

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:37pm

B. ROLL CALL: Ahrens, Almeida, Aronoff, Bedard, Bickham, Boiteau, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Holden, Holland, Kearns, LaRocca, Luther, Lynch, Messineo, Mingoia, O'Brien, Pelletier, Petit, Shah, Sibbald, Simon, Sinapi, Slater, Stein, Stolow, Valenti, Yensan

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Recc for second Soarc Bill, should be (3-1-0) instead of (3-0-1)
Petit- Bill SS 08/09 77 Recc (5-0-1)
Bill SS 08/09 75 motion to amend from 3000 to 2700. Opposition. Abstention from Senator Yensan.
Passes. Committee recc on motion (3-2-1) Friendly.
Agenda Approved- Abstention from Senator Coates.

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

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS: **Petit-** motion for pledge, opposition, vote, passed.
Aronoff- Summer Camp job flyer. Different jobs offered, feel free to contact me, I have more information.
Pelletier- URI 101 Mentor apps are now available.

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

SS-08/09-74 – CONTINGENCY GRANT REQUEST FOR SSDP/NORML

Whereas, SSDP/NORML is a Senate recognized organization, and
Whereas, SSDP/NORML would like to hold a programming event on campus, and
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and
Whereas, SSDP/NORML 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 \$1,017.00 from our Programming Contingency to the Category #130 (Programming) line in the budget of SSDP/NORML.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Petit
DATE: Wednesday, February 25th, 2009
RECOMMENDATION: Passage (5-0-1)
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
ACTION: Passed

Rep- annual events, 1000 to pay for part of stage, lighting and equipment.
Aronoff- What is hempfest?
Rep- Festival with music, speakers, talk about the drug war and effect of drugs on people. It is a very educational event. In past years, people have learned a lot.
Ahrens- How many bands?
Rep- Right now, expecting about 10-11 with the headliner.
Petit- Motion to amend the resolved to read 1017.00. Seconded by Boiteau. (6-0-0)
Petit- They were able to get money from Dr. Dougan, but the difference is 17 dollars.
Rep- Still short by 500 but going to other groups.

Passed
Abstention from Bickham

SS-08/09-75 – CONTINGENCY GRANT REQUEST FOR 500 Family

Whereas, 500 Family is a Senate recognized organization, and
Whereas, 500 Family would like to hold a programming event on campus, and

Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and
Whereas, 500 Family 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 \$2,700.00 from our Programming Contingency to the Category #130 (Programming) line in the budget of 500 Family.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee
 BILL HANDLER: Chairman Petit
 DATE: Wednesday, February 25th , 2009
 RECOMMENDATION: Failure (3-3-0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
 ACTION: Passed

Lowell- Last week, few discrepancies, fixed and have a new breakdown of the event. Met with exec and now we are here. Nicki Manaj performing Saturday in the ballroom. Few other orgs, PRS, ASA, LASA, SAWA and others.

LaRocca- Can you read out the breakdown so everyone else can here.

Lowell- artist- 3500, promotions 50, sound and lights 750, total is 4300. Total of sponsorship we have is 800. Drops down to 3500. Sound and Lights problem is not a problem, sound company is actually going to be donated for free, takes care of problem from last week. It’s now fully organized, sound is free. The amended amount that Allen has is what we are coming for. Sawa- photography, bond- beverage stand, lasa- promos and production, sasa- control, asa promotion, PRS is in charge of media Kits.

Stolow- Motions for immediate consideration. Holden seconds.

LaRocca- how much money left in programming if we don’t get back since not a loan?

Petit- If we give the money, 1500 left in programming for the rest of the semester. Next 2.5 months, this is the money left.

Clarke- Whatever they make goes back into contingency. This is a dance party, not just a concert, no worry about money coming back.

Ahrens- One event that I worked at for Black Ice, very long line, I don’t think participation will be an issue.

Coates- Charge?

Lowell- 10 non-students, 7 for students.

Lowell- Saturday is the event. Tuesday is the next finance meeting.

Sinapi- Not there fault that contingency is low, have not taken into account in the past, it’s irrelevant.

Petit- We do normally take it into account, usually brought up in finance, necessary now as well. We do bring it up in committee.

Sinapi- The budget of our group is for student involvement and groups.

Petit- There is zero guarantee, there is no guarantee with contingency. My concern is that if we don’t get the money back, will have to start saying no.

Holland- I just want to say that by denying them to help other groups, could be the same as denying them to help other groups. If we have the possibility of letting them put on the event and getting the money back, I don’t see the problem in it.

LaRocca- Can I hear from those who have not spoken yet on finance.

Holden- I said yes because most of their events have been successful, not guaranteed but generally get the money back. Should be 3000 anyway so that’s why they should get the money for it.

Almeida- Based off the last party that you had, 650 at 10 dollars ahead is a lot of money, based off of the numbers, should be allowed to have the event.

Petit- Motion for roll call vote, Coates- second
 Abstention by Holzman, motion fails. Vote by voice.

Vote on Bill- Holzman, Allison, Adepoju-abstentions, Bill passes.

SS-08/09-76 – CO-SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FOR STUDENT SENATE

Whereas, Senate, is a Senate recognized organization, and

Whereas, Senate, would like to hold a programming event on campus, and
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and
Whereas, Senate 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 approve the transfer \$2,000.00 from cat.# 127 (Co-Sponsorship) of Senate’s budget to Electronic Music Association cat.# 130 (Programming)

SPONSOR: Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Petit
DATE: Wednesday, February 25th , 2009
RECOMMENDATION: Passage (4-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
ACTION: Vote Next Week

SS-08/09-77 BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE BUDGETS FOR STUDENT SENATE ORGANIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Whereas, Student Senate is responsible for budgeting funds to the student organizations, and
Whereas, the following organizations are recognized by the Senate, and
Whereas, the Finance Committee has carefully considered each request and furthered recommendations for each organization’s budget, and

Whereas, the Finance Committee has based their recommendations primarily on past usage of budgeted funds, across the board policies applied to all groups, and rationales for request provided by the groups themselves, and

Whereas, the Finance Committee has determined a conservative estimate on how much the Senate can expect to receive in Student Activity Fee income and in rollover income, and

Whereas, the Finance Committee has prepared a balanced budget, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate budget \$819,209.50 to the Student Organizations, including the \$8,360 automatically budgeted to all level III and IV, based on the Financial Benefits Package in the Finance Handbook, as provided by the budget breakdown accompanying this bill, and therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Student Senate budget \$70,790.50 to the Contingency Categories as provided in the budget breakdown accompanying this bill, and therefore be it

Resolved, the funds budgeted to the Student Organizations over \$819,209.50 shall be deducted from the contingency categories proportionally according to the percentages listed on the budget breakdown accompanying this bill, provided that the total amount allocated to the contingency categories will not be less than \$60,000.00, and be it further

Resolved, that any further funds budgeted to the Student Organizations which would cause the contingency categories to fall below \$60,000.00 will be raised by an across the board percentage cut according to each organization’s share of the total amount allocated to organizations, and be it finally,

Resolved, that any additional income collected from student fees or higher than anticipated rollover will be allocated to the contingency categories proportionally according to the percentages listed on the budget break down accompany this bill, up to \$100,000.00.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Petit
DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2009
RECOMMENDATION: (5 - 0 - 1)
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
ACTION: Vote Next Week

Petit- Look over budget bill, be aware, talk to me or finance.

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

SS-08/09-78 Bill Calling for the Recognition of the URI Soccer Club at Level 3

Whereas, the URI Soccer Club will provide a higher level of competition than intramurals for individuals who cannot compete at the varsity level, and
Whereas, the URI Soccer Club 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 recognizes the URI Soccer Club.

SPONSOR: SOARC
BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Clarke
DATE: Wednesday February 25, 2009
RECOMMENDATION: Passage (4-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION: Vote Next Week

SS-08/09-79 Bill Calling for the Recognition of Alpha Chi Sigma at Level 4

Whereas, Alpha Chi Sigma will foster an interest in chemistry through educational and charitable programs, and
Whereas, Alpha Chi Sigma 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 recognizes Alpha Chi Sigma.

SPONSOR: SOARC
BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Clarke
DATE: Wednesday February 25, 2009
RECOMMENDATION: Passage (3-1-0)
EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
ACTION: Tabled to Committee.

Clarke- Bill tabled back to committee. Seconded by LaRocca.

Petit- some concerns about bill with soccer club.

Clarke- Talked to club sports, no possibility of them getting recognized, informed them that they can't compete at a competitive level. Having a meeting to talk with members and see where they want to go.

Sibbald- Can't we not recognize because we already recognize soccer.

Clarke- We don't recognize intramurals.

Sinapi- I was going to ask if varsity soccer had been cut?

Ahrens- have a week, research is still being done, if you have information and want to help Amanda, will talk about it next week.

LaRocca- As of last year, club sports is now CSIC again so intramurals is part of club sports.

- **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Stolow-** Thank you Senator Holzman and Petit for showing up to faculty senate. Bill was passed without any problems. Will be going into affect in the fall of 2010. I will be having my committee meeting this Friday at 2pm. Will be talking about adjunct faculty and trying to put together a bill for the floor.
Petit- Thank you Noel Slater and Amanda Clarke for also attending.

Petit- Voted to approve the change in the Poly Sci dept so classes will be getting more credits and more credits will also be needed to graduate.

Stolow- Is that change going to go into affect for incoming freshman?

Clarke- Poly Sci will not go into affect until incoming freshman. Faculty senate, I learned a lot, saw who provost was, really important to get involved in it.

Simon- Did you talk to Dorothy Donnoly?

Stolow- Not Yet, going to invite her to my meeting.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

O'Brien- Next coalition meeting is going to be either March 24th or March 31st. Should be at 4pm. I will be presenting the off campus/what all of the groups from the university have been doing for the off campus community. Sheet with names of groups and what they have done, it's cool. Event we are putting on at the end of this semester. In the process of getting all of the different coding, we have a lot of the peripheral stuff figured out.

Clarke- How do you get the word out to the average off campus student to the coalition meeting?

O'Brien- It's in the Doc newsletters. Flyers have been put up in the community centers.

Someone encouraged me not to put it at bars.

Ahrens- In eastward, not allowed to flyer cars, it's really tough. You don't know who is living where because people switch. Valid point to be looking into next year. Need to look at how we can get out more information.

O'Brien- These are not open forums, just general meetings. Open forum is going to be in April. Put together a flyer for the last open forum and will do so for this one as well.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Adepoju- Met last Monday, kinda decided as a committee not to put our efforts into bringing Rhody Rides back because of many of the issues we were made aware of. Looking at an alternative idea, look at shuttle system and how they hire a driver at JWU. Going to draft a proposal and bring it to exec to find out how they feel about it. For the most part this semester, got an invite from New England Regional basketball team, street ball tournaments throughout New England. Want to come to URI, very local level, travel from state to state. Inspire younger youths, not asking for anything, just want to come and play and get the name out. Invite URI Students, not basketball players, there time to shine, have it in Keaney gym. Get as many students in there, Local URI team face another local team, not the basketball team. Spoke to Michael Knolfe- create an event that would cater to family weekend. Children who could be prospective students.

Petit- Status with Rammies?

Adepoju- expecting a few people to come and speak, waiting on budget from Vidhi, will be good to go as far as getting what we need.

Ahrens- Jon and Jason are going to co-chair committee together through cultural. The event will be held as a cultural event and brought up in meetings through Maxwell. Speak to either of them, myself or Maxwell.

Almeida- President's meeting?

Ahrens- First Monday

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

LaRocca- emailed Bryan from Lands and Grounds, ads in the newspaper for Ellery pond. Arming campus police forum was today, Sinapi, Holzman, Ahrens, thank you for being there. Megan Luther, Joelle Harrington. Next week campus drawing up a bill on the official student senate opinion on arming campus police. Monday at 2pm, come and talk to us. Dave will be there. Last year, we talked about forums we wanted to have to gage student opinion, under time constraints, get the idea out there, read the editorials in the cigar, try to make best possible decision.

Petit- For anyone who attended the forum, what did students say?

Larocca- It was pretty much half each way.

Holzman- You had to sign up in order to speak, were deliberately swapping between pro and con so both sides would be addressed. Reasonable to start discussion tonight, debate on the topic for 30 mins or 45 minutes.

Clarke- Possible to do our own personal survey?

LaRocca- yes, just need to give to a diverse group of students. I'm slightly strapped for time with elections but if someone on my committee wants to take initiative.

Bruce- If you are going to do a questionnaire, use something like survey monkey, you need to also put it into context, discuss training aspect.

LaRocca- I agree and I would ask other questions about safety.

Sinapi- Unless you have a long explanation of information, the majority of students will say no to guns right away.

Officer Mark- Survey already by Brandon Brown, someone might want to contact him. If you have any questions for me, let me know.

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

a. Director of Communications- Simon- Working with Tom to form a letter for information about drug wars.

Ahrens- Increase in violence in Mexico regarding drug wars, I know a lot of my friends will be going down there so people need to be careful.

Newsletter- submit your stuff ASAP.

b. Secretary- Pelletier- Kudos while the candidates are standing outside tomorrow.

c. Treasurer- Shah- Kim informed me that we have to purchase new toner for our printer. She has already had to purchase twice since December. It's not for your own use, it's for Student Senate and the orgs.

d. Vice President- Bedard- Senior speaker apps are due by Monday at 4pm. In regards to that, the committee is Sibbald, Rodrigues, Senator Harrington, Shah and myself. I will be in contact with you to discuss when we will review apps, finalists will come to March 11th senate meeting, will get an idea of public speaking and there speeches. Committee will meet after that and final announcement will be on March 25th. Speeches due Monday by 4pm. As far as BBQ, will be moving to the end of the year, will be open to current senate at the time as well as outgoing seniors who are graduating. Will be end of april, beginning of May, details TBA. Probably like a 5 dollar buy-in. Want traditions of Winter formal and Spring BBQ. We are dropping a lot of people as far as attendance, a lot of people are dropping because of so much work. Attendance policy until March 25th. Annual meeting, it starts over again.

Bruce- If anyone needs assistance with Time management, some of the members of my staff and I do that for free!

f. President- Ahrens- Arming campus police, happy with turn out on both sides, appreciate everyone who went, saw a lot of faculty members. That was in the later hours of the forum, people are taking an active role. Talked to Amanda, goal for bill on the floor for next week, do research on your own so that you can bring information to the table. We want people to come in with new points to the debate. Talk to those who know the most information. Next week we can talk when the bill is on the floor. The way I see it is that we will have a bill for arming and then vote for or against it. On Friday, meeting with exec to go over binders. If you want to come help, we will have food. The more people who come, the easier it is to remember everything. I meet every Wednesday for President Carother's committee, we are officially the coordinators of the event. What I asked last week, had everyone's names, want to get a meeting time of when we can meet. I have two pages of ideas from last meetings. Club sports, cheerleaders, climbing walls, art contests. We need to decide what is/what is not going to work. Also going to be sending out another email for the Rammies. Please respond to those if you want to be part of either committee. I don't have any tickets for anyone tonight, it's a big game for recruiting, I couldn't guarantee that we would be out in time, I wanted to make sure it was full. A lot of people interested come to the game, wanted to be sure that seats were filled up. I have a few tickets that were given to me personally, there should still be tickets available for top sections.

Aronoff- Are there any more forums on arming campus police?

Ahrens- There may be one in providence next week. It may have been last week. If we wanted to have another one, I don't think it would be objected.

Sinapi- Think there might be one more.

Officer Mark- As far as I know, all completed and being submitted to BOG.

Petit- Can still submit stuff on the website.

- **RULES AND ETHICS:** Meet by flag at the end of the meeting.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Bylaws Committee- Petit- Met last week, voted on 3 diff issues, did not put the bill on this week ,there was an issue, will be on the floor next week and voted on during the annual meeting.

Elections Committee- LaRocca- voting day one was today, over 400 students voted. I want to break 1000, I think we really can do that. Anything over 1000 would be great. My goal is like 1500. The debate last night was great, largest non-senator turn out in a while. We definitely had 40 people in the room. One debate we had 6 people, all senators and a cigar reporter. Thank you all for coming to the debate. Clarifications on working the booth. Everyone gets 2 ballots, presidential or off/on campus. If they choose not to circle or write anything and they leave it blank, it goes in the box. I have to count all of the names highlighted in the book and then compare to list. The ballot box was getting full, the books and ballots from last time were still in there. A lot of people were confused as far as on campus/off campus. I have a list of all addresses that are part of off campus, there is a list of IEP house and of Greek housing. We are missing 2-3 sorority houses. Hopefully everyone understands that, wish the candidates good luck.

Coates- Clarification, how many need to vote for referendum to take effect?

Ahrens- 5%, it's around 1000 that need to vote yes.

Bruce- 5% of 15,000 undergraduates is only 750 so you should be okay.

I. SPECIAL ORDERS:

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:

Maureen- Those of you that know Sheri Davis, she is out all week, her mother passed away. We do have students who can help you schedule, please have patience.

Bruce- Officer Mark went out and checked, no more public forums, Allen is correct about being able to go on website. I will not be here next week during budget meeting. Groups and finance have been working hard, this process does not need to be monumental. Deal with everyone fairly and equally, I'm sure it will all be fine. I want to remind you about the bus service to south county every weekend. If we don't get bodies on the bus service, will not be continued. Let the cigar know about it, let students know about it. Good luck to the candidates, stay with it and we'll have a good election. All 4 of them are tired, keep it on the same level, look forward to seeing you when I come back.

Adepoju- When are internal elections going to be to determine seats from past election?

LaRocca- At the annual meeting.

Luther- Think it's that yes vote needs to be 5%.

Bruce- Will look into and clarify information.

Petit- Everytime Bruce has not been here for budget meeting, really long or something ridiculous happens.

Bruce- Not true, first time I missed budget meeting the entire bill was done in 15 minutes. As long as you pay attention and stay with it, you will be fine.

Aronoff- I thought the bus to NY was 68 dollars.

Bruce- No, I was talking about South County Commons.

Sibbald- Motion to adjourn. Holland seconds.

M. ROLL CALL: AYE: Adepoju, Allison, Almeida, Aronoff, Bickham, Boiteau, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Harrington, Holden, Holland, Kearns, Lynch, Messineo, Mingoia, Moss, O'Brien, Rodrigues, Sibbald, Slater, Stein, Stollow, Valenti, Yensan

Nay: Holzman, LaRocca, Luther, Petit, Sinapi

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

N. ADJOURNMENT: 7:41pm