

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:32PM

B. ROLL CALL: Abbe, Ahrens, Almeida, Aronoff, Bedard, Bickham, Boiteau, Brown, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Faustin, Gaudio, Holden, Holland, Holzman, Kearns, LaRocca, Lee, Luther, Lynch, McCormick, Meehan, Messineo, Mingoia, Noble, O'Brien, Pelletier, Petit, Prata, Rodrigues, Ryan, Shah, Sibbald, Simon, Sinapi, Slater, Smith, Stein, Stolow, Tremaglio, Valenti, Walsh, Yensan

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Passed

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: No changes ☺

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS: **Petit** motions for pledge, opposition, passed.

Shah- Dark Night in Edwards tonight at 8, SEC winterfest comedian is December 4th at 8pm in the Ryan Center, 10 dollars.

Petit- Mob wants to announce Rhody vs Rodney conference game, this Saturday.

LaRocca- Reminder to new senators, no meeting next week, Wednesday before thanksgiving.

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

Sailing Team – World Cup 2009- Carl, Mary, Anna and others- URI sailing team, Annapolis naval academy for a competition, one event over a course of 3 days, 8 races, qualified for world championship in France next November. Compete against other national teams from all over the world. Keel Boat team- 3 major Regattas, won two of them and placed third in another one. Dinky side of the team- Nick, want to thank you for the support over the past year, moved up to 12th, which was good. Finished 2nd at the Atlantic Coast Tournament. Emily representing the women's side, nationally 11th and 8th in the conference, up against all of the ivy's, lots of practice. Your support does not go unnoticed. Michaela- co-ed team, became nationally ranked this semester, 17th in the country, other schools ranked all varsity programs. We'd really like to thank you for everything that you do. We really appreciate all of your support. Ben, member in 2007, went to France last year from Team USA, same event that they qualified for this year, finished 6th out of 15 countries. The win that they had this year was a naval academy trophy. Now have more wins the Navy.

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

SS-08/09-46 – CONTINGENCY GRANT REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT SCRIBE

Whereas, Scribe is a Senate recognized organization, and

Whereas, Scribe would like to hold a programming event on campus, and

Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and

Whereas, Scribe would like money to help cover the costs of the event, and

Whereas, this request is within the finance policy of the Senate and it is the Senate's custom to grant such requests, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate grant \$5,265.81 from our Capital Improvement Contingency to the Category #130 (Programming) line in the budget of Scribe.

SPONSOR:	Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Petit
DATE:	Wednesday, Nov. 19 th , 2008
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Upon Dispensation
ACTION:	Passed

Petit motions for immediate consideration, seconded by Holden

Independent Scribe- Money for the contingency, our second publication, twice as long as the first and including student artwork. Without your help, we could not produce our product. Hopefully in the fall, we will have a budget. It is really urgent and we need the money as soon as possible to obtain our goal. We are publishing 1000 copies. We distributed all of the copies last year.

Petit- They had a really successful publication last spring. They were able to do it through other departments. Now that they are recognized, the funding would come from us. I encourage you to vote to approve this for them.

Vote- Passed

Abstentions from Holland and Bickham

Petit- Other business, approved co-sponsorship for 367.00 for this publication, 1400 dollars for SSDP for a speaker. 220 dollars to senate to help fund for the gingerbread house-making contest. Also, as far as the computers, gave one to the cigar to replace an older one, gave one to outing and still have one left that we are planning to distribute.

- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (SOARC):

SS-08/09-47 Bill Calling for the Recognition of URI Physical Education Club at Level 4

Whereas, the purpose URI PE Club is to raise money for physical education workshops and reach out to the community by providing information about physical education and health sciences, and

Whereas, URI PE Club meets the requirements for recognition at level 4, and

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

Resolved that the URI Student Senate recognize URI PE Club.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Clarke
DATE:	Wednesday, November 19, 2008
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION:	Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION:	Vote next week

Clarke- One bill on the floor to be voted on December 3rd, SOARC cancelled for next Monday. The next will be December 1st at 6. I hope my committee comes to president’s meeting.

Aronoff- We aren’t going to move the meeting to 5?

Clarke- No

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

SS-08/09-48 Bill Calling for the Student Senate Opinion on the Add Period for Classes

Whereas, the period to add classes at the beginning of the semester is two weeks, and

Whereas, the Academic Standards and Calendar committee has been asked to review the need for a two week period, and

Whereas, in those two weeks, students need the ability to situate their class schedule for the semester, and

Whereas, to shorten the add period would not give the students ample time to situate their class schedule, therefore be it

Resolved that the Student Senate express the necessity to keep the add period at two weeks.

SPONSOR:	Academic Affairs Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Stolow
DATE:	Wednesday, November 19, 2008
RECOMMENDATION:	(9- 0 -0)
EXPIRATION:	Upon Dispensation to the AS&C Committee
ACTION:	Passed- Unanimous Vote

Stolow- Motion for immediate consideration, Holden seconds.

This is a bill that is going to academic standards and calendars committee. Meeting with them is for next week. Student opinion on length of the ad period. Vice Provost had a discussion of why at 2 weeks.

Students feel the need to have 2 weeks of flexibility, need to change around schedules with advisors.

Petit- One other reason, I encourage you to vote for the bill. URI advertises that you have up to two weeks after semester starts to ad. A lot of classes close out early, before start of semester, they will close out even if there are openings. Part of the reason we should vote for this, while the university is doing that, unfair to students who are told they have two weeks.

LaRocca- Especially with labs, a lot only meet once a week and might not meet the first week. A week could go by and lab hasn't even met yet. You wouldn't be missing anything even if you were going to ad it late.

LaRocca asked that it be reflected in the minutes that the vote was unanimous.

Unanimous vote- Passed

Stolow- Met with Paul Whitney, drafted an email to be sent to professors for book listings for next spring or next fall. The email has gone out, professor got it and was proud of the email. Meeting at 3 on Monday in room 202. Discussing possibility of an open forum for next semester.

Petit- anything happened with the new SETS?

Stolow- I wasn't able to make it to last night's meeting because of exec, sending provost an email to find out.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

O'Brien- The coalition meeting was big, just so everyone knows, 3 new updated laws basically saying, first one, host law has been changed so if you have a party and anybody underage is here, they have alcohol that you have there, you will get in a lot of trouble. Fine and possible jail time. Anyone underage transporting any alcohol in your car, and you are pulled over, 30 day license suspension and heavy fine, 2nd time- 3 mos, 3rd - possible year long suspension. Tom and I are working with some groups, just to say how much all of the orgs on campus do to really give back to the community. Carnival- to prove to them that we are I involved and a part of the community. We aren't here for part of the year and then we leave, we are really invested in this and want to do something.

Ahrens- Under 21, officer thinks you have any signs of drinking, field sobriety test, arrested for internal possession and consumption of alcohol. Misdemeanor on first offense.

Pelletier- Does this apply to just people driving or anywhere?

Ahrens- Anywhere, not just driving.

LaRocca- Expand on what you told exec last night.

O'Brien- In Feb meeting, woman coming to present to coalition, grant from US government of about 100,000 to institute after school activities because she feels that college students are diminishing community, making high school students delinquents. Makes high school students and middle school students more likely to do these things. She is starting an after school program to try to stop this. If you hear anything, that is what it is. I cannot comment exactly because I am going to hear about it in February.

Holzman- Idea that college students will be setting a good example or is the idea to separate college students from high school students?

O'Brien- When I know you, you'll know.

Petit- Are those state laws or town ordinances?

Ahrens- 4 laws, one state hosting law, transporting law, then local one off of the hosting one and local one is the underage internal possession

Sinapi- Is the law that you can check anyone anywhere, is that anywhere else?

Sibbald- New Hampshire law about internal consumption.

Holland- Because college students typically drink on Friday and Saturday nights, that woman needs after school programs during the week?

O'Brien- Not a lot of definite information, we need to wait to talk to her.

LaRocca- My high school was right next to a college, Hofstra University, if anyone grew up in a college town, we should all talk to one another.

Yensan- I grew up in this town on the URI campus, if you view me as a delinquent, serious problem.

Petit- When was that law passed, internal possession?

O'Brien- I don't know.

Ahrens- They aren't going to just start knocking on your door and having you breathe in their face.

O'Brien- The idea is that if you do anything that makes them believe you have been drinking, they can now find out.

Gorman- What about if you have empty beer cans in your car?

O'Brien- Same thing

Boiteau- If you have possession of alcohol law, and cops bust a party, can they do this to everyone at a party?

O'Brien – Yes, great that you have questions, but also go to the meetings.

Sinapi- Field sobriety test anywhere, sounds same as orange sticker.

Ahrens- It is actually a lot harsher in other states, in New Hampshire, doesn't matter if you are showing signs, they can give you a field sobriety test no matter what. This is just a proactive move.

Coates- that was a town ordinance?

Ahrens- It will not affect the campus.

Petit- Maybe we can switch off every week, have someone going to Narragansett town council meetings every week or month?

O'Brien- I go to these meetings, I didn't go last month because I was not fully in my position.

Ahrens- First and 3rd Monday of every month, 7pm in Town Hall.

Clarke- Next coalition meeting?

O'Brien- February

Clarke- Did you mention how they always mess up the times and dates?

O'Brien- Yes, I gave them my information and they hadn't even updated the contact list.

Sibbald- Wondering if anyone knew what the penalty is for refusing the Breathalyzer?

O'Brien- Not a Breathalyzer, just a sobriety test

Holland- What if you are over 21, not drunk and do not have your ID and they decide to do that.

O'Brien- They can just access your information.

Slater- Against the law to not carry an ID.

Messineo- Trash rules, party with people there, last year issues with people have garbage out all day?

Ahrens- Bob Briar is the person who posts stickers, also in charge of laws and upkeep, in charge of making sure everything is in order, first time for trash, warning, second time, written warning, 3rd time is a ticket.

- **CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

Yensan- Not a lot is going on, trying to solidify the big event in the spring, gingerbread house thing is going as planned, setting it up for December 4th. Open up to the groups, take away the materials and build on their own, take pictures of the houses and put those on display rather than have the houses in the union. Too much space and people would probably take them away. Poster for public to see and vote on, whoever is best, we didn't determine a prize yet.

Adepoju- Unfinished Business- moved back to Cultural Affairs

Sorry I was not here earlier, had to go to Providence, gingerbread event, successful time wise, got shafted with Thanksgiving and semester ending. About 16 orgs that really want to do this, getting more by the day. Big thanks to Meg Lynch and Angie Abbe, Thank you! Event in the spring, still in the works, all I have for you. If you can help out with the event, looking for people to host booths on December 4th from 11-2, just need to have people vote for the best house. Not going to have a sign up- just talk to me.

Clarke- you said you could pick up houses in the office, does Kim know? If you are not in the office, can you still get the house.

Adepoju- Told orgs that if Kim or I are not there, should be not picking up but as long as a senator is there and they sign them out, I am okay with it. Also we are ordering gingerbread men with them, coming in tomorrow afternoon. You can't have a house with no people in it.

Allison- Members of my org were asking if they can buy more stuff to add to it.

Adepoju- Yes, I put in the email that yes you should get more stuff to mix them up, we want the houses to look different.

Petit moves back to unfinished business, seconded by Holden

- **CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

LaRocca- No meeting next week, I'll probably be home, hope you are too. Last Friday, Chris and I went to meet with Mr. Frisbee Folden and Mr. Boucher. Master architect in capital planning office. We went to tell them what we want to do with Ellery pond, get their support and maps. They are very supportive of our efforts and are offering a lot of help. Contractor has been picked to dredge rojo's, white horn creek and 1st third of Ellery pond. Lands and Grounds is going to come in to take out all of the brush, have plans to expand the pond to the west toward Mackel and Tootel, will help the holding capacity, decrease the flooding and water damage to the dorms and football field. We aren't going to put anything in on the west side of the pond. The corner right behind Ellery Hall, that will be unaffected by the expansion, that area is going to be ours to work with. Going to be working with the administration, we want most of the work to be from students, all of the fundraising, planting and stuff like that. The area between the pond and tootell near the football field, brainstorming ideas about that area. We liked the idea of putting in a partial brick

patio and picnic tables. Tail gating for the area, grassy area, hopefully get alumni donations if building a spot to hang out. Groups can have tents to hopefully make the games more eventful.

Aronoff- When is the projected date? Not including the patio, the dredging and all of that.

LaRocca- They have the contractor, want to do the dredging, and don't want to wait till spring, do it soon in the wintertime. Once the rainiest period is done. It's going to be a big project, while they are doing the physical stuff, that is our time to finalize our design, come up with how much money we are going to need and start our fundraising. Going to be a long process.

Yensan- When specifically would the dredging be done? The smell will be bad so if it could be done at a time when students were not there, that might be better.

LaRocca- I don't want to wait for spring break but maybe in the winter.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Director of Communications- Simon- Working on a few things, newsletter every other month, not everyone's input in it. Something that was not mentioned before with cultural affairs, still working on the food pantry booth, 4th, 5th and 6th, if you can work the booth at some point, put your name down, greatly appreciate help. Working with chairwoman LaRocca to get Ellery pond information out. Working with Ahrens to make the lawsuit more public.

b. Secretary- Pelletier- Kudos to Alyssa, Ronald and Dave for working with the bookstore. Have a good Thanksgiving everyone.

c. Treasurer- Shah- I have a report, if you go and make posters with the union, it's 3 dollars, don't pay and do the petty cash things, just give me the receipt, I'll pay out of budget. Stipends if you have one, can be picked up on Tuesday.

d. Vice President-Bedard- Apologize for not being in the office or at exec this week, sick, feeling better today. I will be around the rest of the week hopefully. Chairmen- make sure that your vice chair or you get attendance and minutes to me. As Amanda said earlier, no meeting this week, one more meeting this semester after tonight. Checks for formal need to be in by the end of this week for Kim or beginning of next week to me. Hand them directly to me or give them to someone who you know will give them to me. Encourage you all to go to formal. 38/person, 76/ couple, two busses, one on campus for on or around, one off campus from Tom's house. If you live down the line, meet beforehand at Tom's house, buses coming at roughly 6:30, formal starts at 7 at Amalfi. Last thing is secret snowman. If you want to give out little gifts over the next two weeks. Big gift at December 3rd meeting. If you have not filled one of these out, do not take one.

Mingoia- What is the menu for formal?

Bedard- not really dinner, giant cocktail party all night and cash bar for 21 and up.

e. President- Ahrens- Urge everyone to go to formal, join us, it will be fun, coalition last night, Andy did a good job organizing. 100 students went to the meeting if you can go in the future, great, for all RI students and all other students, tuition going up, expecting a mid year increase. If you are instate and friends who are younger, going to affect all of us and the future of the university in general. Write to local legislation. If all of us write one letter, at least that we can do. Being a URI student, perspective is important. Sit down at your computer, look up addresses online.

LaRocca- Maybe senate could come up with a generic letter to outline with a lot of the information. People could add their thoughts to send in.

Ahrens- I think that it would be nice to see all of us send a letter and then give some type of letter to all students, friends and family. Brandon and I are going to talk about it. Two car accidents involving URI students, both still in critical condition. Moment of silence for them. Basketball tickets, put tickets in your boxes the day before or day of. If I give you a ticket, I need to be sure that you are going to use them. Sign up on the sheet. If you can't use the tickets, call me and I'll give them to someone else. Exec- we are meeting next Tuesday, everyone meet after so we can talk.

Adepoju- Who is URI playing?

Ahrens- VCU on Saturday

Adepoju- The letter writing could be discussed for Rally to the Statehouse.

Ahrens- Want to send out letters before the Rally but it is coming up in February.

Boiteau- Who to send letters to?

Ahrens- if you are a Rhode Islander, send to local rep or if not, send to any rep.

Bickham- Student tickets for the game, same seats?

Ahrens- I don't know, I was not there.

Brown- For students in the accidents, put together a card. For letters, start a campaign because not just the financial aspect but also committees that could use input.

Aronoff- something like Up Til Dawn, some type of letter campaign, physically addressed letters already filled out. People could come and send them out, even if they could send them to family and then parents could also do stuff.

- RULES AND ETHICS: no report

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Bylaws Committee- Petit- No meeting tonight, Tom had an exam, I could not meet at 5 tonight, going to do one meeting before Thanksgiving break, figure out a time after the meeting, going to be talking about vote needed to pass level 3 groups.

Adepoju- Question brought up between members of the committee or in bylaws box?

Petit- By the committee

I. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Nominations for Elections Committee- information, everyone in this room, term ends in the spring, if you want to be on senate next year, need to run in spring Elections, generally made up of graduating seniors and those who will definitely not be running for re-election.

Petit nominates Ahrens, seconded by LaRocca- respectfully declines

Aronoff nominates Allison, Rodrigues seconds

Messineo nominates Sibbald, respectfully declines

LaRocca nominates Luther, seconded by Holden

Coates nom Ginsberg, Holden seconds

Holzman nominates Noble, seconded by Rodrigues

LaRocca nominates Pelletier, seconded by Harrington

Stolow nominates Shah, seconded by Holden

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Adepoju- motioned to move back to cultural, seconded by Clarke.

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM: Petit- Thank Einhorn, Stein and Aronoff for going to Johnson and Wales, met with reps, talked about a lot of ideas. Going to bring up ideas in exec next week.

Maureen- Wish you all a great break next week. Rainville nomination deadline is the 5th of December. Please nominate leaders, student employees or orgs.

Adepoju- Quick announcement, hosting HIV show held by BAS, comedian Alex Thomas, free, really funny show, hope everyone comes to support the show.

Aronoff- conference, there was one idea that Johnson and Wales has done, speech for presidents, state of the university address, really cool with the new president to do that, once a year for about 15 mins, talk and let the student body know about visions for the future. Maybe the senate president can intro new president and give a little speech about what senate is trying to accomplish.

Coates- Basketball tickets, didn't sink in until after we left the game, didn't sing the national anthem this week. I have never attended an event where the national anthem was not sung. I did not know if there was a certain person that we should contact in athletics.

Bedard- Athletics rationale, Friday night was a double header, they sang before women's game, their rationale was one national anthem was for both games.

Gorman- Dark Night is playing in 21 minutes in Edwards and it is actually tonight.

LaRocca- Was any student in the three dorms that experienced a black out last week, I wish I had heard about it sooner. Twelve hours to get a generator, the RA's didn't know what was going on, was only three buildings. If anyone lives in those dorms, please come talk to me.

Bruce- Utility company problem, not a residential life problem, need to focus on that aspect. Have a safe and wonderful holiday, see you when you get back.

Brown- Academic and Student Affairs committee of BOG, objections to hearing that, if you will bear with me, will streamline, commissioner, president Ahrens has taken an effort in leading this, governor's hearing to discuss a variety of things, meet in providence chamber of commerce, various locations, utilize webpage of BOG of academic and student affairs committee. Balancing as portrayed by commissioner, significance of cost reduction, number of graduates, reallocation of resources. Reduction of full term faculty numbers. Encourage you to look up reauthorization of higher education act, encouraging state investment in higher ed that is tied to federal investment in higher education. Attempt to create disincentives in state for

allocation of resources if they do not provide necessary resources. John Stevenson gave an assessment of retention and graduation rates, providing to academic affairs. A lot of data in that study. One particular thing, retention has increased by 50% over the past 10 years.

Ahrens- Since we have Brandon as a senator, we rotate student liaison to BOG, rare opportunity to have not only as a senator, really have a very close asset to the statehouse. He has been keeping me up to date, he is the one who can give you the right contact information, Jack Warner was here last week. More or less in charge of all of the decisions that will affect our institution. Get out of here Wednesday, have a good Thanksgiving.

Holden motions to adjourn. **Holland** seconds.

M. ROLL CALL: AYE: Abbe, Adepoju, Allison, Almeida, Aronoff, Bickham, Boiteau, Brown, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Faustin, Gaudio, Harrington, Holden, Holland, Holzman, Kearns, LaRocca, Lee, Luther, Lynch, McCormick, Meehan, Messineo, Mingoia, Noble, O'Brien, Petit, Prata, Rodrigues, Ryan, Sinapi, Slater, Smith, Stein, Stollow, Tremaglio, Valenti, Walsh, Yensan

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

Nay- Sibbald

N. ADJOURNMENT: 7:44PM