Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
RIDEB Board Room – 5th Floor
The Shepard Building
80 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, at the Rhode Island Department of Education’s Board Room on the 5th Floor of the Shepard’s Building in Providence, RI. At 5:35 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then took roll call.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli (at 5:45 p.m.), John Rainone, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent: Barbara Cottam and Judy Ouellette

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to accept the agenda. On a motion duly made by Mr. Duffy and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of June 17th, 2015 as revised and posted.

**VOTE:** 6 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

2. OPEN FORUM
Chair Foulkes reported that five speakers had signed up to speak at Open Forum.

- Four speakers spoke about the status of the negotiations between the Council and the various bargaining units.
- One speaker, Executive Director of the Part-time faculty, asked for a review of the current contract. The speaker left the contract from 2002.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education’s May 20, 2015 Meeting.

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

VOTED: THAT the Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes for the meeting of May 20, 2015.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

4. CHAIRS’ REPORTS

Chair Bill Foulkes stated that he is appreciative of the Governor’s selecting him to serve as chair of the postsecondary council. He is aware of the importance of and the work involved in the position. He said that Mike Bernstein has done great work this past year and that he will do his best to fill Mr. Bernstein’s big shoes.

Chair Foulkes stated that he values the role of the Council in guiding the delivery of higher education in the state.

Currently, the Policy Manual is being adjusted based upon significant changes in law from last year’s budget legislation and will have additional and significant changes based on this year’s budget. The addition of the Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Authority as a Division of the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner and all of the matters related to the governance of that Division will require significant update and revision to policies for the Council.
5. COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Dr. Purcell introduced Dana Peterson-Fatuda, the new Executive Assistant at OPC; Dr. Purcell stated she was the administrative officer at RIHEAA.

Dr. Purcell then introduced Gail Mance-Rios also from RIHEAA.

Dr. Purcell reported to the Council the following notices of new programs and changes that were submitted and reviewed:

- University of Rhode Island Notice of Change for an Applied Physics Track for the Ph.D. in Physics
- University of Rhode Island Proposal from the College of the Environment and Life Sciences for a Graduate Certificate in Hydrology
- URI Notice of Change: Deletion of Organizational Analysis Option in the Bachelor of Science in Sociology
- Notice of Change: Transfer of Department of Landscape Architecture and the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from the College of the Environment and Life Sciences to the College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Purcell gave a brief update on the pending bills that had any action since the Council’s last meeting. The bills being tracked in this legislative session include:

- RIHEAA/OPC Merger
- FY 2016 Appropriation
- Complete College Rhode Island
- Performance and formula funding
- Distance Learning (NC-SARA)
- Career and Technical Education

6. PRESIDENTS’ REPORTS
a) University of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events

Dr. Dooley stated the University is offering 466 courses this summer.

Upcoming events include: Special Olympics, National Guard Leap Feast, Chinese Teacher workshops, College Crusade, Ocean State Writing conference featuring Poetry. Also included is the 2nd Annual Seaside Soccer Tournament and URI is hosting the Kingston Musical Festival.

b) Rhode Island College – Update from last report and current events

Dr. Carriuolo stated RIC is in a high-impact collaboration with Central Falls Public Schools, Rhode Island College has offered 90 Central Falls High School (CFHS) juniors conditional acceptance to the college as members of the RIC Class of 2020. More than 70 accepted students visited the RIC campus on June 9 for a special college preview program that included an orientation, tours of the Student Activities Office and the Adams Library and the issuance of student ID cards. Recognizing that financial considerations may represent a barrier to attending college, RIC is waiving each student’s $50 college application fee and deferring the $200 enrollment deposit. Central Falls plans to help the accepted students with their technology expenses by allowing them to keep their school-issued Chromebooks when they attend the college. This effort is the latest in a series of initiatives of the Central Falls/Rhode Island College Innovation Lab, a one-of-a-kind teaching and research partnership which benefits both communities through urban education, community development and health and wellness programming.

She also reported that, effective this summer, Breea Govenar of the Biology Department has been appointed the director of the Center for Research and Creative Activity, a new initiative designed to promote, enhance and deepen student and faculty collaboration on research and creative work at the college. Actively involved in undergraduate research efforts on campus, Breea has also served as the college’s liaison to the Rhode Island EPSCoR National Science Foundation project. As director, she intends to strengthen participation in research and creative activity at RIC, with a special focus on opportunities for underrepresented and/or high-risk students. She also plans to facilitate new opportunities in community-based research and service learning.

Day of Portugal Parade

In recognition of her support of Portuguese Studies at RIC and her engagement in the Portuguese community throughout Rhode Island, President Carriuolo was recently appointed Grand Marshal for the Day of Portugal parade. The parade, which began with an opening ceremony at the R.I. State House, featured musical performers,
dancing troupes and floats depicting Portuguese history and culture. Joining the president in the reviewing stand were U.S. Congressman David Cicilline, R.I. Senator Daniel DaPonte and Providence Vice-Consul of Portugal Marcia Sousa. President Carriuolo also served as one of 16 torchbearers to open the Portuguese Heritage Festival on the eve of the parade.

Computer Science Education Summit
Earlier this month, RIC’s Mathematics and Computer Science Department partnered with the Computer Science Teachers Association of Rhode Island for RIC’s first Computer Science Education Summit. Director of computer science teacher leadership at the Waltham-based Education Development Center, keynote speaker Kelly Powers discussed the need to empower underrepresented groups in the computer science field. Breakout sessions included a look at Scratch programming language, an exploration of the need for K-12 computer education, a discussion of computer-related workforce skills and a RIC alumni panel discussion of computer science professionals.

Teacher of the Year
RIC alumna Tracy Lafreniere, a reading specialist and literacy coach at North Smithfield Elementary School, was named Rhode Island Teacher of the Year. Tracy serves as one of the Common Core Ambassadors for the R.I. Department of Education (RIDE) and is the co-chair of the School Improvement Team at the North Smithfield Elementary School. She is also on the executive board of the Rhode Island Writing Project.

Workforce Development Update

- On June 30, RIC Outreach Programs will graduate 15 students from its Training Responsible Adults as Medical Assistants (TRAMA) certificate training program and 11 students from its Training Responsible Adults to be Bookkeeping and Accounting Clerks (TRABAC) certificate program. Both certificate programs are 24 weeks in length and include job readiness skills, internships and job placement assistance.

- RIC participated in the United Way’s 2015 Adult Education Convening Project last month, and RIC Outreach Programs staff members are participating in work groups this month to develop strategic recommendations for the future of adult education in the state.

- Outreach participants are participating in two focus groups for the Department of Labor and Training’s On-Ramps program. One group includes participants who have engaged in the On-Ramps work readiness programming as well as its job placement services, while the other group includes participants who only used the job placement component.
• RIC continues to solicit input from the business community regarding its Design, Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing Center. Over the past month, Professor Charles McLaughlin has met with five different manufacturers to discuss training needs as they relate to the center.

c) Community College of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events, President Di Pasquale reported the following:

• Director of Athletics Emeritus Vincent A. Cullen received a 2015 Golden Anniversary Award from the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) yesterday at the organization’s 50th anniversary convention in Orlando, Florida.
• Cullen was an active member of NACDA for 33 years, serving as the organization’s secretary from 1984-89, making him the second community college administrator to have ever held an NACDA office. He was one of the founders of the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA), serving on the Executive Committee in several capacities, including as president in 1995-96.
• Hired as a mathematics professor in 1965, Cullen was the college’s first basketball coach and served as the first director of athletics from 1965 until his retirement in 2002. He compiled 711-270 record; at the time of his retirement, he was the most victorious intercollegiate coach in New England, ranking 10th all-time among junior college coaches for wins. His teams earned 10 regional championships, were nationally ranked during 16 seasons, and achieved the No. 1 ranking and a national runner-up finish in 1991.
• In 1999, Cullen was NACDA’s first National Community College Athletics Director of the Year. At CCRI, the Knight Campus field house and the athletics enhancement fund bear his name. He has been inducted into eight halls of fame.

‘Miracle on Promenade’ at the Odeum

• Nearly 100 people attended a special screening of “Miracle on Promenade,” a historical film looking back at the early years of Rhode Island Junior College/the Community College of Rhode Island created as part of the college’s 50th anniversary celebration. Audience members included current and former faculty members, current staff members, alumni and members of the community.
• The event, sponsored by the CCRI Foundation, was held on Thursday, June 11, at the Greenwich Odeum in East Greenwich.
• Additional copies of the film will be available for purchase.
CCRI hosts Rhode Island Mission of Mercy clinic

- For the fourth year, CCRI hosted the Rhode Island Oral Health Foundation’s Mission of Mercy free, two-day dental clinic at our Flanagan Campus in Lincoln on May 30 and 31. Nearly 800 patients received free dental care ranging from cleanings to root canals to partial dentures with a value of nearly $494,000.
- CCRI once again was proud to be a premier sponsor of the event, providing use of its state-of-the-art dental facilities as well as many personnel and other services to help the event run smoothly.

‘Hello Broadway’ performances

- About 500 attended last weekend’s performances “Hello Broadway,” a musical revue at our Knight Campus in Warwick.
- College students of all ages participated in a five-week intensive rehearsal/workshop that culminated in four performances that included excerpts and arrangements from famous productions such as “42nd Street,” “Beautiful: A Carole King Musical,” “Jersey Boys,” “South Pacific” and many other favorites in our Bobby Hackett Theater.
- The CCRI “Hello Broadway” project is fully endowed through generous corporate and individual donations as well as CCRI Student Activity Fees through the Office of Student Life and Student Government.

Knight’s golf team update

- The CCRI Knights golf team concluded its season in early June at the NJCAA Division III Golf Nationals at Chautauqua Golf Club in New York. For the first time, the team placed in the top 10, finishing in eight place with an aggregate four-day score of 1,280. In addition, four of the golfers on the team finished in the top 50.

Alumni Association Golf Tournament

- The Community College of Rhode Island Alumni Association raised close to $21,000 at its 13th annual golf tournament on June 10 at Crystal Lake Golf Club. The proceeds benefit students through tuition assistance and as well as provide money to purchase textbooks and supplies.
- More than 90 golfers participated. The event included breakfast, shotgun tee off, lunch, raffle and prizes.

NJCAA Softball Elite Hitter
• The NJCAA named CCRI softball team co-captain and catcher Maxine DeLuise as a 2015 NJCAA Softball Marucci Elite Hitter. The award honors the top batter from each district in all three divisions. Selections are based on the highest batting average in each district.

21st Annual CCRI Fall Classic

• The Community College of Rhode Island will hold its 21st Annual CCRI Fall Classic on Sept. 21 at Warwick Country Club. Proceeds from the tournament will help defray college expenses for CCRI students. Tournament details can be found online at www.ccri.edu/president/golf.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Chairman Foulke asked for a meeting date change from July 15th to July 16th. In addition, the meeting of August 5th will be changed to August 13th. Chairman Foulke stated, at the July meeting he would like the Council to consider reformatting the Council meeting schedule and the committee structures to support the Council’s mission and role.

The Council will continue to meet for voting sessions as the meeting schedule currently shows. However, the non-voting work sessions will become committee meeting days in an endeavor to maintain a consistent schedule.

He will be proposing the schedule of the upcoming year’s meeting and work sessions shortly. Staff is working to assure that both Councils and the Board have meeting schedules that are synchronized to the needs of each system as well as with each other.

Strategic Plan for the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner.

Chairman Foulkes asked Commissioner Purcell, to provide some context to the council for this discussion. Commissioner Purcell stated that he is currently working on a white paper and will look to the Council members for their review and input to discussion at the next meeting.

A funding formula is also in review stated Commissioner Purcell.

Update on the process for the Presidential Search.
Since the last meeting, the commissioner put a job announcement together for the president of CCRI and has had it distributed to the Council members for feedback. The revisions were minor and have been incorporated in a final version.

The job announcement is ready to be posted on the office and state website. Ads will be placed in the higher education trade magazines.

In your packet is a copy of the press release regarding the search including who will be on the search committee. The search committee will do the yeoman’s work of reviewing applications and identifying finalists and making recommendations to the Council - but in the end, the Council will make the final selection.

Senator Izzo asked if this will be discussed at the July meeting and Commissioner Purcell stated yes.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a. Approval of the Increase of Fees Associated with the Application and Annual Renewal of Approval to Operate for Proprietary Schools.

At a previous meeting of the Council, there had been a proposal presented by the Commissioner for an increase in the fees associated with the initial approval for a proprietary school to operate in Rhode Island as well as an increase in the fees associated with the annual review for re-approval.

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner is responsible for the review, approval and continuous oversight of proprietary schools that are operated for the purpose of providing training for business, trade, technical, industrial or other occupations in Rhode Island. The fees for the initial approval process as well as the annual re-approvals have not been increased for many years and are significantly below the level of our neighboring states’ authorizing agencies. The fees are currently set at $1,000 for the initial approval process and $100 for the schools’ annual re-approvals. The funds are taken into the state’s general funds rather than being held for the underwriting of costs of the monitoring and approval process.

Staff has reviewed those fees used by neighboring states with the following result. Massachusetts charges $2,500 for the initial approval process for a for-profit school with the not-for-profit school fee at $1,250. Connecticut’s fees are $2,000 for this initial application for all schools regardless of tax status. The annual recertification fees are 0.49% of the school’s annual adjusted gross income (minimum fee of $250) for either school category in Massachusetts and $200 for schools in Connecticut with an additional $200 for each branch location. There are additional fees for these schools in
Connecticut as well as the annual recertification fees including a $500 annual out of state school representative fee.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the increase in fees associated with the application, annual renewal and change of ownership of proprietary schools operating in Rhode Island, as follows --

- Initial Application Fee: $2,000
- Annual Renewal Fee: $200
- Change of Ownership: $1,000

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

8b. **Approval of the Awarding of Tenure at Rhode Island College.**

President Nancy Carriuolo is requesting the granting of tenure to the faculty members who have met the requirements for tenure at Rhode Island College.

Background Information on these individuals and a tenure analysis for the period of 2005-2014 is attached.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Rafanelli and seconded by Senator Izzo, it was:

**VOTED:** THAT the Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of tenure to:

**Effective July 1, 2015**

- Kyungsub Choi, Ph.D.
- Erik Christiansen, Ph.D.
- Seth Dixon, Ph.D.
- Robert Anthony Galvez, Ph.D.
• Breea Govenar, Ph.D.
• Melinda Gushwa, Ph.D.
• Chin Hin Leung, Ph.D.
• Silvia Oliveira, Ph.D.
• Aaron Smuts, Ph.D.
• Steven Threlkeld, Ph.D.
• Jiyun Wu, Ph.D.

**Effective July 1, 2016**

• Christine Kunkel, Ph.D.
• Constance Milbourne, Ph.D.
• Margaret S. Adair, M.ED.
• Sara Blessing, M.Ed.
• Elizabeth Orton, M.S.

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**8c. Approval of the Revisions to the Council’s Discrimination Complaint Procedures.**

On April 1, 2015, the Council approved the revised Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy.

The document attached to the Council’s meeting packet for this evening contained the revised Discrimination Complaint Procedures which incorporate the provisions of that new policy as well as the requirements of Title IX and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) of 2013.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Izzo and seconded by Mr. Rafanelli, it was:

**VOTED:** **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Revisions to the council’s Discrimination Complaint Procedures.
VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:50 p.m. Chair William Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into executive session for:

a) Discussion and authorization concerning the GAU (Graduate Assistants Union) negotiations pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2).

b) Discussion and authorization concerning the PTFU (part-time Faculty Association/ AAUP) and RIC /Adjunct negotiations pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2).

c) Update, discussion, and authorization on the negotiations with the higher education union coalition and the AAUP pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2).

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education convenes in executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(1) and §42-46-5(a) (2) for the reasons set forth above.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0
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;
- Douglas Tingle, Executive Assistant;
- Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel;
- Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner, Finance & Management
- Dana Peterson-Fatuda, Executive Assistant:
- David Dooley, President, URI
- Nancy Carriuolo, President, RIC
- Ray Di Pasquale, President, CCRI

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:43 p.m.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on June 17, 2015.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

10. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

a) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, July 1, will be rescheduled.

b) The next Work Session of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at RIDE.

c) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at RIC.
11. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.