

**A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:33PM****B. ROLL CALL: Abbe, Ahrens, Bedard, Boiteau, Clarke, Feinberg, Ginsberg, Gorman, Harrington, Holden, Holland, Holzman, Jacques, LaRocca, Luther, Messineo, O'Brien, Pelletier, Petit, Rosa, Shah, Sibbald, Simon, Slater, Stewart, Stolow, Sullivan-Bennis, Tremaglio, Yensan****C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Elections bill- Pelletier motions to change counts on seats available and date, changes reflected on agenda

Petit motions to change wording in finance bill, change reflected

Clarke motions to change SOARC bill to have bill number and adds bill to the agenda.

**D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES****E. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Petit motions for pledge, opposition, vote, pledge

Happy Birthday to Senator O'Brien

**F. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Jodi Hawkens – Mackel Cardio Center- Welcome back, here tonight to inform you of what is happening with recreation services, 2 particular situations that we are trying to make proactive approach now that students are back so we can inform them, Mackel now has 4 synthetic courts, court 1 is doing reversion, it is changing from when it was poured, liquid to solid and now back to gummy sticky material, it's all sticky and tacky. That is what the court is doing right now. We've had 4 companies come and look, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this has happened, last time in 2005, last time company went belly up, company that bought them came in and redid the floor free of charge. That company no longer exists and we don't have a warranty. 4 companies, each has a different twist on what they think is going on, they think it was either poured improperly or there is moisture, recreational services has looked at other synthetic floors and we know what we would like, we are in a state where nothing has happened, we have closed court 1 mainly because of safety, there is plastic covering the floor, students can walk and they track it, before they covered it, stepping in it might have tracked it to another location, the space that was in reversion is spreading into court 2, we've notified vice presidents and the university, everyone is aware of the situation, the state and university are going through financial difficulties, it is affecting the URI students, if you ever come down to mackal, there are always lines no matter what area you are trying to work in.

Second thing- decision was made to drop varsity sports, rec services gained gymnastics training area, day one convert space into mackel cardio room, working with dougan, purchased 100,000 in cardio equipment, sitting down in the cardio room, unfortunately we can't open up the room at this point, I can tell you that full time staff is very upset that it can't be opened, problem lies with state purchasing of Rhode island, once the teams were gone, we had to get companies down to take measurements, the main issues it the rug, it's over 6000 sq. feet of space, when the new budget came, the money for the rug went to URI state purchasing and problems with the custodial company, once they were moving on it, a critical needs form needed to be signed, finally left URI purchasing, in lalaland till august 18<sup>th</sup>, finally made it to the state purchasing office, reviewing, can't use the quotes we recvd, now have to go out to bed, specs on carpet have to be approved by RI building code, you can track any bids on state purchasing website, it's not even listed on that site, we have no idea when bids will occur or when it will be solved. We are hoping for Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Students see the equipment; the carpet is 18 years old and disgusting. But we can't open it for students. The equipment has to be on rubber flooring or carpet, can't be on cement. That's why I'm here to try to explain to you what is happening, we wish it were open, we feel it is best to wait until it is done right. We are gaining another 6000 square feet. The university has agreed to turn ROJO's into fitness and wellness center, the university has selected architects and we are hoping to start work soon.

President Ahrens- Is their something senate can do to help?

With the carpet now, with mackal, we need to have university take active interest, we have a professor, Michael Greenfield who is a specialist in polymers, he is doing research and investigating what is wrong with the floors. We want to bring in another synthetic floor company to make the fix. It is going to be all of the courts, not just court 1. Last time in 2003, we had to have it done at night, because of the odor of materials. It is being used where it isn't covered for stretching etc, not basketball, not volleyball. I have brochures with inserts that kind of explain fitness and wellness; I am also talking to the cigar.

Bedard- called time and if you have any questions, go to rec services.

Lori Gardener – Providence Journal- running late-

# URI STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

September 3, 2008

Lori Gardner- Good evening, marketing manager of PROJO, 2<sup>nd</sup> year grad student here and a course instructor in com, here to talk about program implemented in spring 2007, hope to reinstate in the fall, 5 states colleges, lower rate, 14 cents/paper instead of 75 center, dist. 720 newspapers per day to colleges, gave stats on handout about rhode island news/students. Pulled some archived articles from Jan 2008 to just a few weeks ago related to URI. Edward Masey- dist. Prof in business admin- writes a column, advice for job hunters. Commentary written about URI Pharmacy College, another for musicians. All articles relative to students here and university life. We feel the projo belongs in academic buildings here. You have a program with NY times and USA today but you will not find URI articles there. Projo also provides entertainment ideas and housing options for URI students. Also covers URI sports, URI/PC rivalry. It is very relative to students here at the university, comprehensive coverage of elections, relative to both national and local elections. Very excited to tell you that the e-edition is coming soon, projo electronic replica, when it is up and running, students can get newspaper with an access code and get there new that way. Gives access to archived information, if any of you have been on Wall Street journals website, it is an exact replica of the newspaper. Working out details for all of these programs, students to end to get information online rather than picking up a newspaper. Put together a proposal that outlines what we did in the past and the cost of the program to the students. The total cost last time from feb 2007 to may 2007, it was 1600.84. It was based on 35 papers per day going to 6 academic locations and the library. I went at a rate of 15 papers per a location going to the 65 locations with my new estimate. Ahrens talked to speaker.

## **G. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

### **- FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

#### **SS-08/09-18 BILL CALLING FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE HANDBOOK**

Whereas, Article V, Section B, Part I, Subpart A, Item 2g states that every year the Finance Chair shall publish a Finance Handbook which shall be 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 Allen Petit be approved as the Finance Handbook for the 08-09 fiscal year.

SPONSOR:	Finance Committee
BILL HANDLER:	Chairman Petit
DATE:	Wednesday, September 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2008
RECOMMENDATION:	Passage ( 3-0-0 )
EXPIRATION DATE:	Annual Meeting
ACTION:	Next Week

Petit- one bill, vote on next week, changes to finance handbook, everyone get the sheet? Any questions, talk to me during office hours and I can explain it to you. Finance will be meeting Mondays at 5pm in room 202.

### **- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (SOARC):**

#### **SS-08/09-20 Bill Calling for the Recognition of the Student Alliance for the Welfare of Africa (S.A.W.A.) at Level 4**

Whereas, SAWA will place Africa under a positive light, with a focus on Liberia, for the benefit of everyone belonging to the University of Rhode Island and its surrounding community, and to increase their awareness and understanding of issues concerning the region, and

Whereas, SAWA meets the requirements for recognition at level 4, and

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

Resolved that the URI Student Senate recognize SAWA.

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September 3, 2008

SPONSOR: SOARC  
BILL HANDLER: Chairwoman Clarke  
DATE: Wednesday, September 3, 2008  
RECOMMENDATION: Passage (4-1-0)  
EXPIRATION: Valid until Next Re-Recognition  
ACTION: Vote tonight.

Clarke tabled bill till next week. Larocca seconded. First presidents meeting is Monday at 7pm, rerec is about to start, deadline of October 8<sup>th</sup>, want it done as soon as possible. Tuesdays at 4 in room 354.

Adepoju- is the meeting for presidents in atrium?

Clarke- it's in the ballroom

**- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

Stolow- Can my committee just drop a note to figure out time for meetings, what works for you, besides that hope everyone had a great first day of classes.

**- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

**no report**

**- CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

Adepoju- Hope everyone had a good summer. Just wanted my committee to meet in senate office after the meeting.

**- CAMPUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:**

LaRocca- Hope everyone had a great summer. A few things, first night was amazing, a lot of interested students. Dunk tank was another success, thank you to everyone. If you haven't noticed, there are no more trays in the dining halls, dining services wants to save water and conserve energy. Probably helps students take less food at a time. New blue light between fogarty and TEP. Preliminary safety and lighting walk is coming up soon. Walk around campus and take note of how lit everything is, lights out, holes in sidewalk. Complaints folder is above the computers, my committee will check it. Wednesday at 3pm in room 301. Campus is one of the committees that you do not have to be a senator to be on, you can always join my committee.

**- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- a. **Director of Communications- Simon-** Hi everyone, hope summer went well, going to work with Tom tomorrow about orange sticker policy and lawsuit pertaining to it, if you have anything let me know.
- b. **Secretary- Pelletier-** Those who were in the dunk tank will be getting Kudos in their box.
- c. **Treasurer- Shah-** nothing going on, hope everyone had a good summer, paying the bills.
- d. **Chief Operations Officer- Feinberg-** Retreat- again September 20<sup>th</sup>, any problems, contact me asap, 1:00 ropes course-5, dinner at MCC- 5:30-6:30, after that, SOLC icebreakers, leadership activities, fun stuff, goal setting.

**Ahrens-** Debating about some topics we wanted to go over this year. It is mandatory.

**Feinberg-** tomorrow is coalition at 4pm- town hall

- e. **Vice President-Bedard-** senate outreach, posted list of assigned student groups in office, right on table, if you forgot what group you were assigned to, check it out, switched a few people around, only one response last semester from Drew, everyone meet with groups, find out about issues, get myself or tom a one page report back, try to do it by the end of September. Other than that, continuing with office hours sign in and checking off when you pick up your minutes. When you come in to do office hours, make sure you sign in or else you will be marked as having not done your office hour. Minutes come out by Monday morning so make sure you check off that you picked them up.

Ginsberg- Motions to move back to public forum.

Petit seconds

Move back to public forum- Lori Gardner spoke

Ginsberg- motions to move back to exec.

Seconded by Jacques.

f. **President-** gave sailing 25,000 to run their activates, out of tax budget, first night was a good night even though I quit after 2 mins, homecoming- 15<sup>th</sup> of October, battle of the bands, talk to Amanda, Dave or myself. Rock band on it, cotton candy machines, del's lemonade, student senate shirts made up, Saturday before the game is tent field- groups can sponsor tents, we are going to do a food eating contest, sign students up, have a kids contest and an alumni contest, it is Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup>, homecming day. Orange sticker policy- police show up with gathering of 5 or more people, bunch of different reasons, they stick an orange sticker on your door for a year, police report is decided by police, no due process for students, wrote to ACLU, assigned us a lawyer in Wakefield, have plaintiffs for students, sept 9<sup>th</sup> decides state or local court, we want local for convenience of students and happen right here where problem is going on, hoping they will take the sticker away for this year while in court, happened from senate, all of us that started this, going to do a press release this week, Narragansett Police gave a ticket for driving faster than the speed of traffic, be very careful. If people want to talk to the lawyer, have them talk to me. Policy stands today, there is still an actual sticker. On the 9<sup>th</sup>, judge Torres will decide if sticker will be held up for the year or not, it will affect students at other universities at well depending on what happens with the lawsuit.

This summer, I signed us up for a team of the American diabetes walk on September; we are trying to donate 2000 for us, trying to get 20 dollars/person. In providence, will keep you updated.

Jaclyn will not be back this year, maybe in the spring, not by preference. We are going to need a new external affairs chair, but I am going to handle the lawsuit. Sept 17<sup>th</sup> is Rock the Vote- looking for senate to be big participants, not just in our election but also the national vote. Going to have absentee ballots, our job to be an active supporter of voting in the election. Good to see everyone, hope summers went well, going to have a good year.

**- RULES AND ETHICS:**

Lee- glad to be back, hope summer went well, hope classes went well, no report, and look forward to a good year.

**H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Elections Committee**

**SS-08/09-19 BILL CALLING FOR THE ELCTIONS FOR FRESHMAN AND OPEN SEATS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009**

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 time 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:

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

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Whereas, The Elections Committee has determined that the earliest practical dates for the annual election for Freshmen Representatives and additional vacant seats are September 25, 2008 and September 26, 2008, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Annual Fall Election be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2008 and Thursday September 26, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and it be further

Resolved, that the declaration period open on Thursday, September 4, 2008 and close on Thursday, September 18, 2008, during regular operational hours of the Student Senate.

Sponsor:	Elections Committee
Bill Handler:	Nicole Pelletier
Recommendation:	Passage (4-0-1)
Date Introduced:	September 3, 2008
Date Expired:	Upon validation of the Annual Fall Election results
Action:	PASSED

Pelletier motioned for immediate consideration, seconded by Slater.

Passed!

Pelletier- Anyone interested in running for an open seat can sign up in the senate office September 8-18<sup>th</sup>.

## **I. SPECIAL ORDERS:**

Nominations for External Affairs Chair- nominations open tonight, vote next week.

Holden asks who is on the committee- Stewart, Katsimagles, Tremaglio

Clarke nom Feinberg, seconded by Tremaglio

Close nominations until next week

## **J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

## **K. NEW BUSINESS:**

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

Ahrens- we are good group, we are going to stick around, feel free to ask questions, the retreat will be happening before you are actually on senate, but don't be shy.

Ginsberg- good first meeting of the year, thank you to all of the freshman who came to see the meeting.

Bruce- Welcome back, if you haven't picked up, jay leno is the comedian for family week end, tickets are on sale, go to uri.edu/familyweekend

Michael knolfe and SEC are bringing him.

Thanks for being there for first night, about 60 orgs there.

Mentioned an article about RIPTA cuts, 2 they are mentions Newport to URI and URI to Galilee.

Clarke- forgot to ask to meet right over here.

Petit- a few things, forgot to mention in my report, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm week after presidents meeting, special finance meeting, intro thing to all new presidents and treasurers about how finance works, req that my committee be there. Thing called amethyst initiative, colleges working together to open discussion about lowering drinking age to 18 or maybe to 19 or 20, I am kind of interested in doing something, get students involved on campus, talk to me during the week, also, if anyone is interested in going to Applebee tonight, meet down in the senate office, talk to use and in amore casual atmosphere.

Pelletier- For everyone interested in running, go to office and see Kim or anyone on elections committee. Bring your student ID. Anytime Sept 4<sup>th</sup>-September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**M. ROLL CALL: AYE:** Abbe, Adepoju, Allison, Boiteau, Clarke, Gorman, Harrington, Holden, Holland, Holzman, LaRocca, Lee, Luther, Messineo, O'Brien, Rosa, Sibbald, Slater, Stewart, Stollow, Sullivan-Bennis, Tremaglio, Yensan

Nay- Ginsberg, Jacques, Petit

No Vote- Ahrens, Bedard, Feinberg, Pelletier, Shah, Simon

**N. ADJOURNMENT: 7:15pm**