



Enclosure 3.
September 16, 2015

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting
Wednesday, August 13, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
Rhode Island College
Student Union Ballroom
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Thursday, August 13, 2015, at Rhode Island College in the Student Union Ballroom, Providence, RI. At 5:35 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He then requested a roll call.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John Rainone, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent:

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of August 13, 2015 as presented.

VOTE: 9 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

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

NAYS: 0

2. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that eleven speakers had signed up to speak at Open Forum. The eleven speakers represented faculty and administrators from the University of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College. Of these eleven speaker, nine were in opposition of the Doctor of Nurse Practitioner program at RIC while two spoke in favor of Rhode Island students having a choice of doctoral programs. All speakers were present to address this issue which appeared later on this meeting's agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's July 16, 2015 Meeting.

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

**VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education
approve the minutes for the meeting of July 16,
2015.**

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

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

NAYS: 0

4. CHAIRS' REPORTS

Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam had two updates for the Council. First, she reported that the new Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Ken Wagner, started a week and a half ago. She also announced that there will be a press conference at the Kickemuit Middle School to announce the kick off of the new School Building Authority. The building moratorium has been lifted and there is currently \$5M available for projects.

Chair Bill Foulkes

This is Chair Foulkes' third meeting as the Chair of the Council and he thanked all of his fellow Council members for their advice and support. He wishes to streamline the work of the Council and adopt a more strategic focus. To that end, he announced that the Council retreat has been scheduled for September 18th at the Alton Jones Campus. He said that the agenda will include 90 minute to 2-hour presentations from each of the institutions reviewing their strategic plans.

The new committees will be meeting next week and the agendas will be forwarded to committee members shortly.

He also reported that the CCRI Presidential Search Committee will be meeting on Monday, August 17th, at CCRI to review the 41 applications received. Chair Foulkes indicated that he will continue to report their progress to the Council.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Dr. Purcell reported that there are no notices of new programs or changes submitted by the institutions.

He delivered a report to the Council related to the Workforce Grants received by the institutions in 2015 which totaled to \$2,834,135. These grant-funded projects included internships and training in trauma care, cybersecurity, CNA apprenticeships, food management, IT, manufacturing leadership, and biomedical equipment technology. Other projects funded included such programs as Project Opportunity State Workforce and Education Alignment Project, and Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI).

Dr. Purcell also indicated that he was hopeful that there would be workforce competitiveness funds available to reward institutions for new initiatives in the upcoming fiscal years.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS**a) University of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events.**

Provost DeHayes provided the following update from the University:

- Although these are constrained times for federal grants, the University has experienced an increase of \$17M to a total of \$86M in grant funding as of June 15, 2015. This is a 25% increase. Among the new funding sources are the following:

- National Science Foundation has awarded URI with \$6M to lead an interdisciplinary collaboration with RISD, University of Maine, and the University of New Hampshire related to a study on the future of dams.
- Another \$6M grant was awarded for another interstate collaboration for a study on an innovative tool for brain imaging and mapping. The collaboration includes the University of Kentucky and the University of Oklahoma with URI as the lead.
- Dr. DeHayes also reported that the University's "Finish What You Started" Program graduated its 100th student this May, with 10-15 more to graduate in August 2015.
- The Student Success Initiative has a goal of increasing the number of credits students are completing each year in order to increase the four-year graduation rate. Dr. DeHayes reported that 73% of the current freshman class had completed 30 credits up from 45% of freshmen completing 30-credits only four years ago.

Dr. Williams asked if it would be possible to get a summary of the two program results at an upcoming meeting.

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

President Carriuolo reported the following update on items related to Rhode Island College:

- RIC Alumnus Ross McCurdy '98 and '02 was among 15 educators nationwide to receive a Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators at a recent White House ceremony.
- The RIC Foundation kicked off its 50th anniversary celebration earlier this month at Water Fire with special guests and brazier lighters, President Carriuolo, RIC Foundation President Bill Hurry, and RIC Alumni Association President Bill Fazioli '86.
- Congressman Jim Langevin '90 chose to honor the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by hosting a panel discussion at RIC's Sherlock Center on Disabilities.

- RIC has continued its efforts to educate the college community on the positive roles that bystanders can play in reducing power-based personal violence through its “Green Dot” bystander training this summer.
 - Charles McLaughlin, Professor of Educational Studies, from the Design Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing Center, has been asked to join the Advanced Manufacturing Committee for the Smaller Business Association of New England.
- c) **Community College of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events.**

President Di Pasquale reported the following updates:

- The 51st academic year will start with the Opening Day Convocation at 8 a.m. on Thursday, August 27, at the Knight Campus in Warwick. The day will begin with breakfast in the Great Hall and then move into the Bobby Hackett Theater for a look back and then a look ahead to the new academic year. He invited Council members to join the festivities.
- The CCRI 21st Annual Fall Classic will be held on September 21st at the Warwick Country Club. Proceeds from the tournament will help to defray college expenses for CCRI students.
- The CCRI Foundation has implemented STARS Online, which will process scholarships electronically. This secure processing system allows students to apply for multiple scholarships at one time online.
- Nearly 100 staff, students, alumni, faculty, and guests gathered at CCRI’s Knight Campus in Warwick on July 30th to view the unveiling of the portraits of each of the college’s four presidents.
- CCRI is a strategic partner in six of the 21 Real Jobs Rhode Island planning grants through the Department of Labor and Training that Governor Gina Raimondo announced on July 31st.

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

7a. **CCRI Westerly/Electric Boat Efforts.**

President Di Pasquale reviewed the timeline related to the construction and opening of the CCRI Westerly/Electric Boat Campus. He reported that there are close to 340

students at the current Westerly satellite campus who will take classes in the new facility along with many others who will be recruited from the local community.

The new facility is a joint partnership that involves significant funding from the Royce family. Attorney Thomas Liguori, Jr. represents the family and is leading the project. He was present to answer questions from the Council.

The new facility is being built on a 2.5-acre site immediately adjacent to the Westerly train station. It will allow URI, RIC, NEIT, and others to offer classes for the local community. CCRI will manage the site with a lease through the Rhode Island Foundation for \$1 per year. Electric Boat will be an “anchor tenant” providing equipment for teaching labs that will be dedicated to training current and future Electric Boat employees in a space that simulates their manufacturing facilities in Groton.

The building will contain 18 classrooms in all. The site will attract students from the local area as it is proximate to both Electric Boat and Quonset Point. Dr. Purcell commented that projects of this type stimulate the economic development of the area by providing well trained, local employees with the skills required by nearby businesses.

It is also a partnership that will require state dollars for the equipping of classrooms (which CCRI will provide), with significant funding coming from the town, private partners and foundations, and area businesses. Several Council members commented on their enthusiasm for this project.

7b. Review of the Bylaws for the Council on Postsecondary Education.

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner presented a revision of the existing Bylaws in response to recent amendments to the Rhode Island General Laws.

The Council reviewed a redlined copy of the proposed revisions of the Bylaws.

This policy was developed by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner.

This was introduced for discussion at this evening’s meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education. Further discussion and a motion to approve will be considered at the next Council Meeting.

Chair Foulkes asked for a quick review of specifics of the Bylaws including such things as how a Chair is appointed, how the vice chairman and secretary are appointed and by whom, and the 48-hour notice for meetings. The Chair requested that, in spite of the

required 48-hour notice, the Council receive agendas and meeting materials at least one week in advance of meetings in the future.

Senator Izzo indicated he would like the Open Forum to allow each speaker 5 minutes to speak with a total of 30 minutes for each meeting.

Dr. Purcell indicated that the two Councils are attempting to keep their Bylaws parallel to each other. He also said that he will bring responses to the Council's questions at the next Council meeting.

7c. Review of State Grant Policy and Procedures for the Division of Higher Education Assistance.

Ms. Gail Mance-Rios reported that the state legislature created the Division of Higher Education Assistance within the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner as of July 1st of this new fiscal year. As part of these legislative changes, the existing Rhode Island State Grant program was replaced with a program based on the last-dollar scholarship model. Last-dollar scholarship programs are need-based financial aid programs that fill the "gap" between the students/families contribution, existing federal and institutional grant aid and the cost of tuition, books, and fees.

It is important to provide a clear message to low-income Rhode Island students that assistance is available to them to pursue their education. The new program will support and reinforce the affordable, local, and accessible pathway to higher education for many Rhode Island residents.

The program will allow participating institutions (both public and private) the flexibility to design their program to best suit the needs of their unique student populations. Another benefit of the new program is the elimination of the application deadline of March 1st which will allow more students to be considered for the assistance. Limiting funding to Rhode Island students attending Rhode Island public and independent non-profit institutions will allow for increased awards as well.

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner has been granted specific duty and authority to establish the program and determine the eligibility requirements for student recipients and participating institutions. The Office will evaluate and review institutional proposals, collect and analyze information and report the status of the program on an annual basis.

The policy draft provides a framework that outlines the goals and objectives of the program.

Ms. Mance-Rios reviewed the general procedure for these last-dollar scholarships, which differ by institution based on the unique needs of its students. Chair Foulkes asked for clarification on this last-dollar scholarship concept. Ms. Mance-Rios stated that it is based on current best practice which allows these funds to be spent on more students and offering them financial assistance at a more meaningful level.

Senator Izzo indicated that he liked the concept but wondered how it is going to work at the institutional level since financial aid packages for the fall semester had already been awarded to students. Commissioner Purcell said that the old process for state grants was even later and that the institutions would be able to administer them effectively.

This item was presented as a discussion item for this evening's meeting with the anticipation that it will be voted on at the September 16th Council meeting.

7d1. Request from Rhode Island College related to the MSN program upgrade to DNP.

The Commissioner indicated that Rhode Island College has submitted a proposal to offer the Master of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. Unlike other new programs that are presented as Notices of Change, this program raises questions regarding mission, role and scope, duplication of effort, and efficiencies within the Rhode Island system of public higher education which are among the areas of authority specifically granted to the Council on Postsecondary Education.

Any new or proposed eliminations of departments, divisions, programs of study that are outside the role and scope approved by the council shall require review and approval of the council on postsecondary education. (§16-33-2.1)

Therefore, the change of the MSN to a DNP program requires approval from the Council.

The Council received the report from the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner that compiled letters of support and criticism, as well as the report of an expert, external reviewer.

The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner recommends that the Council vote to approve the request by Rhode Island College to offer the MSN to DNP program. Further, the intent of the college is to transition from a MSN to DNP program to offering the BSN to DNP by fall 2019.

This is stated as a means of assuring that MSN-NA (nurse anesthesia students) meet the Council on Accreditation requirement that nurse anesthesia students graduate with a DNP by 2022. The Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner recommends that the transition from the MSN to the DNP to the BSN to DNP be approved in principle.

Commissioner Purcell went on to explain the role of the Council as well as the “next steps” in this process.

Mr. Duffy asked Dr. DeHayes if the University has any concerns. Provost DeHayes expressed his concern that the role, scope, and mission statements that were approved by the Council in May of this year are being amended so soon in order to allow the college to expand into a doctoral program. He also pointed out that doctoral education is expensive and that he believes that this will be the case in spite of the College’s indication that it is not requiring a significant investment of new funding. Dr. DeHayes also pointed to this as a lost opportunity to invest across multi-institution programs to work together to accommodate more students with existing and additional faculty.

Mr. Duffy expressed his desire to see more collaboration with this program than competition. Chair Foulkes asked if we needed two separate nursing programs and added that, while he agrees that there is a drift in the role, scope, and mission, the anesthesia program is not available at URI.

Dr. Purcell reported that, traditionally, flagship universities offer the more research-oriented doctoral programs (PhDs), while the regional colleges and universities tend to offer more practitioner-based programs such as DNPs. He responded to a question from Mr. Bernstein that the Council is being asked to respond to the profession which is starting to require the doctoral degree for the anesthesia program specialization. He also opined that the profession will start to follow this path in other nursing specializations.

There was additional discussion about the number of applicants annually to the doctoral program at the University.

President Carriuolo expressed her view that nursing at RIC is a niche program for them with its national recognition. She also indicated that the three nursing programs at the public institutions in Rhode Island had three very different student profiles and that RIC’s proposed doctoral program would be no exception.

Dr. Williams opined that this program may represent mission evolution rather than mission drift. He then asked about the issue of funding both for the opening of the program as well as its ability to be self-sustaining.

President Carriuolo stated that the equipment at the Nursing Education Center will be fully utilized. She emphasized that this degree program will be a practitioner degree rather than a research degree. Vice President Ronald Pitt of RIC explained that a research doctoral program is very expensive to produce. However, staff and facilities are the primary costs for the practitioner degree such as the one that is being proposed.

The Council will continue this discussion at its upcoming meeting on September 16th, at which time it will determine whether it will approve this new program.

7d2. Scope Modification for Rhode Island College.

The Commissioner explained that, in 2014, the state legislature granted increased authority to the college and university presidents when a new or altered academic program or other academic change was within the approved role, scope and mission of the institution. However, the same legislation gave specific authority to the Council of Postsecondary Education for the following:

- Any new or proposed eliminations of departments, divisions, programs of study that are outside the role and scope approved by the council shall require review and approval of the council on postsecondary education. (§16-33-2.1)
- To approve the role and scope of programs at public institutions of higher learning with the assistance of the commissioner of postsecondary education which shall include but not be limited to populations to be served, the type and level of programs and academic fields offered. (§ 16-59-4.11.i)
- To approve a clear and definitive mission for each public institution of higher learning with the assistance of the commissioner of postsecondary that is consistent with the role and scope of programs at public institutions. (§ 16-59-4.11.iii)
- To promote maximum efficiency, economy, and cooperation in the delivery of public higher educational services in the state and cooperation with independent institutions of higher education. (§ 16-59-4.11.iv)

Rhode Island College has submitted a proposal to offer the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. Unlike other new programs that have been presented as Notices of Change, this program, the establishment of this program requires approval from the Council. According to the current mission, role, and scope document, RIC is not empowered to offer a practice doctorate.

For the Council on Postsecondary Education to approve RIC offering the DNP would also require an alteration to the college's mission, role, and scope.

This item was a discussion item for this evening's Council meeting. It will be brought back to the Council at its September 16th Council meeting for continued discussion and approval.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Request of the System Personnel Review Committee (SPRC).

Anne Marie Coleman presented the recommendation for the change in title and job description from Coordinator, Compliance Office to Assistant Director, Compliance Office at the University. This revision reflects the increased oversight and reporting requirements related to the NCAA and Atlantic 10 Conferences as well as those related to the NCAA Football Conference. The attached justification for this contains numerous increases in responsibilities placed on the coordinator that demand greater knowledge and skill in these complex requirements, according to Paul Kassabian, Associate Athletic Director – NCAA Compliance.

This request has been reviewed by University officials and with the members of the System's Personnel Review Committee made up of the Director of Labor Relations and the three institutional Administrative Vice Presidents.

As a result of that review process, the System Personnel Review Committee is recommending that the Council approves the following:

At the University of Rhode Island:

Reclassify the Coordinator, Compliance Office (Grade 7) to Assistant Director, Compliance Office (Grade 9) at the University of Rhode Island.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the System Personnel Review Committee's recommendation as presented above.

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

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

NAYS: 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:47 p.m. Chair William Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into executive session for:

- a) 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).
- b) 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).
- c) Update on Collective Bargaining pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) - Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreements with the following:
 - Driver's Education Association
 - PTAA (Professional, Technical, and Administrative Association)
 - PSA/URI/NEARI - Professional Staff Association/University of Rhode Island

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

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

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, 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
- Donald DeHayes, Vice President and Provost, URI
- Nancy Carriuolo, President, RIC
- Ray Di Pasquale, President, CCRI

The Council reconvened in open session at 8:24 p.m.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the executive session held on August 13, 2015.

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

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

NAYS: 0

10. ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

10a) **Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Driver's Education Association.**

In a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Ouellette, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Driver's Education Association as presented.

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

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

NAYS: 0

10b) Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Professional, Technical, and Administrative Association (PTAA).

In a motion duly made by Ms. Ouellette and seconded by Senator Izzo, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Professional, Technical, and Administrative Association (PTAA) as presented.

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

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

NAYS: 0

10c) Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Professional Staff Association/University of Rhode Island (PSA/URI/NEARI).

In a motion duly made by Senator Izzo and seconded by Mr. Smith, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Professional Staff Association/University of Rhode Island (PSA/URI/NEARI) as presented.

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

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

NAYS: 0

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a) The next meeting of the Committees of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Thursday, August 20, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI.
- b) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., at CCRI.
- c) The Annual Retreat for the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Friday, September 18, 2015, at the Alton Jones Campus, URI. Time to be determined.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn its meeting.

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

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

NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.