



Memorial Student Union, Room: 201 | 50 Lower College Road, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

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University of Rhode Island Student Senate

March 20, 2024 General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Recording Secretary: Chair Peckham

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Buono, Cayer, China, Clyde, Collins, Cronan, DeLorenzo, Della Selva, Ebrahimpour, Hlaskova, Hook, Hoover, Hudson, McCloskey, Ndonye, Njende, Palmer, Peckham, Reyes, Rinne, Rudolph, Sundell, Wentworth, Walding

Absent: Confessore, Corsi, Cruz (Excused), Emami (Excused), Hurowitz (Excused), Mehorter, Milner (Excused), Scola (Excused)

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Speaker rudolph moves to add a special senator of the month bill to the agenda, seconded by Chair Clyde

Agenda approved as amended unanimously

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Reyes moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Clyde

E. PUBLIC FORUM

Coordinator (Organization Advising & Systems Management) Lucas DeWitt

- URInvolved new website to help students stay connected and get involved with different student orgs; various news and forms available to students through the website
- URInvolved helps student organizations more autonomy over their club roster, updating information about it, and event promotion
- also helps students become more engaged through job opportunity postings and other campus activities being posted on URInvolved
- URInvolved has a co-curricular transcript that lists a person's extracurricular positions, other organizations they've interacted with, events they've hosted, etc; similar to a resume → there is also a way to keep

track of volunteer hours through the website as well

- Please utilize platform feedback form to help improve campus community

- URI Night, Rhode Island FC April 6th 7:30PM

Director (Memorial Student Union) and Advisor (URI Student Senate) Carl Stiles, Ed.D.

- Student Senate assisting commencement committee for choosing a commencement speaker, now each college is working to select a speaker from their college to speak at their ceremony

- Deans will be sending out the info to seniors specific to that college, please reach out to Deans and info will be coming out in Rhody Today

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Committee on Student Organizations

- bills on floor

- Committee on Academic Affairs

- Fundraiser booth next week, Wednesday 27th 11:30-3:30, please sign up for booth hours or buy a bracelet!

- Committee on External Affairs

- Committee on Cultural Affairs

- planning a multicultural festival for next month

- next week hosting a multilingualism booth from 1-3PM

- Committee on Campus Affairs

- meeting with cody oaks and joe paradise next week

- committee compiling list of things students want/other feedback

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly

- working on smooth transition for next administration

- 2 weeks until annual, will be releasing more info as we get closer to it

- Student Body President

- 2 senators for senator of the month

- were instagram verified

- Student Body Vice President

- no report

- Director of the Treasury

- saving report for budget

- Director of Communications

- no report

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Special Committee on Elections

- results have been released, posted outside senate office

- sworn in on April 3rd

- Special Committee on the 2024 Women's Summit

- Decided as a committee to push women's summit into fall due to time constraints/availability

- in place we will be finding a local charity/organization to volunteer for, still determining which organization so please reach out! Prefer something women-focused

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Ebrahimpour reminds everyone about the basic needs drive that is currently going on,

going to a charity

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

Appointment of Speaker Pro Tempore → move past this

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

Jurist (Court of the URI Student Senate) and Senator-Elect (College of Arts & Sciences) Waseem Bahra

-Waseem discusses how his club is designed to instill confidence in other students, comparisons drawn between their club and other clubs and URI counseling center. Core difference is that they have a different objective, they want to mentor and counsel students, help students reach successful and

-Confidence club using a personable approach, face to face with students

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-23/24-56 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF “Confidence Club” AS A UNIVERSITY OF STUDENT SENATE RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Confidence Club” mission statement is, “Our club will benefit the URI community by providing the student body with the means by which they can train their confidence. We promote a safe space for students of various backgrounds, identities, ethnicities, sexual or religious orientations to express themselves. We teach students how to fit in their skin, how to handle the pressures and stressors of their day-to-day lives. We outline emotional strategies to overcome our most troubling problems. In a word, we teach you how to master college life, thereby mastering yourself”, and

Whereas, the “Confidence Club” meets the requirements to be a Senate-recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the Senate to do so, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges the Confidence Club as a recognized organization, and be it further

Resolved, that the “Confidence Club” is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$75 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

SPONSOR(S)	Committee on Student Organizations
BILL HANDLER:	Chair Clyde
DATE:	20 March, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	[3 - 0 - 2]
EXPIRATION:	Valid until Review
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Chair Clyde moves to call to question, seconded by Chair Peckham

Bill passes with 1 vote in opposition

SS-23/24-57 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF “Minority Student Athlete Crew” AS A UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT SENATE RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Minority Student Athlete Crew” mission statement is, “by uniting the minority student athletes in a community that provides a safe space for discussion and to provide an educational opportunity for allies. This organization will provide more diversity awareness at orientations for student athletes. It will also expand upon our school’s diversity equity and inclusion policy by implementing workshops and resources. This organization will be a way to empower minority student athletes voices”, and

Whereas, the “Minority Student Athlete Crew” meets the requirements to be a Senate-recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the Senate to do so, now therefore be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges the Minority Student Athlete Crew as a recognized organization, and be it further

Resolved, that the “Minority Student Athlete Crew” is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$75 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

SPONSOR(S)	Committee on Student Organizations
BILL HANDLER:	Chair Clyde
DATE:	20 March, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	[5 - 0 - 0]
EXPIRATION:	Valid until Review
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Bill passes unanimously

Floor yielded to president Rizsk to discuss the special bill previously put on the floor. Naming senator Ebrahimpour and Senator Cronan to be student senator of the month for the month of February and March respectively.

**Speaker Rudolph moves to have the budget spoken about now, approved unanimously.
Director Bose**

SS-23/24 - Bill Calling for the Standardization of Curriculum Sheets and Intent to Graduate Forms Across All University of Rhode Island Colleges

Whereas, the current existing curriculum sheets and intent to graduate forms are non-standard across all colleges at URI,

Whereas, these sheets are extremely confusing for student interpretation and requires a number of skill sets to fully understand the requirements for the completion of both the intent to graduate form and the curriculum sheet appropriately,

Whereas, the confusion of these forms has been exacerbated due to each college having a radically different version of the same form, and has resulted in serious complications for students such as graduating late or other academic setbacks,

Whereas, the availability of academic advising, or lack thereof, creates an additional burden on students to complete these essential forms on their own,

Whereas, the standardization would allow for major/minor exploration, continuous evaluation of academic progress and graduation planning, and understanding academic policy at the University, now therefore be it,

Resolved, the University of Rhode Island Student Senate formally requests that the Deans and Assistant Deans of all colleges within the University of Rhode Island work together to create standardized Curriculum Sheets and Intent to Graduate Forms, and

Resolved, that the Doctor of Pharmacy 0-6 program's undergraduate and professional curriculum sheets are expressed together on the College of Pharmacy website for the purpose of clarity as to what the requirements are for all six years, as opposed to separately for the two undergraduate years versus the four professional years

Resolved, that standardized forms be adopted for the incoming class of Fall 2024, and that any old forms be kept to avoid confusion for those already acclimated to the current curriculum sheets.

SPONSOR:	Academic Affairs Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chair Peckham
DATE:	20 March, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	[5 - 0 - 0]
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Review
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Bill passes with unanimous consent

SS-23/24-59 – BILL CALLING FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF THE SPRING 2024 UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS

Be it,

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate hereby certifies the official, tabulated results of the Spring 2024 Student Senate elections as presented by the Special Committee on Elections.

SPONSOR(S):	Special Committee on Elections
BILL HANDLER:	Speaker/Chair Rudolph
DATE:	20 March, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

[5 - 0 - 0]

EXPIRATION:

Valid Until Next Next Certification

ACTION:

Vote in Two Weeks

SS-23/24-60 – 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 follow 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:

Best Buddies
Chinese Student Association
Commuter Club
Daily Ram
Fine Arts Club
Flow
Geology Club
Judo and JuJitsu Club
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
National Society of Collegiate Scholars
National Society of Leadership & Success
Orthodox Christian Fellowship
Pharmacognosy Club
Pre-Physical Therapy Club
Quidditch Club
Ram Hacks
Rhody Flicks
Roller Hockey
Running Club
Sankofa Christian Ministry
Self Defense Club
Shark Club
Society for Women in Computing
Student Action for Sustainability (SAS)
Student Advocacy for Disability Awareness/Action (SADA)
Student Speech Language Hearing Association (SSLHA)
Theme Park Engineering and Design
Timmy Global Health Chapter
Ukrainian Club
Utility Alliance, and

Whereas, the following clubs did not fill out the re-recognition form, but did fill out the budget form. The following clubs will be recognized, but their budget allowance will be frozen until May 1, 2024 (contingent upon completion of the re-recognition form):

Aspiring Educators of RI
Bike Club (Rhody Bike)
Chabad
Club Sports & Intramurals Council (CSIC)
Gaming Club
Good 5 Cent Cigar
IFC Interfraternity Council
Italian Club
Kinesiology Club
Medical Minds Matter
NMDP Chapter of URI
Panhellenic Council
Rams Alliance for Dreamers
Society for Women in Computing
Women in STEM

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 until the next re-recognition process.

Active Minds
Alima International Dance Association
Alpine Racing Team
Alumni of Color Student Leadership Group
American Society for Landscape Architecture (ASLA)
Animal Veterinary Science Club
Anime Club
Arts and Crafts Club
Asian Student Association (ASA)
Aspiring Educators of RI
Bike Club (Rhody Bike)
Billiards Club
Birdwatching Club
Black Student Union (BSU)
Brothers On a New Direction (BOND)
Chess Club
Climbing Club
Club Baseball
Club Softball
Club Dance
College Democrats
College Republicans
Colleges Against Cancer

Community Wellness Leaders
Cape Verdean Student Association (CVSA)
Chabad
Club Sports & Intramurals Council (CSIC)
Dance Company
Dominican Alliance of URI
Dress History Association
Economic Student Association
Electronic Music Association
Engineers without Borders
Entomology Club
eXposure
Fashion Merchandising Society
Fencing Club
Filipino Student Association
Gaming Club
Good 5 Cent Cigar
Habitat for Humanity
Hillel
IFC Interfraternity Council
Italian Club
Kinesiology Club
Latinx Student Association (LSA)
Lego Club
Marine Science Society
Medical Minds Matter
Medical Laboratory Science Club
Middle Eastern Student Association (MESA)
Mock Trial Club
MUSIC (Multicultural Unity and Student Involvement Council)
Music Therapy Club
Musicians Guild
Muslim Student Association (MSA)
NMDP Chapter of URI
Northeast Student Affiliate (NESA)
Northwoods Hiking and Conservation Club
Outing Club
Panhellenic Council
PENSA Campus Ministry
Persian Cultural Student Association
Pickleball Club
PINK Women (Powerful Independent Notoriously Knowledgeable)
Powerlifting Club
Pre-Dental Club
Pre-Physician Assistant Club
Psychology Club
Public Health Club
Puppy Raisers Club
Public Relations Student Society of America
Rams Alliance for Dreamers
Renaissance Yearbook

Rhody Archery
 Rhody Catholic Organization
 Rhody Christian Fellowship
 Rhody Rhapsodies
 Rhody Ridiculousness
 Rhody Rifle Club
 RhodyTHON
 Rotaract Club
 Student Alumni Association (SAA)
 Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA)
 Sailing Club
 Students Actively Volunteering and Engaging In Service (SAVES)
 Student Alliance for the Welfare of Africa (SAWA)
 Science Fiction and Supernatural Club
 Scuba Club
 Student Entertainment Committee (SEC)
 Social Dance URI
 Society for Women in Computing
 Student Organization Leadership Consultants (SOLC)
 South Asian Student Association (SASA)
 Sports Fanatics Club
 Student Led Theatre Collective
 Student Nurses Association
 Surfrider Foundation Club
 SVO Student Veterans Organization
 Talent Development Student Board (TDSB)
 Track and Field Club
 Triathlon Club
 Uhuru Sasa
 UriECA (Eating Concerns Advisory)
 Water Polo Club
 Women in Pre-Med
 Women in STEM
 Women's Network
 WRIU 90.3 FM Radio
 Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA)

SPONSOR(S):	Committee on Student Organizations
BILL HANDLER:	Chair Clyde
DATE:	20 March, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	[5 - 0 - 0]
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION:	Vote Next Week

**SS-23/24-61 – BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
 STUDENT SENATE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL/ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2024/2025**

Whereas, The Committee on the Treasury is presenting the Fiscal/Academic Year 2024/2025 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)	Committee on the Treasury
BILL HANDLER:	VDOT Cronan (Director Bose)
DATE:	20 March, 2024
RECOMMENDATION:	[3 - 0 - 0]
EXPIRATION:	Valid until Next Annual Budget
ACTION:	Vote Next Week

Speaker Rudolph moves to go back to public forum for a moment, seco

N. ADJOURNMENT