

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:31pm

B. ROLL CALL:

Balikov, Blanchette, Caisse, Cicero, Coates, Connolly, Dionne, Dobryzynski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Gulum, Jer, Holzman, Jones, Juhr, Kilduff, Kiercjack, Knight, Koczera, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Merolla, Murphy, Musali, Nielson, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Reyes, Roy, Segal, Sharkey, Sharkey Annalisa, Smith, Smith M., Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Zaman, Zawatsky

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Segal- I can't make the motion but somebody motion to have President Coates be added to elections since he was nominated last week I think.

2nd Lamoureux

Agenda Approved ☺

Knight- I motion to add President Coates to nominations of elections committee.

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Ferreira- Motion to change "agenda" to say "minutes"

2nd Lamoureux

Minutes Approved ☺

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Roy- Last week, there was a lot of talk after the meeting about the group that was here to be recognized. I think it is great that there is discussion but that needs to happen on the floor and only one question was asked, so great job to Senator Stewart. Those questions need to come up during the meeting.

Stewart- SOARC bills- everything needs to be questioned

Lamoureux- Motion for pledge

2nd Knight

Caisse- Today is the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

F. PUBLIC FORUM:

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Holzman- Good evening, everybody. We approved \$142 for seeker's meditation to get mats. We approved money for ASA (Asian Students Association) to go to their conference being hosted at Duke. There will be a finance committee meeting at 5:30pm on the normal occasion in Room 314.

- **STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE**

SS-11/12-50 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF HILLEL: THE JEWISH STUDENT ORGANIZATION AT CATEGORY R

Whereas, Hillel: The Jewish Student Organization is an organization which provides Jewish students and students interested in Judaism opportunities to learn about Judaism and issues affecting Jewish people, observe Jewish holidays and traditions, participate in tikkun olam and tzedakah (social justice work), and build friendships through shared experience

Whereas, Hillel: Jewish Student Organization 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 Hillel: Jewish Student Organization at Category R.

SPONSOR:

SOARC

BILL HANDLER:

Chairwoman Roy

DATE:

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

Passage (4-0-0)

EXPIRATION DATE:

Valid Until Next Re-recognition

ACTION:

Vote Tonight

Roy- Hi, everyone. There is a committee meeting next Monday at 4:30pm in Room 354. Had our final president's meeting of the semester. Thank you to Alumni Center for hosting. There were a few people here that were there so thank you for attending. We have a group to be recognized tonight.

Rep- I am president of Hillel. We were on our way to re-rec but there was a mix up with our paperwork. We look forward to working with Senate for upcoming semester.

Farrow- Problem with paperwork?

Roy- Did not have all their schedules with paperwork. Were not able to get recognized.

Caisse-Has not being recognized infringed on coordinating past events?

Rep- No, but want to plan for the future.

Lamoureux- Members?

Rep- Open to the student body. We usually see about 500-1000 people a semester.

Knight- Would they have been recognized if they had signatures?

Roy- Yes

Zaman- What are some of the events you are planning to hold that you would like senate support?

Rep- last year we did an event for senate to help us host. We brought in a musician from another country. We would like to do something like that event this year.

Abstention from Chairman Holzman

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Caisse- Heyo. Provost Advisory Council meeting tomorrow night at 5pm. If you would like to go, let me know. Free pizza. Let me know if you would like to go. Final Exam rights campaign is going well. Tell your friends to look at that. There is a link to exam rights on our homepage to find university manual. I will pass out exam rights fliers. I will not require everybody to go to a residence hall or academic building. Committee is doing really good work. College liaisons are going well. Senator Dobrzynski and Farrow are doing really good jobs talking to their deans and starting some solid initiatives. Touching base on free academic printing.

Segal- Where is the provost meeting tomorrow?

Caisse- President's conference room in Green Hall

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Sharkey- Senator Musali was appointed to work with Paul Whitney concerning the bookstore. President Coates sat in our committee meeting to talk about union expansion project. Members will be working on this for the next year or so. Senator Cicero is looking into Plains Road Lights. Checking in on blue light behind the church near emporium. Looking into parking passes for single semester and looking into maps for campus.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Ferreira- Cultural talked a lot about the enhancing campus culture report. We are working on some big ideas to improve campus such as programs we can put on during the weekend to get people back on campus. We are also working on committee times for next semester.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Troiano- New petition is out. Came out this afternoon. It will be advertised all this week. We will be figuring out where it will be advertised each day. Monday we can have it advertised in Balentine which will be useful. Monday night, the town council passed an ordinance which allowed property owners to be billed due to public offenses, which only applies to multiple offenders. It seems to be targeting the students. 50% voted in support, 40 something voted against according to a poll in the ProJo. I would like to put up a poll on the student body to see what they would think on it. There should be an article in the newspaper about arguments for and against the ordinance. I heard a heartwarming story and I would like to redirect the attention to Senator Thomas.

Thomas- There was an interesting case at the Narragansett court where a URI student was charged with consumption of alcohol. The student was 21 years and was on public property and decided to fight

his ticket. He represented himself in court and questioned the definition of public place and he essentially won and had all the fines cleared. He was a URI student representing himself against the town. A nice situation where we are able to see URI students making a difference and not give up or get scared. This is a situation where a URI student was able to represent himself. Some things that came up during the case was that he was using the town ordinances that had been printed out from the town website, which they tried to argue is not credible because it was out of date. Also, the police officer contradicted himself throughout his testimony. The judge was able to hear the URI student and it worked out.

Coates- One of the things that really makes me so happy about this story is that a lot of students are out of here so quickly, in four years. A lot of people would rather pay the fine and move on even though it asserts your guilt. Retelling a story like this helps us get the point across that you should advocate for yourself.

Labate- When you get the results from the poll, are we going to be drafting any legislation or opinion bills towards that?

Troiano- Depending on how timely it is.

Segal- Do you know what the fee would be with the new ordinance?

Troiano- This was looking at around a \$1200 fee which should compensate to get police officers to the scene.

Coates- They have discussed amendments to the ordinance which seems counterproductive. I don't know. I will speak for the town council when I say that the ALCU was present. They took issue with the definition of disturbance that was used. It is up to the police department to determine the amount that it takes for police officers to respond. The police chief estimated that it cost \$500 to break up a 100-person party.

Segal- If it is not students and adults, can they be charged with the fee?

Troiano- Did not specify difference with homeowners. It just seems to be targeting students though.

Coates- You cannot appeal in a court of law unless you take

Jones- One thing your committee may want to research is how they are going to be setting the fee for the ordinance and what factors they might take into account. I read in the ProJo that they have passed the ordinance, but they are still deciding with the town on what fee would be appropriate to charge, so you might want to see what can be done about that if the ordinance remains.

Murphy- What is Narragansett's definition of response?

Coates- I believe it is only if you get sited for violating the public nuisance ordinance or the new noise ordinance they have adopted.

Weinreich- Is it the cost of response built into the taxpayers of Narragansett which are passed onto students and residents? When will you guys be putting a bill out for that? And when are the hearings proposed for the discussion of the bill?

Troiano- I am not sure of the date. In terms of any legislation, we can't get anything out until we get back from break. We can say we have this opinion of the student body. Not that many people participate, but it is the best thing we can do.

Studley- Has there ever been another town that has done something like this that we can look to? It seems an absolutely ridiculous ordinance to pass so I wanted to ask if there are any other cases of town ordinances.

Coates- This is modeled after other town ordinances. This has come up in the past. I do know that it goes towards what Weinreich was saying. I understand it's built into the tax code. They are doing this to further penalize someone who has a gathering of any kind. The biggest problem I have is that it is fine on top of another fine.

Weinreich- It is also based off something that happens in Vermont. We as a Senate should look into making sure that the town ordinances on the Narragansett website are accurate.

Krauss- Regardless of our own opinion, I don't think we are going to have any legal precedent with the town of Narragansett.

Merolla- I was wondering if you knew beyond the Senate if there was anyone else concerned with this as far as administration? Is school planning on taking action?

Coates- I do not believe the University has an official opinion at this time. I can't say if the administration has plans. I am not saying they don't care about students, but they do not tend to interfere with Narragansett ordinances or policies. There are a lot of empty residence houses in Narragansett this year. If you live in Narragansett, there is no reason you can't shop in South Kingstown. We make up a huge portion of their economy. If they push us out, they will have to raise their own taxes.

Troiano- Tell your friends to sign the petition.

Knight- 1,230 signatures so far.

Coates- I disagree with what Senator Krauss said before. As the URI Student Senate, we are a large stakeholder in town of Narragansett. We sue them and we are recognized as a legitimate representative group for individuals living in the town. I don't want anyone to think we don't have a right to say anything with the town because we do.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Chief Information Officer

Zaman- Good evening, everyone. Emailed out the style guide, so any Senate documents you prepare, please do in accordance to it. Thank you everyone who emailed me their liaison reports. For those who didn't, get them into me as soon as possible. I have a liaison list of representatives for Chairman Caisse. I contacted various schools for President Coates in regards to voting system. That is about it.

Ferreira- Do committee minutes have to follow the style guide as well?

Zaman- Any other questions for the CIO?

b. Director of Communications

c. Secretary

Jones- Working on looking up voting systems for elections for Coates and working on trying to set up a time to meet with the representative on campus about voting technologies for voting on bills during Senate meetings. Committees, please have your reports sent it to me. I am missing minutes from the last week from some committees. Based on what CIO Zaman has just stated, if you could please use the style guide to format your minutes before you send them to me, that would be greatly appreciated to so I don't have to format each committee's minutes. Thanks!

d. Treasurer

Segal- Basketball tickets are available. They have reduced the amount we use from 25 tickets to 15 tickets. If you do get tickets, you have to use them. On 12/18, there is a game against Yale, but if you would like to go, let me know. It is during finals. The PC game is on the 23rd of December. If you would like to go, let me know. They are being really strict with the tickets so whoever signs up today can get those tickets. I have just been paying the bills and buying things. I made a list of things we want to keep track of for inventory of the office. Exec desks and positions should be cleaned as well. Stipends will be next week for exec. Financial tip- don't spend too much money over break.

e. Vice President

Holden- Chairman Troiano talked about the booth, which will count as an office hour if you choose to help out at the booth. After that, secret snowman will be after the meeting. Everything needs to be outside of the office by Friday afternoon. Please make sure you have everything you need in the box. In committee this week, your chairman and chairwoman should have gone over what days you are going to be meeting and we do have Senate that week. There are bills on the floor. A lot of people are really close to being removed from Senate due to attendance so please keep track of your attendances. If any of you are thinking about exec for next year, start thinking about that now and ask questions for positions. That is something you want to start think about over break. Other than that, Ted will be playing music in the bookstore, so if anyone of you would like to go listen to music on Friday, please do that. Elections committee, for those of you not here last week, the people who are eligible for elections are only people who will not be on Senate again next year. You cannot run if you will be here next year. Keep your eyes out for information about formal. Met with SEC about it so please be on the lookout. Aside from that, I wish all of you luck on finals and happy holidays.

Jones- Can we have secret snowman during general discussion and open forum so people don't leave?

Holden- Nobody is to leave until Jones has her secret snowman gift

f. President

Coates- Good evening, everybody. Major news of the night- I issued my third presidential veto. It came to my attention that the updated finalized version of the finance handbook was not distributed before you voted. That is problematic. We live in a country where people criticize our leaders for reading legislation, and the Senate voted on a finance handbook that is 34 pages long and nobody read. The bottom line is you now have until we get back from winter break to read the finance handbook. I expect the veto be overridden. I expect questions. Someone should have pointed out that they hadn't received the handbook. I will take questions on that.

Weinreich- For once, I actually agree with President Coates. I will motion to have the entire finance handbook read on the floor, which will take hours so please read in advance.

Coates- Other than that, I am waiting for a call back from WRNI, Rhode Island's NPR to interview me about Narragansett ordinance. I will keep you all posted on the budget meeting status for the state. It has not yet been scheduled still. I checked two days ago and there was nothing on the roster regarding higher education budgets. I will be there. I will be attending Board of Governor's Student Advisory Council meeting. Exec is still meeting Monday. The location will be TBA. Happy Holidays. Enjoy your finals and good luck.

- RULES AND ETHICS:

Lamoureux- No report.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Bylaws

Stewart- No report.

Pilkington- Are we meeting?

Stewart- No.

I. SPECIAL ORDERS

Confirmation of Director of Marketing—Scott Mullin

Coates- My appointee Scott Mullin is in the building. Scott is a senior marketing major. He is impressive. He was the final choice. Has a lot of hands-on experience with operating small-business marketing.

Mullin- Hi, everyone. I heard about this position in Balentine. I am really excited to be here. I consider myself to have a substantial amount of marketing and advertising experience. I worked for a start-up company in the marketing division as well. I have a couple of my own small-business ventures. I really want to be involved on campus again. I was a Civic Engagement Leader about three semesters ago, worked hand in hand with some of the URI classes.

Lamoureux- What was the biggest marketing thing you have ever produced?

Mullin- Working for a start-up company outside of Cambridge. I was given a lot of initiative to plan and worked with direct marketing on the Google platform. I spearheaded the social media and marketing campaign. We were able to build out the facebook and reaching out to people there through marketing.

Segal- How do you plan us marketing our elections?

Mullin- What I would like to position outline to be is reach different segments of campus. I would like to tap into some of the larger freshmen groups that exist on facebook and through some type of feeder program. I had no idea Student Senate existed four years ago.

Pilkington- How are you going to market what we do to on and off-campus residents and the other campuses?

Mullin- I would like to meet with members of the Senate to see what we should be marketing and decide what principles and statements we would like to get out there.

Zaman- How do you think your specific experience will help your position as DOM on Senate?

Mullin- I think we need to engage the students of the student body. I follow URI news, personally. I would love to advocate Student Senate in there. I would love to be able to get students involved with that. I would love to see something that we can simplify the minutes into the online blog.

Segal- How do you plan on marketing our logo and making it recognizable throughout the University?

Mullin- I guess we can do that through flyers and posters around campus.

Weinreich- What exactly is your job description as you understand it? The experience you have working with non-business organizations?

Mullin- My overarching goal is to engage students in the efforts of Senate. It is also to increase the recruitment process and finding quality candidates.

Weinreich- President Coates, how many applications and what are the specific bullet points the Director of Marketing has outlined to you?

Coates- It is Scott Mullin. I don't have the document but he came up with the mock drafting marketing plan. I reviewed it during his interview. Scott's draft plan he showed me during his interview is everything I am looking for, including URI 101 and orientation.

Mullin- I think it is imported to add – my freshman year I played Rugby here, involved in a fraternity, Civic Engagement Leader.

Roy- The point of the questions are not to bully our candidate, and I think we getting a lot of off-track in that. I agree we need to hear discussion, but let's keep questions on track.

Knight- Monday and Wednesday nights- you have those free?

Mullin-Yes.

Caisse- I think you are doing a great job.

Jones- What would you say is the most effective tool for reaching out to the campus community that you can bring to Senate?

Mullin- Advertising through flyers, social media, running twitter feed and facebook updates.

Thomas- I met Scott a few years ago, and he is a people person, definitely someone who I see around everywhere. He has a great marketing plan, so I think he is going to be a great addition to Student Senate and I strongly encourage this vote.

Merolla- He is a great guy and understands a lot about marketing through his academics. I would like to ask Senators to take into consideration that he is new to Senate and is learning about the process. Talk to him about Senate. Keep that into consideration.

Studley- I really like your plans. Because you are a senior and you are the first person in this position, how would you like to develop the position?

Mullin- I would like to get in touch with Senate and set up some channels that we can get the message out and draft a marketing plan to send the message out. From there, we can test out some of those things. The main goal of this position for next semester is to build something we can hand off to the next person in this position.

Pishdadian- Are you worried about time constraints and getting ready with graduation affecting your position?

Holden- Congratulations to our new Director of Marketing, Scott Mullin.

Swearing in of Director of Marketing

Nominations & Elections of Elections Committee

Senator Merolla

DOC Cordisco

Senator Farrow

Chairwoman Juhr

DOM Mullin

Roy- I would like to respectfully decline my nomination.

Coates- I nominate DOM Mullin

2nd Roy

Pilkington- How many spots are there?

Holden- 5 positions

Coates- I would like to respectfully decline.

Caisse- I nominate Secretary Jones

Jones- I would like to respectfully decline.

Holden- Floor is open for candidates to speak.

Pilkington- I seconded Senator Merolla because I know Mike wanted to be on bylaws and he didn't get a chance to get on and I know he wants to do more for the Senate, so I think he would be great on this committee because he really tries to get more involved and he is very hardworking. I think he would be very good. There are also five spots so everybody may be able to get on.

Stewart- You should vote for Senator Merolla because he is a valuable asset to any committee he is on. He would be able to plan with elections.

Merolla- I would like to thank you both for your nomination. I believe that I would be good on this committee because I was on the last elections committee and this one is the big one. I am graduating this year and this would be a great way for me to end the year and put one of my last contributions towards Senate. I will be working with everyone on the committee and we will have a fun time. I would love to work with Scott and help him out with marketing elections.

Roy- I seconded DOC Cordisco would be a great person for this position. There are also 5 people on the board and 5 people for this spot, so all five would be great. She needs to be on there. She is an outgoing senior.

Coates- the DOC is traditionally on the elections committee and she will assist in getting the information to be prepared to be sent out.

Stewart- I seconded Senator Farrow. She is a graduating senior. She is really outgoing and she would be lovely to have on elections to count ballots.

Segal- I nominated Abigail because she wants to be on this committee. She wants to be more involved. She has wanted positions in the past and she would be really good at this. She will actually put effort in and really help.

Farrow- Thanks to the senators who nominated me. This is my last year on Senate and I would like to be on this committee. End of era of me being on Senate, so I want to be on the committee. That's about it.

Pilkington- I seconded Chairwoman Jühr because I work with Chrissy on Campus and she does a great job. She will not be here next year, so she will do a great job on the committee. I am pretty sure she will get on with 5 spots.

Stewart- I nominated Chairwoman Jühr because she is not returning to Senate next year so please vote for her for elections.

Roy- I seconded DOM Mullin because I think they should be required to be on elections. This is a part of marketing the students to join.

Coates- I nominated Scott in addition to being new director of marketing and recruitment, I am excited.

Mullin- Thank you for those kind words. I would love to be apart of this committee. I would like to be able to streamline the recruitment process.

Pilkington- How was Merolla on elections last year if he is a senior?

Coates- He was on during the fall.

Weinreich- Do you know what is involved with the elections?

Mulin- I don't know the scope in its entirety. I am heavily involved in the recruitment process.

Farrow- I do not but I am willing to learn.

Merolla- We first start off with having a few meetings and they are not already declared for the votes, we discuss setting up voting procedures. I am not sure we are enacting online voting. This is going to be a new year for elections with our Director of Marketing. We execute our plan which we pass before the Senate. We count the ballots and distribute the results.

Stewart- Can someone on elections clarify the position details?

Segal- What elections committee does is book rooms, hold meetings, decide how we will market. It will be easier this year with DOM. We try to market our elections depending on on- and off-campus students. We help with the booths. After the elections take place, we count the ballots and make sure everything matches up. We post the results and send the results to the Cigar. We take care of any voting issues.

Stewart- Is there a transition binder provided for those on elections?

Segal- I never got one, but I am here to provide assistance in transitioning to new senators.

Holden- Congratulations to DOC Cordisco, Farrow, Jühr, Merolla, and DOM Mullin.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:

Bruce- I just want to reinforce what is going to happen at the end of this weekend. There is a move starting on Sunday at 9am that will continue to 8am on Monday. Tuesday morning, you can't get to Ronzio's or RAM escape. If there is something you need, please take it out because you will not be able to get in there for at least 20 working days.

Holzman- What is going to happen the purchasing office?

Bruce- It's open.

Holzman- Will SPO be working out of another location?

Bruce- They are closing down. Emma will be here for the week, probably in our office complex. Lori's office is still in effect. Good luck on exams. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Maureen- I wanted to give my last reminder Rainville Awards due Friday the 9th. Not a question of how many nominations a person gets.

Segal- In the office, I have candy cane grams for Chi O. We are hand-delivering them on Friday. We have another fundraiser which is Zumba with Chi O.

Roy- Thank everybody for letting me record the meeting last week.

Holzman- I would like to make clear that the finance committee will be meeting on 1/23. Committee please email me with your spring schedules.

Longa- Thanks to the finance committee for approving the grant for the yoga mats. Meditation Club will start on a weekly basis. Anybody interested in doing yoga for free, contact me. The very beginning of next semester, Brandford organized training in the non-violence training we are in. We are doing a two-day core. If you are interested in doing that, please let me know. There are scholarships available.

Coates- Don't forget about secret snowman. Come to Applebee's at 9pm.

Pilkington- January 14th, me and my production company are having a premiere of my film that I made. If you are in the area on that day, I would love for you to come to see the movie. It features a couple of people from URI and it is a real movie, and it is not like one that has bad sound. Thanks. It's at 7pm in Brookline, Mass.

Knight- I wish Senator Longa a happy birthday!

Stewart- Make sure the finance handbook is read. People on bylaws to do your homework over break.

N. ADJOURNMENT:

AYE:

NAYE:

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