

**A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30PM**

**B. ROLL CALL:** Abbe, Adepoju, Ahrens, Allison, Almeida, Aronoff, Bedard, Bickham, Boiteau, Brown, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Faustin, Gaudio, Ginsberg, Gorman, Harrington, Holland, Holzman, Infusino, Inthisone, Kearns, LaRocca, Luther, Lynch, Meehan, Messineo, Mingoia, Moss, Noble, Pelletier, Petit, Prata, Rodrigues, Ryan, Shah, Sibbald, Sinapi, Smith, Stein, Stewart, Stollow, Tremaglio, Valenti, Walsh, Yensan

**C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Sibbald motions to amend the two bills to say sponsor. LaRocca seconds.

Abstention from Allison Approved

**D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: No Changes**

Abstention from LaRocca, Allison

**E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Petit-** Pledge of Allegiance, **Vote-** Passed

**LaRocca-** LKS booth in the Union with Diabetes awareness

**Aronoff-** Oklahoma opening at FAC, if you have nothing planned, go, it's really good, support fine arts.

**Adepoju-** SAWA storytelling event tonight in Rhody Market at 8pm. African Folklore, stop by after senate.

**Allison-** Women's Basketball game at 5, Men's at 7, first game of season, want to make it a white out, t shirts are 3 dollars, one dollar/t-shirt being donated to RI Can. Thanksgiving donations.

**F. PUBLIC FORUM:**

**G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

**Petit-** No bills tonight, few announcements, Monday 200 of alcohol free money to SASA for dance, 306 dollars to keep a child alive for black ball event, other than that, working on mini finance handbook, almost done.

- **STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (SOARC):**

**SS-08/09-44 Bill Calling for the Recognition of The 500 Family at Level 3**

Whereas, the purpose of The 500 Family is to build an environment of diversity on campus through a wide variety of activities and programming; creating an all-inclusive multicultural society, and

Whereas, the 500 Family meets the requirements for recognition at level 3, and

Whereas, it is custom of the Student Senate to do so, therefore be it

Resolved that the URI Student Senate recognize The 500 Family.

SPONSOR:

SOARC

BILL HANDLER:

Chairwoman Clarke

DATE:

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

Passage (7-0-1)

EXPIRATION:

Valid Until Next Re-Recognition

ACTION:

Passed

**Clarke-** After the bill was voted down, came back to SOARC, long talk, few weeks ago, big discussion, keep the questions to new questions.

**Ahrens-** Maybe start, give a briefing, new start

**Rep-** Lowell Williams- ended up taking the advice of a few senators, went back to soarc to revamp to make it for you guys, read purpose statement, taken steps in doing so as mentioned in the last meeting, monster mix, huge performance, multicultural orgs, larger orgs, SAA, IFC and hopefully today we will be able to make this an official organization.

**LaRocca-** Hear more about your relationship with the COM department?

**Lowell-** They support the organization but our mission to the school is to build diversity for the university.

**Petit-** Read new mission statement please.

**Lowell-** Read mission statement. Unique benefit to the URI community- close gap by providing venue for collaborative discourse, read. Our plan is to better the community. I have been thinking about how it can negatively affect the community and I don't think that it can negatively affect URI.

**Sibbald-** Let everyone know, I abstained, I was late, in support at level 3, they fill a role that maybe other groups should fill but do not. By turning this group away, saying we don't care about the problem. They are going to bring groups together that will really benefit this campus. They are going to bring new things and attraction for students here and perspective students as well.

**Clarke-** Com Majors, no financial relationship.

**Ahrens-** Speaking with Lowell lately, talked to a few people about new ideas for diversity, all ideas that 500 Family had discussed. One alumnus was concerned about groups that were not diverse, being able to expand these groups even just with buildings. Such as fencing in MCC and Multicultural group meeting here. The point of the entire org is that they want to help bring people together who in the past have not felt like they could work together. I think the 500 Family would be very resourceful for us and all of the groups on campus.

Vote- Passed Abstentions from Adepoju and Stollow

**SS-08/09-45 Bill Calling for the Recognition of Students for a More Accessible Campus (SFAMAC) at Level 4**

Whereas, the purpose of SFAMAC is to make URI a safer place by raising awareness about the lack of accessibility on campus and the people it affects; also to raise funds for Disability services at URI, and Whereas, SFMAC meets the requirements for recognition at level 4, and Whereas, it is custom of the Student Senate to do so, therefore be it Resolved that the URI Student Senate recognize SFAMAC.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Clarke
DATE:	Wednesday, November 12, 2008
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (8-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION:	Passed

**Rep-** SFAMAC- unique benefit to URI, raise awareness of accessibility on campus, different for every student, really emphasize that accessibility isn't just one thing, not just being able to get to classes or get into the buildings, not just physical disabilities. People with learning, physical or temporary disabilities. Raising money for disabilities services at URI, can learn importance and make URI a better and safer place. Raise awareness about disability services on campus, 2/3 of URI population that has disabilities are not registered with disability services, physical or learning, not getting accommodations. Make disability services known so people know about accommodations, fostering a safe and comfortable environment for those students. Community with a common bond, a lot of people who don't register don't want to be associated with the implications of having a disability. Raise awareness and funds for disability services, services provided by them are ideal for this campus. Always in my head that the campus needs to change and awareness needs to be raised. Talked to an alumnus who is wheelchair bound, org in the early 1990's, students for access, he said maybe I should start the group again. The advisor for SFA will be working with us, SFA didn't work out as a group, it was only people with physical disabilities, didn't have enough man power to get it going. Trying to open to the rest of the URI community, just want people to see that it is an important cause.

**Clarke-** Clear that this org is going to be an asset to this community, I didn't really think about how inaccessible it was until you came to speak to us but it is very inaccessible.

**Aronoff-** How do you plan on keeping people in the group who do not have disabilities.

**Rep-** Last meeting, I had people think about why they were joining the group. A lot of personal friends know how the campus affects me, I was concerned about why they were joining. I didn't want it to be because it was something that I wanted. The people are still in the group, have not left. Everyone knows accessibility is important because the campus could be inaccessible to them one day. If things are changed, it will not be an issue.

**Ginsberg-** I was on crutches 3 weeks ago, hard to get around, not enough services out there, I was late to class everyday. I think we should definitely support them.

**Harrington-** Have you talked to the company yet that will give URI wheelchairs for a day for students to use?

**Rep-** I have not because we aren't recognized yet but I plan on contacting them. I want to hold off on fundraisers until the spring, want to get awareness out, and get our name out. Once we have a core group, go to that organization.

**Stein-** Secretary, support group, not just for disabled students. Something that will help the school for a long time.

**Sinapi-** Disability services, most people never find out about it until something goes wrong. Some of my friends have last pick for classes and have disabilities, they get first pick but realized it too late.

Vote- Passed

Abstentions from Stein, Sinapi

- **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Stolow-** Last week's meeting, had Paul Whitney talk about the price of books. Going forward with email to professors for early adoption, joint statement from senate and the bookstore. Right now, we have about 10% in and it should be about 50%. If it works well, going to send out a second email. Anyone interested in writing, let me know.

**LaRocca-** Are you working on an incentive program or some type of punishment, if they get in their books really late?

**Stolow-** Talked to Paul, not a good idea to try and attack them, try to meet with Vice Provost, talk with the deans, go through them.

**Petit-** Have you discussed anything in committee about late add policy?

**Stolow-** We were going to but Paul was with us for almost an hour, going to draft up a bill for next week.

- **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Stewart-** Carnival going to be in the spring, need some ideas, talk to him or me, also need ideas for a name. Open forum was rescheduled to after Thanksgiving, he has a date, also, Chairman O'Brien and I are upset about attendance, only 3 people last week. We are discussing a lot and when everyone is not there, difficult to accomplish our goals. Meetings are Friday in room 314.

**Clarke-** When is the next collation meeting?

**Ahrens-** This Tuesday

**Petit-** Any progress with Ripta?

**Stewart-** No, they don't pick up their phones, every committee member is going to call them everyday.

**Aronoff-** What is the purpose of the carnival?

**Stewart-** Involve the off campus community, bring the community to be more in touch with us.

**LaRocca-** Who have you been trying to contact up at RIPTA?

**Stewart-** Providence, we are going to talk more about a plan of attack on Friday.

**Ahrens-** Worked with Tim sophomore year, he is very hard to get a hold of, let me know if you need help. Lucas is also here and is coming to the meeting.

**Brown-** Name, Phil Kydd, strong relationship to the university, probably have an open ear.

- **CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**Adepoju-** Gingerbread event, a lot of groups are signed up, emailed them with the breakdown, 10 got back to me, as soon as cultural gets the money to get kits, assigned dates to pick up, going to have from whatever date until December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> on display in the union for students to vote. December 4<sup>th</sup>, quick one hour ceremony, top 5, their houses will be on display there.

Last Monday- Prime Minister of Cape Verde, big deal, came and visited and talked about multiculturalism, being active and staying active on campus. He spoke about the election, it was big in Cape Verde. Had a translator, but very passionate and strong. Proceeding event- history event, black student leadership group, org around 1992, civil rights movement, briefed us on the history, led to MCC that we have now, things we overlook. He also listed orgs that we have now that were organized back in 1992. Great to hear the history.

Committee meetings- not a lot of members showed up, I was not happy with that, if I ask you to be somewhere, I hope that you do respect my wishes. It was last minute, out of my schedule, if you can't go, please leave me an excuse. No one does so I am going to be a little bit harsher. You shouldn't have something coming up every other week.

**Rodrigues-** Gingerbread house, volunteers helping out?

**Adepoju-** If you'd like to help, let us know.

**Clarke-** doing gingerbread at meetings or in one spot?

**Adepoju-** Set up a time for them individually, as soon as everything comes in, going to be in the office.

**Ahrens-** Does it have to be completely edible?

**Adepoju-** Yes

**Holland-** Can non-senate recognized groups participate?

**Adepoju-** Yes, we just want the groups to have the houses have some type of meaning. Symbolic of what the group's purpose is.

**LaRocca-** You might want to if you are doing rules, specifications, might want to do that before it starts.

**Adepoju-** The sheet will go with the kit.

**- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**LaRocca-** Shane did homework, went to Butterfield, a lot of the tables were really wobbly or broken, counted 16 tables that were broken or wobbly. Sent a message to Steve Melo, asking if there were plans to replace tables. Dining services was already working on it. Going to be new tables, but waiting for a break, I want to say that they are going to do it over winter break.

Meeting on Friday afternoon around 1:30 with Mr. Foulton, architect in capital planning, Brian from Lands and grounds, meeting together, Maps from them for the exact area of Ellery pond.

They have arial shots of everywhere on campus. Get what we want to do approved from them, university support, updates from Lands and Grounds- getting a contractor to dredge the pond and creek. Need to know what types of benches, lights we need.

Something that Gianna brought up, classes in BISC, not a lot of room to walk, all people with hard hats on and students just walking through. Not sure who to contact, talk about the construction, if we can get a better walkway for students. Hopefully they aren't breaking any safety codes. Dave-Barriers from last week, going to contact parking services, find out what to do, talked in committee, suggested that if they need adjustable barriers, they have some around campus that are metal pipes that can be unlocked instead of the stone things. I am asking them to fix something that the students are breaking, students like to knock them down at night and on the weekends. Students are being hurt by them being knocked down, people can't see when they are backing up, only hurting other students.

**Rodrigues -** meeting time?

**LaRocca-** Wednesday at 3pm in room 301

**Messineo-** Any reason just the bisc problem now?

**LaRocca-** I haven't had classes there.

**LaRocca-** Lucas is coming on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from Ripta.

**Ginsberg-** Rumor of condemned sign on Bisc

**LaRocca-** Nicole was there this morning and it was not condemned

**Holland-** When doing construction on outside, fence that students could not go through.

**LaRocca-** I don't know but there are always the huge construction machines, really hard to squeeze through.

**Officer Mark-** They designed a walkway specifically that ran from Flagg Rd all the way to Woodward. There has been a passage designated for the students.

**Prata-** The path has been there, the problem I have brought up, fixing something with Tar on one of the main pathways, everyone was walking between Chafee and Bisc,

**Coates-** I worked for a construction company, might be a union thing, unless you are completely away from site, can't take off hardhat.

**Gaudio-** Talked about construction site and the way that the path was arranged.

**- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

*a. Director of Communications- Simon-* Thank you Maxwell for handing in your information for the newsletter, Allen gave me his today even though it was due two weeks ago, everyone else from Exec, meet me at flagpole. Working with Maxwell and fraternities and sororities about the food drive.

*b. Secretary- Pelletier-* Clarke gets Kudos for everything that happened this week but she left and Adepoju gets kudos for handing in his stuff for the newsletter on time!

*c. Treasurer- Shah-*Paying the bills.

**Petit-** Need to talk to you about paperwork that was messed up.

*d. Vice President- Bedard-* good and bad, 12 people didn't sign in for office hours, 5 more people written warnings in mailbox, don't miss again. Committee chairmen are now submitting minutes to me and attendance.

Formal- December 9<sup>th</sup>, 38/person with SEC, it's like prom but not so high school, it's at Amalfi. Asking that you have your money in by sometime next week. Kim will not be here the week of Thanksgiving. Lastly- around the Holiday season which means secret snowman!!! Explained the rules, not mandatory.

**LaRocca-** Price range for this year?

**Bedard-** It's on there.

**Coates-** Checks to the restaurant right?

**Bedard-** Do not make them out to Student Senate, formal checks to Amalfi.

*f. President- Ahrens-* For those who do not know, Josh has dropped off of senate, complications and graduating in December, thank him for everything. I get one more of his bad things, half of you who haven't paid for the shirts. I am paying out of my pocket, now you need to pay me. We have half of the money but budget will be frozen.

This Friday is the white out, I can get as many tickets as I want for the game. It would be nice if everyone can go.

Newsletter is really my fault, need to set up something more concrete and formal, don't blame Juelia. This Sunday supposed to broadcast game against Duke, going to try to move to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Hope, better atmosphere, going to be going to Hope more on Sunday than in the union. Going to do a few signs, can't be there personally. Run on its own, more relaxing environment. Formal- everyone go to it, never went to formal in my four years. Pre and Post game thing at my house, everyone is welcome. 215 tickets to PC game in Providence, I get to sell them, going to be a lottery type of deal, pre-sale and sales. This Tuesday is the coalition meeting, anyone can speak at any time. People there speaking against the sticker, lawyer there.

**Ginsberg-** For the basketball game on Friday, possibly to get joint tickets for women's and men's?

**Ahrens-** I haven't seen the tickets yet, I'm not positive.

**Ginsberg-** How much are the PC tickets?

**Ahrens-** 5 dollars

**Stewart-** Where is the collation meeting going to be held?

**Ahrens-** Town hall or by the beach

**Aronoff-** As far as the basketball game, Senate was split last game?

**Ahrens-** They are figuring out exactly which section we will be in.

- **RULES AND ETHICS:** No Report

## **H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Bylaws Committee- Petit-** We didn't have a meeting this morning, class schedules changed, we didn't make sure that Steve could make it, bylaws meet in the office after the exec thing to discuss meeting time.

## **I. SPECIAL ORDERS:**

## **J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

## **K. NEW BUSINESS:**

## **L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:**

**Petit-** Mentioned a few times, event at Johnson and Wales this Friday from 3-5, Aronoff, Stein, Einhorn, if you want to talk later, set up a ride situation, if anyone is still interested in going, can bring up to six people. Good time to meet leaders from other campuses and make connections.

**Brown-** Feel obligated on college of arts and sciences to follow up on prime minister of Cape Verde- met during the day with president and others to talk about further academic endeavors, to talk about their new national university. Prime minister asked that faculty be allowed to train here and talked about collaborative courses. Open forum at MCC and then later on in Providence talked about necessity for

social education, economic liberty, etc. Academic affairs meeting of BOG at RIC in Robert's Hall, encourage president, vp and chair of academics to accompany me to that meeting. Same day, new RIC president will be inaugurated, Nancy Correlo, discussed significance of tuition increases, important to state allocations for URI have declined for the past 10+ years, institution will be forced to continue in direction of becoming private. Important that everyone express their discontent and how that varies to what degree. February- rally, RIC was very present and vocal on the issue. Important that our students take a side and rally as well. Several dynamics that are necessary for me to articulate and connect with all of you.

**Gorman-** Dark Night is playing in 28 minutes.

**Shah-** No, it's next Wednesday in Edwards.

**Ahrens-** Just wanted to speak further on what Brandon said, Brandon their last Wednesday, RIC put together a lot for their students, since we are an hour away from Providence, need to take the time to make students aware of issue and the direction that we are headed towards, important for state and future education, concerns not only for us but of friends, family, all have right to go to college and have it be affordable, not a dead subject by any means. Urge everyone to communicate with Brandon, he knows a lot of influential people, talked about what ideas would be appropriate, proper support regardless of classes, work, travel and other things that might be in the way. Look at how individual students are financing their education. Questions, email, call, always around.

**Ginsberg-** Organize busses there? Freshman year, took pulling teeth to get people out there on campus.

**Ahrens-** We'll talk to our nice finance committee.

**Bedard-** Fill out your forms or hand back blank forms. As of right now, Date auction in Quinn between WOWW and ZBT. Money raised tonight is going to the women's center for prevention of domestic violence.

Sibbald motions to adjourn, Holland seconds.

**M. ROLL CALL: AYE:** Abbe, Adepoju, Allison, Alemeida, Aronoff, Bickham, Boiteau, Brown, Coates, Einhorn, Faustin, Gaudio, Gorman, Harrington, Holden, Holland, Infusino, Inthisone, LaRocca, Luther, Lynch, Meehan, Messineo, Mingoia, Moss, Noble, Petit, Rodrigues, Ryan, Sibbald, Sinapi, Smith, Stein, Stewart, Stolow, Tremaglio, Valenti, Yensan

Nay- Ginsberg

No Vote- Ahrens, Bedard, Pelletier, Shah, Simon

**N. ADJOURNMENT: 7:43pm**