

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30pm

**B. ROLL CALL:** Balikov, Barrera, Blanchette, Brehio, Brown, Cahill, Cicero, Coates, Connolly, Cordisco, Dionne, Dobrynski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Gulum, Her, Holzman, Jones, Juhr, Kilduff, Koczera, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Merolla, Mullin, Murphy, Musali, Nielson, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Roy, Segal, Sharkey Andrew, Sharkey, Smith, Smith M., Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Zawatsky

**C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**Holzman-** Move to add SS11-12/60 to the agenda

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lamoureux**

**Stewart-** Motion to change bill SS11-12/54 under the fourth whereas to “SAWA: rather than “UHRU SASA” and under resolved to say “SAWA Hair show.” Also, on the second whereas say “fashion show” to “hair show.”

**2<sup>nd</sup> Roy**

**Merolla-** Amendment to ss11-12/60 to include recommendation of 5-0-0.

Opposed by Weinreich

**Weinreich-** Bill should read 4-1-0.

**Holzman-** The committee recommendation was 4-1-0.

**Roy-** I move to recommend the bill at 4-1-0

**2<sup>nd</sup> Pishdadian**

**Agenda Approved ☺**

**D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Minutes Approved ☺**

**E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Lamoureux-** Motion for pledge

**2<sup>nd</sup> Holzman**

**F. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Stephanie Segal & Casey Holden – Candidacy

**Holden-** Good evening, everybody. Treasurer Segal and I are announcing our candidacy for president. We would like your support in this process. Some things I would like to work on would be online elections and making great strides with that. Treasurer Segal and I would like to go further. We have a lot of other ideas. We look forward to your input.

**Segal-** Good evening, Senators. Tonight, I am here to formally declare presidency. After being elected as a senator, I have spent three years on Senate, two of which holding positions on Executive Committee. I want to market the Senate brand to such an extent to increase voter turnout and try to make students realize the Senate is here to provide services to them. I would like to build a more unified campus and would like to do so by attending other organizations and events. Another key goal is to work with the Board of Governors and work on advocating higher education. I bring experience, dedication, and hard work. I plan to continue not only that but to add to my priority making this campus more desirable.

**Holden-** We have a lot of great stuff in store. We need your help and support. Any questions, please feel free to contact us and we are willing to work with you.

**G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**SS-11/12-51 Tax Grant for the Student Senate**

Whereas, the Student Senate compensates its executive members, and  
Whereas, the Student Senate has added a Director of Marketing, and,  
Whereas, compensation for the Director of Marketing was budgeted for,  
Therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate shall allocate \$1,250.00 from the Student Activities Tax to Category 134 (Stipends) in order to compensate the Director of Marketing according to the rules of the Senate.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee  
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Holzman  
DATE: Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
RECOMMENDATION: Passage ( 3 - 2 - 0 )  
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation  
ACTION: Vote Tonight

**SS-11/12-52 – Programming Contingency Grant Request for Uhuru Sasa Fashion Show**

Whereas, Uhuru Sasa is a Senate recognized organization, and  
Whereas, Uhuru Sasa would like to purchase punch passes, and  
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and  
Whereas, Uhuru Sasa would like money to help cover the costs of the event, and  
Whereas, this request is within the finance policy of the Senate and it is the Senate’s custom to grant such requests, therefore be it  
Resolved, that the Student Senate grant \$2,500.00 from our Programming Contingency to Category # 130 (Programming) line in the budget of Uhuru Sasa for the Fashion Show.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee  
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Holzman  
DATE: Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
RECOMMENDATION: Passage ( 6 - 0 - 0 )  
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation  
ACTION: Vote Tonight

**SS-11/12-59– Alcohol-Free Event Grant Request for Uhuru Sasa Fashion Show**

Whereas, Uhuru Sasa is a Senate recognized organization, and  
Whereas, Uhuru Sasa would like to host its annual Fashion Show, and  
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and  
Whereas, Uhuru Sasa 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 \$1,000.00 from the Substance Abuse Prevention Fund to the Category # 130 (Programming) line in the budget of Uhuru Sasa for the Fashion Show.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee  
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Holzman  
DATE: Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
RECOMMENDATION: Passage ( 6 - 0 - 0 )  
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation  
ACTION: Vote Tonight

**SS-11/12-54 – Programming Contingency Grant Request for SAWA Hair Show**

Whereas, SAWA is a Senate recognized organization, and  
Whereas, SAWA would like to host its annual Fashion Show, and  
Whereas, it is within their mission statement to do so, and

Whereas, Uhuru Sasa 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 \$6,500.00 from the Programming Contingency to the Category # 130 (Programming) line in the budget of Uhuru Sasa for the Fashion Show.

SPONSOR: Finance Committee  
BILL HANDLER: Chairman Holzman  
DATE: Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
RECOMMENDATION: Passage ( 5 - 0 - 0 )  
EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Dispensation  
ACTION: Vote Tonight

**Holzman-** Bill 51 is a tax grant for the DOM’s stipend.

**Segal-** I was just wondering the passage was 3-2-0. Who voted against it and why?

**Weinreich-** I was one of the votes against it. I still disagree with having the DOM as a fully stipended position on Exec.

**Roy-** You still did not state why.

**Weinreich-** I voted no because it is an excessive position with the current people we have so extending the budget is unnecessary.

**Segal-** I just wanted to comment. We already have a DOM and he is working and doing great things. He is here and deserves a stipend.

**Caisse-** Who was the dissenting vote?

**Merolla-** This was a recounted vote. It was passed and had withdrawn for the sake of argument to discuss this fully. That was it. I wanted to hear something about it.

**Roy-** So you are for this position?

**Merolla-** Yes. I just wanted to see all the sides of the argument.

**Segal-** I already paid him.

**Roy-** Discussion is not a waste of time. Trying to find out the opinions of voting. Now we can move forward. A lot of us agree he does deserve a stipend.

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Holzman-** UHRU SASA Fashion show is here.

**Representative-** This coming spring our 8<sup>th</sup> annual fashion show is coming up. This will be our 40<sup>th</sup> year. We would like to use this money for our stage, the props, lighting, models. You are all more than welcome to come.

**Ferreira-** When is this event taking place?

**Rep-** Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Holzman-** Bill 59- Alcohol-free event grant request for the fashion show for \$2,000.

**Ferreira-** What will this money be going to?

**Rep-** Yes for the fire, policemen, and things like that

**Lamoureux-** How come this wasn’t included in the original proposition?

**Holzman-** The finance committee will split events between the two. There are two pools to pull from. We pull money from one and money from another.

**SAWA Rep-** We are having our 6<sup>th</sup> annual hair show to raise money for St. Jude’s and this year we are asking for money towards that to provide things that we need for the hair show such as lighting, staging, hair products. Whatever proceeds we make will be going to St. Jude’s as well as hair products that will be used to make wigs for St. Jude’s.

**Stewart-** Can you repeat what you just said?

**Rep-** Our proceeds go to St. Jude’s.

**Roy-** Did you say anything about materials that we are buying that are getting donated to St. Jude’s?

**Merolla-** At the show, proceeds from donations would have been donated to St. Jude’s in a separate cash box?

**Dobrzynski-** Has your organization tried to raise money for event?

**Rep-** Yes, through Diversity Fund and we try to find other funds through other organizations before coming to Student Senate.

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Holzman-** That brings us to bill 60 for Snowboarding Club.

**Holden-** Bill was handed out to you.

**Rep-** We are using our resources to have local community members chip in and supply us with materials we need. We are asking for new signs. We also need lighting. The events lasted until about 10pm at night. We are hoping to be out by 8pm this time. We only need 2 lights this year instead of 4. All the donations we are asking for are canned goods that will be entry fee for participants in the RailJam.

**Farrow-** Motion for bill to be immediately considered

**2<sup>nd</sup> Pilkington**

**Segal-** Why is this being immediately considered?

**Holzman-** The organization requested that it be immediately considered

**Thomas-** When is the event?

**Rep-** February 16<sup>th</sup>

**Pishdadian-** Who was against it, why?

**Weinreich-** I was against it because I wanted to see an updated quote before it was approved.

**Roy-** Do you have this put through Ann Gregson?

**Rep-** Yes, we have.

**Zawatsky-** What happened to signs?

**Rep-** The signs had a lot of complaints outside our club that it had nothing to do with snowboarding. The president did not ask for anybody’s opinion on making signs. The other sign is outdated.

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Holzman-** Budgeting is around the corner. If you are a leader in an organization, I would like to remind you that budgets are due on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Instructions can also be referenced on Sakai. We are going through Sakai.

**Merolla-** Do you see in the future with this new Sakai ever extending abilities to grant orders or contingency grant requests?

**Holzman-** That is definitely desirable. Our biggest hurdle is dealing with the digital signing of forms which isn’t a big deal because it is all password protected. I am not entirely sure how it is transparent and good for record keeping. We are also looking at IT-related issues that make another path for things like that.

**Stewart-** Can you please tell Senate what else we granted money to this week?

**Holzman-** We gave \$400 to Musician’s Guild for a concert they are putting on. We gave \$499 to the College Republicans to go to their conference in Washington. That looks like it.

**Roy-** Did you take the Hillel one off the list?

**Holzman-** They are coming to my committee to ask for and repeal the rule getting them the grant?

**Roy-** There is no rule.

**- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**SS-11/12-55 – BILL CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF MAKE IT BRIGHT AT CATEGORY A**

Whereas, Make It Bright is an organization which will support the children of San Mauricio through service projects, and

Whereas, Make It Bright 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 Make It Bright at Category A.

SPONSOR:	SOARC
BILL HANDLER:	Chairwoman Roy
DATE:	Wednesday, February 1, 2012
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5-0-0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Valid Until Next Re-recognition
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

**Roy-** Hi, I have a bill on the floor tonight. Make It Bright. It is a group that is supporting children of Columbia. They are a great organization. I have never seen anybody so excited about getting recognition from the Senate.

**Rep-** We are starting Making It Bright. Kim and I just went there in December. December, they go to a holiday a party and they get a big present such as the basic needs we need. We really wanted to bring it to URI. We are getting a lot of donations through URI. Came in as a Grand Challenge class and it is a freshman grand challenge class. We worked with it there. We physically saw everything that they need and trying to think of things we can do to get students involved and get back over there.

**Studley-** When and where do you meet?

**Rep-** Roosevelt Hall 5-6:15 every other Tuesday. First meeting is a thank you and welcome.

**Cicero-**How many members?

**Rep-** About 30.

**Jones-** I suggest we all vote for this group in passage. It is a great cause with really motivated and enthusiastic leadership who is willing to bring awareness, so I encourage you all to vote in favor.

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Roy-** I have one more thing for everybody. Going to be passing out the survey that I will be passed out to Faculty/Staff. Rough draft. It has academic areas and it has non-academic areas. If you can look it over and think I missed anyone, I put some spots for anything I am missing. Other than that, my committee is going to be meeting with South Asian Students Association and a couple of other groups coming up.

**- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**Caisse-** Hey, everyone. Went to the Provost Advisory Council meeting last night. Nothing too substantial. I have learned the Faculty Senate has launched a new syllabus outline page. There are a lot of good outlines and examples. My committee will probably be discussing writing an opinion/resolution to encourage the use of that page. Working on a couple of academic complaints. I am working on a presentation for the Dean's Council.

**- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**Juhr-** Hey, everybody. Monday night, I was asked by President Coates to check out the Counseling Center. I stopped by today and their first available appointment this afternoon was for February 10. They have a lot of new and old students coming for help and advice, so they have more a flow of students than normal. They did give me some pamphlets and business cards. Yesterday in committee, everybody in committee was assigned an area to check on blue lights. Hopefully, we will be having the safety and lighting walk the first week of March or before spring break. Hopefully, we will see improvements if there is anything we report. We are still waiting for the responses of other university student-senate or student-governments to provide us with information about their student unions because we are having ours redone. Just an FYI, there is a new policy at the gym. You cannot wear tank tops or cut-off sleeve shirts.

**Caisse-** Have you talked to the director of the counseling center? The new policy is at the gym is because there is a skin disease going on at the gym.

**Segal-** Do we have some sort of resolution or proposal to solve this problem at the counseling center of a growing number of students?

**Juhr-** The other counselors that were sick are not sick anymore and will be taking students as they come. There is a hotline and one counselor on-call 24/7.

**Weinreich-** What is the reason for the gym kicking people out?

**Juhr-** There is a skin disease going around. Precautionary on our part.

**Sharkey-** I know you are doing the blue light walk on-campus. What about Providence campus on Monday nights. Is there a possibility for Blue Lights there?

**Coates-** They have a separate student council. They have a security van that can drive you back to the garage at night. You will see people walking around in yellow uniforms.

**Caisse-** JWU is also right next to the Providence campus. They have a system that is pretty good.

**Sharkey-** I have been there a couple of times now. I have not seen any yellow-coat people. I think they stop after 6pm.

**Roy-** You need to check out the staffing on Monday. On Tuesday night, there is a flood of them.

**Weinreich-** Do you know what precautions can be taken other than not wearing short sleeves and tanktops?

**Holden-** Contact RI Department of Health.

**Juhr-** I was looking at one of the maps and the parking lot behind the church is labeled on the map as a commuter lot and since it is, I am going to show it to faculty and make sure we go to that lot during Safety and Lighting Walk.

**- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**Ferreira-** First off, congratulate Senator Kilduff as the new vice-chair for Cultural. Our big project we are working on is our Ace of Cakes competition on 2/13 @ 7pm. Also, my committee has been working on contacting Safety and Risk. We have also started delegating tasks for the Rammies.

**- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**Troiano-** Discussed roles of External and delegating certain tasks for certain areas such as Narragansett, State Legislation, so that we can get more of a perspective. We are talking about the prospect of a commuter living website that would include resources that would be helpful to off-campus students. We are going to be planning Road to the Statehouse. It is an annual presentation in which the Student Senate gives at the statehouse.

**- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

*a. Chief Information Officer*

*b. Director of Communications*

**Cordisco-** The newsletter went out. That's it.

**Stewart-** Do you update the Facebook and Twitter accounts?

**Cordisco-** Yes, I do.

*c. Director of Marketing*

**Mullin-** Big week. Got the first draft of the marketing plan out to the executive committee as well as Kim to get her feedback. I will be working with Kim next week on that. Thank you to everybody who answered the survey. Made some strides with the elections committee with marketing elections and again, if you could encourage all the senators to invite their peers to the facebook page. It sounds like a lot of people who join senate hear about how great it is from their peers, so if you could spread the word via facebook, that would be great.

**Merolla-** You had sent our a survey? To senators

**Mullin-** It was to senators who said they wanted to answer the survey and signed up.

*d. Secretary*

**Jones-** Kudo this week goes to Senator Dobrzynski for her representation of Student Senate the student body in her testimonial during the Higher Education Affordability and Accessibility on a public forum. It is great to see a student speaking up and be asked to be quoted in The Cigar, and URI Today, so Kudos Dobby!

*e. Treasurer*

**Segal-** Paying the bills. Stipends went out Tuesday so you can pick those up in the Exec office.

**Thomas-** When is formal?

**Segal-** February 17th

*f. Vice President*

**Holden-** I am going to pass around a sheet about whether or not you are going to formal. I need to know definitely whether you are going or not.

**Brown-** Is there a bus?

**Holden-** There is not, but we trying to see if we can get carpools together. Also, if anybody has any type of dietary restrictions, let me know. For the people who are not on a committee, what we are trying to do right now is have a committee chair move their time to another day.

**Stewart-** If somebody can't go to their meeting, they can come to bylaws on Thursday at 3:30. That would be real cool.

**Holden-** Please give me documentation if you are absent from a committee or meeting. I would like to announce of the recipient of 2010 Student Senate scholarship. Congratulations to Ashley Lagner and Melissa Fejardo. I hope that all executive positions are working on their transition binders.

**Troiano-** I need a new attendance sheet.

**g. President**

**Coates-** If you decide to show your face at Bylaws, you can't vote unless you are elected to bylaws. Please go to formal. It is so much fun. I was elected in the fall of my sophomore year and formal that year was in late November and it was a blast. I got to know people on Senate better at the event than anywhere else. I really encourage it. There is an issue in Narragansett regarding parking. The town passed an ordinance that says that only permanent residents, people who do not rent, can park on the street. Even if you are a person who is a college student leasing a house, you still do not have the right to do that. Student Rights and Responsibilities meeting today went fairly well. A lot of positive changes that may benefit students in the long run. We will provide you those changes this week in an email. I will give you all a heads up on that. I met the new LGBT Center Director and she is absolutely wonderful. The other thing was the RFP (Request for Proposals) I drafted with the help of DOC Cordisco which went out to the companies. They only have 9 more business days after today to respond. It looks pretty good. If anybody wants a copy, it is on the table in the Senate office.

**Brown-** About that article about the financial aid, what about the tuition increase?

**Coates-** Emailed the reporter and haven't gotten a response.

**Jones-** Is President Dooley coming to speak with us soon?

**Coates-** I will try to arrange it.

**- RULES AND ETHICS:**

**Lamoureux-** No report.

**H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Bylaws

**Stewart-** Motion to move back to approval of agenda

**Coates-** We should probably take this to Exec. I believe Senator Stewart to add nominations for bylaws committee. We are currently at 6 weeks until the end of the term. There will be 2 weeks to take for elections. As long as the committee has quorum, but if the Senate would prefer, we can do that. My train of that would be that we keep committee as is and work on other stuff going on.

Elections Committee

**SS-11/12 – 57 BILL CALLING FOR THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT BODY AND ELECTION OF THE ON-CAMPUS AND OFF-CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 2012-2013 LEGISLATIVE TERM**

Whereas, the URI Student Senate is required to hold annual elections during the spring semester to fill all seats, and

Whereas, the Senate has restrictions on when the election may be held due to scheduling and the requirements of the bylaws, and therefore be it

Resolved that an election shall be held according to the following schedule:

Declaration Period: 2/20/12 – 3/2/12 by 1pm on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Polls open: 3/7/12 from 9AM – 5PM

Polls open: 3/8/12 from 9AM – 5PM

and be it further

Resolved, that the following seats will be put up for election:

- President/Vice President ticket
- 11 Off Campus Representatives
- 9 On Campus Representatives

and be it further

Resolved, that the election shall conclude upon validation of the results by legislation.

SPONSOR:	Elections Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Michael Merolla
DATE:	Wednesday, February 1, 2012
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage (5 – 0 – 0)
EXPIRATION DATE:	Upon Validation
ACTION:	Vote Tonight

**Merolla-** Bill 57 is for the President/Vice President of Student Body after primary and for on-campus and off-campus representatives.

**Jones-** Can you just explain the process of elections briefly, specifically why senators who are on senate all need to re-run in this election if they would like to remain on Senate?

**Merolla-** If you do not get elected after first election, you would have to re-declare for an on-campus or off-campus representative. Within the secondary, that is when a definitive president/vice-president nomination got in.

**Segal-** This bill reads a bit unclear because the declaration period for president/vice president is currently going on and it reads that it opens on 2/22.

**Caisse-** Motion to amend the bill to the correct dates

**Segal-** That is the correct declaration period for on and off-campus reps, but not for the President/Vice-President.

**Farrow-** Motion to add on and off-campus representation for declaration period.

**Weinreich-** We haven't resolved current motion on the floor. The dates are currently correct.

**Farrow-** Motion to add on and off-campus to declaration period.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Weinreich**

**Caisse-** If these are separate, are we going to have a bill calling for President/Vice-President with separate dates?

**Labate-** On 2/20, we don't have class, are we still able to declare for elections?

**Merolla-** The offices are still open on that day.

**Bruce-** We don't have the day off. All the offices are open. Kim will probably negotiate with the President.

**Bill Passes ☺**

**Farrow-** If you want to run at-large, that will be this coming election. On and off-campus election is the next election.

**Pilkington-** If you plan to run for a chairman spot, I recommend running in this election.

**Stewart-** If you plan on running for a chair position, you should still run for a seat because nothing is guaranteed.

**Farrow-** He has the sign-up sheet. We need to make sure people are signing up for this. We sent out an email.

**Merolla-** WRIU will be broadcasting our announcement for elections. If you want to run for a college spot, vice-president, or president, or Senator At-Large, need to sign up by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Weinreich-** Who is eligible?

**Coates-** Are the sign-ups for elections or the booths?

**Farrow-** If you plan on running in the second election, can work the booth for the first election?

**Jones-** When do booths start?

**Merolla-** Feb 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> for elections.

**Stewart-** How many people have already declared?

**Merolla-** We have one declaration for President/VP, 5 declaration for college reps, 5 declarations for Senator At-Large

**I. SPECIAL ORDERS**

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**K. NEW BUSINESS:**

**L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:**

**Maureen-** Deadline for Rainville is the 17<sup>th</sup>. Just a reminder that the 17<sup>th</sup> is the deadline and the banquet is the April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Bruce-** Ballroom is back on the line. Stairwell is open.

**Sharkey-** Cost \$20 for a new ID and on the Providence campus, it only costs \$5.

**Coates-** I would love to see all of your lovely faces there.

**Roy-** Where is my survey?

**Coates-** Whatever committee chairs were talked to about switching your meetings, it will be decided.

**Krauss-** Motion to adjourn

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lamoureux**

**N. ADJOURNMENT:**

**AYE:** Blanchette, Brehio, Brown, Cahill, Caisse, Cicero, Connolly, Dionne, Dobrzynski, Farrow, Ferreira, Goddard, Gulum, Her, Jühr, Kilduff, Koczera, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Lanoie, Merolla, Murphy, Musali, Perez, Pickard, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Reyes, Roy, Sharkey, Sharkey, Smith M., Stewart, Studley, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Zawatsky

**NAYE:** Holzman

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