

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:31pm

B. ROLL CALL: Abbe, Ahrens, Almeida, Aronoff, Bedard, Bickham, Boiteau, Clarke, Coates, Gaudio, Holden, Holland, Inthisone, LaRocca, Luther, Messineo, Mingoia, O'Brien, Pelletier, Petit, Prata, Rodrigues, Sibbald, Simon, Sinapi, Slater, Stein, Stalow, Valenti, Yensan

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Petit- Motion to amend bill SS 0809 XX under New business, should be under bylaws, should be bill SS 0809 79 Under the sponsor, should be bylaws, bill handler and date need to be shifted over.

Bill SS 08-09 80 sponsor and other relevant info need to go after all of the information, shift over and change to bylaws committee. Recc is (5-0-0)

Sibbald- Special Orders- Add Bylaws elections. Second by Holden

Petit- SS 08/09 80- article 9, after part 2, says level 1, 2 and 3, 4, should be levels 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Abstentions from Yensan and Einhorn.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: No Changes ☺ Abstentions from Luther, O'Brien, Abbe and Prata.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Petit- motion for pledge, opposition, vote, passed.

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

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, March 4 th , 2009
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (4-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Upon Dispensation
ACTION:	Passed

Ahrens- EMA is a yearly event, 2000 is covering most of the talent. They had a lot of DJ's and headliners throughout the night. The majority of the 2000 is going towards entertainment for the event.

Rep- April 4th- 10pm-6am, lineup is about 40 DJ's posted online, most are doing it for free or for gas money. We have tickets at 5 for URI students, 2 in costume in theme of middle ages.

Ahrens- It's a great event and goes on throughout the entire union.

Aronoff- Where on the web?

Rep- newraveorder.org or .com

Bill passed.

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 \$821,119.50 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 \$68,880.50 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 \$821,119.50 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, March 4th 2009
 RECOMMENDATION: (5 - 0 - 1)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
 ACTION: Passed

We go through and vote on the groups one by one. If you have questions, myself or someone from finance can answer. I made a slight error on the last page, says 2006-2007. Should be 2009-2010.

- Cigar- Happy, Passed.
- IFC- Happy, Passed. Abstentions from Sibbald
- Panhel- No Rep, Passed. Abstention from O’Brien.
- Renaissance- Happy, passed.
- SEC admin- Happy, passed.
- SEC concerts- Happy, passed.
- SEC speakers- Happy, passed.
- SEC special events- Happy, passed.
- Student Senate- Happy, passed.
- WRIU- Happy, passed.
- Ballroom Dancing- Happy, passed.
- Dance Company- **Petit**- the reason why they are not receiving any funding, they did not apply, if level 1 or 2 and you don’t apply, then no budget. Passed.
- EMA- Happy, passed.
- Fencing- No rep, passed.
- Gaming Club- Happy, passed. Senator Inthisone and Senator Bickham abstain.
- Independent Scribe- Happy, passed.
- LASA- No Rep, they handed in their budget late, received a 25% penalty. Passed.
- NAACP- No Rep, passed.
- Outing Club- No Rep, passed.
- Sailing Club- Happy, passed.

Contender's Academy- Happy, passed.

Scuba club- Happy, passed.

Student action for sustainability- Happy, passed. Petit- The reason the budget is so low, do not normally accept past deadline, allowed to submit but 75% penalty.

Clarke- Can they still get contingency?

Petit- Yes

Bickham- What happened to club that was all 0?

Petit- Never submitted a budget.

Surf Club- Happy, passed.

Petit- Only level 1 and 2 need to have a rep here, level 3 and 4 don't need to have a rep. It's very likely that those people do not have someone here, if you have questions, just ask me. Even though all of the level 3 and level 4 are the same, still need to vote individually. Although it is a fbp, it's still a budget.

ALIMA- Passed.

Anime- Passed.

Asian Student Assoc.- Passed Abstention from Inthisone.

Petit- Just so you know, if you are part of the group then you need to abstain.

Black American Society- Passed.

Cape Verdean Students Assoc- Passed.

CIAO- Passed. Abstention from Boiteau.

College Democrats- Passed. Abstention from Rodrigues, Clarke, Stein.

College Republicans- Passed.

Fashion Merchandising Society- Passed.

Flavor Unit- Passed.

Ghost Hunting- Passed.

Habitat for Humanity- Passed.

Hillel- Passed, abstentions from Yensan, Einhorn, Aronoff, Stein.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship- Passed.

Keep a Child Alive- Passed.

Marine Science Society- Passed.

Muslim Student Association- Passed.

National Society for Black Engineers- Passed.

Native American Student Organization- Passed.

PAGE- Passed.

Philosophers Anonymous- Passed.

Ping Pong Club- Passed.

Pre-Law Society- Passed. Abstentions from O'Brien, Sibbald, Sinapi, Stein.

Public Relations Society- Passed.

Rhody MUG- **Aronoff-** What is Rhody Mug? Petit- Common interest is computers, but mostly MAC users. Passed.

SSDP/NORML- Passed. POI- Takes only majority vote for level 3.

Speakeasy- Passed. LaRocca- Are they still around? O'Brien- yes. Abstention from O'Brien.

SAAC- Approved

Uhuru Sasa- Passed. Abstention from Adepoju.

URI Car Club- Petit- that is an error and it should not be in there. They were recognized after the deadline. January 30th was the deadline.

LaRocca- Passed on Jan 21st. They are good. Passed.

URI Classical Society- Passed.

URI Field Hockey- Passed.

URI Gymnastics Club- Passed.

Holland- question about club sports that may not be student senate recognized.

Petit- If they move over to club sports, lose budget with us.

URI Men's Swimming and Dive Club- Passed.

Aronoff- When they move over to club sports, what happens to money?

Petit- Goes back into tax. Should be URI Men's Swimming and Dive Club.

URI Musician's Guild- Passed.

URI Robotics Club- Passed.
 URI Snowboarding- Passed.
 Wakeboard/Wakeskate- **Petit**- Chair Clarke, are they still a group? Do you know what happened with boats?
Clarke- yes, still a group, do not know what happened with boats.
 Passed.
 Young Americans 4 Liberty- Passed.
 500 Family- Abstention from Adepoju- Division Called. Passed.

Level 4
 Best Buddies- Passed.
 Colleges Against Cancer- Passed. Stolow, O'Brien Abstain.
 Future Health Professionals- Passed.
 Human Development and Family Services- Passed.
 Newman Club- Passed. Abstention from Gaudio.
 Nutrition Cub- Passed. Abstention from Holden.
 PINK women- Passed.
 Psychology club- Passed. Abstention from Holland.
 Phi Beta Lambda- Passed.
 Schools for Schools- Passed.
 Society of Women Engineers- Passed. Abstention from Holden.
 St. Jude's Up Till Dawn- Passed. Abstention from Stein.
 Student's for a More Accessible Campus- Passed. Abstention from Stein.
 SAWA- **LaRocca**- weren't they recognized after the deadline?
Petit- Changed level after the budgeting deadline, they were level 4 at the deadline.
 Passed.
 The MOB- Passed. Abstention from Holland, Aronoff, Harrington.
 URI Physical Therapy- Passed.
 URI Students of Speech, Language, Hearing- Passed.
 Wildlife Society- Passed. Abstention from Sibbald.

Motion to amend bill SS 08-09 77, under first resolved where it says 819, 209.50 is now going to read 821, 119. 50. Under third resolved is now going to read 821,119.50. Under second resolved, will now read 68, 880.50. Friendly in committee. (6-0-1).

Numbers in packages were right but numbers on bill needed to be changed.

BILL PASSED!!!!!!! ☺
 Abstention from Holzman.

Petit- Fastest run through ever, thanks for making that go through quickly.

Bedard- Thank you Allen and the rest of the committee for doing a great job with budgets this year.

- 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 March 4th, 2009
 RECOMMENDATION: Passage (4-0-0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Next Re-Recognition
 ACTION: Tabled to committee.

Clarke- Motioned to table to committee.

Clarke- President’s meeting was postponed because of snow. Is now this Monday at 7pm in America’s Cup Room.

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Stolow- Was trying to get a bill on the floor for the adjunct faculty. Going to be talking about it more in committee this Friday at 2pm. Besides that, the next provost meeting is going to be Thursday the 12th in room 354. If you would like to attend, please come, great meetings.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: O’Brien- Road to the statehouse, coalition meeting still hasn’t been scheduled, either 24th or 31st. Open forum is either April 12th or 14th. Drawing up flyers, that is all.

Aronoff- What is date for Rhode to the Statehouse.

O’Brien- 2nd week in April, think it’s the 16th.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Adepoju- Did not meet because of the snow. “I keep it local” street ball team, charity events, you tube them, local, from New Hampshire, represent new England area, thinking about having a free show for the students. Besides that, that is all we have.

Petit- When is the Rammies meeting?

Adepoju- Monday at 4 with cultural.

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: LaRocca- Did not meet because of the snow. Was hoping to reschedule for today. Free week. Brian from Lands and Grounds emailed me back. Harsh winter with the snow and ice. That has been there main focus. We are going to talk about plans for Spring and Summer and going into that then. I haven’t forgotten about it. It’s a long process, come by the committee with new ideas. Still accepting submissions until the 12th of March. Please ask me for the plans if you want to see them, make a painting or a diorama of the pond. Next week, going to work on finalizing a bill for arming campus police. Meetings are Mondays at 2pm.

Coates- What was lands and grounds doing on Monday when they were supposed to be clearing snow? I don’t know if it’s work study people that should have been clearing the snow?

Ahrens- 13 inches of snow around this huge campus. Doing my driveway alone took a good two hours. It’s not the best situation. You have to understand, there is a very limited amount of people. They are going to do areas and then keep working. They want it to stop snowing before they clear the snow. It’s a very large campus and a lot of different areas. They are working extremely hard, they are focusing on keeping campus as safe as possible. Every building has one person in charge of just doors and then you have the paths and parking lots. A lot of people are underestimating the number of paths on campus. We are more than willing to hear the concerns and bring them up to staff. With a lot of snow, we need somewhere to put it. If there is something that you think is really a big issue, please bring it up.

LaRocca- there is a limit to amount of chemicals you can put on the ground, all goes into the pond. I believe that they are doing the best that they can with what they have. They have been working on a proposal, need more money. I’m not saying don’t complain, if you have an issue, let me know, pass it on and we will talk. Be careful outside. I’m not going to defend you if you are trying to do cartwheels. If you have a place that’s really bad, please tell me.

Adepoju- Tom said everything that I was going to say. There are some sidewalks that have been completely cleared. They are understaffed, which is why the day of they didn’t have a lot of people out there.

Holland- they have definitely improved from the last snow storm.

Abbe- I agree with everyone but I feel like the University is acting like they have never seen snow before. I feel like they should be doing more, they are understaffed but get staff because it snows.

Stein- I understand but there are some places that need to be shoveled. I fell down steps yesterday. They should not leave the ice on steps. They should take care of that first.

Petit- I'm kinda shocked that a lot of people are rushing to defend the university. They should have been better prepared. I don't think we should suffice with the somewhat okay job. I think we need to accept only when paths are clear because students are slipping and falling. I don't think we should say that students are okay with the not so great job.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Director of Communications- Simon- responding to student in North Carolina, box going out by the end of the week. Talking to Tom for piece about spring break issue. Should be in the cigar by this Tuesday. March newsletter should be out no later than Friday.

Bickham- What did you say about the cigar?

Simon- Spring break piece about student's going to Mexico. Cigar posted an article but we are doing a second article.

Cigar reporter- article was in today's paper.

Simon- If you know any orgs or groups putting on events for March. If they have ads, there is an area just for ads and it's empty right now. If you know groups in general, let me know.

Clarke- I can announce at president's meeting.

Simon- It will probably be out by then.

b. Secretary- Pelletier- Kudos for Allen for budgets and Kudos to the rest of finance who can get them in the office.

c. Treasurer- Absent.

d. Vice President- Bedard- Senior speaker app deadline has passed. We have 10 applications, will meet Friday at 4pm, don't have a room yet probably be in 202 or somewhere near the office. Will narrow down to top 2 or 3 applications. Will come to next week's meeting. Will read to you guys as they would at commencement. Committee will use information in final consideration. Announce winner on march 25th at annual meeting. Sibbald, Rodrigues, Harrington, Shah and myself. We had new senator orientation yesterday, another one at 5:30 tomorrow. It's so you can meet the new people that are just joining senate. In the commuter lounge, there will be pizza. Chance to meet the new people. Relay for Life- senate is signed up. Thank you Gianna who already signed up for the team. Currently a 15 dollar registration fee. Fee is considered your first donation. If you are interested in being on next year's exec board, I would encourage you between now and the end of the month to sit down with current people in position. If you are interested, talk to people in the spot now and talk to myself after that.

f. President- Ahrens- very happy for finance, went by fast last year, never had every group be happy at the meeting. I was not fully defending the staff, wear boots, walk carefully, I'm not defending it completely, walk carefully you will make it to class. Carother's committee, going through beginning information, meeting on Wednesdays. Week after spring break, will email everyone. Different tasks on subcommittees. I have 15 tickets for Saturday's game, will draw randomly. On Friday, my whole exec committee came, submission for everyone for timeline and binder. Booklet, one for president and one for Kim. Transitions booklet for committees. Examples from Scribe, if you want to add anything that was in there, let me know. Hope everyone went to the job fair today, really under utilized on campus. Trying to find more ways to reach students through career services. Please participate in these events, you can get a lot of good information. I know a lot of people are intimidated right now by traveling to Mexico. Traveling to Mexico for spring break, 3 tiered public service announcement. Asking faculty and professors to talk about situation. Mexico just sent troops to border. Many people are canceling

there trips to Mexico for spring break. Look forward to that for next week. Tell people to be careful, don't try anything crazy. Really stress that to everyone.

Aronoff- As far as lottery goes, going to pass around a sheet?

Ahrens- Yes, and going to draw tomorrow in the office.

- **RULES AND ETHICS: Harrington**- had a complaint, internal election for Anthony Sinapi getting into bylaws, we did a voice vote, by laws clearly state in article 7, section b, part 4, conclusion of the debate, must vote by secret ballot. Taking back election and revoting tonight by secret ballot.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Bylaws Committee- 2 bills on the floor that we will vote on next week, if you have any questions about what the changes mean, come talk to myself or another member of bylaws. One of the where as in the first bill is confusing, planning to reword to make clearer. Going to be meeting Thursday at 12:30.

SS-08/09-79 BILL CALLING FOR ADMENDMENTS TO THE URI STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS, ARTICLES V

Whereas, the appointed officers of the Senate require a 1/3 vote to be approved by the Senate, while all other officers of the Senate require a majority, and

Whereas, the appointed positions receive a stipend from student activity tax dollars, and

Whereas, there have been many issues in the past of inactive appointed officers resulting in tax dollars being spent on an individual not fulfilling job requirements, and

Whereas, an appointed officer should have the confidence of the student body, and

Whereas, the Senate represents the student body an appointed officer through a majority approval vote will have the confidence of the Senate and thereby the student body, and

Whereas, there have been problems in producing a Senate newsletter on a monthly basis, and

Whereas, the newsletter is still a benefit to the URI Student Community, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the URI Student Senate Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

(additions in *italics*, removals in ~~striketrough~~, ellipsis indicates unchanged text)

• **Article V. OFFICERS**

Section A. Popularly Elected Executive Officers

[...]

Part 1. President of the Student Body

Subpart a. Responsibilities and Powers

[...]

10.

[...]

b. No nominee shall take office until he/she has received a confirmation from the Senate. A confirmation shall be defined as ~~one-third~~ *majority* vote of the Senate in favor of the candidate taking office. If a nominee fails to receive confirmation by the Senate, the President shall make a second nomination for that position.

[...]

Section C. Executive Officers Nominated by the President

Part 3. Director of Communications

Subpart a. Responsibilities and Powers

[...]

2. Shall have the responsibility to oversee the dissemination of information regarding the functions and activities of the Senate to the campus community and all relevant external parties including but not limited to a ~~monthly~~ *newsletter, produced no less than once a semester*, informing the university community about the current and future project of the Senate.

SPONSOR:

Bylaws Committee

BILL HANDLER: Allen Petit
 DATE: Wednesday, March 4th, 2009
 RECOMMENDATION: Passage (3-0-0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
 ACTION: Vote Next week

SS-08/09-80 BILL CALLING FOR ADMENDMENTS TO THE URI STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS, ARTICLES IX

Whereas, the bylaws require consistency involving level recognition/budgeting, and Whereas, in order to use student activities money both contingency based and budgeted the bylaws require a (2/3) approval, and Whereas, fixing this inconsistency will help resolve problems in the future, therefore it be, Resolved, that the URI Student Senate Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

(additions in *italics*, removals in ~~strike through~~, ellipsis indicates unchanged text)

• **Article IX. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

[...]

Section A. Recognition

[...]

Part 2 Requirements

[...]

Levels I, II, III *and IV* organizations shall hold their annual meetings before April 1 unless special permission has been granted by the SOARC Committee.

[...]

Section B. Funds

[...]

Part 5. Eligibility for Funding by Budget

Subpart a. Definition

The Senate may by two-thirds (2/3) vote enact legislation granting eligibility for funding by budget Levels I, ~~and II~~, *and III*, provided that the Senate itself may function as if inherently eligible for funding by budget.

SPONSOR: Bylaws Committee
 BILL HANDLER: Allen Petit
 DATE: Wednesday, March 4th, 2009
 RECOMMENDATION: Passage (5-0 -0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation
 ACTION: Vote Next week

Elections Committee- Last week as you all heard, said we really need to have over 1000 voters. My goal was 1500. Some of the past weren't even reaching 1000. Drumroll for the number of students who voted. 1504 students voted!!!! We can always do better but this is such a great trend. I have to owe 99% of that to the candidates. They really brought the voters to the polls. People said they really liked the stickers so I'm taking 1% for stickers and Me. Congrats to all of the winners of the two elections.. Bill on the floor for next week. Committee please meet quickly afterwards.

Petit- Why was the election bill not on the floor tonight?

Larocca- A bunch of ties, still figuring out who wants a seat. Usually do not confirm until annual meeting. I read the bylaws and talked a few others and checked when bill was on the floor in the past. In bylaws says elections must be completed by the Friday before Spring break. What it meant to me was voting had to be done by the Friday. If it said completion as in confirmation, it would have said Wednesday. I can put it up next week and have it immediate consideration if necessary.

Stolow- did referendum go through?

Larocca- Yes, IT PASSED!!! 1100ish voted yes and 400 voted no. Passed and got more than 5%.

I. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Bylaws election- only one candidate, Anthony Sinapi. Voting by secret ballot rather than voice vote because of complaint made to Rules and Ethics. Congrats Anthony!!

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM: Pelletier- The admission Phoneathon is going on up until the Thursday before Spring Break. I think it's a great way to help URI bring in more freshman and reach out to those prospective students. If you'd like more information or to get involved, let me know.

Aronoff- Rammies, Monday at 4pm, cigar if you want to mention it. We want to get more people involved, working hard, coming up very quickly. More people at the meeting, the more input we will have.

Ahrens- Not going to pass around a sheet, sign up downstairs after the meeting. First elections committee ever. Very proud to be with the four girls. I was there for 5 and a half hours, they were there til 12:15. Really took a lot of patience and thanks to the others for letting me leave early.

Holland- be very careful if you are going away for spring break, wars going on in downtown Cancun.

Petit- Applebee's after the meeting, I suggest for everyone who has not already gone, come along and go after the meeting.

Holden- Paper plane flying competition for ZBT on Tuesday night.

O'Brien- event working with redbull, redbull paper planes give you wings. Go in there, few minutes in rams den, paper thrown and then go to national competition. If you win, get an all expense paid trip to Austria. Free red bull, it's throwing paper planes. It's next Tuesday in the Ram's Den. 6:30 on Tuesday.

Sibbald- Motion to adjourn. Holden Seconds.

M. ROLL CALL: AYE: Abbe, Adepoju, Allison, Almeida, Aronoff, Bickham, Clarke, Coates, Einhorn, Faustin, Gaudio, Holden, Holland, Inthisone, Kearns, LaRocca, Messineo, Mingoia, O'Brien, Prata, Sibbald, Slater, Stein, Stolow, Valenti, Yensan

Nay- Boiteau, Harrington, Holzman, Luther, Petit, Rodrigues, Sinapi, Slater

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

N. ADJOURNMENT: 7:53pm