

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:32pm

B. ROLL CALL: Balikov, Barrena, Blanchette, Brehio, Brown, Caisse, Cicero, Coates, Connolly, Cordisco, Dionne, Dobryznski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Her, Holden, Holzman, Jones, Juhr, Kilduff, Kirejczyk, Knight, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Longa, Marchetti, Merolla, Murphy, Musali, Nielson, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Reyes, Roy, Segal, Sharkey, Smith M., Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Zaman, Zawatsky

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Holzman- Amend bill 40 to include recommendation of (5-0-1)

2nd Goddard

Stewart- Motion to change bill 40 under the first resolve to say “handbook for 2011-2012”

2nd Roy

Stewart- Motion to change the name of bill 46 to “bill calling for approval of co-sponsorship”

2nd Roy

Caisse- I would like to add Jodi Hawkins to Public Forum

Holzman- Call for orders of the day

Agenda Approved ☺

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Holden- There are a couple things caught between those changes that was caught between Secretary Jones

Roy- On page 8, I seconded myself, so I did not second.

Brown- I seconded it.

Minutes Approved ☺

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lamoureux- Motion for pledge

2nd Juhr

Caisse- Motion to move back to approval of agenda

2nd Lamoureux

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

Jodi Hawkins- Recreation Services

Hawkins- I just wanted to talk briefly what the part of Rec Services is trying to do. Most students on campus have no clue that the department of Rec Services along with Student Affairs has been working very diligently to create new space for the students here on campus. If you have gone down to Mackal, you know that we don't have enough space. There are certain times in the day when the facility is closed. One of the biggest issues we are dealing with is the strength and conditioning area and the cardio center. Since 2005, I have been working with Vice President Dougan, trying to convince the University to establish new space for Rec Services and when the opportunity came when Hope Dining Hall was built, Roger Williams became vacant, which is the perfect facility for recreation to move into. We are trying to turn the Roger Williams Facility into a new Fitness and Wellness Center. It is perfect location. It will be an auxiliary facility, we will still have all of our normal equipment and it will also be open for students, faculty, and staff. Inside the facility for Roger Williams, it will be two levels, with locker room facilities. Going to gain 22,000 square feet of usable space for services. We are actively seeking and have decided what we want as far as equipment. We have space in there for over 83 cardio pieces of equipment- flat screens, cardio theatre, all the machines will be integrated with internet. Also will have strength equipment and will be handicapped accessible. The entire new fitness center will be handicapped accessible. There will be a yoga studio with controlled temperatures. We will have our own spin class, dedicated just for spin, along with Zumba classes. In addition to that, there will be a third area which will be a larger studio. Programming will be available with these spaces. There will also be alternates for the projects. We are trying to add a demonstration kitchen in there to work with Nutrition department to teach cooking to students. There will be opportunity for other groups who want to share their ethnic foods. That will be all in one area downstairs, along with a classroom that we can

program with. There will be a wellness center where students can meet with professionals for personal training, food and nutrition. We can bring the kinesiology department, dining services, etc. down in the Wellness suite. There will be a lounge that will overlook the pond next to Roger Williams. Nice play to relax and chill out. Whole front lobby is an ugly dock right now, but it will be a front entrance made of glass and see the energy and activity of students working out there. Alternates are a bouldering wall that will be designed specifically for the Roger Williams facility. Students will be able to climb from the first floor to the second floor. We will also have another alternate- an interactive wall, so when students are working out, we will be able to see the movement on the wall to create more energy and make it a really nice space for students. Students have been asking for this for many years now. We are below the standard compared to other land-grant universities. We went ahead to see what students would think about with the fee. In addition to the facility and equipment, we will also need two custodians, two full-time staff members, and maintenance staff to run the building. We set up a survey. It wasn't the best timing for us and we still needed to find the information. Sent it out the day Mackal closed for floor renovations. We received 682 responses back. Student Senate reviewed the survey. The key thing that I want to share is to let you know what this facility is about. Even though we got shot down with the student recreation - 71% against the fee, 86% of the students responded that if they had services, they would be willing to pay more and those three services that they highlighted were- additional facility hours, more facility recreation hours, more cardio and strength and conditioning. I know it is an important discussion for you, but I wanted to make sure you had some background with this project. Another thing is that 87% of student surveyed said they would give moderate to high priority to make improvements to recreation programs that we have. Thank you for spending the time to discussing this bill.

Brown- How many people can you fit in this new area?

Hawkins- Weightroom in Mackal is 3800 square feet. Cardio room is only 4000 usable space. Moving to 22,000 square space. We envision over 2,000 students coming through that facility. We would like be open from 6am-midnight because we know that is what they want. The amount of space will prevent lines, plenty of space to move around. If you talk to your friends, you know people right here are going off-campus to work out because we are not providing with the services here on-campus.

Roy- How much will there be an increase in tuition?

Hawkins- Nothing has been decided at that point. Just wanted to get an idea about students' feelings on the facility. We know that as far as full-time staff, the cardio equipment and strength equipment is over \$100,000 and we want to be able to maintain it too. We are providing those services to the students. We have an ideas but nothing was etched in stone.

Holzman- Motion for 5 minutes for questions

2nd Brown

Holzman- If the recreation fee is instituted for the next academic year, how does that facilitate the completion of the fitness and wellness center?

Hawkins- Right now, it depends upon the construction phase. It is renovation, since it will take about 10-11 months to complete. We are anticipating opening January 2013. If we are looking at the fee, we wouldn't be implementing until the facility is gradually opened. Ideally, it would be implemented when the building is opened. Ideas that we are thinking about from 60-75 dollars a semester. The range that other universities can go all the way from \$250-\$300 a semester. That is the operation for the entire recreational program, so it will also happen down in Mackal. Right now, we are cutting hours. We are not open as much as we would like because of our budget right now because of our fiscal responsibility. We want to hire 60-80 students in the new facility.

Brown- How will you get this money otherwise?

Hawkins- That will be going back to Vice President Dougan and working with the university?

Brown- I think this is a good thing, being right on campus is huge. Being right across from Hope is great too and be able to eat afterwards.

Ferreira- What percentage of students do you currently think are going and using these facilities?

Hawkins- The numbers are- we are seeing a very bad year right now because of the basketball courts being closed and the track. We are not seeing any lines. Haven't looked at the number specifically this

semester. We were probably around 700 people a day. We know that they want more but they don't like what they have down there.

Coates- Recreation Services-is this facility part of an auxiliary?

Hawkins- We are not.

Coates- So where does the current funding for Rec Services come from?

Holden- Thank you, Jodi Hawkins for speaking with us tonight.

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE:

SS-11/12-40 BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE HANDBOOK

Whereas, Article V, Article B, Section I, SubSection A, Part 2 states that every year the Finance Chair shall publish a Finance Handbook which shall binding upon all recognized student organizations, and,

Whereas, the Finance Handbook to be effective must be approved by the Student Senate, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Finance Handbook submitted by Jacob Holzman be approved as the Finance Handbook for the 2010-2011 fiscal year as presented.

SPONSOR:	Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Jacob Holzman
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16 th , 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (- -)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Until Passage of Finance Handbook 2012-2013
ACTION:	Vote Next Week

Holzman- Handbook has been in the office for the past week. Questions?

Roy- It is vote next week, isn't it?

Holzman- Yes

SS-11/12-46 Approval for Co-Sponsorship of an Outside Organization

Whereas, the Student Senate is interested in promoting awareness of GLBTIQQ issues, and

Whereas, the Student Senate believes that the event will promote a healthier campus climate, and,

Whereas, the request is within the purview of the Student Senate and its fiscal policy to do this, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate approve the sponsorship request from Student Senate to URI Athletics for \$1,500.00 for the purpose of supporting the Esera Tualo speaking event.

SPONSOR:	Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Holzman
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16 th , 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (4 - 0 - 0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Upon Dispensation
ACTION:	(Immediate Consideration Requested)

Coates- Former NFL linemen and author. He came out of the closet and is a gay NFL football player. His experiences are pretty unique. I think it is going to be a fantastic event. Monday 11/28 from 7:30-9pm in Edwards Auditorium. The total cost of the event is \$10,000. We are only contributing \$1,500. Worthwhile contribution. I want everyone to understand co-sponsorship. This is a fund where people come ask me questions about getting funding and I say yes or no. I would highly encourage you to vote in favor of this. Any questions, please ask me. I am supposed to be introducing him at the show.

Holzman- It was requested that this bill be immediately considered. Recommendation please – (5-0-0). Immediate consideration approved.

Studley- Is this event going to be free for students?

Brown- What are we co-sponsoring?

Coates- Funded by numerous organizations. President’s Office, Athletics, and Chief Diversity Officer, Student Involvement, Office of Leadership, etc are all contributing. I was asked to contribute a larger sum at the beginning and said that since this an important event for the campus, other organizations needed to step up and have a part in this. I thought it was important for more departments to be involved.

Brown- Where is it going to be?

Coates- Edwards Auditorium.

Pilkington- I yield my time to Bruce.

Bruce- Dave was trying to remember the groups- MU Student Involvement, SEC, Athletics, Diversity Fund.

Holzman- The co-sponsorship itself is going to the Athletics department because they are the ones with the speaking contract.

Zaman- The athletes are required to be at the event, so is there going to be enough space for students to attend as well?

Coates- Absolutely.

Bruce- Edwards can hold 950 people; 450 athletes. It is to encourage athletes to come and has worked at Wheaton College.

Coates- I would like to add that even if those 450 seats were available, I have not seen many events at this university sell out completely.

Studley- Is this program going to be open to the public?

Coates- Yes, it is open to the public.

Merolla- Do you know the actual amount that the Athletics department is contributing?

Coates- I don’t know if that is germane of the conversation. I know what we are not paying.

Jones- Is he still in the league?

Coates- No, long retired.

Dobrzynski- I believe what Studley is talking about is it open to the general public?

Coates- Not sure if it is being advertised to the general public.

Bill Approved ☺

SS-11/12-47 – Contingency Grant Request for SAWA

Whereas, SAWA is a Senate recognized organization, and

Whereas, SAWA would like to host a AIDS Awareness Week and World AIDS Day benefit event, and

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

Whereas, SAWA 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 \$1,350.00 from the Programming Contingency to the Category # 130 (Programming) line in the budget of SAWA.

SPONSOR:	Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Holzman
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16 th , 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (3 - 3 - 0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Upon Dispensation
ACTION:	(Immediate Consideration Requested)

Holzman- Next we have a contingency grant for SAWA. They are hosting an AIDS awareness week and a World AIDS Day benefit event. 28th of November-December 1st. Immediate consideration has been requested. Recommendation- (5-0-0)

Coates- Is this their free-bee in terms of immediate consideration?

SAWA- We are hosting an event that is a week long. Starts on Monday 11/28. We have done this in the past. Sunday, around midnight, we are planning to be put up a banner in recognition of World AIDS Day which is the following Thursday. It will start off our event, along with red ribbons that we tie around the trees on the quad. Also did that last year and got a lot of publicity from that. On Monday afternoon, we are going to be hosting an informational session in the Union and there will be a forum in the Multicultural Center. On Tuesday, we will be hosting a show based on HIV and AIDS.

Wednesday, we will be having free HIV testing in the gallery. Thursday is going to be an AIDS benefit show. We have done this in the past- consists of several students and contacts outside of the University to perform. We are going to be selling beads that come from Africa and we bought them with our own money. We will also be selling bracelets to raise money that will be going to Red Campaign to help out with that cause. That will end the week. We were pretty much asking for the sum of \$1,350. We have already contacted Express printing for banner costs. We had a little controversy with people who agreed to do the banner but there was an issue so we can't do that same banner this year, so there will be a new banner going up. We are also requesting money for the DJ for the benefit show.

Roy- This group had a frozen budget. I would like to know what happened and how it was resolved.

Holzman- They addressed the issues. We addressed the second issues.

Roy- What was the issues last year with the donations?

Holzman- Last year, they had fundraised some money for an event under different leadership. Raised money for a charity, a check was cut and sent, check was never deposited, so we cancelled out the check and requested that they verify the information so that the donation can be made. That information has been verified and Lori now has it.

Roy- Weren't there two incidences that this happened?

Holzman – It did not get resolved in the spring so it was a mess for new officers to clean up, which it has been resolved. There was confusion about after-the-fact purchase requisition that they had submitted so without context, it looked improper, but with context, it is in fact proper.

Studley- My biggest problem with this bill is that the majority of the request is going to benefit portion of event, which is a philanthropy event, which we are not allowed to fund. According to our standards, we are not allowed to support philanthropy events.

Stewart- I was just going to check say that the point of giving money to this event is that it is creating programming on event. Regardless of what the money is going to, it is creating a free event on campus, and is allowed by our standards.

Brown- I think spending \$200 on a DJ is a little expensive. I get DJ's all the time for free or less.

SAWA- We tried but could not find any for less.

Brown- I can find you a DJ for like \$20. This sounds like a lot of things Senate has denied in pass. I am a little bias on this.

Holden- That is not relevant to this bill.

Roy- I just want to say that money is okay to go to stuff like this, but it cannot go directly to the charity. They can use money for their event and that is it, and I just wanted to make sure you understood that.

Knight- List of ribbons so that they can be recovered?

SAWA- Yes, putting them on the quad and then near the Multicultural Center.

Longa- It appears you had more to say.

SAWA- I was not sure if we should list entirely where the budget is going. Banner, DJ-\$200, MC \$100, this person was also the MC/guest speaker of last year and was a friend from the organization and offered to do it for free, but we have a problem with her now after speaking with the Finance Chair and she has not gotten back to us, so we are actually keeping that \$100. We are trying to get a guest speaker to make this event more successful. Last year's speaker was diagnosed with HIV, so it actually touched a lot of people. We have posters and flyers \$300, we need more money. We are requesting

more money to make individual posters because we had taken pictures so that we can do a campaign along with the banner and putting it around the campus. \$150 for decorations and printing cards.

Roy- We are giving a lot of money towards the banner. Make sure what happens last year does not happen this year.

SAWA- We did a consent form.

Roy- What happened with the MC?

SAWA- We had contacted her and she had agreed to do it, and we have been calling her, but we haven't gotten a response from her. She is putting on her own show, so we are not exactly sure what is going on with her, but I am still asking for money so we can get an MC for the show.

Kilduff- How necessary is the MC do you want? Could it be anyone?

SAWA- We tried to specifically get her because she helped make our event very successful. We could get anyone, but she was very outgoing and funny.

Ferreira- Can we give money to an unconfirmed guest?

Holzman- Essentially, that \$100 is earmarked for purposes of an MC, so it can't be allocated to another part. If they don't have an MC, they can't go out and spend an additional \$100.

Ferreira- If the MC is lower, what happens to the money?

Holzman- Whatever money is not used is rolled back into the Contingency fund.

Brown- Motion to table until next week.

Holden- No second, motion not passed.

Segal- What three people voted it down and why?

Holzman- I do not have a record of the three dissenters.

Coates- They were asked, so they have to answer. If she directed the question not the two people present that dissented, they are required to answer.

Merolla- I voted this down was because although this is going to programming, it is a large sum which is not very cost efficient. The majority of banners and advertisement is the cost and not necessarily to the actual event.

Studley- I had the same problem with the amount. I also felt that there was a parallel to this event and other events we have put on.

Bruce- There was a motion to table to next week. We made a motion to table, so we have to deal with this. And we are not meeting next week.

Coates- Motion was not seconded.

Thomas- I just wanted to say that it sounds like a lot of money but they are doing something for a good cause and making sure they are getting the proper programming and advertising to reach the student body. I think this is a good cause to put money towards to. The University of Rhode Island should be putting on a big event, and I really am glad a committee is doing something, so that we have something going on for this AIDS event.

Stewart- I was going to say the same thing. It is appalling that you are putting a dollar value on AIDS Awareness. It is a huge problem that affects the world and many people on this campus.

Cahill- I would rather have their money go overboard and have a successful event. If they have leftover money, it can be rolled back into their budget.

SAWA- Some students had problems with posters and flyers. It is a campaign and we are trying to raise awareness in the form of posters that we are putting around on on-campus, so event is in it of itself.

Ferreira- Will you be keeping these posters?

SAWA- Yes.

Roy- How much did we get to this event last year?

Holzman- I would have to go downstairs and check.

Coates- People might not realize how expensive the size and scope of the poster is. The one we made for the poster was \$280. Actually, \$155. \$450 for something going across the Hammerschlag Mall. Legitimate gaff this year. We paid for it last time.

Brown- In the past, clubs have been denied for these circumstances. Other groups have not had their costs together and have been asked to come back. I think their costs seem to be a little unclear.

Merolla- To answer the question, we spent about half at \$650 for a banner.

Stewart- You should not compare last year to this year. Events are completely different. Did not have a party in the Union for AIDS awareness. They worked with another group that is unrecognized so they foot other bills this year.

Farrow- I am all for the advertising, but I had issue with pricing for DJ and MC because you can get people to volunteer for these types of charities.

Pilkington- We are not supposed to hold the money forever, so just keep that in mind. We are supposed to give money to programming, so that students have stuff to do on this campus. No one knows about anything going on on this campus, so I think if you put more money in advertising, that is a good idea because no one even knows what is going on, so please keep in mind.

Sharkey- Can you explain the magnitude of AIDS in Africa?

SAWA- I do not the exact estimation but it is very high and we are trying to raise awareness. We are also trying to spread awareness here as well as donations to our campaign.

Lamoureux- Chairman Holzman, with the passage of 3-3 how did it make to the Senate floor?

Holzman- I voted in favor.

Stewart- Did we talk about immediate consideration?

Holden- Yes. Already got committee approval.

Murphy- How much money did you raise last year?

SAWA- Not sure of the exact amount but we did not raise. We asked for donations instead of charging, so we are trying to sell more beads this year to get more money for that.

Zawatsky- What is your intended goal of money you want to raise?

SAWA- We want to raise about \$1,000-\$1,500, that would be good. That is our goal for now.

Longa- I would just like to say that I don't think is a matter of raising money but is a matter of raising awareness in the population. AIDS in America is a major problem in Africa, so it's a great event to raise consciousness and awareness. Not a matter of money they are going to raise but matter of changing minds.

Roy- Chairman Holzman, rather than nay the bill, can we amend the bill now to make it less money for the DJ and no money for the MC?

Holzman- I was just going to say that. The Senate does have the ability to amend the amount of the bill, and if that motion explicitly states cost, then I will strike that from description of the bill.

Stewart- I do not see why we should change the value, especially the MC. Not going to have money for an MC? I do not see that point in taking that \$100.

Thomas- I just want to say that are we going to short them on the money we are asking? I don't really understand. I understand that we are trying to budget our money. I do not think that we should cut a group short in doing AIDS Awareness.

Knight- How long is the event in the Union taking place?

SAWA- 2 hours.

Pishdadian- How long is the DJ DJ'ing for?

SAWA- 2 hours..

Roy- Move to amend the bill to reduce amount going towards the DJ.

Coates- Motion needs to have an amount.

Holzman- Seeing no second, the motion should fail for the moment while we figure out a number.

Bruce- I think your finance chair clarified that if they don't get an MC, the money comes back to you. If senator Brown finds you a cheaper DJ, the money would also come back to you.

Caisse- I think it is ridiculous that we are debating monetary event. We are not the finance committee. It is irresponsible of entire Senate to debate.

Holden- There is no motion. We are still discussing the bill.

Stewart- Motion to end debate.

2nd Thomas

Two abstentions

Bill Passes ☺

Roy- List of organizations that are frozen budgets.

Holzman- Never mind. In the minutes from last week. We gave some money to GSA for an event that they are holding on Monday. That is it.

Stewart- Didn't we give money to LASA? We gave them \$500 for their Culture Show and Senate also co-sponsored for the event. Correction, \$405. Don't remember when the event will be held.

Holzman- That is it for me.

- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE
SS-11/12-42 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF C.L.A.S.S. AT CATEGORY R

Whereas, C.L.A.S.S. will benefit the URI community by providing awareness based events to develop student leaders and improve the culture on campus. They will facilitate Leadership, Multicultural and Humanitarian events to induce the collaboration of student organizations and the appreciation and acceptance of all students.

Whereas, C.L.A.S.S. meets the requirements for recognition at category R, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes C.L.A.S.S. at Category R.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Roy
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16, 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Valid Until Next Re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Roy- Hello, everybody. I have four groups to be newly recognized. First group of recognition. CLASS will speak. Getting recognized as a new group. Last year, they were category "A" and now they will be Category "R."

Devon- Like Alexa said, we did miss re-rec. Last year, we found it very difficult to not have a budget to fulfill out philanthropy needs, which was in our mission statement. During the course of the year, we did not know where we stood, but we found ourselves gravitate towards Awareness events, such as March for Equality. Culture Show during Diversity Week, a non-violence campaign coming up next semester, as well as working with SAWA. Whatever we decide the campus should be aware about and try to bring inclusiveness to the campus that has not been there in the past few years.

Smith- Can I just ask what CLASS stands for?

Devon- Classy Leaders Achieving Student Services

Bill Approved ☺

SS-11/12-43 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF ART CLUB AT CATEGORY A

Whereas, The Art Club will create a place for people to meet with interests in art, make friendships, meet instructors, be taught different art techniques and become more knowledgeable.

Whereas, The Art Club meets the requirements for recognition at Category A, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes the Art Club at Category A.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Roy
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16, 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Valid Until Next Re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Roy- Next is Art Club, recognized at Category A. We have an art department, so I would like them to try and seek funding.

Art Club- A place where students come, casual environment with students of similar interest. We are not being funding.

Jones- Have you tried asking the Art department for funding yet already and reach out to them yet?

Art Club- The treasurer of our club has been emailing the new chairmen’s of the department, so we are just going to go to the art department.

Dobrzynski- Question for Senator Roy. If they are not funded by art department, can they come back and request a new category?

Roy- Yes, they can come back and request for category change with proof of inability to be funded.

Zaman- How many members do you have?

Roy- This is a great group. Group died down over the past couple years. Please vote, beneficial to campus.

One abstention

Bill Approved ☺

SS-11/12-44 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB AT CATEGORY A

Whereas, Sign Language Club will benefit the URI Community by expanding the horizons of students by allowing them to communicate with the Deaf. This club is for anyone who wants to learn American Sign Language, who find's the language interesting, and anyone who knows the language and wants to get involved with others with the same interest.

Whereas, Sign Language Club meets the requirements for recognition at Category A, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes Sign Language Club at Category A.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Roy
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16, 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Valid Until Next Re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Roy- Categorized as an “A” because I think they should speak to CMD major. CMD does have a class in sign language, and I think that CMD department should fund a group such as this and should fill a need on campus.

Sign Language Club- The sign language club, I want to start because I want a place where students are interested in sign language and have previous knowledge and to learn about the culture. It is a beautiful culture. It is not recognized in language on campus. Just want there to be a place for students.

Jones- Chairwoman Roy, have you found out if the sign language class

Roy- Anyone can enroll

Pilkington- Have you contacted anyone from the disability services department in regards to funding or recruitment. I believe that they will be a pretty good resource for that kind of club.

Rep- Did not contact disability services. Contacted CMD department. Sign language professor has a problem with the book that I would like to use. Has not yet contacted me back. I was going to take the class but being an AVS major it would not count towards everything, so a lot of group members thought that they would be taking a class that does not correspond to major.

Pilkington- I am currently in contact with another resource. You can get my contact information from Alexa.

Farrow- Who you contacted in the CMD department for funding? Dr. Kovarsky?

Rep- I think. Sent an email to the department. Referenced me to somebody else and have been constant emails back and forth. They said they could not give us funding until I get in contact with sign language teacher.

Farrow- I have contacts with CMD department as well as sign language department.

Roy- I am so proud of the support for this group from the Senate.

Lamoureux- How many people interested?

Rep- 12-13 active members. Have a facebook page and mailing list with 28 people. A lot of them have contacted me over the summer. A lot of people are interested but just did not have time this semester, but will come next semester.

Juhr- What days do you meet and times?

Rep- We meet on Sundays and Tuesdays. Sundays from 7-8pm and Tuesdays from 6-7pm. We did not have a room because we are not recognized, so we meet on the second floor main lounge.

Bruce- You all should know that when a group is in process of going through committee, our policies allow them to use meeting room space in the building. Very important because we are trying to help groups get started.

Bill Passes ☺

SS-11/12-45 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF YOUTH FOR RON PAUL AT CATEGORY A

Whereas, Youth for Ron Paul will provide a unique perspective on some of the most pressing issues of our society. By endorsing Ron Paul's candidacy and informing the student population about different issues, they will be promoting activism and engagement by various student groups.

Whereas, Youth for Ron Paul meets the requirements for recognition at Category A, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes Youth for Ron Paul at Category A.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Roy
DATE:	Wednesday, November 16, 2011
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Valid Until Next Re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

Roy- Have to be categorized at “A” because they are in support of political candidate.

Manny- Chapter of a national organization. There are over 20 chapters already. Purpose or goal is to raise awareness and discussion about issues facing this country, specifically through supporting Ron Paul’s bid for the presidency. We have some potential high-profile speakers. **Thomas Woods-** Harvard and Columbia grad, specialist on economic policy. Potential speaker Presidential candidate Ron Paul speak.

Jones- I don’t know if you can answer this but do you think this group will continue past Ron Paul’s presidential campaign or is specifically for this time period?

Rep- Yes

Roy- Longevity of group should have not any bearing on their recognition from Senate.

Bill Passes ☺

SS-11/12-48 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF URI AIRSOFT CLUB AT CATEGORY R

Whereas, URI Airsoft Club will seek to promote the awareness/enjoyment of the sport airsoft on the University of Rhode Island campus. The organization shall seek to promote attendance and participation at local events both of its own development as well as those of other local private entities.

Whereas, URI Airsoft Club meets the requirements for recognition at category R, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes URI Airsoft Club at Category R.

SPONSOR: SOARC
 BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Roy
 DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2011
 RECOMMENDATION: Passage (6-0-0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Next Re-recognition
 ACTION: Vote Next Week

SS-11/12-49 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF WE ARE ALIVE AT CATEGORY A

Whereas, We Are Alive will uniquely benefit the URI Community because it will offer support to those in need of help. It will also help try and raise money to donate to the organization that inspired this group, To Write Love On Her Arms. To Write Love On Her Arms is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping those who are dealing with depression, self-harm, addiction, and suicide. This organization is here to show that everyone's story is important and to give people a place and others to go to if they just need to be heard. It is here to encourage others to tell their story because we are all alive.

Whereas, We Are Alive meets the requirements for recognition at Category A, and

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

Resolved, that the Student Senate recognizes We Are Alive at Category A.

SPONSOR: SOARC
 BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Roy
 DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2011
 RECOMMENDATION: Passage (6-0-0)
 EXPIRATION DATE: Valid Until Next Re-recognition
 ACTION: Vote Next Week

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Caisse- Hi, everyone. I also have 8 bills on the floor tonight. Just kidding. Binders are on my desk. Kim helped me out with those. We are starting to craft a survey to distribute to university about second grade, Sakai tab, and syllabus requirements. USA Today is contacting me about readership boxes. Trying to get ID cards that work just for students. I am working on an academic complaint. Faculty Senate is tomorrow at 3pm. Tomorrow is the UC gen ed forum. If you guys haven't signed up, please do. We would like more non-senators. It is on the events calendar.

Coates- Committee is also working on looking into other university academic policies.

Caisse- It is about university manual, so we are looking into that.

Pilkington- Where are the academic complaint forms?

Caisse- There is a clear box on the wall with forms.

Jones- Also in the black bin with "Find Your Forms Here."

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

SS-11/12-24 Bill Calling for the Student Senate Opinion on the Proposed Recreation Fee

Whereas, the URI Student Senate has previously opposed increases to the cost of a university education, and

Whereas, the university is proposing such an increase to support the creation of and to sustain a new campus fitness facility, and

Whereas, the increased cost of a URI education does not benefit students, therefore be it

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate opposes the creation of a student recreation fee, and be it further

Resolved, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate discourages the University Administration from relying solely on its students to sustain its financial health.

SPONSOR: Campus Affairs Committee
 BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Juhr
 DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2011
 RECOMMENDATION: (3- 0 -1)
 EXPIRATION: Perpetual
 ACTION: Vote Tonight

Juhr- Bill on the floor regarding proposed recreation fee. The bill is opposing the said fee that Jodi Hawkins was talking about. The bill was written historically in opposition with increase in tuition and fees. This is just a fee- to be clear. As Jodi Hawkins answered, URI is not an auxiliary, which means that they are not self-sustaining with their own budget. Originally, I was told back in September when I wrote this bill that the fee would be around \$100, but she gave us an idea about what the fee will be. Have the survey results in front of me. Stats I pulled from the survey- 80.5% would be 0-\$100 a semester. 0.6% were willing to pay \$150-\$200 a semester. Looking for general opinion and input on questions.

Ferreira- On the third whereas, can you clarify why it does not benefit students?

Juhr- Benefits students, but not that the building won't benefit students, but the fee is not the benefit to students. Tuition is going up consistently. According to the survey, we could technically be adding \$500 a year to the bill, depending on the amount of the fee.

Cordisco- I just wanted to say about this bill that she made it very clear that our facilities are way underpar in terms of comparison to other universities, which is the universities problem. I don't think we should be paying. Because tuition is rising at an obscene amount, I do not think anybody would be wanting to pay another fee.

Thomas- I was just wondering why we are voting tonight on it. Can we hold the vote until we know what the fee is?

Coates- We have tabled this bill a couple of times and waited until results of the survey are out. I do not believe the fee is included in next years because building is not open yet. I would like to ask people to stop referencing the fee. The survey did mention that amount because what our peer institutions charge. Chairwoman Juhr and I were both told it would be in the \$150 range. The reason why I asked the question to Jodi Hawkins about being an auxiliary. Since it is not an auxiliary, the university can put money into the facility by law. Discuss amongst yourselves.

Cordisco- Yield my time to Jodi Hawkins.

Hawkins- There is no set fee right now because obviously the building is not being built. We have projected figures and working with the budget office. In the future when that building opens up, in order to provide more services for what students are looking for.

Coates- If the fee was enacted, would it be sustained for additional programs as well?

Hawkins- Entire program would be self-sustained. Roger Williams and Mackal Field Complex.

Coates- My question is would there be a move to re-classify facility as an auxiliary facility?

Hawkins- That would be correct.

Brown- The survey is extremely biased because it is only 600 people approximately answered it out of approximately 16,000. I really think this should happen because of the fee.

Roy- There is no point in tabling this bill. It is an opinion bill. Not actually taking away anything. It is an opinion if we agree or disagree that URI should be giving money to this. I recommend not tabling this bill. I agree with Cordisco- we need to make a point that money for needing anything should not mean a raise in tuition.

Dobrzynski- I just wanted to say that having such poor standards of recreation in our school is not something that we should be proud of. All of services going into this center will be above and beyond all that we have imagined. If we have to pay a little bit to use that facility, I do not thinking that that is asking too much. I would imagine students would be willing to pay for that.

Cahill- I am for this bill. I do not think we should take this bill lightly. Seems like more students do not want it. I do not think that we should weight that lightly.

Coates- I am opposed to raising tuition and willing to pay for money. Dave, who is on the role call, is glad to pay for the fee would be willing to pay the fee as a commuter. I would be interested to see discussion of commuter students. Fitness classes are not free, you do have to pay for them. And if this fee is enacted, you do not have to pay for them. I am between a rock and a hard place in terms of this issue. Keep in mind the other students who go to this school.

Hawkins- This is exactly the problem. The students do not know what is happening with Roger Williams. They are unhappy with the facilities. They do go off-campus. They have been having construction with the sprinkler system down there. Students are getting irritated and that is why students that are there and voted, they have no idea what the University envisions to do for the students. The fee would place us in a set place for improving facilities and outdoor facilities for quite some time.

Krauss- Sounds like for the statistics that a majority of students want more things but do not want to pay for more things. It seems that if it were in the lower range, it would seem that students would lean towards approving it. If this created a self-sustaining budget and could be maintained in the future, I would imagine that it would be a sound investment for students. It is really a mess to try and go into Mackal. I know plenty of students who are not involved in an organized club sport and are at the mercy of what is going on. I do not think the prudent thing would be to pass something in which we do not have the information on the price.

Lamoureux- I was reading through the bill and I find the third whereas very confusing.

Coates- What distinguishes a fee from an auxiliary budget. Anything with fees goes towards auxiliaries and enterprises.

Kilduff- What was the percentage of students that opposed the added price?

Hawkins- The survey is difficult and can be interpreted a couple of ways. The question if students would be willing to pay- 30% for paying for a fee; 70% against. Asked later on in the survey, would you be willing to pay if certain services were provided, and that was overwhelmingly yes. They listed responses and that is where we had responses such as more fitness classes and later operating hours. So if they had those services, they would be more willing to pay the fee. 87% of students that were surveyed said students should be given moderate to high priority to these facilities.

Zaman- We all understand that our university athletic facilities do not meet the average. We all understand that students want more facilities and more equipment. That does not mean that they should have to pay for it. As students that are paying for the tuition, this should be something that is provided to them as students from a university of this scale. Although price is important about how much the fee will be, we can still vote on the bill without knowing how much it will be. The idea is that there will be a fee. Also, we figured that the university does have the ability to pay to give funds to this project, so that is an option so that students having to pay for it is not the only way around it.

Merolla- Do you know what classes that would pay? I think a lot of senators may not be taking into consideration that it would be affecting the freshmen and sophomores now. I wanted to know if there was a large sway in participants of the survey.

Hawkins- Large sway in results of survey was more male vs. female, which is why group exercises was up on the radar. Offer 35 classes a week. Students are paying to take those classes a week. When we move into the new facility, we would be able to program different hours and more times.

Merolla- I was wondering if class standing, if there was large sway that were willing to pay for the fee?

Hawkins- I do have the breakdown of that, but do not have it in front of me right now.

Thomas- I just want to second what senator Brown said. I do not think it is statistically significant. I do not think we should make an opinion without full details of the fee, but I think the size of the fee does matter, and I do not think we should make an opinion on something we do not believe.

Coates- Sounds like the senate has more questions than answers. I was sincere if the senate was more comfortable tabling the bill, then that is not a problem. This is inciting debate. It is not an incredibly time-sensitive and is not constructed yet. If the senate wants to take more time, it is important to get the discussion started.

Cordisco- This is directed towards Jodi. My biggest concern with this proposed fee is that I would like to know that the building is going to be done by 2013? A lot of us know that here at URI, projects get pushed back.

Hawkins- I do not think anybody can be positive, but I can tell you that it went into pre-bid and the bid closes on December 3rd. Construction will begin after it goes through purchasing. We are renovating Roger Williams facility. Our dilemma right now is January 2013 or Fall 2013? It will depend on when they start the construction, which depends on bid process going out right now. Huge step forward right now is the bid process.

Caisse- Motion to table bill

2nd Lamoureux

Division Called

31 ayes

6 nays

1 abstension

Bill Tabled ☺

Holzman- I would just make a point. The bill is now on the table of the senate. The senate can choose to pick up that bill at will. If anybody wants to see the bill changed, it has to be referred back to committee.

Juhr- We are looking into the process of GPS tracking project with the buses. Was supposed to be completed last July and is now November. I am concerned about the Fine Arts parking lot. There are a ton of potholes. The lighting is not up to par, phone boxes do not work. It has been 3 weeks to change the blue lights, so I will be checking on that soon. Also, have been trying to get in contact with the police about the stop sign. Senator Blanchette and I will probably draft up a letter and go to Town Hall meeting. Single semester parking passes are now in the works again. Trouble getting response from administration, as well as HigherOne checks. That is pretty much it. Everybody in committee is working on something.

Pishdadian- That guy for the tracking service emailed me back.

Juhr- Last semester, Campus Affairs brought Hertz cars to campus and committee has not been working with Hertz. The URI student rep has been great and has been working on an internship idea with CBA and Hertz so that student can receive credit from working with Hertz and relay success back to us. We have just made the list for the top 50 universities and we are #9 for amount of new members. We are also creating facebook page.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Ferreira- Working on planning gingerbread competition. Tentative date is 12/8 at 7pm. If you know anybody in an organization, please promote this event. There is a prize. We have been working on Rammies date which is tentatively Tuesday 3/27, trying to encourage more participation. MLK Award nominations are out if you want more information, let me know.

Roy- Send me the flyer and I can send out the gingerbread competition information.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Troiano- New petition board will be coming out soon. My committee is still working on dissecting that Licht report. Most likely an opinion bill will be coming out.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Chief Information Officer

Zaman- Thank you to Senator Merolla, Marchetti, Ferreira, and Smith for sending liaison reports. It is already 11/16. Not much time left to get reports in, so please set up meetings ASAP.

b. Director of Communications

Cordisco- Hi everyone. I am crossing my fingers to get newsletter out by tomorrow, so keep your eyes open.

c. Secretary

Jones- Just a reminder, please send your liaison reports to CIO Zaman from now on as she will be responsible for collecting and filing any reports. The reports that I have gotten this week I have forwarded to her, so please do so for the future. Kudos this week goes to Rob Nielson for his enthusiasm in committee with SOARC. His committee has raved about his participation and willingness to take on any projects, so kudos to him.

Roy- I have never seen a new senator speak that much in committee, so kudos goes to him!

d. Treasurer

Segal-Financial tip- learn to balance your checkbook.

Roy- What are you buying?

Segal- office supplies

e. Vice President

Holden- I love the discussion that is going on and the contributions made by new senators. Extended the deadline for one of the scholarships to next Tuesday at 4pm. All of you are eligible. Also spread it out to your friends. Made sure the application was put back up on the website. I will get in contact with committee about when we will go over recipients. All chairmen and women should have received attendance sheets in your mailbox. These are final attendance sheets, good for the rest of the term. Pass them in by the end of the week. Met with Emily from SEC to talk about formal. Shooting for a date in February. Start clearing your weekends now. Hoping to have a definitive answer when we get back from Thanksgiving. All those participating in Secret Snowmen should have received your person. That will be taking place last meeting of the semester. Greek week, philanthropy week is not an excuse to miss meetings or office hours, so please let me know why you are not coming to a meeting. Studying for exam is not an excuse either. All of you should have received three holiday cards in your mailboxes, so please fill those out for troops overseas. We do not have a senate meeting next week.

Roy- Who do we make the cards out to?

Holden- I am not the one writing the program, so I am going to be forwarding that question to the person in charge.

Studley- when are the holiday cards due by?

Holden- By the first Friday of December is when I would like to have them.

Ferreira- Do you still need help with formal?

Holden- Yes, we are still trying to get a date but after we get the date book and realize what our objectives are, that is when my pseudo-formal committee will meet.

f. President

Coates- I will be closing the director of marketing search tomorrow. I was originally going to do it today but will give people more time and begin interviews next week. Please encourage students to apply. Chairwoman Ferreira, Senator Her, and I attended a meeting at Alton Jones. It was a very informative meeting to learn about the history and struggle of the minority students at URI. It was incredible, and I suggest someone to ask one of us about what we learned. Because I was at that so long, I missed Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee meeting.

Caisse- SRR committee looks at recommendations to changes for the student handbook. Weinreich, Kilduff, and I are the representatives. Meeting is with Dr. Pina and other administrators. First meeting, we set a timeline. Two years ago, we met a little later in the year. Dr. Pina wanted to star this process a little earlier.

Coates- We solicit input on the student handbook that you think we should change.

Brown- Does the handbook apply to fraternities and sororities as well?

Coates- Every undergraduate student at the university.

Caisse- Applies to every campus as well.

Coates- Specifically references every house on campus managed by Fraternity Management Association follows HRL policies. I am really impressed by the new senators. You guys are doing a fantastic job. It is really encouraging for someone who is going to be graduating at the end of this year. This is the time of the year where people start to think about their plans for next semester. You have until next March to learn everything you can possibly learn about the Student Senate. I went from being elected in a fall election to being on exec the next Spring.

- RULES AND ETHICS:**Lamoureux-** No report.**H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Bylaws

Krauss- No report.**I. SPECIAL ORDERS****J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****K. NEW BUSINESS:****L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:****Juhr-** I am taking a CSV class and I found out about organ donor registration. Please see me for more details.**Roy-** I just want to say to the new senators. I was in your shoes one year ago and I have only been around for one year and I am on exec, so please think about it. It is nights like tonight that make me realize why I am on Senate. I had so much fun on Senate tonight.**Bruce-** Wish you all safe travels this Thanksgiving!**Maureen-** Rainville Award nominations have started and are online. It is for individual leadership, servant leadership, team and employee leadership.**Caisse-** The UC Gen. Ed committee- please be there! Free pizza.**Coates-** According to the bylaws, off-campus representatives is supposed to caucus and nominate and vote on an off-campus liaison. If any of the off-campus reps in the room can get together in the back corner of the room, please discuss and vote and inform Chairman Troiano of who the off-campus liaison is.**Zaman-** I want to say that MSA is having their Eid banquet on Friday. Everybody looks great tonight. Have a great Thanksgiving!**Thomas-** On Dec. 4th between 8-10pm, the tour guides are doing philanthropy event. If you go there and pay \$5 and have unlimited breakfast meals of pancakes and juice when you go there. Senator Zaman and VP Holden are also going to be selling tickets.**Troiano-** I would encourage new members of my committee to be off-campus liaisons.**Segal-** I got on exec as a freshman, so anything is possible. Talk to anybody and you can do it! In the union are the gingerbread houses for philanthropy week, so check it out.**Krauss-** Earlier in the meeting, when I was reading the bylaws, I saw a restriction can't be built on organization's request in regards to years following requests for budget. My overall question is- doesn't the senate action in the past create a precedent of approval or denial of what we do?**Coates-** I will happily defer part of this question to Holzman, but I believe the limitation is intended to prevent the committee from writing legislation that would say here is money now, but it is not saying that you can't bring it up in debate.**Brown-** Motion to adjourn**2nd Pishdadian****Farrow-** St. Jude Up 'Til Dawn is up \$2,000 from two days ago. Thank you to anybody who participated.**Pishdadian-** Motion to adjourn**2nd Lamoureux****N. ADJOURNMENT:****AYE:** Balikov, Blanchette, Brown, Cahill, Caisse, Connolly, Dionne, Dobryznski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Her, Juhr, Kilduff, Kirejczyk, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Longa, Merolla, Murphy, Musali, Nielson, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Reyes, Roy, Sharkey Andrew, Sharkey Annalisa, Smith M., Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Zawatsky**NAYE:** Cicero**NO VOTE:** Coates, Cordisco, Holden, Jones, Segal, Zaman**8:46pm**