

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:31pm

B. ROLL CALL: Barena, Blanchette, Brehio Cahill, Caisse, Cicero, Coates, Dobrzynski, Ferreira, Gulum, Holden, Holzman, Jones, Juhr, Knight, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Longa, Merolla, Nicastro, Pishdadian, Roy, Segal, Smith, Stewart, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Wynne, Zaman

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Roy: Motion to add “swearing in of CIO” to the agenda

2nd Juhr

Holzman: Motion to move back to approval of the Agenda

Stewart: Motion to add in “nomination for Rules and Ethics”

2nd Dobby

Stewart: Motion to move back to Rules and Ethics

Agenda Approved ☺

D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes Approved ☺

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**F. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Jodi Hawkins—Mackel Project and Tibbits Field

Hawkins- Hello, everyone. Great to see everybody back. Just want to take a few minutes to explain what is happening in Mackal. Two projects, actually there is three. We are now the owners of the Tibbits Land, where intramurals and club sports will be shifting their fields to play on a quality field. Best grass around campus. Starting this fall, we are going to be moving intramurals over there to 4 fields. We are also in the final designs of field lighting, waiting for final approval, which will move forward this fall. A great improvement. Secondly, I am not sure if most of you know but down in the Mackal field house, 2 of our 4 courts have been closed for 2 or 3 years now, problems with floor. We have been working very hard to get the funding to put new flooring in there and it has been approved. It was going to take 6-8 weeks for project to be completed, which means this area would be closed for students, and also closed for varsity athletics. Perfect time in the fall to get this done while intramurals are outside, how we planned this project. Right now, the process is stuck in state purchasing. Students only playing on 2 courts open for recreation. The company that will eventually be rewarded this project will be ready to go- we have been ready for this last month. This means that when this project does move forward, the entire Mackal field house will be closed for the 6-8 weeks. The weight room will be open via the main lobby and the cardio center will be open as well by entering the facility through the outside doors. We are very excited when this floor does get done, going to be a premier floor. It is a rolled service so we can avoid this reversion problem in the future. Lastly, I am going to pass around information from this summer of fire project in the complex and as a result, have areas that are still closed due to construction. I have passed around an update on areas closed for recreation. We have a lot of positive things coming from this project and I would say by the September 15th deadline, the Tootell facility will be back to normal. Keaney is another story- building exit doors for the Keaney gym. Just wanted to keep you informed, but there is a lot of positive things happening down in the complex and hopefully students will understand as we move forward that we are ultimately trying to provide them the best facility possible.

Holden: Questions? Thank you very much.

Caisse: Motion to move back to announcements.

Krauss: Motion for pledge allegiance

2nd Roy

Roy: Motion to move ahead to Special orders

2nd Lamoureux

G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE

Holzman: Motion to move to swearing in of new officers.

2nd Roy

Holzman: Good evening, everybody. A lot of people have been asking about budgets. This is how we are doing it this year. They are going to go on Sakai, either were added today if they were a president and had their information updated with Kim or it's an open group on Sakai, and there is a Finance 101 quiz they have to take. After they have passed that, only 14 questions long, they will come to the president's meeting and I will be waiting there with signature cards. Meetings for Finance 5:30pm on Mondays.

- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Roy: Hi, everyone. Been very busy with SOARC stuff. I am going to pass around the new re-rec paperwork. Very briefly, you will see on there the changes rather than get into it on the floor. I have been busy updating contact information. If you know a group, ask them if they have updated contact information. I am still getting emails. My meetings will be on Monday at 4:30pm. President's meeting on Monday 7pm in the Union. Also, if any groups come in ask for re-recognition, give them my email address instead of explaining because it is different and I will explain to them.

- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Caisse: Hi, everyone. Getting readership started up again. Committee meetings on Mondays, time will be determined. Have more information for next week.

- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Juhr- Hi everyone. Campus affairs meeting Tuesdays at 5:30. I am going to be working on setting up a safety and lighting walk pretty soon, and we are going to be meeting people to put up posters for Hertz Cars for advertising.

- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Ferreira: Welcome back, everyone. Cultural is up to a few things. I have been in the process of setting up with the former chair of cultural, Branford Davis, to help with transitional plans. We have also started planning a new event "Tastes Around the World," we are going to try to have them represent their culture through food in the ballroom. Anybody who would like to help, let me know. We are also working on Diversity Week event, on Oct. 4th @ 6pm in Hardge Forum. Any ideas, let me know. Finally, our committee will be meeting Tuesdays at 2pm.

- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Troiano: worked with the chairman of the state of higher education affordability and accessibility so we will work on that as a committee. Otherwise, we are going to work on the traffic light and work on establishing satellite locations for meetings off-campus. Other than that, I would just like my committee to meet after tonight to determine committee meeting time.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

a. Chief Information Officer

Zaman: Today, I met with President Coates to go over what responsibilities as CIO are. We came up with a long list of things that I can start working on basically focusing on compiling a

history of Student Senate and documenting all the major issues and concerns that we have and have had in the past so that we have a timeline to go back and refer to see what it is we do here.

b. Director of Communications

Cordisco: Met with President Coates today. Will be starting a newsletter, transitioning in to that. Besides that, that is all.

c. Secretary

Jones: Hi, everyone. Hope everyone had a good summer and is glad to be back. Don't have too much for tonight. Committees, if you start your meetings again this week, please send the minutes and/or reports to me for your first meeting and thereafter. I am starting to file them again so if you can send them to the secretary email, I would appreciate it. If you forgot, the email is uri.studentsenatesecretary@gmail.com. I know it is long, so just a reminder. Liaison reports should be happening again this year as well, did not receive too many last year even after liaisons were assigned, so once they are, I will send out an email to assignments asking what should be in the report and the deadline for submission. Kudos this week goes to Treasurer Segal for lasting in the dunk tank longer than any other senator. She took dunks from prospective senators and freshmen at First Night, which is good because we had over 30 students sign up, so kudos to Stephanie for taking one for the team. That's all, thanks!

d. Treasurer

Segal: Hope everyone had a good summer. Last year, during Finals week, there was a problem with a student charging a campus copy account to our account. As a precaution, they want the names of Senators allowed to copy. Kim and Exec have access to the copy machine. Financial tip of the week: Get Paid What You are Worth and Spend Less than What you Earn. Make sure you are making a fair amount, and don't spend more than you are making.

e. Vice President

Holden: First of all, welcome back. I am so excited for this upcoming year and for my emails that I have been sending out. I cannot wait for the stuff we have in store for this upcoming year. First of all, I want to talk about committees. Your committee chairman will be contacting you in the next couple of days. Hopefully, you will be staying on the same committees, but if there are class conflicts, I need to know no later than Friday at 4:30pm of your re-assignment. A finalized list will be posted in the office on Monday of the committees and their members. The retreat is tentatively scheduled for September 25th but is not set in stone. I will send out an email for the definite date. If anybody happens to be a URI101 mentor, please let me know. Senator Stewart and I developed a really good presentation for URI101 mentors to present to their classes on running for Senate and the services Student Senate provides. Reaches every single freshman almost with all the URI101 classes through which it is presented. Office hours will be starting next week on Monday. All need to do one office hour a week. Come in whenever you want. In addition to that- attendance. Stay on top of attendance. 2 unexcused absences and 1 excused absence. I would ask that your absences be used in emergency situations only. Please try and work that out. Submit me an excused absence form before the meeting if you can but I can take it after the meeting. Finally, I just wanted to say, what happened earlier in the meeting, it happens. I would just ask in the future no cross debating. It will be great before you know it, get ready for a great year!

f. President

Coates: Welcome back! To go off with what Casey said, we had to get CIO confirmed because it opened up another seat for the Elections bill. Summer Senate met once in June and we did not have any requests for summer senate funding. We did discuss the ongoing issues

regarding the drop period. Caisse and I met with the faculty senate. Attended as many SBPC meetings as I could, so I will fully update you on that next week. I want to thank the members who attended Diversity Training in August. This semester, I am going to be working on online voting solutions with Vice President Holden to dramatically increase voting turn out for elections in the spring. I want to make sure we get the right system that will be adequate for the whole university. I am sure some of you remember the \$50,000 we gave for the creation of basketball courts. Late last semester, we passed legislation and the courts were supposed to be built behind Heathman and Adams Hall. The legislation included a clause to complete the project by mid-point of this semester, due to other capital projects the senate had funded. I was informed today that the project is at least 10 months behind schedule. The inability of the University to construct 2 basketball courts is an embarrassment to the University. Two basketball courts should have been constructed with relevant means. It would be irresponsible for me to ask for an extension of that deadline and tie up any more student money in capital planning projects that have gone unfinished. I expect an investigation of this failure. We have some fundamental issues with the way our capital projects are developed.

Weinreich: Did the University administration explain the delays?

Coates: All I was told was that the bid had not even been written yet to send out to contractors for competitive bidding.

Nicastro: So you're claiming negligence?

Coates: I wish I had more information.

Holden: Any more questions?

- RULES AND ETHICS:

Lamoureux- Motion to open up nominations for Rules and Ethics and no report.
2nd **Juhr**

Roy: When we do Rules and Ethics, can we write who is currently on Rules and Ethics.

Stewart: Doesn't that have to be on the agenda in order for us to do that, so we will have to wait until next week?

Coates: That is absolutely correct. We have to motion back to the agenda again.

Stewart: Motion to move back to approval to agenda

2nd **Dobby**

Holden: Floor is open for nominations.

Segal: I nominate Senator Merolla

Merolla: I respectfully decline.

Coates: Nobody on bylaws is eligible for Rules and Ethics

Segal: I nominate Senator Cicero

2nd **Stewart**

Holden: Nominations for Rules and Ethics will re-open next week.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Bylaws

Stewart: If anybody on bylaws can leave me a note or send me an email of when you are available to meet when you figure it out, that is about it.

Elections

Ferreira: I would like to motion to amend Bill SS-11/12-23 to add a CELS representative, a College of Nursing representative, and At Large- Representative to change from 4 seats to 5.

2nd **Lamoureux**

SS-11/12-23 BILL CALLING FOR THE ELECTIONS FOR FRESHMAN AND OPEN SEATS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012

Whereas, Article VII Section A Part 3 Subpart a. of the Student Senate Bylaws states: The annual election for Freshman Representatives shall be held as early as practical each autumn, and

Whereas, Article VII Section A Part 3 Subpart c. of the Student Senate Bylaws states: The Senate may by legislation call a special election at any tie for the filling of any vacant seat or the placing of any referendum question, and

Whereas, in addition to five (5) Freshman seats there are the following vacancies:

- Off-Campus Representatives (2)
- On-Campus Representatives (1)
- At-Large Representatives (4)
- College of Human Sciences and Services Representative (1)

Whereas, The Elections committee has determined that the earliest practical dates for the annual election for freshman Representatives and additional vacant seats are September 28, 2011 and September 29, 2011 therefore it be,

Resolved, that the Annual Fall Election be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011 and Thursday September 29, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and be it further

Resolved, that the declaration period open Monday September 12, 2011 and close on Friday September 23, 2011, during regular operational hours of the Student Senate.

Sponsor:	Elections Committee
Bill Handler:	Chairwoman Stephanie Segal
Recommendation:	Passage (5-0-0)
Date Introduced:	September 7, 2011
Date Expired:	Upon Validation of the Annual Fall Election results
Action:	Vote Tonight

Segal: The bill on the floor tonight must be passed in order for elections to be run according to plan. The declaration starts on the 12th and everything is done on certain time schedule. Has to pass tonight for elections to run.

Bill Passes ☺

Segal: Thank you for everyone who helped out at First Night, had over 30 freshmen sign up. Will talk to Kim about sending out an email and setting up a Facebook group for students to be informed about Elections so that they can declare their candidacy.

Ferreira: Is there a meeting time?

Segal: Email me your schedule and I will make a time that works for everybody.

I. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Confirmation of Chief Information Officer—Hania Zaman

Holden: you will receive a ballot basically write in yes or no to the confirmation for Hania Zaman for CIO. Somebody will come by and collect it.

Coates: Refer back to the meeting minutes from last time to see that I encourage you all to vote in confirmation for her.

Holden: Drumroll please. Congratulations to new CIO Zaman (24-0).

Roy: Motion back to approval of the agenda

2nd Pilkington

Swearing in of Director of Communications—Ashley Cordisco

Stewart: Motion to move back to Reports of Standing Committees.

2nd Juhr

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

K. NEW BUSINESS:

L. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM:

Coates: I am going to give everybody the benefit of the doubt. I suggest everybody break out their Robert's Rules before the next meeting. Appelebee's at 9pm.

Roy: Motion to yield my time to Bruce.

Bruce: I think you set a record. Don't think I've ever set in a room where you have approved three agendas. Come visit me in my office, I can update you. The sprinkler projects are moving to this facility as we speak. Good to see you all, talk to you soon!

Officer Mark- Welcome back! New police officer whom has started and plan on bringing him up here to introduce him. Retired police officer from Coventry. I will bring him in and we can have a welcome for him next time.

Caisse: Motion to adjourn

2nd Juhr

N. ADJOURNMENT:

Aye: Barrena, Blanchette, Brehio, Cahill, Caisse, Cicero, Dobrzynski, Ferreira, Gulum, Juhr, Krauss, Labate, Lamoureux, Longa, Merolla, Nicastro, Pilkington, Pishdadian, Roy, Smith, Stewart, Thomas, Troiano, Weinreich, Wynne,

Naye: Holzman, Knight

No Vote: Coates, Holden, Jones, Segal, Zaman

Adjourned 7:20pm