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University of Rhode Island Student Senate
General Assembly Special Annual Meeting - April 3, 2024

First Student Senate meeting of the 2024-2025 General Assembly

Recording Secretary: Senator Peckham; Edited/Revised by Vice-President Feroz.

A. CALL TO ORDER – 8:54 pm

B. ROLL CALL –

Senators: Acharya, Ahmad, Bahra, Buono, Cayer, Collins, Cronan, Emami, Estes, Hlaskova, Hook, Hudson, McCloskey, Milner, Naido, Njende, Peckham, Reffelt, Reyes, Rine, Santos, Scola, Sorto-Justiniano, Sundell, Walding

Executive: Feroz, Goswami

Other: Stiles

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Senator Peckham moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Senator Buono. F: 25; Ab: 0; Ab: 0

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

No available minutes

E. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

President Goswami introduced herself, thanked all those in attendance for their support and open-mindedness; and had all members of Student Senate provide an introduction of themselves to the body.

F. SPECIAL ORDERS

Swearing in of the senators-elect

Nominations of off campus representatives (6 vacant seats)

- Senator Cayer nominates Kairy Gonzalez, seconded by Senator Wentworth*
- Senator Sundell nominates Sophie Pramuka, seconded by Senator Buono*
- Senator Buono nominates Lynn Sawyer, seconded by Senator Collins*

Nominations of on campus representatives (5 vacant seats)

- Senator Estes nominates Arianna Parvaresh, seconded by Senator Buono*
- Senator (-----) nominates Julia (-----), seconded by Senator Cayer*
- Senator Acharya nominates Madison Hinrinchs, seconded by Senator Collins*

Nominations for college of education

- none*

Nominations for college of nursing

- Kyra Boucher nominated by Senator Buono, seconded by Senator Peckham*

Nominations for Speaker of Assembly

- Senator Buono nominates Lauren Peckham, seconded by Senator Hook*
- Senator Njende nominates Waseem Bahra, seconded by Senator Ahmad*

Nominations for SOC

- Senator Collins nominates Joey Hook, seconded by Senator Peckham*

Nominations for Academics

- Senator Peckham nominates Hannah Collins, seconded by Senator Buono*

Nominations for Campus Affairs

- Senator Collins nominates Sophia Buono, seconded by Senator Hook*

Nominations for Cultural Affairs

- Senator Walding nominates Meilin Quiroa-Reyes, seconded by Senator Collins*

Nominations for External Affairs

- Senator Hudson nominates Matthew Cayer, seconded by Senator Collins*
- Senator Walding nominates Kendal McCloskey, seconded by Senator Buono*

President Argha Goswami delivers introductory remarks.

Vice-President Sanah Feroz delivers introductory remarks.

Vice-President Feroz discusses how the general assembly on April 10th may fall on Eid ul-Fitr (Islamic religious holiday). Feroz requests to the senators, in the case that Eid falls on April 10th, that we do not have assembly on April 10th and instead meet the week after, on April 17th.

Senator Ahmad states that as a Muslim they already have plans with family and would greatly appreciate to have that day off.

Senator Bahra also agrees that the observance of Eid is understated and would appreciate delaying the general assembly.

Senator Santos agrees that as a Muslim it would be greatly appreciated to not have a general assembly on that day.

Senator Rinne suggests missing the meeting that day counted as an excused absence.

Senator Ahmad states that valuing inclusivity means postponing the meeting.

Senator Cayer asks how many meetings we have left: there are two meetings left. Senator Cayer asks if we have enough time, Dr. Stiles answers that we do have enough time.

MOTION 2024-2025-01 OF THE 2024-2025 STUDENT SENATE ACADEMIC YEAR.

Senator Peckham moves to cancel the general assembly if Eid falls on April 10th, seconded by Senator Buono.

The motion passes with unanimous approval.

G. Announcements

Senator Cayer states that the Senate is hearing the House version of the housing bill at 5PM at the state house in RI, he encourages all those interested in going to go or to ask him if they need a ride.

Senator Buono discusses the intercollegiate mock trial event happening on April 16th and to reach out if you are interested in being part of the jury.

Senator Collins states that the Women's Summit is looking for female-identifying members available on April 12th to help volunteer for the Sojourner House.

Senator Bahra encourages everyone to join the Confidence Club, weekly meetings from 7:30pm in a TBD day, and is looking for new, interested members to join.

H. Adjournment – 9:35 pm