



Enclosure 3b.
October 14, 2015

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting Friday, September 18, 2015

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Friday, September 18, 2015, at the W. Alton Jones Whispering Pines Conference Center, 401 Victory Highway, West Greenwich, Rhode Island. At 8:30 a.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

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

Absent: 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. Rafanelli, it was

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of September 16th, 2015 as presented.

VOTE: 8 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, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. General Counselor Ron Cavallaro gave an overview of statutory responsibilities of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The items reviewed were:
 - a) Article 20 from the Budget Appropriation Act of 2015
 - b) Article 7 from the Budget Appropriation Act of 2016
 - c) Code of Ethics, Access to Public Records Act, Open Meetings Act

2. Commissioner Purcell's Office

Dr. Robin McGill presented the five-year Strategic Plan for Postsecondary Education (2015-2020) for discussion by the Council. The draft of the plan was developed by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner in coordination with the three campuses, the Rhode Island Department of Education, and the Council. The postsecondary plan is intended to be part of a cohesive and comprehensive plan for PK-20 education put forth by the Rhode Island Board of Education, and therefore its structure aligns with that of the Strategic Plan for Elementary and Secondary Education. The postsecondary plan opens with an introduction about the current state of postsecondary education in Rhode Island set within a national context, and it proceeds to name six values that inform the overarching goals: excellence, equity, investment, partnership, innovation, and impact. The majority of the plan addresses four priorities for the system of postsecondary education in Rhode Island:

- Higher attainment
- Opportunities to access and afford college
- Prosperous economy
- Effective institutions

Each priority has five-year system-wide targets associated with it, as well as strategies for meeting those targets. Much of the discussion from the Council members focused on the targets for each priority, with particular interest to the “opportunities to access and afford college” targets and whether they should include loans, in addition to grants and scholarships. Other discussion considered how the plan fit with the strategic priorities of each institution.

An additional section of the overarching strategic plan that describes three joint priorities shared across the elementary/secondary and postsecondary systems:

- Workforce readiness
- Early college access and student success
- Teacher preparation.

The Council members would receive electronic copies of the strategic documents to review in detail, and that feedback from the Council members would be considered for inclusion prior to the vote on the plan at the Council meeting on October 14, 2015.

3. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

a) University of Rhode Island

President David Dooley gave a presentation on the Strategic Plans for the University of Rhode Island.

President Dooley reviewed the following topics:

- History of URI & Campuses
- URI structure faculty and staff
- Programs and majors and areas of expertise
- Enrollment Management Plan
- FY 2016 Revenue Budget
- Tuition and Fees FY 2016
- State of the Art Facilities
- Critical Priorities for Capital Development and Asset Protection
- Bond Rating and Debt Service
- Industry Partnerships with URI
- Future Opportunities

b) Rhode Island College

President Nancy Carriuolo gave a presentation on the Strategic Plans for Rhode Island College.

- History and Background
- Mission & Vision 2020 Goals
- RIC structure faculty and staff
- Array of Programs and Services
- Statistical Profile
- Outcomes and enrollment
- Special Programs and Unique Features
- Largest Programs of Study
- STEM Program Enrollment
- Budget Review
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats

c) Community College of Rhode Island

President Ray DiPasquale gave a presentation on the Strategic Plans for the Community College of Rhode Island.

- Campuses overview & satellites
- Students' statistics, transfer and employment
- Faculty
- Academic Programs & Top Five Programs
- Athletics
- Student Services
- Financial Aid
- Budget
- Current Issues
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats
- Strategic Plans
- Future Plans-Westerly Training Center, Warwick Renewal
- Capital Projects
- Workforce & Community Outreach

4. Synthesis and Discussion

The council members stated that it was a very informative day.

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a) The next meeting of the Committees of the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick.
- b) The next meeting for the Council on Postsecondary Education is on Wednesday, October 14, 2015, at the Rhode Island College at 5:30 pm.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

VOTE: 8 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, Kerry Rafanelli, and John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.