



Enclosure 4a
September 23, 2016

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, July 27, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
URI-Graduate School of Oceanography
215 S. Ferry Road
Narragansett, RI 02882

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, July 27, 2016, at the University of Rhode Island at the Graduate School of Oceanography. At 5:32 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam (arrived at 5:38), Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, Senator Thomas Izzo.

Absent: John Rainone, Dr. Jeffery Williams.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of July 27, 2016.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's June 22, 2016 Meeting.

Chair Foulkes proposed an amendment to the minutes for June 22, 2016 to indicate that Rachelle Green abstained from voting on motions to accept minutes from previous meetings (motions 2a and 2b of the June 22 meeting).

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education amend the minutes for the meeting of June 22, 2016 as proposed.
	VOTE:	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

Chair Foulkes then called for a motion to accept the minutes of the June 22 meeting as amended.

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the meeting of June 22, 2016, as amended.
	VOTE:	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and

Senator Thomas Izzo.
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINS 0

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes noted the absence of RIC President Dr. Frank Sánchez and CCRI President Dr. Meghan Hughes, both of whom were attending conferences out of town.

Chair Foulkes asked Rachelle Green, Chair of the Personnel Committee, to give an update of the recent meeting.

Chair Green reported that the Personnel Committee met on July 13, 2016. They discussed two major issues. First, they discussed the current Personnel Policy. They had one change in particular that they were discussing regarding reports by the Presidents for personnel actions regarding non-classified higher education employees. There will be a request coming out from Commissioner Purcell to the Presidents regarding reporting. They also discussed reviewing and updating all of the policies that apply to the institutions. Second, they reviewed the format and timeline of the annual management letters to be submitted by the campus Presidents and the Commissioner.

Chair Foulkes welcomed Heather Crosby, Chair of the Finance/Facilities Committee, to her first Council meeting, and asked her to give an update of the recent committee meeting.

Chair Crosby reported that she chaired her first Finance/Facilities Committee meeting on July 13, 2016. They discussed the lease for Kinesiology and the lease with the master tenant. Also, they discussed the refinancing of \$90 million in bonds to \$140 million.

Chair Foulkes then gave a brief overview of the evening's agenda.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam had two updates coming from Elementary Education. The first is that all public school students will have will have the opportunity to take the PSAT and the SAT for free. In the fall, the sophomores will have the opportunity to take the PSAT test which will be October 19, 2016. In the spring the juniors will take the SAT. It will be free if taken on the scheduled date. RIDE is encouraging all high school students to participate in this. It helps those students who would not normally be able to take the

SATs and can take them free of charge. They can then discuss furthering their education with the students.

Next, is the update on the PARCC tests. They are currently transitioning to new high school graduation requirements, which are presently under way and are out for public comment. There is a new accountability system which is ESSA-Every Students Succeeds Act. They need to guard against over-testing. This year they will be administering the PARCC assessment tests to grades 3-9 only. And for math, it would be once algebra was completed, and that could be in grades 9, 10, and 11th as they complete algebra.

Senator Izzo asked what provisions are being made to interpret the PSAT and the SAT results, especially for those students who do not score well on the tests.

Chair Cottam stated that this is has been discussed and is something that they are working on it for the coming year.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that no one had signed up to speak at Open Forum.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

5a) Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education:

Commissioner Purcell gave the following update:

Commissioner Purcell gave an update on tuition and how Rhode Island is high compared to other states. In the last seven years, Rhode Island has had a 23% cut in state appropriations. Rhode Island is \$2,181 below the national average in state appropriations, with only 58% of the overall capital support versus the national average. Connecticut is the only New England State above the national average at this point.

He then turned to the funding formula. He noted that analysis was currently being done to compare the institutions to their peers, and that the results of the analysis will be presented to the Council at a future meeting.

Commissioner Purcell asked Dr. Phyllis Harnick to review the following programs.

5b) Notices of new programs and/or changes that were submitted and reviewed for notification of the Council:

5b1) Proposal from the Community College of Rhode Island to offer the Advanced Manufacturing Technology program consisting of an Associate in Science Degree in Advanced Manufacturing and three certificates: 1) Manufacturing Design and Rapid Prototyping, 2) Manufacturing Machining, and 3) Manufacturing Automation and Quality.

CCRI states that manufacturing jobs are returning to the US and there is a need for additional skilled workers. Plus, due the aging manufacturing workforce, there is a need for replacement workers.

The three certificates and the A.S. degree were developed to meet needs of modern advanced manufacturing. Computers play a central role in design, machining and automation. Students will have extensive hands-on laboratory experience to develop these competencies.

Students can start with any of the three certificates and then add additional courses to meet the A.S. degree requirements if desired. It is anticipated that students for this program will be drawn from high school graduates, Westerly High School P-Tech students, Davies High School students, unemployed, underemployed, veterans, employee training, apprentices, and CCRI students in General Studies.

RIOPC staff reviewed the information and has determined that the academic changes presented are within the mission, role and scope of the Community College of Rhode Island and no Council action is required.

Chair Foulkes stated that there is an interest from RIC and how to transfer this degree to Rhode Island College.

Dr. Peter Woodberry, Dean of Business, Science and Technology at CCRI stated that it is their plan to work with RIC for the bachelor's degree. He wanted to make sure that it was approved by the Council first before proceeding with those conversations.

Mr. DelGiudice asked if they have had dialogue with the RI Manufacturing Association and whether the work they are doing through the Real Jobs Rhode Island program would complement these programs. Mr. Woodberry stated yes that they work with them and that Bill McCourt is a member of the advisory committee.

5b2) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to add three sub-plan tracks: 1) Physical Education, 2) Health, and 3) Physical Education/Health, to the existing Master of Arts in Education/Teacher Certification Program and to deactivate the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Physical Education Teacher Education – Teacher Certification Program.

The proposal from URI is to add three sub-plan tracks in: 1) Physical Education, 2) Health, and 3) Physical Education/Health to the existing Master of Arts in Education/Teacher Certification Program and deactivate the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Physical Education Teacher Education – Teacher Certification Program.

Many students holding B.S. degrees in Kinesiology want to teach physical education, health education and adapted physical education due to the rising issue of childhood obesity and the resulting focus on health and physical education in PK-12 schools. This program will allow these individuals to become certified as physical education and/or health teachers and subsequently to earn a master's degree in education.

The University agreed with the recommendations from the RIOPC review for some changes to the program.

The addition of three sub-tracks to MA/TCP has been approved through all internal review and approval procedures at URI. The program is within the mission, role and scope of the university, and no Council action is required.

Senator Izzo asked how this change will impact the participants in the current program now that it is going to be deactivated.

Dr. Phyllis Harnick referred to Dr. David Byrd, Director of the School of Education, to answer this question. He stated that it is beneficial for students to have earned a master's degree instead of a certificate. Having this program as a master's degree program also helps them obtain financial aid.

Chair Foulkes asked if they would be adding 500 level courses. Dr. Byrd said yes in the fall.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

a) University of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events.

President Dooley provided the following update from the University, giving a brief overview of his written report:

A new Dean of the College of Health Sciences has been appointed, Dr. Gary Liguori. Dr. Liguori will lead the first new college established at URI since the mid-1970s. It shows the University's commitment to align its educational and research programs in broad areas of health science and policy in order to capitalize in the collaborative nature of those disciplines today and the broad expertise that exists at the University today. The search took close to nine months.

Next, the University will be holding its 9th Annual Rhode Island Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows Conference. Students from colleges and universities from across Rhode Island will present their summer research work on Friday, July 29, 2016. It is the state's largest exhibition of undergraduate research. It is co-sponsored by Rhode Island IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence and Rhode Island NSF Experimental Program and many others. The conference will feature about 150 scientific posters in the biomedical and life sciences and draw more than 400 faculty, students and administrators from across the Ocean State. The two federally funded research programs, which are designed to stimulate scientific research at the state's universities and colleges, are based at URI.

Finally, Dr. Dooley announced the partnership with MindImmune Therapeutics, Inc. It is a new business venture. MindImmune scientists are at the forefront in discovering the therapeutic opportunities in targeting the immune system to treat brain disease. MindImmune is being launched in collaboration with the newly established George & Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience at URI. The Slater Technology fund has announced that it has committed \$500,000 into this venture and they have had success in raising capital from other sources.

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

Clarke Greene, Interim Vice President for Advancement, provided the following update from the College, giving a brief overview of his written report:

President Sánchez had hoped to be at this meeting; however the opportunity arose for him to attend the American Association of State College and Universities New President's Academy this week in California. Given that he is a newly minted state college president, this was a timely opportunity, too good to pass up.

Vice President Greene reported that the big news at RIC for this past month was the official arrival of our new President. President Sánchez started work on Friday July 1, 2016. He has been participating in numerous orientation and policy meetings, and he has begun a dedicated listening tour to better understand RIC's strengths and opportunities for improvement. This will involve faculty, staff, students, alumni and key stakeholders and supporters in the community. Although the timeline is quite

compressed, he hopes to use this information to guide the creation of the College's budget, and his presentation for about where RIC will be headed at the Council retreat in September. He and his family are living in the President's Residence on campus and the early days of the transition appears to have gone well.

In the monthly report accolades are given to faculty and students have received in both athletics and academics.

They have also been active in program development. They have developed two new programs for Adult English language learners. The first is in conjunction with the departments of Labor and Training, Human Services and Refugee Resettlement which targets unemployed individuals and refugees and focuses on Survival English, and the second is a more intensive ESL program for those with basic English proficiency. Also, working with the state's CS4RI initiative, RIC has developed a four day computer science course for teachers to deepen their understanding of computer science and web design, and to help with their teaching of coding to students.

Vice President Greene also reported that enrollment continues to grow, even though there are fewer RI high school graduates. The College has received 1,281 freshman deposits, which is 66 ahead of last year, and 104 ahead of 2014.

c) Community College of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events.

David Patten, Vice President for Business Affairs, provided the following update from the Community College, giving a brief overview of the written report:

CCRI is focused on increasing outcomes and improving metrics for its students. The first is CCRI's collaboration with their educational partners in the K-12 world. CCRI's senior leadership met with Commissioner Wagner to develop innovative programs and course work to address remediation needs at the K-12 level so that when they get to CCRI they focus less on remediation and focus more on advancing students and getting them through and completing their programs at CCRI. They are targeting schools in Central Falls, Cumberland and the Providence area.

Second, CCRI has hired a Prior Learning Assessment Coordinator, Dr. Douglas Flor. He is reviewing policies between the schools, the three institutions and the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner. His focus is on awarding credit for prior learning that will help to get students through the programs at CCRI more quickly.

Finally, Senator Jack Reed visited Westerly on July 5, 2016, to walk through the Westerly Higher Education and Industry Center on which Commissioner Purcell has the lead role. Senator Reed said that Electric Boat has been producing submarines on time and on budget and this facility will help ensure that the quality continues. The construction project is due to be completed in October 2016, and they are running their first class in November 2016 for the pipefitting trade. It is another opportunity for students even at the high school level to go through that program and come out and get good paying jobs that are in high demand.

Senator Izzo saw some coverage in the news with regards to a program with CCRI working with New England Technology and General Dynamics with regards to preparing welders. He was curious as to how that program fits in with the Westerly program. He asked if they are two distinct programs.

Vice President Patten stated that Electric Boat has been awarded the largest contract in the history of the United States Navy. It is an enormous contract and they have to hire thousands of people. There are a number of schools that they are tapping in-to. CCRI is not the only provider for training for Electric Boat. They are calling CCRI and New England Tech finishing schools. There is such a demand for workers at Electric Boat that one school could not provide all of the training that is required.

Commissioner Purcell stated that it allows them to leverage all the state's resources in the technical fields. It allows them to work with the career technical schools in the state. They have great labs. Electric Boat has worked with them to make sure that the curriculum is aligned with marine trades and that will help to produce workers also.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

7a) No discussion items.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Approval of the Proposed Reverse Transfer Policy.

Dr. Phyllis Harnick gave an overview of the proposed reverse transfer policy, which was discussed at the previous meeting.

Reverse transfer refers to transferring credit from a four-year to a two-year institution.

Reverse transfer policy promotes transferring credits back to a community college for purposes of awarding the associate degree or certificate to students who have not earned a postsecondary credential.

Reverse transfer policy is a legislative mandate. Senate Resolution S1046 was passed in 2013 as part of a package of legislation designed to improve workforce readiness and jumpstart the state's economy. Sixteen states require all public institutions to participate in reverse transfer.

At the last Council meeting, Council members asked: *Are students able to apply credit awarded through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) or CLEP exams toward the requirements of a degree earned through reverse transfer?* Prior learning assessment (PLA) is the term used for the various ways in which higher education institutions and other organizations assess an individual's learning for the purposes of granting college credit, certification, or advanced standing in a postsecondary education program.

The answer is that students may use prior learning assessment, including CLEP Exams, to earn academic credit which will be applied toward degree requirements. If the credit was awarded by one of the Rhode Island public institutions of higher education, these credits will be accepted as transfer credit by the other two in accordance with the Council's *Policy for Articulation and Transfer between Public Institutions of Higher Education in Rhode Island*. However, credits awarded through prior learning do not apply toward meeting the 15 credit residency requirement at CCRI.

The rationale for the reverse transfer policy is helping Rhode Island students who began at one of the public institutions of higher learning, but did not complete the associate or bachelor's degree, and are left with earned college credits but without a postsecondary credential. The reverse transfer policy has the possibility of impacting 131,602 adults 25 and over in Rhode Island who have some college credits and no degree.

The policy establishes criteria for student eligibility and for earning a degree or certificate through reverse transfer. It applies to CCRI, RIC or URI students. CCRI, RIC, or URI students with 60 college-level credits, a combined GPA of 2.0 or higher, and no outstanding financial obligations, are eligible to have their transcripts evaluated to determine if an associate degree or certificate may be awarded. Students must meet all CCRI degree requirements, including the college residency requirements; which means 45 of the 60 credits required for an associate degree can be transferred in toward the degree. Students who have met all of the requirements for a degree or certificate program at CCRI will be notified. Some students will need to take additional courses at

CCRI to meet degree or residency requirements and they will be advised on degree and course options.

Students earning the associate degree will be more competitive in the workplace. The median lifetime earnings of individuals with an associate degree is 27% higher than the earnings of a high school graduate.

Chair Foulkes asked who is in charge of marketing and communications. Dr. Harnick explained that the system-level implementation will be by a Steering Committee with representation from RIOPC and the three institutions; CCRI would have a separate committee for campus-level implementation. The Steering Committee will have a communications subcommittee that will work together to promote this program.

The Chair also asked when was the last time the transfer policies were reviewed with the mindset to make transferability easier and quicker for students.

Dr. Harnick responded that the transfer policy was currently being reviewed with the intent of preparing a revised policy.

Chair Foulkes asked to make it a priority in the fall.

Senator Izzo asked whether credits earned at RIC and URI would expire after a certain period of time.

Commissioner Purcell answered yes. President Dooley stated that URI is flexible about accepting "old" credit since they launched the Finish What You Started Program. They identified all the students that had left the University and invited them to come back and to meet with them to evaluate the work they had done and to see what work would remain to be done to finish their degree. It has been an enormous success. They have had close to 130 students graduate from the University of Rhode Island through this program.

Interim Vice President for Advancement Clark Greene stated that RIC has a similar program with similar results by bringing back some of their former students. RIC also tries to make "old" credits count as much as possible.

Senator Izzo asked if there is a cost to have a transcript evaluated.

Dr. Harnick stated that there is no cost for the evaluation of the credits.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Reverse Transfer Policy as presented.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8b) Recommendation for the approval of the proposed amendment to add Suite N to the Kinesiology Lease in Independence Square III in Kingston, Rhode Island.

Dr. Susan LaPanne reported that the University of Rhode Island is proposing a second amendment to the lease with Independence Square III in order to add Suite-N to the total leased space for the Kinesiology Department. This 2,269 square foot space will allow the Kinesiology Department's new faculty members to be housed in space that is contiguous with the Department's current footprint. This new lease will also allow for future growth and will position the University to be able to plan for how the space is utilized in the future as the plans to expand the Health Professions faculty unfold.

Independence Square III is willing to include this space under the terms and conditions applicable to the present lease for the space occupied by the Kinesiology Department dated in October 2007 via an Amendment to the associated 25-year Lease Agreement with a favorable exception as detailed in Mr. Wyman's attached letter. The rental rate for this space is reflective of attributable base operating expenses only and does not carry additional rent associated with construction financing expenses. On an annualized basis, it is estimated that operating rent from this new space would be approximately \$37,000. The remaining obligations under this amendment are consistent with the terms of the Lease as approved by the Board of Governors and the State Properties Committee in 2007 and later in 2012, with the required Executive and Legislative authorization.

Mr. Vern Wyman, Assistant Vice President of Business Services from the University, was there to answer questions.

Dr. Dooley noted that the facility represents an important and successful public/private partnership that continues to benefit URI students.

On a motion duly made by Mr. DelGiudice and seconded by Ms. Crosby, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education Council on Postsecondary Education approve the proposed amendment to add Suite-N to the Kinesiology Lease in Independence Square III in Kingston, RI.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8c) Recommendation for the approval of the Resolutions of the Council on Postsecondary Education in support of Rhode Island Health and Education Building Corporation (RIHEBC) Revenue Bond New Financing for the University of Rhode Island's Fraternity Circle Infrastructure Project Phase I and Refinancing of prior RIHEBC Revenue Bonds for the University and Rhode Island College.

Dr. LaPanne reported that, as part of the ongoing due diligence with regard to revenue bond financing, the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College administration and finance staffs monitor these debt service commitments and consult periodically with financial advisors to assess refinancing opportunities to reduce annual debt service obligations.

The opportunity to take advantage of favorable bond market conditions to achieve debt service savings on existing revenue bond obligation for prior issuances also exists. Since the initiation of the first request, market conditions have further improved which has motivated the workgroup to advance these efforts to optimize debt service saving through the balance of the terms on the Series issued in 2005 and 2008. However as this

process has continued, the workgroup has also determined that there may be significant savings to be achieved with the inclusion of the 2009 Series bonds as well.

At its meeting on July 13, 2016, the Finance/Facilities Committee had recommended the approval of the resolutions for approximately \$90m in refunding and new financing for the Fraternity Circle Infrastructure (\$5.1m). However, if the Series 2009 bonds are included, the resolution would require the Council's permission to allow for up to \$140m in potential refunding and new funding. These amended resolutions will allow the workgroup to continue their due diligence review to ensure that the best savings opportunities possible are pursued for the system.

Finance Chair Heather Crosby had specific questions related to the thresholds that would be used for any decision about the inclusion of these additional bond series as she expressed her discomfort with the increase in resolution's request. Adam Krea of First Southwest, who is an independent financial advisor to the system, explained that the workgroup is at the beginning of this analysis but found that the 2009 Series may offer positive savings. He also assured the Finance Chair that their input in the process was as independent consultant with no stake or contingent fees as a result of any subsequent bond issuances.

Mr. Duffy pointed out that the resolutions appeared to be in order and would allow the Chair of the Council to sign them as the agent for the Council. Ultimately, the determination of the Council was to allow the resolution to pass as presented this evening with the limitation of \$140m potential available for refunding and new money as written. The Finance/ Facilities Committee, however, will review the savings calculation at its next meeting and advise the Chair related to the final determination of the financing dollar limit to be allowed.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the resolutions authorizing the borrowing in connection with the issuance of Rhode Island Health and Education Building Corporation (RIHEBC) Higher Education Facility Revenue Bonds.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes,

Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8d) Recommendation for the approval of a second amendment to the Lease Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education and CV SSL Master Tenant LLC, Successor in Interest to Commonwealth Ventures South Street Landing Master Tenant, LLC and Related Document, in support of the Development and Lease of Space for a Shared Nursing Education Center for the University's College of Nursing and the Rhode Island College School of Nursing in the former South Street Power Station in Providence, RI.

Dr. LaPanne reported that at its meeting two weeks ago, the Finance/Facilities Committee had received the report related to these two amendments from Sean Coffey, attorney for the system in the matter of this lease arrangement for the Nursing Education Building, and recommended that the Council approve these items. Mr. Duffy had requested a copy of the complete set of documents at the Finance/Facilities Committee meeting and reported to the Council that the language was acceptable to him after his review.

Mr. Wyman, Mr. Coffey and Mr. Gingerella also answered questions raised by the Council.

On a motion duly made by Mr. DelGiudice and seconded by Ms. Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education and CV SSL Master Tenant, LLC, Successor in Interest to Commonwealth Ventures South Street Landing Master Tenant, LLC and Related Document, in support of the Development and Lease of Space for a Shared Nursing Education Center for the University's College of Nursing and the Rhode Island College School of Nursing in the former South Street Power Station in Providence, RI.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8e) Approval of RI-SARA application for Roger Williams University.

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones gave the presentation.

Roger Williams University submitted an application seeking consideration and approval as an RI-SARA institution.

The coordinator reviewed the application and all supporting documentation. The application has been determined to be complete and meets the requirements and standards set forth by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner.

Once approved, Roger Williams University will be authorized to offer online courses and programs as part of the NC-SARA consortium. Such authorization is dependent upon receiving the appropriate application fee from Roger Williams University.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve Roger Williams University's application to operate as an RI-SARA institution.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8f) Approval of Non-SARA application for Northeastern University

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones gave the presentation.

Northeastern University submitted an application seeking consideration and approval to operate in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, non-profit institution.

The coordinator reviewed the application and all supporting documentation. The application has been determined to be complete and meets the requirements and standards set forth by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner. Once approved, Northeastern University will be authorized to offer online courses and programs to Rhode Island residents. The institution has transmitted the appropriate application fee, which has been received by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve Northeastern University's application to operate in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, non-profit institution.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8g) Approval of a new position for the Consent Decree Coordinator at Rhode Island College.

Clarke Greene, Interim Vice President for Advancement, gave the presentation on the position at the Sherlock Center.

The Consent Decree Coordinator will lead the State's Interagency Consent Decree Team to ensure that the state maintains compliance with all of the elements of the Consent Decree and successfully transforms the service delivery model to implement supported employment and integrated day services for Rhode Islanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The individual is the primary point of contact for the attorney representing the State as well as for the Federal Court Monitor and also the convener of the Interagency Consent Decree Team. In this capacity the individual will have the full authority of the Secretary and the Governor to require departmental representatives to provide updates, reports, data and materials required for compliance with the required activities in the Consent Decree and reports and filings for the Court Monitor and the Court. He/she will oversee and coordinate the activities at BHDDH, RIDE, ORS and the Sherlock Center (along with other entities and needed) toward the goal of fully implementing the Consent Decree.

Senator Izzo asked where the salary is coming from. Vice President Greene stated that it is grant funded.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the System Personnel Review Committee's recommendation for a Consent Decree Coordinator at Rhode Island College.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h) Approval of a new position for the Executive Director Strategic Initiatives at Rhode Island College.

Vice President Greene reviewed the position of Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives.

The role of the Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives is to plan, implement, and execute the strategic vision of RIC regarding academic, program and/or operational initiatives. The incumbent will be required to execute projects or initiatives in accordance with the needs of the college and the public higher education system. This includes acquiring resources and coordinating the efforts of college-wide teams, system personnel and third-part contractors or consultants in order to deliver projects or initiatives according to plan. The Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives will also interpret the project's objectives and oversee quality control throughout its life cycle.

Mr. Duffy asked if this position critical to President's Sánchez's vision going forward for Rhode Island College because he is sensitive to the budgetary pressures and the tuition pressures at RIC.

Vice President Greene answered yes because they are short staffed at RIC.

Mr. Bernstein expressed his support for the position.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the System Personnel Review Committee's recommendation for an Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives at Rhode Island College.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8i) Approval for the new positions for the Director and Assistant Director, Learning for Life at Rhode Island College.

Vice President Greene reviewed the positions for the Learning for Life Program at RIC. Learning for Life was a federally funded program and was highly successful, but the funding has run out. They are going to run it with state and tuition dollars plus a grant

from the United Way of Rhode Island. Their goal is to reach 1200 students within the next three years. He explained the two positions being requested at Rhode Island College are not new positions, they are an upgrade to two existing positions. President Sánchez feels that these positions are critical at Rhode Island College to improve the graduation rates.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Crosby and seconded by Mr. DelGiudice, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the System Personnel Review Committee's recommendations for a Director and Assistant Director of Learning for Life at Rhode Island College.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

President Dooley introduced the new Vice President of Student Affairs, Kathy Collins. She is from Michigan State. She succeeds Dr. Tom Dugan.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:23 pm Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for:

a) Discussion regarding the Annual Report on Litigation (all cases pending in Rhode Island Supreme, Superior, and District Court, the United States District Court Southern District of Indiana,¹ the RI Commission for Human Rights), and potential litigation, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(2).

¹ Rhode Island Council 94 v. Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, et al., (C.A. No. 11-6147); Mendonca, et al. v. Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education, (C.A. No. 2016-1418); Cugini vs. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 08-0722); Sequin v. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 13-0556); Sackos v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, et al., (C.A. No. 1:14-CV-1710 WTL-MJD); Smith v. University of

b) Discussion related to the potential acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or disposition of publicly held property, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(5).

On a motion duly made by Ms. Crosby and seconded by Ms. Green, it was:

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education enter into Executive Session for the following items:

a) Discussion regarding the Annual Report on Litigation (all cases pending in Rhode Island Supreme, Superior, and District Court, the United States District Court Southern District of Indiana,² the RI Commission for Human Rights), and potential litigation, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(2).

AND

b) Discussion related to the potential acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or disposition of publicly held property, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(5).

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

Rhode Island, etc., et al., (C.A. No. 2015-4812); Gay, et al. v. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 2016-0143); Morro v. Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, et al., (C.A. No. 2016-0071); Felkner v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 07-6702); Day v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 14-0583); Canavan v. Rhode Island College, et al. (C.A. No. 13-6556); Losada v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 13-5897); Rhode Island College v. Lussier, et al., (C.A. No. 14-5255); Parrillo v. Community College of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 14-2461); and Givan v. RI Board of Education, et al., (C.A. No. 15-0038).

² Rhode Island Council 94 v. Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, et al., (C.A. No. 11-6147); Mendonca, et al. v. Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education, (C.A. No. 2016-1418); Cugini vs. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 08-0722); Sequin v. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 13-0556); Sackos v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, et al., (C.A. No. 1:14-CV-1710 WTL-MJD); Smith v. University of Rhode Island, etc., et al., (C.A. No. 2015-4812); Gay, et al. v. University of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 2016-0143); Morro v. Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, et al., (C.A. No. 2016-0071); Felkner v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 07-6702); Day v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 14-0583); Canavan v. Rhode Island College, et al. (C.A. No. 13-6556); Losada v. Rhode Island College, et al., (C.A. No. 13-5897); Rhode Island College v. Lussier, et al., (C.A. No. 14-5255); Parrillo v. Community College of Rhode Island, et al., (C.A. No. 14-2461); and Givan v. RI Board of Education, et al., (C.A. No. 15-0038).

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

All non-Council members in the audience were excused with the exception of:

- Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
- Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner, Finance & Management
- Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel
- David Dooley, President, URI
- Clarke Greene, Interim Vice President for Advancement
- David Patten, Vice President for Business Affairs, CCRI
- Lisa Shevlin, Executive Assistant

The Council reconvened in open session at 8:07p.m.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on July 27, 2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

10. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Chair Foulkes stated that the Chair for the Finance/Facilities Committee meeting reminded him that there will be a meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2016, to discuss the bond and insurance issues.

- a) The next full board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at CCRI, Room 4090, Warwick, RI 02886.
- b) The next meeting of the Personnel and Finance/Facilities Committees for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02886.
- c) The Annual Retreat for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Friday, September 23, 2016 at the Alton Jones Campus, URI.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of July 27, 2016.
	VOTE:	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Senator Thomas Izzo.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.