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University of Rhode Island Student Senate

March 27, 2024 General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Recording Secretary: Chair Peckham

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Hoover moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Peckham

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

E. PUBLIC FORUM

President-elect and Vice President-elect (Undergraduate Student Body) Argha Goswami and Sanah Feroz

Getting to know them presentation

Chair Rudolph asking their top priority to accomplish within the next semester next year,

President-elect Goswami states diversity training and Vice-president elect Feroz states working with dining services

Real Estate Investor and Developer Alex Appolonia

Chair Hoover introduces Alex, hoping to fix housing issues and open up discussion with students

General Contracting Company, Real Estate Investment Firm, Property Management Company; there is a need for a more renter-first and management-first company, and wants to collaborate with us to hear our specific problems and potential solutions/ideas we have. Would like to build some sort of extensive house listing platform to roll out to URI.

Senator Palmer asks if they are looking to collaborate with other property managements; Appolonia says realistically they'd be a competitor but would be open to collaborating

Chair Hoover says the off-campus website is awful and not helpful to students, same thing with the website for Narragansett properties. Things are not updated. Interested in making a universal website where students can find all sorts of property listings from a variety of managements, the ones that are pending/closed updated so that information can be more directly shared with students. Wants to help make applying for off campus housing easier for students instead of being forgotten but the university needs more help from the university. Want less stress for housing, reduce transfers and reduce student complaints regarding lack of ability to provide lack of off campus housing. Also addressing issues with the Narragansett town council and going around the barriers have been set until the State House eliminates those barriers.

Senator-elect Naidu (spelling?) asks Appolonia about the websites used to display rentals. Appolonia responds it would not be difficult to make that website, it's just the need for someone to make it and to have some funding for it to happen. Senator-elect Naidu (spelling?) responds asking about potential year-round housing for juniors and seniors, Appolonia responds that is something his management company is interested in doing but does not have any open houses for this summer (2024). Senator-elect Naidu (spelling?) offers to help make a survey/poll to get student feedback on what rental prices they are willing to pay for academic year and year round housing.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Committee on Student Organizations
 - no report
- Committee on Academic Affairs
 - thank you to everyone who helped out with the fundraiser, we've raised almost \$100! Yay!
- Committee on External Affairs
 - executive committee and chairs are expected to provide transition materials to successors, should be done by next week for every position
- Committee on Cultural Affairs
 - no report
- Committee on Campus Affairs
 - google preference form being sent out for transportation and parking (TAP) youtube appeal videos, trying to get student and faculty actors
 - meeting with cody oaks and director paradise next week, encourage everyone to go on the TAP website, committee is currently working on the website and making it more user friendly for students
 - HRL plan that was presented to us is beginning, should have changes done by the beginning of next semester
 - dining services student satisfaction survey, please fill it out so we can get student feedback
 - vending machines working on being improved, taking steps in the right direction for food choices and improvements
 - campus cleanup within the next month or so, will be sending a sign up form into the GroupMe, also working with other student organizations to get a good turnout

H. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly

- no report
- Student Body President
 - no report
- Student Body Vice President
 - no report
- Director of the Treasury
 - tonight amended version of the budget is on the floor
- Director of Communications
 - no report

I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

J. REPORT OF THE COURT

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

Appointment of Speaker Pro Tempore

Chair Peckham is appointed Speaker Pro Tempore

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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.

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|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 Next Week |

SS-23/24-60 (As Amended) – 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 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
Student Action for Sustainability (SAS)
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)
Cape Verdean Student Association (CVSA)
Chess Club
Climbing Club
Club Baseball
Club Softball
Club Dance
College Democrats
College Republicans
Colleges Against Cancer
Community Wellness Leaders
Confidence Club
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)
Minority Student Athlete Crew (MSAC)
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
Student Action for Sustainability (SAS)
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)

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|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 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 Tonight |

The bill passes with unanimous approval

SS-23/24-61 (As Amended)– 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 as amended.

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|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 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 Tonight |

The bill passes with unanimous approval

M. NEW BUSINESS

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

O. ADJOURNMENT