



Memorial Student Union, Room 201 • 50 Lower College Road • Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 • T: 401.874.2261

URI STUDENT SENATE – GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

October 4, 2023

Recording Secretary: Chair Peckham

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Barbosa, Buono, Chadronet, Clyde, Collins, Confessore, Corsi, Cronan, DeLorenzo, Emami, Gamache, Hurwitz, N Johnson, V Johnson, Kelling, Mayers, McCloskey, Mehorter, Milner, Neighbors, Newman, Peckham, Reyes, Rinne, Rudolph, Sama, Scola, Sundell, Walding.

Absent: Dumas, Hoover.

Excused: Cruz, Hook, Ndonye, Palmer, Small.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Rudolph moves to add Bill SS23-24-14 "BILL CALLING FOR THE DECLARATION OF THE 2023 FALL SEMESTER STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS" to special orders, seconded by Chair Johnson.

The motion passes.

Chair Reyes moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Senator Mayers.

The motion passes.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Johnson moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Reyes.

The motion passes.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Newman leads all present in singing "Happy Birthday" to Senator Johnson.

Chair Peckham leads all present in singing "Happy Birthday" to Speaker Chadronet.

F. PUBLIC FORUM

Kieth Labelle introduces himself as the Deputy Title IX Coordinator and provides a presentation on Bystander Intervention Training.

- *Introduces a former student and informs the Senate that he teaches college courses that go into depth about sexual assault and awareness.*
- *Discusses non-physical abuse and controlling relationships.*
- *Introduces the idea that there is no such thing as “consensual sex” versus “non-consensual sex” and that there is only “sex” versus “rape.”*
- *Discusses the strategies deployed by non-male-identifying students to avoid sexual assault daily.*
- *Releases facts, figures, and statistics on sexual assault on college campuses*
 - *87% of cases are committed by people the victim knows.*
 - *The first six weeks of college are referred to as the red zone because the vulnerability associated with new students and the danger of repeat offenders are at their highest at the start of each academic year.*
 - *Although there are people who are falsely accused of rape, it is an extremely rare occurrence.*
- *Explained that Title IX resources were moved from the Women’s Center to Health Services to be more inclusive of non-female victims and to protect their privacy.*
- *Conducted an interactive exercise to help students make sense of the feelings that victims experience after being abused.*
- *Speaker Chadronet asked if the yearly totals of informal resolutions get included in the Clery Report and was informed that they are not.*
- *Chair Reyes asks when URISand college courses are provided and was informed that they are taught every semester including summer terms.*

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Student Organization Committee**
 - Chair Johnson informed the Senate that the first presidents’ meeting was Monday.
- **Academic Affairs Committee**
 - The first of two bill writing workshops was held on Friday, October 6th between 3PM and 4PM.
 - There will be a DAI accommodations polling event on Monday October 16th 11-2PM.
 - Informed the Senate that a JCPenney professional attire sale will be held at the Warwick Mall on October 8th 4-7PM. There will be 50% off clothes and up to additional 30% for showing URI ID
 - Reminded the Senate to follow the committee’s Instagram account (@rhodysenateacademics.)
- **External Affairs Committee**
 - The committee is working on Instagram outreach.
 - The committee is working on the off-campus newsletter discussed in previous meetings.
 - Staying up to date with the Narragansett 2100.
- **Cultural Affairs Committee**
 - On November 20th 4:30 there will be a Narcan training in Memorial Union Atrium 2.
 - The committee is working on putting together a religious organizations festival.
- **Campus Affairs Committee**
 - Action Items system: each senator or pair of senators working on an issue of their interest
- **Executive Committee**
 - Speaker

- The bill writing workshop on Monday was a success.
- Another bill writing workshop will be held on Friday 3-4PM in the Senate office.
- Next week, Transportation and Parking Director Joe Paradise and Director of Public Safety and campus police chief Michael Jagoda will attend to ask questions.
- The first bills of the semester are on the floor this week.
- President
- Vice President
 - Quad fest Thursday October 5th 11-1:30PM
 - Follow the LinkedIn
- Director of Treasury
 - Finance training went well
- Director of Communications

H. REPORT OF THE COURT

I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Chair Rudolph reported the committee did not meet today because they have accomplished all their goals.

J. NEW BUSINESS

SS-23/24-09 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “Sports Fanatics” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Sports Fanatics” mission statement is, “Provide students with knowledge about current events in the sports industry. In addition, various business professionals in the sports industry will be invited to speak at club meetings and educate students on their perspectives, career paths, opportunities, and views on the future of the sports. The club will allow students to speak openly about their thoughts and ideas regarding various topics in sports”, and

Whereas, Sports Fanatics 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 Sports Fanatics as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Sports Fanatics is provided with the first-year financial benefits package of \$75 which is to be paid out over the course of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| SPONSOR: | Student Organizations Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chair Johnson |
| DATE: | Wednesday, |
| RECOMMENDATION: | (5-0-0) |
| EXPIRATION: | Valid Until next re-recognition |

ACTION:

Vote Next Week

Chair Johnson moves to immediately consider, seconded by Chair Reyes.

The motion passes.

The bill passes.

SS-23/24-10 – BILL CALLING FOR THE NAME CHANGE OF “Beta Gamma RATA” TO “Rhody Flicks” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the organization “Beta Gamma RATA” will change their name to “Rhody flicks”

Whereas, Rhody Flicks continues to meets the requirements to continue to be a Senate-recognized student organization, and

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges Rhody Flicks as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Rhody Flicks will keep the financial status of Beta Gamma RATA

SPONSOR:

Student Organizations Committee

BILL HANDLER:

Chair Johnson

DATE:

Wednesday,

RECOMMENDATION:

(5-0-0)

EXPIRATION:

Valid Until next re-recognition

ACTION:

Vote Next Week

Speaker Chadronet moves to amend the bill to correct all clerical misspellings of the Organization’s old name, seconded by Senator Barbosa.

The amendment passes.

Chair Johnson moves to immediately consider, seconded by Senator Confessore.

The motion passes.

The bill passes.

SS-23/24-11 – BILL CALLING FOR THE NAME CHANGE OF “Pool Club” TO “Billiards Club” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the organization “Pool Club” will change their name to “Billiards Club”

Whereas, Billiards Club continues to meets the requirements to continue to be a Senate-recognized student organization, and

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

Resolved, that Billiards Club will keep the financial status of Pool Club

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| SPONSOR: | Student Organizations Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chair Johnson |
| DATE: | Wednesday, |
| RECOMMENDATION: | (5-0-0) |
| EXPIRATION: | Valid Until next re-recognition |
| ACTION: | Vote Next Week |

Chair Johnson moves to immediately consider, seconded by Chair Peckham.

The motion passes.

The bill passes.

SS-23/24-12 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RE-ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “Colleges Against Cancer” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Colleges Against Cancer” was a de-recognized club in spring 2023, and

Whereas, Colleges Against Cancer 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 Colleges Against Cancer as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Colleges Against Cancer regains its financial status they had in the 22/23 school year

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| SPONSOR: | Student Organizations Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chair Johnson |
| DATE: | Wednesday, |
| RECOMMENDATION: | (5-0-0) |
| EXPIRATION: | Valid Until next re-recognition |
| ACTION: | Vote Next Week |

Chair Peckham moves to amend the whereas clause of the bill to correct a clerical misspelling of the organization’s name, seconded by Chair Johnson.

The amendment passes.

Chair Johnson moves to immediately consider, seconded by Chair Peckham.

The motion passes.

The bill passes.

SS-23/24-13 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RE-ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF “Chabad” AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the “Chabad” was a de-recognized club in spring 2023, and

Whereas, Chabad 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 Chabad as a recognized organization, and be it

Resolved, that Chabad regains its financial status they had in the 22/23 school year

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| SPONSOR: | Student Organizations Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chair Johnson |
| DATE: | Wednesday, |
| RECOMMENDATION: | (5-0-0) |
| EXPIRATION: | Valid Until next re-recognition |
| ACTION: | Vote Next Week |

Chair Johnson moves to immediately consider, seconded by Senator Johnson.

The motion passes.

The bill passes.

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

SS - 23/24-14 – BILL CALLING FOR THE DECLARATION OF THE 2023 FALL SEMESTER STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS

Whereas, it is incumbent upon the Senate to set, confirm, and declare dates for candidate declaration, campaign, and election periods for open and/or vacant seats on the Student Senate, and

Whereas, there are currently 8 total vacant seats on the URI Student Senate, of which 5 represent first year students, 1 represents the URI community at-large, 1 represents students within the University College for Academic Success, and 1 represents students within the College of Pharmacy, and

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

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate declares the following dates in accordance with the 2023 fall semester elections:

- Declaration Period - ends at 4pm on Wednesday, October 18
- Campaign Period - Thursday, October 19 through Friday, November 3
- Election dates - Monday, October 30 through Friday, November 3,

and be it further,

Resolved, that the Senate urges students to participate in the electoral process by running for open seats and voting in the election.

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| SPONSOR: | Elections Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chair Rudolph |
| DATE: | October 4, 2023 |
| RECOMMENDATION: | (5-0-0) |
| EXPIRATION: | Valid Until Election Certification(s) |
| ACTION: | Vote Tonight |

The bill passes.

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

Chair Reyes informs the Senate that a multicultural organization tailgate function is being held on October 14th and recommends that members of the Senate come. 9AM-1PM

Senator Mayers reports that after reaching out to Health Services, he learned that not all insurance plans will cover STI testing for students. He highlights that it is important for students to be aware of what health insurance they have because it may not cover tests that they need.

M. ROLL CALL

N. ADJOURNMENT