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May 22, 2018

Brynne S. Madway, Esq.
Staff Attorney, Stand Up For Speech Litigation Project
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
510 Walnut Street, Suite 1250
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Madway:

I am writing in response to your letter dated May 4, 2018.

Student Senate at the University of Rhode Island appreciates your interest in how we support both our students and our student organizations.

We have recently undergone transition in leadership of both the Student Senate as well as the Division of Student Affairs that supports and advises the Student Senate on their policies, processes, and action. The new leadership of Student Senate is undertaking a review of policies, practices, and actions.

The Student Senate will be working over the summer months and during this forthcoming academic year to address actions and practices of the Student Senate. Our goal is to align our practice with our policy, to clarify our policies, and to be responsive to the issues that have been brought to our attention.

Student Senate will be undertaking a review of our bylaws as well as the finance handbook, and other policy statements, and will be putting forth recommendations, based upon both sound practice and legal rulings, to the Student Senate body for approval following our prescribed process.

It is our intent to be inclusive of and responsive to the needs of those student organizations that seek and are granted recognition by Student Senate. A framework of "reasonable and viewpoint neutral" review will be implemented and funding of student organizations will be addressed so they are "without regard to their [the student organization's] viewpoint."

This is a process that will take time, education of the membership, and time for implementation.

I thank you for the offer of assistance as provided in your letter and, should we find clarification needed, will reach out for your knowledge on these concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adriana Wilding". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Adriana Wilding
President, University of Rhode Island Student Senate, Inc.

Cc: Abdulwhab Alqurtas, Vice President, Student Senate
David M. Dooley, Ph.D., President, University of Rhode Island
Louis Saccoccio, General Counsel, University of Rhode Island
Dan Graney, Ed.D., Dean of Students
Kathy M. Collins, Ph.D., Vice President, Division of Student Affairs
Carl G. Stiles, Ed.D., Director, Memorial Union/Student Involvement and Center for Student Leadership Development