



**Enclosure 3c  
October 8, 2014**

**Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting  
Wednesday, September 10th, 2014, 5:30 p.m.  
CCRI Warwick Campus, Room 4090**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at CCRI in Warwick. At 5:36 pm Chair Bernstein welcomed everyone. He then took roll call and noted all Council members were present.

**Present:** Michael Bernstein, Dr. Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo, Eva Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams

**Absent:** None

**1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Bernstein entertained a motion to accept the agenda. On a motion duly made by John Smith and seconded by Dr. Barajas, it was

**VOTED:** That The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of September 10, 2014.

**Vote:** 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dr. Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo, Eva Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**2. OPEN FORUM**

Chair Bernstein inquired if anybody had signed up for the open session and was told that nobody had. He then moved on to the next item on the agenda.

### **3. REPORT OF THE CHAIRS**

Chair Bernstein spoke about process and stated that he wanted to make the process of the Council transparent. He then noted that the Council was going to have two committees, a personnel and a buildings and facilities committee. He will disclose the details at a future meeting. Chair Bernstein then asked Chair Mancuso to report.

Chair Mancuso spoke about the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education and noted that they too were beginning their strategic planning and were going to schedule a dedicated work session just to talk about the strategic plan. She then gave the floor back to Chair Bernstein who moved on to the report of the Commissioner.

### **4. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER**

#### **a. Budget guidance**

Commissioner Purcell stated that the institutions had been given the instruction that every effort should be made to hold tuition and mandatory fees level or to minimize increases. He noted that enrollment should be estimated by each institution given the latest demographic information available. He also reported that the system had experienced a sixteen-hundred dollar per student decrease in state support over the last six years. However, Commissioner Purcell also noted that, without state support, the institutions would be unable to address the needs of the workforce. He also pointed out that the Governor has turned that downward trend around during his administration.

#### **b. Notice of Change submitted by RIC - Elementary Education-Math Specialist M.Ed.**

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner has received a notice of change from Rhode Island College to offer the Master's in Elementary Education - Mathematics Specialist.

As discussed at the work session, Commissioner Purcell reminded the Council that the notice of change submitted by Rhode Island College is an information item only rather than an action item per Rhode Island General Laws 16-32-2.1; 16-33-2.1: an 16-33-1-2-1 as amended.

#### **c. The value of higher education**

In his presentation at this meeting, Commissioner Purcell pointed out the estimated lifetime earnings per education level stating that there is still a significant gap between levels in spite of the concern about the slow start that many new graduates experience.

## 5. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENTS

President Carriuolo presented the report from Rhode Island College and noted that RIC received recognition from NSSE.

Rhode Island College was one of four higher education institutions highlighted in “The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Annual Results and Lessons from the Field” publication. RIC’s communication of 2013 NSSE data was lauded as a best practice. The college created a special analysis of the survey results and shared those results with faculty through both a dedicated Web page and an assessment colloquium.

NSSE survey results showed that RIC seniors rated the college higher than New England peer institutions in items related to learning outcomes.

President DiPasquale presented the CCRI President’s Report. He welcomed the Council to the Warwick campus and announced the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CCRI. President DiPasquale also noted the increased enrollment at CCRI for the fall semester and the difficulty of dealing with decreased funding.

Vice President and Provost DeHayes presented the URI President’s Report and noted the new initiative of the Center for Career and Experiential Education.

Chair Bernstein then moved on to the Action Items.

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Discussion and recommendation for the approval of Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2016 - FY 2020

Commissioner Purcell asked Dr. LaPanne present the Capital Improvement Plan. Dr. LaPanne noted the significant changes made to URI’s plan that included a reduction in two of the significant out-year budgets in favor of more current feasibility studies. After discussion regarding a few of the projects at the University, the Council expressed its agreement with these changes and project rationales.

On a motion duly made by Chair Mancuso and seconded by Ms. Ouellette, it was

**VOTED:                    THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education

approves the FY 2016 through FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan with its approval and recommendation for the projects as proposed for FY 2015- FY 2017; and

Further, the Council acknowledges those projects of interest in the outer years but will reserve its approval for the timeframe in which their form and structure become more certain: and

The Council on Postsecondary Education authorizes the Commissioner to make non-substantive changes to the plan as needed; and

Per RI General Law 16-97-1.2(b), the Council recommends this plan as presented to the Board of Education for its final approval at its upcoming meeting in December.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dr. Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo, Eva Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

#### **b. Approval for naming of buildings at RIC**

There was a brief discussion of the renaming of the two buildings at Rhode Island College. In her letter to the Council, President Carriuolo requested that the building which currently houses the School of Social Work is named after Dr. Carol Jean Guardo, the first female president at RIC and that the building currently referred to as the "New Dorm" is renamed in honor of Dr. Gary Penfield in honor of his 38 years of service as Vice President of Student Services upon the occasion of his retirement last spring.

Thereafter, on a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Chair Mancuso, it was

**VOTED:**                   **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the renaming of the buildings at Rhode Island College per the recommendation of the College.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dr. Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo, Eva Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

**c. Approval of the recommendation of the Personnel Review Committee on behalf of URI for a revised position description.**

A brief discussion by the Council on the issue of revising the job description of the Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police at the University in light of the upcoming arming of the force.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Ouellette and seconded by Mr. Rafanelli, it was

**VOTED:**                   **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Personnel Review Committee's recommendation to change the job description of the Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police at the University.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dr. Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo, Eva Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:36 p.m. Chair Bernstein entertained a motion to enter into executive session to update and discuss the negotiations with all fifteen (15) non-classified bargaining unions pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(2).

On a motion duly made by Kerry Rafanelli and seconded by Thomas Izzo, it was

**VOTED:**                    **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education convenes in executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) for the reasons set forth above.

A roll call vote was taken on this motion as follows:

Antonio Barajas:	Yes
Dennis Duffy:	Yes
Thomas Izzo:	Yes
Eva-Marie Mancuso:	Yes
Judy Ouellette:	Yes
Kerry Rafanelli:	Yes
John Smith Jr.:	Yes
Dr. Jeffery Williams:	Yes
Michael Bernstein:	Yes

Council member Judy Ouellette recused herself for the updates on collective bargaining.

All non-Council members in the audience were excused with the exception of Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education, Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations for the Council; Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel; Dr. DeHayes, Vice President, URI; Nancy Carriuolo, President, Rhode Island College; and Ray Di Pasquale, President, CCRI.

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:24 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Dennis Duffy and seconded by Kerry Rafanelli, it was

**VOTED:**                    **THAT** the Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on September 10, 2014

Vote 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Eva-Marie Mancuso, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams, and Kerry Rafanelli

NAYS: 0

Senator Izzo asked about the progress made to get a student representative on the Council. Chair Mancuso stated they were waiting on the Governor to name one.

## 8. NEXT MEETING

The next Work Session of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 pm at the RI Department of Education Room 500, 255 Westminster Street, Providence, RI.

The next Meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm at the University of Rhode Island.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Dr. Williams, it was:

**VOTED:**                    **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns its meeting.

Vote 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Antonio Barajas, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams, Kerry Rafanelli

NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.