

SPONSOR: Student Organizations Committee
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Milner
DATE: Wednesday, March 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION: (8-0-0)
ACTION: Vote Tonight

Chair Milner:

- Numbers are re-regonizerd each year

Chair Milner moves to amend SS-25/26-55, adding the sailing club until moved till Campus Recreation and Women and Data Science added to the 1st stipulation, seconded by Senator Dickson.

Admendments passed

Chair Milner:

- There is a smaller list of de-regonized clubs.
- Some are late adds. Can retain regonxiton but only \$100. Can apply for contingency funds.
- Those moved to the student senate will be added.

Speaker Rinne:

- 29 organziaton being un-regonized.

Voting proceeds

Bill SS-25/26-51 passes unanimously

SS-25/26-56 – [DIRECTOR NJENDE] BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT SENATE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL/ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2026/2027

Whereas, the Treasury Committee is presenting the Fiscal/Academic Year 2026/2027 Budget, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate hereby approves of the following fiscal amounts according to the final recommendations of the Treasury for all entities eligible for (and granted) funding.

SPONSOR(S): Treasury Committee
BILL HANDLER: VDOT Keomany (Director Njende)
DATE: Wednesday, March 25th, 2026
RECOMMENDATION: [5 - 0 - 0]
EXPIRATION: Valid Until Next Annual Budget

Review ACTION:

Vote Next Week

Speaker Rinne:

- Email about the meeting.

VDOT Keomany moves to amend SS-25/26-56, amending page 8 SEC (134 stipends), treasury reads 11,400 in lieu of the present #, page 8 Student Senate admin is stricken (213 operational costs), page 10 URI Sailing is stricken in its entirety, page 11 contingency general \$15,000 instead of listed and program contingency is \$40,000 instead of listed, and SEC 588 thousand is totaled.

Admendments Unanimously passed

VDOT Keomany:

- Like Speaker Rinne and DOC said this is important. No mistakes.
- 1.4 million budget in 26/27 approved 1.3 million. \$48,0000+ left over.

[Senator Keomany goes through the club list].

Speaker Rinne:

- Italian clubs waived the budget. Why are they receiving \$400?

VDOT Keomany:

That's what they got last year.

Senator Diaello:

Marine science society costs repeat for operational costs.

VDOT Keomany:

It should not repeat.

Speaker Rinne:

This can be amended next meeting.

Marine science society costs repeats for operational costs doubled is reflected within the minutes.

Chair Hudson:

Clarification. When it says we have a secretary/worker, who does that go to?

Advisor DeWitt:

That would be the student senate coordinator. They weren't hired because of the hiring freeze. That will be used to pay them.

Senator Rosa:

What is the cost for telephone entail?

VDOT Keomany:

I do not know.

Advisor DeWitt:

That incorporates the line in Cheryl's office since her office is funded by the senate office. Since it's 501(c)(3) it's separate.

Senator Bremer:

What is entailed for postage?

Lucas:

Postage stamps, mailing. Used for student organizations to help them mail the check to speakers.

Advisor DeWitt:

Total needs to be amended for SEC.

Speaker Rinne:

Music therapy club travel and lodging club. What is the lodging fee for?

VDOT Keomany:

I'm not sure. That's part of their budget.

Speaker Rinne:

[takes back comment]

VDOT Keomany

The budget left near 75k will be put in the contingency.

Speaker Rinne:

- This will be valid for next year. Will be amended next week.

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

- Senator Waddell: when will the open seats be open to be elected on?

Speaker Rinne:

- That's up to the next admin.

Advisor DeWitt:

- it will either be at the next meeting or after.

Speaker Rinne:

For those that dont know, DOC and DOT will be elected by the next admin.

Senator Curry:

- you can announce you won.

President Ryes:

- there will be an official announcement on instagram for election results.
- Next week you have to stay for another meeting at the end if re-elected.

Sentaor Rosa:

Are chair seats elected at the next meeting too?

Speaker Rinne:

- Taken at the next meeting. Will be elected at the meeting after.

- We will be doing pass the gavel next meeting.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: 7:53