

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30pm

B. ROLL CALL: Blanchette, Brown, Caisse, Cicero, Coates, Cordisco, Curry, Dionne, Dobrzynski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Gulum, Her, Holden, Holzman, Jones, Juhr, Kilduff, Knight, Koczera, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Longa, Marchetti, Merolla, Musali, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Roy, Segal, Sharkey, Sharkey Annalisa, Smith, Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Zaman

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Holzman- Motion to strike bill 40.

2nd Stewart

Holzman- Motion to strike addition of bill 41 that is in the agenda and replace it with bill 41 that was handed out before the meeting.

2nd Lamoureux

Bill Amended

Agenda Approved ☺

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Ferreira- On page 3, under my report for Cultural, the second line, can we change “me” to “more.”

2nd Roy

Ferreira- Also, on page 3, fifth line down, after “attending spirit of giving” meeting.

2nd Roy

Roy- I would like to change page 2 , in my report, sixth line, change December to November

2nd Ferreira

Ferreira- On the fifth line, page 3, change man to “main”

2nd Roy

Minutes Approved ☺

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Coates- We lost a member of the URI community this week- Joseph C. of the URI Men’s baseball team who had collapsed and has passed away.

Lamoureux- Motion for pledge

2nd Stewart

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

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.

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| SPONSOR: | Finance Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Jacob Holzman |
| DATE: | Wednesday, November 3 rd , 2011 |
| RECOMMENDATION: | Passage (- -) |
| EXPIRATION DATE: | Until Passage of Finance Handbook 2012-2013 |
| ACTION: | Vote Next Week |

SS-11/12-41 CONTINGENCY GRANT REQUEST FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Whereas, Muslim Students Association is a Senate recognized organization, and
Whereas, Muslim Students Association would like to host an Eid Banquet, and
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and
Whereas, Muslim Students Association would like money to help cover the costs of the event, and
Whereas, this request in 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 \$1,570.00 from our Programming contingency to the Category #130 (Programming) line in the budget of Muslim Students Association.

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| SPONSOR: | Finance Committee |
| BILL HANDLER: | Chairman Holzman |
| DATE: | Wednesday, November 3 rd , 2011 |
| RECOMMENDATION: | Passage (5 - 0 - 0) |
| EXPIRATION DATE: | Upon Dispensation |
| ACTION: | Vote Next Week (Immediate Consideration) |

Holzman- The Finance handbook is out. There are some office copies and I will print some more after the meeting. If you notice anything, please bring it to attention of me or my committee. Office hours are on Friday and on Monday or to the committee meeting. In other news, we have had a lot of capital improvement grants requested, so we will be spending next couple of weeks working with those. Finally, bill 41 for Muslim Student’s Association is for the Eid Banquet.

MSA Representative- The event is November 18th and it is a public event for everybody, students and families. There will be henna, calligraphy, and is free for all.

Holzman- Can you explain what Eid is?

MSA Representative- It is a Muslim holiday and it is equivalent to Christmas in a way.

Roy- It says that we are paying for punch passes, what are those?

Holzman- I passed out a revised addition of the bill.

Dobrzynski- When is the event?

MSA Rep- November 18th.

Roy- Our money is going towards cost of event. What are the costs?

MSA Rep- Henna, calligraphy, food, and decoration.

Brown- What category are you guys?

Roy- They are a category “R.”

Knight- Yield time to Bruce.

Bruce- Need immediate consideration to discuss this bill.

2nd Stewart

Smith- Where is the event?

MSA Rep- Union ballroom.

Thomas- Is this the first year you are doing this event?

MSA Rep- Yes. It was one done three years ago.

Roy- How are you advertising?

MSA Rep- Using facebook and using special invitations.

Roy- What is expected attendance?

MSA Rep- About 100.

Bill Approved ☺

Stewart- Chairman Holzman, was there not supposed to be a bill on the floor for bill “13” this week?

Roy- Will you please send out the latest version of the Finance handbook on the Senate list-serv?

Holzman- Yes.

- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

Roy- Communicating with groups who want to seek recognition, answering questions, and getting paper work in.

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Caisse- Yo. Number of things going on tonight. Committee is steadily moving along with college liaison binders. I made some committee assignments. Starting to hear back from UC Gen ed.

Tomorrow is meeting, Senator Dionne will be accompanying me. Working with the provost office and chair of UC gen committee. Moving to have a student-university wide forum on 11/14. Be prepared for UC Gen Ed presentation during Public Forum. The chair will be giving a presentation. Joint Classroom steering committee sent out a technology audit to the University. Asked if I can forward that to student organizations and students. They said they will have to re-word and get back to me, so be on the look out for that. Sign up to volunteer at the Veteran's Day event.

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Juhr- Hi, everybody. Not too much tonight. I am trying to contact the South Kingstown Town Manager. Sent him an email during my free time tomorrow, I will call him. I need information about the stop sign being put in on Campus Ave. A handicap button in the back of Hope and a light on the Ellery building are both broken are both in the process of being fixed. Thank you notes were sent out to administrators who attended safety and lighting walk. I will be checking for progress from the campus lights.

Weinreich- Are you aware that the fire alarms in Chafee are not in operation?

Juhr- No.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Ferreira- I would like to congratulate our new vice-chair for Cultural Affairs Senator Longa. Cultural has been working on coming up for ideas for display boards outside of Senate office. We still need volunteers for Veteran's Day event. Katrina Dorsey organizing a program where student volunteers read off name of Veterans. If anybody is interested, please let me know. Also, big news in Cultural. We won the best homecoming tent at Homecoming, so we got a \$50 gift card to Ronzio's. Anybody who helped out with the booth, we will be having pizza and cinna-sticks party next week.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Troiano- Thank you to everybody who is helping out for Commuter Appreciation Week this week. It has been pretty successful, which is evident in the petition that has gathered over a thousand signatures. Friday is the last day and there will be a rock wall if it does not rain. Yesterday, we went to CCRI to sit in on the tuition increase vote, as I am sure most of you know by know that it has passed. I won't get too much into it, but the next step is the State House. We are beginning plans to put together a transportation system, where we can have students speak on behalf of the tuition increase from happening. Try to do whatever we can.

Bruce- Michael asked me to let the Senate know that they are going to have somebody out early to greet the agency that is bringing your last event tomorrow at 8am.

Troiano- My event is Friday.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Chief Information Officer

Zaman- Good evening, everyone. I have just been working on the report on the recent veto we have. I have received an RFI from Chairwoman Ferreira, concerning a contingency fund request for residence halls Tucker, Peck, Mellow, and Hutchinson. There is no information on the bill at all on the agenda that she had found and she was not sure we were allowed to give money to residence halls. The request was to fund a dance at Holiday Inn for over 500 students that live in residence halls and in the community. The bill was at first tabled and then it was approved based on approval from RA Board of Advisors. I have also looked into the bylaws and Finance handbook to see if we are allowed to give money to residence halls. Maybe we should make it more clear in the bylaws.

Segal- What year was that?

Zaman- 2000. I was just going to say that they did decide to approve it because it was for students and programs for the student body. Aside from that, for bylaws and Finance, it is important to make it clear in our policies how are funds are to be distributed and who is eligible for them.

b. Director of Communications

Cordisco- If anybody wants to wake up at 7:50am and listen to Dave talk about tuition hikes on WPRO. That's all I have.

c. Secretary

Jones- Not much tonight. I have not had a chance to present the proposed clicker technologies to Executive so unfortunately I do not have any updates on that tonight. You will have to excuse me, I am a little behind. I will have everything prepared for next week. Other than that, kudos this week goes to Senator Kilduff for being appointed to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee, a very important committee to have a student representative on since its sole focus is on students and what their rights are here at URI. It is an extremely important committee, so kudos to Senator Kilduff for increasing his involvement and taking on this role. That's really all I have for tonight. Just as a side note to the new senators and to the current senators who need a refresher, the minutes that I record during the general meetings (and Executive meetings) are actually public record and are filed in a couple of different ways. I usually have a hard-copy file in the binder of minutes near my desk, as well as committee minutes and the general senate minutes are available online through the Student Senate website, and with the wonderful work of CIO Zaman, they are now searchable, so if you ever need to look something up from a past meeting from minutes I've taken, just keep in mind that they are stored in a couple different places and are more accessible online. Just an FYI for the night.

Segal- I think you are a fabulous Secretary

d. Treasurer

Segal- Financial tip- save your money for formal.

e. Vice President

Holden- All scholarship applications are in. Thank you to advertisement and to those who applied. If my scholarship committee could meet after the meeting to pick a time to review, that would be great. If you applied, please keep your ears open in the event that you won. As far as formal is concerned, today was the deadline for SAA to get back to me about whether they would like to join. Meeting with SEC rep about whether we want to add another group or just have an SEC/Senate Formal. As far as new senators concerned, the orientation will be next week on Tuesday at 5pm in the senate office. If you need help, give me a call. Committee attendance for you will not be mandatory this week or next week. As committee chairs, if you could please make it next week, I would appreciate it. If you are around, please come to orientation and want to join the rest of senate at the table, just please be quiet in the office. As far as elections go tonight, color coded ballots based on different positions. I'll go over instructions during elections.

Brown- I know the Surf Club would be interested in that.

Holden- If you want to help me out and coordinate with them, leave me a note after the meeting.

f. President

Coates- Hello, everybody. Just wanted to start by thanking everybody who was at Board of Governors meeting last night with me. I would like to thank External Affairs' committee for your hard work this week. As you would know, there was a tuition hike at rates of 9.5% for in-state students and 2% for out-of-state students. We have the petition going and our plan for that would be to continue to get as many signatures as possible. The best course of action is to organize buses to take up to Providence. We have to work out some technicalities with that. We will be coordinating with RIC and CCRI in order to make this happen and put as many students as possible up at the statehouse. The budget increase would take effect in late January or February, when we are all back at school. The legislature has not scheduled any meetings for their committee beyond November 15th. I have heard some students mention that it is not that bad in terms of money, but I remind you it is ten years of tuition increases. We know for certain it has been increasing. If you consider the increase from 2010 until next year, tuition will be rising to \$12,450 next year. This is not a good trend for students. Also, some of the other

things I would like to point out. I did speak during Open Forum last night. The only person who voted “naye” was the student representative to the Board of Governors. It rotates between institutions, so current representative is from CCRI. They all reluctantly voted “yes.” Here are some snapshots- the state of RI is ranked 46th in the nation in terms of state support per capita in terms of higher education. Out of the entire state budget, only 4.7% goes to Higher Education out of the entire state budget. External Affairs will be working extremely hard, as will I, to help out the situation. What I have been told and I don’t know if this has been confirmed but for every \$1 million we secure in funding above anticipated amount from the state, we will decrease the tuition increase by 1%. We do have the opportunity to make an impact, and it is our responsibility to do so. We have a couple months- maybe one month at least, to make this happen. We will be overshadowed by state’s pension issues at the moment. We will have a lot of planning to do, and I think we can make it happen.

Pilkington- The money is going towards the Pension reform rather than higher education.

Coates- By investing in higher education which generates a large return on investment and attracts potential employers and creates an educated work force that would bring even more employers to the state, we can generate additional funding instead of sinking money into a hole that is not going to fix itself. UConn receives 27% of its funding from the state and has a return of 505% on its investment. As of 2004, we were contributing \$1 billion to state’s GDP. If you want to make money, have to invest in something that will make money.

Troiano- They disclosed actual dollar amounts as far as funding by the state to institutions at URI compared to our sister institutions. I was wondering if you knew what that translated into as far as budget.

Coates- For URI, I believe it is 15% of total budget comes from the state.

Troiano- I meant URI from the state, and I know RI is 4.7% funded by the state. I was wondering if you knew what the percentages were for other states.

Coates- No, but I would love to see that. May have to be adjusted per capita because we do have a smaller state. We were close to the bottom in every category.

Pishdadian- The statehouse trip that we mentioned, do you know when that is going to be?

Coates- Will coincide with 2013 budget at the statehouse. We are looking at December or January.

Thomas- Do we know how it is affecting regional tuition yet?

Coates- Regional tuition was not mentioned. I would assume it is somehow affected, but I think it may be a percentage of in-state tuition. I believe Room and Board was also increased last night.

Thomas- Our sign is completely filled. Is there another way we can get another sign. Is there a deadline when we want these delivered?

Coates- We can afford another sign but that is up to External Affairs. As far as I am concerned, I don’t think we should have a deadline. We don’t have to have it until we plan on going up there.

Holden- If you want to help having people sign, please spread the word to your organization.

Roy- Can I have the letter at the President’s meeting on Monday night? Also, I just wanted to say after going to the meeting, I saw the most pitiful excuse for Robert’s Rules last night. Congrats to us for using them correctly.

Holzman- Can alumni sign?

Coates- Yes.

Marchetti- Will you have it up for parent’s weekend?

Coates- Sounds it like a great idea.

Troiano- Hopefully we can get a new sign by Monday for the President’s meeting.

Her- Is it okay for athletes to sign the petition because they are on scholarships?

Coates- Anybody. Continuing on, as DOC Cordisco said, I will be on the radio tomorrow. I love WPRO. I am still accepting applications for Director of Marketing. Please tell your friends of the position. Also working on CDO search committee. New vice-president for community, equity, and diversity has not been finalized. SRR will be meeting next Thursday. Various administrators and faculty will be there. The handbook concerns all the conduct policies at the University. By all means, we will take any suggestions. We usually formulate that into a piece of legislation and present it to the Senate in attempt to change it at committee. Another piece of business that is important, the board of

governors introduced the Licht report, who is the Director of Administration for the state and he introduced a report that was requested by board of governors about future of higher education. Included several proposals for consolidated programs. Eliminating redundant offices among URI, CCRI, and RIC. Some pretty major changes. We will be going through that report. Nationally, it is a crazy time for Higher Education. Federal financial aid, loan and debt forgiveness, Pell Grants. Please read the newspaper.

Curry- Have you gotten any word on having more student representatives for the Chief Diversity Officer selection committee?

Coates- I am going to have to set up a meeting with the president, since he decided who would be on the committee. That is not going to change until I meet with him. I am also going to be bringing in President Dooley for a meeting with us to speak during Public Forum. I am also going to invite student board member from Board of Governor’s committee.

Smith- If we can put the statistics that you were talking about on the new petition, students might be interested to read the statistics while they sign.

Holden- Please refer ideas to Chairman Troiano.

Thomas- What is the radio station number?

Coates- 99.7 FM

Studley- Does the tuition increase affect URI or all RI schools?

Coates- RIC will be increasing at a rate of 7-8 percent, maybe? Don’t remember CCRI’s percentage increase, but it is in the \$300 range.

Studley- We might want to see if we can talk to student rep on the board and see if they can join us in our efforts with the petition, joining all three state schools at the University.

Pishdadian- RIC was 4% and CCRI was 7.5%.

Troiano- Don’t email External email, please email me directly at derek_troiano@my.uri.edu

Coates- Every Student Senator should have a contact sheet with names, emails, and other contact info of other senators on Senate. Only use those in case of emergency and please ask permission from senators if you can provide their phone number to anybody who asks.

- RULES AND ETHICS:

Lamoureux- No report.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Bylaws

Stewart- No report.

Elections

Segal- Internal elections are tonight. Good job to my committee and that’s all I have.

I. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Nominations and Elections for unfilled Student Senate seats:

Off-campus (5)

Molly Smith

Gianna Prata

Michael Kirejczyk

Ross Connolly

Eric Nowinowski

On-campus (1)

Robert Lemeur

Robert Nielson

College of Engineering (1)

Robert Balikov

Kyle Sutherland

University College (1)

Ethan Zawatsky

Holden- I am going to start with off-campus representatives. I will re-open nominations. We have five positions available.

Pishdadian- I nominate Derek Murphy

2nd Juhr

Troiano- Michael K. respectfully declines

Knight- Gianna Prata declines her nomination.

Cicero- I would like to nominate Tiarra P.

2nd Pilkington

Dobrzynski- Eric N. respectfully declines.

Coates- Is there anyone in the gallery who wants to be nominated that was not?

Holden- Off-campus nominations officially closed. Nominations for on-campus nomination.

Lamoureux- Should we strike Robert Lemeur?

Holden- We are striking Robert Lemeur from the ballot. Nominations closed.

Lanoie- I would like to nominate Jeremy G.

2nd Pilkington

Holden- University College representative. Seeing none, nominations are officially closed. We will move elections to off-campus representatives.

Dobrzynski- I nominated Molly because she is very interested in what we do here in Senate and the workings of Senate laws. She wants to be involved in politics after she graduates, very reliable, and she would make great addition to Senate.

Stewart- Molly was my freshman suite mate so I have known her the whole time I have been on Senate, so she knows a lot about what we do. She is a level-headed thinker. She will be great asset for Senate.

Smith- I am a junior studying political science. I am not really that involved on campus and I am really interested in what you do and would like to be more involved on campus with what you do and I appreciate your vote.

Thomas- I seconded Ross because he does care about policy and he has a really great work ethic. He tries really hard, cares a lot about what he does, very level-headed, and will do what he can for the student body. He would be a great addition to Senate, and I highly suggest you vote for him.

Dobrzynski- Ross is another one of my friends. Since I got involved with External, he has been so interested in what I have had to say. He has also asked what we have been doing. He really wants to be involved with the orange sticker policy. Like Thomas said, he is a great hard worker. He would be a great addition too.

Connolly- Hi, I am Ross. I am a Junior Political Science major. I am really interested in Senate and hope you guys vote for me.

Juhr- I seconded Derek Murphy because he ran in the previous election and he only lost by a few votes. He was really excited to join and wants to make a difference, so I think he would be great.

Pishdadian- I have known Derek for over a year and he is an accounting and political science double major, which is helpful for Senate, so you should all vote for him.

Murphy- Hi, I am Derek. I have held numerous positions with my chapter including President, Secretary, and Ritualist. This year, I am the Academic Chairs for the IFC. I will be here for more five years. Throughout my time in college, I have had a 3.4 GPA.

Pilkington- I have never met Ms. Perry but I am sure she is a lovely person and last time I did this, I nominated Senator Lamoureux and he turned out pretty well.

Cicero- I nominated Tierra because she is very motivated and seems like she really wants to be involved. She is not here today.

Brown- I think it is good to have Greek on campus.

Weinreich- Are you aware of the time commitment that is involved and are you aware to take on that?

Murphy- I would like to take on the time commitment. I am on campus for a long time each day.

Connolly- I have a pretty open schedule. I know there is a lot of work to be done.

Smith- I am also able to commit my time and I am pretty excited to do so.

Segal- There are five open seats and four people running, so I think they are all pretty interested if they are here and have been nominated. I think it is obvious who you should vote for.

Coates- You can still write in candidates. There is still an open spot.

Stewart- I have recruited a lot of people to Senate, so it is really excited that I know two more people that are interested in joining Senate.

Pilkington- On Senate, you work for the students, and it is very important that you listen to what students have to say. Do you know how you are going to listen to the students and get student ideas?

Smith- I think it is really important to take student body opinion into account for what decision you make more so than your own opinion.

Connolly- Student opinions matter more than anybody else.

Murphy- We are the gatekeepers for URI students. What is in best interest for them is in the best interest for us.

Troiano- Even though Michael K. is not here, he did express interest in Senate, so I would vote him for the write-in campaign.

Holden- Write up to five names.

Stewart- Rob has been apart of Surf Club, so he has been coming to Finance meetings and working on their event. He asked a lot of good questions and was a great representative to the group, so I think he will be a great representative as well.

Brown- Robert Nielson is very bright, engineering major. He has a lot of ambition and drive. He really wants to do this. Dropped his fraternity because he really wanted to be apart of student senate. He is a freshman, so he can be on for a couple of years. What I don't understand, he understands. He has helped out with our signature booths.

Nielson- I would be good for Student Senate because I started off with Surf Club and wanted to get more involved with the school. I like hearing about the topics of the school and want to hear about the Student Senate.

Brown- Could you describe yourself as someone who would say at this table and saying something?

Nielson- I would rather say something.

Stewart- The little question and answer displayed great planning, so I think he would be a great asset.

Holden- Congratulations to Robert Nielson.

Juhr- I nominated Rob because he was extremely interested about Senate whenever I would talk about it. He is a very hardworking student. He is studying for an exam and doing a group project, so he couldn't be here tonight but he is very interested in Senate. He really seemed interested in RIPTA problems and when they are doing well. He wants to help improve student administration communication barrier.

Pilkington- I seconded Jeremy for the engineering representative because he is an outstanding gentleman. I am sure he is very enthusiastic, and I think he would make a good representative for the college of engineering.

Lanoie- I nominated Jeremy because he has plenty of time on his hands. He is not here tonight because he is taking an exam. He really wants to get involved and is really devoted to politics. Loves URI sports and really wants to get involved. He is a freshman and is new to campus and that is why I joined Senate and that is why he wants to join too. He is a really nice guy and really intelligent.

Segal- I am just going to make a point that for the college of engineering, so you have to be a junior to run for that.

Holden- Depends on different college requirements.

Holzman- Upon completion of 24 credits.

Stewart- He is a first semester freshman. No possible way he could be in the COE.

Zaman- I don't have a question but I also know Robbie and I met him at dinner and he was really interested and enthusiastic about joining. He talked about what issues he wants to address and answered my questions very well.

Thomas- I just wanted to clarify. Nobody here knows Kyle Sutherland?

Holden- Congratulations to Robert Balikov. We will move onto UC Representative.

Stewart- I nominated Ethan because he ran in the general election and did not win, so he shows his dedication by coming back for internals. He is a freshman and is also in UC.

Coates- I nominated Ethan because he ran in the general election and did receive a large number of votes. He was heavily involved in high school. He has prior experience doing things like this. He was in both the young Democrats and young Republicans. He is in my Arabic class and it is apparent that he is very intelligent.

Zawatsky- My political experience comes from high school. The student interests are often marginalized, which often leads to a lot of student representation. I am currently involved in Habitat for Humanity. That's pretty much it. I am highly motivated, and I am already aware of my responsibilities if I were to be elected to the position. I would be meeting with Dean Richmond of University College. That's all I have.

Curry- Can you expand on the marginalized opinions of student?

Zawatsky- Over the four years, there were a lot of reforms going on in the education system during my time in high school. They messed up the lunch program, violating a city ordinance. It became slightly crazy. It was really up to student body to try and fight against it. We saw some victories and started to see some progress.

Holden- Congratulations to Senator Zawatsky. Newly elected senators please come to the front.
Swearing in of New Senators

Holden- Congratulations to new senators.

Nominations and Elections of Bylaws Committee member (1)

Amanda Studley

Abigail Farrow

Michael Merolla

David Pickard

Pickard- I would like to respectfully decline my nomination.

Farrow- I respectfully decline.

Holden- Nominations are open.

Stewart- I would like to nominate CIO Zaman.

2nd Dobrzynski

Weinreich- How many executive members are allowed on bylaws at any given time?

Holden- 2 members.

Zaman- I respectfully decline. I have a lab at that time and I know you can't change your meeting time.

Ferreira- Amanda has attended the first meeting. She has read through her bylaws twice. She is very interested. She would be a great addition to the bylaws committee.

Weinreich- I nominated Senator Studley on Finance. She is always well-prepared. Always willing to go the extra mile. She knows her stuff, she is prepared to be involved, and would be the best candidate for this position.

Studley- I am very passionate about this organization. My binder is never in the office because it lives on the desk when I am reading it. I would like to get more involved on Senate, and I feel like bylaws would be great because it is what holds us together. I would like to make an impact through this committee.

Segal- I seconded Senator Merolla because it would be a good way for him to get more involved. He always makes you go back and question your thoughts which is good because you want to make sure you get things right. He is always talking about Senate. I think he would be a good asset to the committee. I know Senator Stewart thinks he would be good for it as well.

Stewart- I nominated Senator Merolla because he does talk about Senate too much. He always wants to talk about it with me. Mike also came to bylaws last week and had a lot of great ideas, even not as a member. He hadn't even really prepared or anything but just jumped right in. I have read a lot of

Mike's papers and he will be a great help when it comes to wording and proofreading of bylaws. I encourage you to vote for either candidate really.

Merolla- I am a senior. This is my first year on Senate. I would like to think I am actively engaging myself in Senate. I was nominated for this last year and was not able to be chosen. It is something that I have always been interested in. I went to the meeting last Thursday and wanted to speak my opinion. I think it is something that is valuable when choosing candidate for this position. I believe I have a lot of practical experience being a senior. I look at things in a different way. I think that is something else to think about. I am able to attend the meetings as well.

Weinreich- How many years of experience do both of you have in some form of student government?

Studley- This is my second year. I was secretary of my class at RWU. I was secretary of class council at RWU.

Merolla- I have been involved since a freshman with other student organizations, which provides me with an overall grounding. I have been on Senate and involved in my fraternity. I try to take a leadership role in every organization I am apart of.

Curry- What would your individual opinions be on which is the better candidate- the one who is here for a longer amount of time or the one who is graduating recently and will be leaving us? You are both extremely qualified, but I am a bit conflicted.

Studley- I believe that it will be more beneficial to have someone who is going to be here for a couple more years. When somebody has a question of what someone on the committee was thinking at the time, I would be able to say why the bylaws were written at the time.

Merolla- I believe that experience overall is unmatched. If you were to consider a candidate that has experience and could possibly have more experience, you have to ask; would that candidate want to apply it? To me, we are voting on this particular term.

Roy- I would just like to say that as Studley was saying, it is very important to have someone on the committee when they are writing and amending it, there will be someone who is able to clarify.

Reyes- I think it would be more convenient to have someone with more experience. They are rewriting bylaws so we will need an interpretation later on.

Holzman- I would like to remind everybody that other members of the committee are Mr. Chris Knight, Mr. John Krauss, and Mr. Andrew Pilkington. I would also like to remind that how the internal dynamics of the committee will be based on who is added.

Roy- These three members she meant to be talking about because they would be the experience they would have on bylaws.

Holzman- It is apparently necessary for me to clarify what I was meaning in that statement. Mr. Knight has been on senate for several years now. Mr. Pilkington and Mr. Krauss are somewhat new, have been on the committee for a while, but they are still relatively new to the Senate.

Stewart- For those of you who don't know, the committee member we are replacing on bylaws is Holzman. He is a great asset to by laws. I am looking for someone to fill his shoes, so I would encourage you to vote for whatever candidate you see fit in doing so.

Merolla- I would ask other senators to ask us questions directly.

Roy- This is very important what we are talking about.

Holden- We are represented by the students to say what we are talking about and to provide our opinions.

Brown- What changes do you have in mind to the bylaws?

Merolla- I think one thing we are trying to focus on is the implementation of the voting system. I believe it should be addressed as a separate disclosure and acts as a supplement in addition to the actual vote.

Studley- It was actually something that was brought up today. When we brought up the issue today of the RA's asking for money and the idea of Finance being more defined in the bylaws. It felt like there were some things that needed to be tightened up as far as interpretation.

Longa- Although I definitely would like to see Merolla on bylaws because of his experience, I think Senator Studley may be a better choice because she may have a lot more to offer in her future years. I think it would be nice to have a female's aspect on the committee.

Stewart- I am actually Chair of the committee, so there is actually some representation of the female population.

Weinreich- Senator Studley, you have worked with a different institution in the past? Do you think they have provided you with a unique perspective with how you interpret the bylaws here?

Studley- I think it gives me a unique opportunity about what works well here versus RWU. I have all my bylaws from my last school, so I think I can help in that sense.

Weinreich- What would you bring from that experience to this position?

Merolla- My experience is mostly when you decide you are going to write something down that is possibly going to govern a procedural process and the effect on the students involved, I have seen many procedures work and not work. That is one thing that I say would be a benefit to an individual like me because I can bring to the committee what could happen versus what we think may happen. I also have experience with other schools from an exchange program, and it is interesting to see how their entire school is organized. It is more formalized. I would definitely take that into consideration.

Segal- I do think Senator Studley would be good for the future, but I think somebody in this position should have more experience and should have been here longer to see what has worked and what hasn't worked.

Koczera- Is a person who sits in on a committee meeting allowed to have a statement or sit in on the discussion?

Stewart- In case of bylaws, I would say absolutely because we do not take a formal vote on everything we do.

Koczera- Can a person sit on the committee and become familiar with the committee without actually being on the committee?

Holden- Yes.

Roy- Going off what Segal said, I would like to argue that Studley has that experience being from another University. I think it is completely false to say Senator Studley is inexperienced.

Pilkington- Whoever doesn't get elected should come to the meeting anyway because you would be able to learn all that stuff on bylaws and are able to attend.

Stewart- I think we should finish debating whether experience plays the biggest role and take a stance and vote.

Pishdadian- There are older members of bylaws and younger members, so I think everybody has a good idea where they stand and age is well-represented on bylaws.

Longa- How many meetings have you been to, Senator Studley? After reading bylaws, do you feel you grasped the material?

Studley- Went to my first meeting the other day. Don't have a 100% grasp on the bylaws. Intensive document. If elected, I will make sure I understand fully. I have a decent understanding currently.

Holden- Congratulations to Senator Studley.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:

Segal- Chi Omega is having a fundraiser tonight at Pinkberry at 10pm. 20% goes to Make a Wish foundation. Please go if you can. Drive fast!

Marchetti- On 11/12, we are having a memorial tree dedication for my sister who passed away over the semester. If you knew her as Kaitlin Savio, she passed away. It is going to start at Catholic Center at 11am and the tree is going to be painted at White Hall. Her family is coming from New York. If you knew her, they would really appreciate to meet everybody that knew her. If you could come, it is going to be a nice day. Ask anybody in ZTA. Come find us.

Holden- There is pneumonia going around URI, so please get checked out if you are feeling any symptoms. If it is ignored, complications can develop. For the new senators, I would like to say congratulations. Your new Senate orientation is next Tuesday at 5pm. Tonight was an elections night. One of the most important Senate meetings of the year. We still elect senators who make decisions.

There have been discrepancies in the past regarding elections. For the senators that were here, it wasn't a pretty situation. It was my goal to make sure Senate ran smoothly.

N. ADJOURNMENT:

AYE: Blanchette, Brehio, Brown, Caisse, Cicero, Curry, Dionne, Dobryzynski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Gulu, Her, Holzman, Jühr, Kilduff, Koczera, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Longa, Marchetti, Merolla, Musali, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Roy, Sharkey, Sharkey Annalisa, Smith, Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Smith Molly, Connolly, Nielson, Zawatsky

NAYE: Holzman, Knight,

NO VOTE: Coates, Cordisco, Holden, Jones, Segal, Zaman