



Enclosure 3b
October 8, 2014

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Work Session
Wednesday, September 3rd, 2014, 5:30 p.m.
Rhode Island Department of Education
Room 501, 255 Westminster Street, Providence, RI

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 in Room 500 at the offices of the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE), 255 Westminster Street, Providence, RI. At 5:33 pm Chairman Bernstein welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He declared that there was a quorum but that Dr. Barajas and Mr. Rafanelli were not there yet.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams; *Kerry Rafanelli (at 5:50 p.m.)

Absent: Dr. Antonio Barajas

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion made by John Smith Jr. and seconded by Judy Ouellette, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Board of Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the work session of September 3, 2014.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Yeas: Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Judy Ouellette, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams

Nays: 0

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. **Commissioner Presentation** Commissioner Purcell introduced his staff: Doug Tingle is the new executive assistant.

Rebecca Ryan is the (*Veterans Affairs*) State Approving Agency Program Manager.

Deborah Grossman-Garber serves as the Associate Commissioner for Planning and Policy.

Janet Durfee-Hidalgo is the Director of PK-20 in the Academic and Student Affairs unit of the Office.

Dr. Phyllis Harnick is a Planning Specialist in the Academic and Student Affairs area.

Deanna Velletri serves as the Executive Assistant in the Academic Policy and Planning division.

Dr. Susan LaPanne is the Associate Commissioner for Finance and Management and serves as the chief financial officer to the Commissioner of Postsecondary Education.

Bobbi Seiler is a Business Analyst in the Finance & Management area.

Walter Moore serves as the OPC internal auditor.

Anne Marie Coleman is the Assistant Vice President for URI, but also serves as the Director of (*Postsecondary Education*) Labor Relations for the Council since 1998.

Commissioner Purcell presented a power point presentation addressing the following theme: *For people and communities to thrive in the new economy they will need to have access to a good college and good health care.*

b. Capital Improvement Plan

Susan LaPanne presented the Capital Improvement Plan 2016-2020 in a power point presentation. She noted what the Council duties are in regard to facilities:

Upon its organization the council shall be invested with the legal title (in trust for the state) to all property, real and personal, now owned by and/or under the control or in custody of the board of regents for education for the use of the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, Community College of Rhode Island and the system of community colleges of Rhode Island including all departments, divisions, and branches of these.

The council is empowered to hold and operate the property in trust for the state; to acquire, hold, and dispose of the property and other like property as deemed necessary for the execution of its corporate purposes.

Dr. LaPanne noted that the Council of Postsecondary Education holds stewardship over 49.2% of state property. She went on to discuss General Obligation Debt and anticipated contribution in 2015 and 2016 per institution.

She also reported on the Capital Improvement Plan timeline as well as the bond issue that will appear on the ballot in November for the URI Engineering Building and Renovation Phase 1 for \$125m.

Dr. LaPanne informed the Council members about the various financing vehicles available to each institution to support their various projects. The State Budget Office will review all of these once submitted and make recommendations to the State Capital Oversight Committee that will then produce the recommendation for the Governor's recommended capital budget to be presented after the new year.

The Council members received copies of the Proposals received from the institutions that had been reviewed by the Commissioner after consultation with representatives from the capital projects area of each. After his review and consultation with the institutional Presidents, the Office had compiled the Proposal for discussion by the Council at the work session with an anticipated vote to approve or amend the plan at the next meeting of the Council.

Dr. LaPanne noted that there were 68 proposed projects included in the proposal as follows:

- 20 are already approved and in process
- 11 are funded in the current year and seeking continuation
- 21 are seeking approval for the 2015-17 timeframe
- Another 16 projects for 2018-20 are 'information only' items as they are outer-year projects will be further studied for need, feasibility, form and structure

Dr. LaPanne also indicated that the Council is being asked to review and approve the projects scheduled for the 2015, 2016, and 2017 years only. The projects slated to begin in 2018 and afterward should be considered as acknowledged only since significant discussion and firmer plans and costs will be presented as their timeframe draws nearer.

Senator Izzo asked that the follow up operating and maintenance funding estimates are by project. Chair Mancuso indicated that the new engineering building maintenance was discussed at the legislative hearings related to the bonds - although that was not Dr. Dooley's recollection. Mr. Wyman from the University indicated that these

maintenance and operating costs were not built into the initial costs but will be included in the upcoming operating costs. Senator Izzo also requested that the Council is informed about the reduction of maintenance costs as buildings are replaced with those of the new buildings so that the new increase in costs is noted.

The three presidents reported in general about their internal processes for determining the selection of projects to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan.

General discussion surrounded the prioritization of various projects such as Adams Library at RIC, the Shepard Building, student union buildings, and the University hotel. In the discussion related to the University Inn, Dr. Dooley indicated that a public private partnership would be advantageous to the University as it requires no other investment than land and customers which the University can offer a partner. After some lengthy discussion, Dr. Dooley indicated that he would provide the Council with some information that the capital projects team had gathered related to the potential for this project and the types of amenities that it would bring to the campus.

c. Budget Guidance

Commissioner Purcell moved to discussion item 2c on budget guidance.

He reported to the Council that the institutions had been given guidance for the preparation of their budget that indicated that every effort should be made to hold tuition level or to minimize increases. The Commissioner stated the colleges would be asked to submit 4 different budget versions:

- One in which tuition and mandatory fee increases are balanced by an increase in the requested state appropriation.
- One in which tuition and mandatory fees are increased if the state appropriation remains constant
- One in which tuition and mandatory fees are not increased but the state appropriation increases to balance the budget.
- A target budget per the requirement of the State Budget Office (SBO) (7.5% reduction)

Chair Mancuso interjected that it would be helpful if each institution used the same format to build their budget. Senator Izzo asked if these scenarios are for each institution and whether they are just budget exercises. Commissioner Purcell indicated that the first three are requested in order to provide models indicating the range of state support or tuition increases required to support current service level. The last model is requested each year for SBO's purposes and is forwarded to them though not traditionally approved by the Council.

Chair Mancuso stated these exercises had been helpful last year in demonstrating to the legislature that, if tuition increases were unwanted, significant increases in state funding levels were required.

d. Notice of Change submitted by Rhode Island College

i. 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.

This M.Ed. program will prepare certified and experienced teachers for additional certification as PK – Grade 8 Mathematics Specialists/Consultants which is a new certification approved by RIDE and effective in January 2015. The curriculum includes coursework in mathematics content, pedagogy and leadership which will prepare the mathematics specialist for multiple roles including mathematics coach, specialized grade-level mathematics teacher, and interventionist working with students having difficulty with mathematics.

The program is designed as a cooperative program of study with the University of Rhode Island. While the program administration is located at Rhode Island College, students may select courses at both Rhode Island College and University of Rhode Island. Additionally, the faculty at Rhode Island College and University of Rhode Island plan to develop a joint research agenda and establish a support network for mathematics specialists.

RIOPC staff reviewed the information provided by the College and believes the degree to be sound. The notice of change is an information item only for the Council on Postsecondary Education per Rhode Island General Laws 16-32-2.1; 16-33-2.1: and 16-33-1-2-1 as amended. No further action is required.

e. Recommendation for naming of buildings at RIC

Dr. Carriuolo is requesting that the Council reviews and approves the renaming of two buildings in honor of two highly distinguished leaders of Rhode Island College at its upcoming meeting.

The proposal recommends that the building which currently houses the School of Social Work is named after Dr. Carol Jean Guardo. Dr. Guardo was the first female president in the Rhode Island system of public higher education serving from 1986 through 1989.

The proposal also recommends the renaming of the building that is currently referred as the "New Dorm" in honor of Dr. Gary Penfield who served RIC for 38 years as Vice President of Student Services before retiring this past June.

Per the regulations of the previous Board of Governors and now under the authority of the Council, the Council retains the authority "to approve proposals for the naming of new buildings, bridges, edifices and other state constructions, existing buildings and wings, thoroughfares and portions of the campus." Upon review and approval of the renaming recommendations from the institutions, the Council's staff will forward the recommendation to the Permanent Joint Committee on Naming All New Buildings, Bridges, Edifices and Other State Constructions for final approval per RI GL 22-7.4.

These recommendations will be brought to the Council at its meeting next Wednesday, September 10, 2014.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Bernstein entertained a motion to enter into executive session to:

- Discuss the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) contract pursuant to R.I.G.L 42-46-5 (a)(2)
- Update and discuss the negotiations with the higher education union coalition pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(2)
- Discuss the negotiations with Graduate Assistants United pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(2)

On a motion duly made by Kerry Rafanelli and seconded by Senator 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:

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.

After a short break, the Board convened in executive session.

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; David Dooley, President, URI; Nancy Carriuolo, President, Rhode Island College; and Ray Di Pasquale, President, CCRI.

The Council reconvened in open session at 8:25 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Dennis Duffy and seconded by Judy Ouellette, it was

VOTED	That	The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on September 3, 2014
	Vote	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams, Kerry Rafanelli
	NAYS:	0

4. 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	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Judy Ouellette, John Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams, Kerry Rafanelli

NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.