Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
Rhode Island College
Faulty Center Main Dining Room
Donovan Dining Center
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue
Providence, Rhode Island, RI 02908

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, November 9, 2016, in the Faculty Center Main Dining Room, Donovan Dining Center at Rhode Island College, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. At 5:35 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, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John Rainone and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent: Heather Crosby and Rachelle Green.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of November 9, 2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education’s September 23, 2016 Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. On a motion duly made by Dr. Williams and seconded by Senator Izzo, it was:

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the meeting of September 23, 2016.

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

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS** 0

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

He referenced an article from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about higher education policies of a possible Clinton administration. While the election day news has not brought a Clinton administration, many of the issues discussed in that article—affordability, retention, access—still remain and are similar issues that the Council faces in its strategic plan and the budget that is before the Council this evening.

The Council will be discussing the budget process to obtain a better understanding from each of the schools for the Council members. Also, guests are attending from the St. Joseph School of Nursing.
Chair Foulkes would like to dedicate time in the new year for each school to give a presentation to get a better understanding of the budget process.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam deferred her time at this meeting due to the full agenda and because the full board is meeting next week on November 16, 2016.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that two people signed up to speak at Open Forum. Chair Foulkes reminded everyone that they have three minutes to speak according to the Council’s by-laws.

Mr. Jay Walsh, Executive Director for the American Association of University Professors at the University of Rhode Island, spoke first. He discussed one of the agenda items regarding the performance metrics at CCRI, RIC and URI, specifically with regards to URI. He questioned the Campus Performance Metrics enclosure about what are high wages and high demand fields. He was also concerned about conversations that had taken place with the faculty. He stated that there is concern amongst the faculty as to what is defined as high-wage, high-demand jobs and the importance of other fields and jobs that may not be classified as high-wage, high-demand jobs. He is concerned that the curriculum may become too narrow where it only serves the needs of some but does not broadly serve the needs of others.

Mr. Andrew Bramson, President and CEO of College Crusade, spoke next. He provided a quick update on their efforts to reduce Summer Melt the program that Commissioner Purcell discussed at the April Council meeting. It is a program that addresses when students graduate in the spring and state their intentions to go to college and never show up that following summer.

They have a partnership with CCRI and have been working with them for the past four years. They just got the data and he reported that when they started the program in 2013 they had a success rate of 57% of the Crusaders and this year they got it down to 37%. That is a 20% reduction. The Crusaders stated that they were going to CCRI and actually made it.

They are using a “high-tech, high-touch” model, where advisers stay in touch with the students throughout the summer with text messages, emails and phone calls to inform the students about registration and deadlines.
They also partnered with CCRI this summer for the Summer Bridge Program. This program helped to bring the students to the campus in a thoughtful meaningful way through the use of Accuplacer, prep and placement and orientation in getting them on campus. He expressed his gratitude to CCRI and the staff.

5. COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

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

Chair Foulkes stated that because Commissioner Purcell was not there that evening, there would be no Commissioner’s report.

6. PRESIDENTS’ REPORTS

Chair Foulkes stated that the Presidents would be giving their reports in conjunction with their budget presentations under agenda item 8a.

7. DISCUSSION ITEM

7a) Introduction of the Concurrent Enrollment Course List for 2017-2018 from the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), Rhode Island College (RIC) and the University of Rhode Island (URI) for information and discussion.

Dr. Phyllis Harnick, Assistant Commissioner for Planning, gave an overview on the concurrent enrollment course list.

Introduction of Concurrent Enrollment Course List for 2017-18 for information

- The public institutions of higher education were asked to submit a proposed list of concurrent enrollment courses. The courses were reviewed at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner in consultation with the Department of Education.
- Each of the public higher education institutions added at least two courses.
- The proposed concurrent enrollment courses will be reviewed by the Council on Postsecondary Education and approved by the Board of Education at the November 16, 2016 meeting.
Criteria for review:

- Transferability of the course among the public institutions of higher education (as applicable) either as an equivalent course or as meeting a general education requirement.
- Applicability of the course to degree or certificate requirements.
- Applicability of the course to a technical degree or industry approved certification.
- Courses are in the college catalog and are regularly offered to students attending the college or university.
- The academic catalog description communicates that the course is a rigorous college-level course.

Dr. Harnick stated that the list of proposed concurrent courses will be presented to the Board of Education for approval next week.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8a) Approval of the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Requests, Tuition and Fee Rates, and Tables of Organization for FY2018 and 2019 and the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Allocations for FY 2017 and Recommendation to the Board of Education.

Dr. Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Management, gave an overview and discussion of the budgets for all of the Postsecondary Education entities in the state:

- Restricted and Unrestricted budgets
- Supplemental request
- OPC, URI, RIC, and CCRI budgets

In 2017, the total operating budget for the system of public higher education is: $1.1 Billion Budget-all funds

- Of which $178.2 M is the appropriation to higher education
- 4.8 % State General Revenue Budget

4,296.2 FTE Positions

- 28.8 % of State Total FTE
- Predominately funded by non-state sources
Dr. LaPanne noted the operating budget was divided between unrestricted funds which totaled $688M, while restricted funds comprised $467M.

Regarding the unrestricted budget, Dr. LaPanne presented the Commissioner’s recommendation for revenue from state appropriation and tuition and fees. The proposed budget requested an increase of $11,108,093 in state appropriations for the institutions, as well as tuition increases of 4.5%. Dr. LaPanne noted that under this proposal, full-time, in-state students would see an increase of $569 per year at URI, $371 per year at RIC, and $194 per year at CCRI.

Chair Foulkes then gave an overview of the budget process. He explained that, providing that the Board of Education approves the proposed budget at its November 16, 2016 meeting, it will then be submitted to the Governor. She will add it to her budget proposal in late January, which then gets submitted to the legislators, and it is hoped will be approved.

Chair Foulkes noted that prior to this evening’s meeting he had asked that the Presidents prepare a one-page overview of their budget proposals, which they would now present to the Council. He then asked President Sanchez to give his presentation.

**Dr. Frank Sanchez, President of Rhode Island College, gave the following budgetary overview.**

RIC is requesting an 8% increase in tuition. This will help to help improve student graduation rates, retention, student success, advising and experiential learning opportunities. They also want to support their students with additional financial aid. Even with this increase request, they are still the lowest among their peers in tuition. It would be a $656 increase in tuition for their students.

The 4.5% increase would help to cover fixed operating costs, but not to advance their mission and to move the institution forward to improve student retention or improve their academic advising and support to the students.

Mr. Duffy asked President Sanchez whether he is confident that the increase would not decrease their enrollment. President Sanchez stated that he does not think such an increase would have an impact on enrollment.

Mr. DelGiudice asked about the impact of an 8% increase for Pell Grant students.

President Sanchez answered the freshmen class has 49% Pell recipients. Rhode Island College is the most affordable in the region. An 8% increase is still below peers.
Dr. David Dooley, President of the University of Rhode Island, then gave an overview of the University’s budget proposal.

President Dooley stated that the 4.5% increase for in-state students would cause the University to have to make budget reductions of $3.5 million dollars off their current budgetary priorities and resources.

Instead, they are recommending a 7.5% increase for in-state students, which would be $972 for a resident prior to financial aid. The increase would not affect how URI compares to its regional peers for in-state tuition. It would still maintain its competitiveness in the marketplace. URI would still be the most affordable research university in the Northeast. Also, it would maintain the status of being the most efficient research university in the Northeast on a per credit hour basis.

This would allow the University to continue their strategic goal of expanding a world-class faculty. Currently the tuition for in-state residents is $13,000 and non-residents is $29,000. It is the non-residents’ tuition that contributes the most to the operating budget.

URI has a new enrollment record with of over 17,000. As enrollment grows they want to increase the resources for undergraduates so that there are no road blocks in credit completion and graduation rates.

Mr. Duffy asked President Dooley to clarify his recommendation on non-resident tuition. President Dooley stated that an increase of more than 4% would likely result in decreased enrollments from out-of-state students and URI would not be able to meet its revenue projections. He noted that the market for non-resident students is much more competitive and responsive to price increases.

Mr. Bernstein asked how many applications are received for freshmen spots. President Dooley answered there are 21,793 applications with 4,574 are from in-state and 17,219 are from out of state for 3,356 openings for freshmen.

Dr. Meghan Hughes, President of the Community College of Rhode Island, gave the following overview of the CCRI budget.

She recommended a scenario with a 9% increase in tuition rates. This increased revenue would allow them to improve students’ persistence, completion and transfer. She noted that CCRI had no tuition increase last year and were told to anticipate no increase next year. With the 9% scenario, they can begin to significantly streamline admissions process. Also, it will help them meet contractual obligations and pay significant health care costs.
With a 9% increase, tuition would go up by $400 annually for a full-time, in-state student. It allows CCRI to pilot programs that would improve student outcomes while keeping tuition 20% below the full Pell Grant limit. She noted that such an increase would not affect their position among regional peers in terms of tuition.

President Hughes then presented a second scenario of a 7% tuition increase. With this increased revenue, CCRI would be able to streamline their admissions process and their employee obligations, but they would not be able to undertake other initiatives for student success.

Following the presentations, Chair Foulkes made a recommendation for a 7% increase in tuition for in-state students at all institutions. He noted that this represents a compromise between the 4.5% scenario presented by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner and the recommendations from the Presidents. He also noted that institutions should not expect an increase in tuition/fees the following year.

A discussion took place among the Council members regarding the tuition increases at the three institutions.

Mr. Duffy asked for a point of clarification regarding out-of-state tuition, specifically whether it would also increase by 7%, or in the case of URI by 4%.

Mr. Bernstein expressed his concerns about increasing tuition by a greater percentage for in-state students than out-of-state students. He went on to recommend giving the institutions what they requested this year, even if it is above 7%, because it is less likely there would be an increase the next year.

Dr. Williams stated that he is very sensitive to tuition increases as he is currently a parent paying such fees, but that the institutions are underfunded and they need increased revenue to meet their goals. He noted that student aid will increase as well, and therefore low-income families will not have to pay the full increase.

Mr. DelGiudice stated that any increase in tuition is a heavy burden.

Mr. John Rainone, who is a current RIC student and student member of the Council, stated that he felt students would understand that the institutions need more funding to enhance the student experience and that the proposed increases in tuition would not keep him from attending a school.

Senator Izzo expressed a need for a better understanding of the budgeting process and called for some mechanism to determine actual institutional need.
President Dooley invited the Council to do a deep dive into their budget so that they could better understand the complexities.

Mr. Duffy noted that he supports increasing in-state tuition above 4.5% because the institutions need resources to meet the mandate for improved performance, which will be measured by performance funding metrics.

A motion was then made by Senator Izzo and seconded by Mr. DelGiudice:

**THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Requests, Tuition and Fee Rates, and Tables of Organization for FY2018 and 2019, with a 7% increase in tuition and mandatory fees for in-state undergraduate students, and the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Allocations for FY 2017, and send their recommendation to the Board of Education.

Chair Foulkes noted that this motion reflects his recommendation and represents a compromise for all parties.

Dr. Williams expressed his concern that 7% in-state tuition would not leave the institutions with the resources they need and that the difference from the recommendations of the Presidents is small.

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

**VOTED: THA** The Council on Postsecondary Education amend the motion to reflect the tuition/fees rates as recommended by the Presidents.

**VOTE:** 3 members voted in the affirmative and 4 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

**ABSTAINS:** 0
Chair Foulkes noted that this amendment did not pass.

On the motion that was made by Senator Izzo and seconded by Mr. DelGiudice, it was:

**VOTED: THAT**  
The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Requests, Tuition and Fee Rates, and Tables of Organization for FY2018 and 2019, with a 7% increase in tuition and mandatory fees for in-state undergraduate students, and the Unrestricted and Restricted Budget Allocations for FY 2017, and send their recommendation to the Board of Education.

**VOTE:** 6 members voted in the affirmative and 1 member voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, and Senator Thomas Izzo.

**NAYS:** Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8b) Approval of Institutional Performance Metrics for CCRI, RIC and URI.

Chair Foulkes invited the Presidents to present the performance metrics for their institutions. The performance funding law passed in June.

Performance metrics are intended to promote coordination of 3 public institutions around shared priorities: a) improving graduation/persistence rates; b) increasing certificates and degrees awarded in high-demand, high-wage fields; and c) advancing mission-specific initiatives. The law specifies that performance-based mechanisms will affect only “additional allocations of otherwise unrestricted general revenue greater than the base amount....” The baseline for each metric will be the average value over the previous 5 years. An annual performance will be the average of the current year and the prior year. The institutions will be judged on the performance metrics for future allocations beginning in FY19.
President Dooley gave the overview of the proposed performance metrics for URI.

A discussion took place regarding what the definition is for high-wage, high-demand jobs in response to the comments by Mr. Walsh during the open forum. Provost DeHayes indicated that the definition was developed by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner and shared with the Presidents. At URI, it was also shared at a faculty meeting, and faculty representatives were present at the performance funding advisory group.

President Sanchez then gave the overview of the proposed performance metrics for RIC.

President Hughes gave the overview of the proposed performance metrics for CCRI, noting that the metrics for high-demand, high-wage certificates/degrees had been modified to calculate by percentage of total awards, rather than by number of total awards.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approve institutional performance metrics for CCRI, RIC and URI as presented and authorize the Commissioner to forward to the Governor and legislature.

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

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8c) Acceptance of the Audited Financial Statements for the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island, and the Division of Higher Education Assistance for the Fiscal Year Ended 6/30/2016.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the Audited Financial Statements for the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island, and the Division of Higher Education Assistance for the Fiscal Year Ended 6/30/2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8d) Initial approval of St. Joseph School of Nursing to Operate as a Proprietary School in Rhode Island.

Dr. Phyllis Harnick and Ms. Deanna Velletri provided an overview of the application from St. Joseph School of Nursing.

The St. Joseph School of Nursing (SJSON) was founded in 1899 as a part of the former St. Joseph Hospital and operated under an exemption from Council regulations for health-related programs or courses offered by non-profit hospitals. The school no longer qualified for an exemption due to a change in ownership in 2013.

St. Joseph School of Nursing offers a program leading to a diploma in nursing. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the national licensing examination for Registered Nurses. They have an affiliate agreement with Salve Regina University that will allow eligible St. Joseph graduates to earn their Bachelor of Science degree in nursing after completing additional coursework at Salve Regina University.

General Council Ron Cavallaro offered a point of information. He explained that proprietary schools are for-profit or non-profit entities that grant no awards above the pre-associate certificate level.
Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education grant initial approval to Prospect CharterCARE SJHSRI, LLC, to operate the St. Joseph School of Nursing as a postsecondary proprietary school in Rhode Island.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8e) Approval of a Narragansett Electric Company Utility Easement for the Primary Electrical Service Line that feeds the University of Rhode Island Kingston Campus.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Narragansett Electric Company Utility Easement for the primary electrical service line that feeds the University of Rhode Island Kingston Campus and the surrounding area.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8f) Approval for a Grant of Easement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/URI and Narragansett Electric Company for the Greenfins Building at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Grant of Easement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/URI and Narragansett Electric Company related to the Greenfins building located at the University’s Bay Campus.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8g) Approval for the Demolition of Buildings in Conjunction with the Development of the College of Engineering.

President Dooley explained that the University is currently in phase one of a multi-phase project to expand the College of Engineering. As part of this phase, five buildings along Upper College Road need to be demolished to make room for the new construction.
Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the demolition of five University buildings currently located on the site of the new College of Engineering and direct the University staff to obtain all required approvals for such demolition as needed.

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

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8h) Approval of a Uniform Real Estate License Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity Housing Corporation.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Uniform Real Estate License Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity Housing Corporation as presented. Upon the Council’s approval, these documents will be forwarded to the State Properties Committee for review and approval.

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0


Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Council Schedule & Committees Schedule for 2017 as presented.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8j) Approval of the Awarding of Tenure at the Rank of Professor with Initial Appointment as Dean in the College of Health Sciences at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Mr. DelGiudice and seconded by Dr. Williams, it was:
VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of tenure at the rank of professor for Dr. Gary Liguori upon initial appointment as Dean of the College of Health Sciences at the University of Rhode Island effective August 29, 2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8k) Approval of Tenure at the Rank of Professor with Appointment as the Routhier Endowed Chair for Practice in the College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of tenure at the rank of Professor for Dr. Betty Rambur upon initial appointment as the Routhier Endowed Chair for Practice in the College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island effective June 26, 2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0
8l) Approval of Amendment to Section 5.03 of the Council Personnel Policy Manual.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Amendment to Section 5.03 of the Council Personnel Policy Manual as presented.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8m) Approval of Recommendations from the System Personnel Review Committee (SPRC):

- New classification — Associate VP, Student Affairs at URI
- Upgrade — Coordinator, Health Services/ Pharmacy Education at URI
- Reclassifications — Compliance Officer and Senior Compliance Officer at URI
- New classification — Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration

8m1) Establishment of new classification, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs, At the University of Rhode Island.
VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Associate Vice President, Student Affairs at URI.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8m2) Upgrade for Coordinator, Health Services/Pharmacy Education in Health Services at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the upgrade for the position of Coordinator, Health Services/Pharmacy Education in Health Services at URI.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
8m3) Reclassification to Compliance Officer and Senior Compliance Officer at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the reclassifications of the positions of Compliance Officer and Senior Compliance Officer at URI.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8m4) Establishment of new classification, Executive Director, Rhode Island Nursing Education Center Administration.

A motion was made by Mr. Bernstein and seconded by Mr. Duffy:

THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Executive Director, Nursing Education Center
President Frank Sanchez asked the Council to consider two amendments to the position description within the new classification for Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration:

1) Under “Essential Duties and Responsibilities,” replace the fourth bullet “ensure that the annual budget is submitted to the Commissioner for approval and recommendation to the Council on Postsecondary Education and that the submission reflects the RINEC strategic plan” with the following (additional language underlined):

“In coordination with the academic Deans and institutions, ensure that the annual budget is submitted to the Commissioner for approval and recommendation to the Council on Postsecondary Education and that the submission reflects the RINEC strategic plan.”

2) Also under “Essential Duties and Responsibilities,” replace the sixteenth bullet “Manage day-to-day business operations, contract management, and financial reporting” with the following (additional language underlined):

“In coordination with the academic Deans, manage day-to-day business operations, contract management, and financial reporting.”

President Sanchez noted that the two amendments were important for ensuring that the academic Deans are fully integrated into the management of the Center.

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

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education amend the position description within the new classification for Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration with the language as presented by President Sanchez.

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

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
Mr. DelGiudice suggested another amendment to the position description for the Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration:

Under “Qualifications: Required,” add the language “or equivalent experience” to the requirement for “master’s degree with a specialization in business, public administration or other related field.”

Mr. DelGiudice stated that he is against requiring advanced degrees for administrative roles, and he noted that there were a number of individuals with bachelor’s-level education who had decades of experience and would be well-qualified to run the Center.

Chair Foulkes invited the Presidents of RIC and URI to comment on this matter.

President David Dooley stated that a consultant advised them to hire someone with a master’s degree given the complexity of the facility and that he recommended following the consultant’s advice. Vice President Vern Wyman explained that the person would need to regularly interact with the Deans and oversee all budgetary and operational functions for the Center.

Chair Cottam asked President Dooley whether he would be amenable to changing the master’s degree from a required qualification to a preferred qualification. Dr. Williams suggested that there would be more candidates if the master’s was preferred. Neither President Dooley nor President Sanchez objected to that change.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education amend the position description within the new classification for Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration so that a bachelor’s degree would be required and a “master’s degree with specialization in business, public administration, or other related field” would be preferred.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for vote on the motion regarding the new classification, with the position description as having been amended.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Executive Director, Nursing Education Center Administration, as amended.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Following the vote, Senator Izzo asked for a point of clarification. He wondered whether there was a precedent for the Council amending position descriptions.

General Counsel Ron Cavallaro noted that it was within the Council’s authority to approve/ disapprove the recommendations of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding new classifications and that the position description was a part of the
classification they were approving. Ms. Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations, concurred.

8n) **Approval of Two Non-SARA Applications:**

- University of Southern California (USC)
- Regis College, Weston, MA

8n1) **Approval of Non-SARA Application for the University of Southern California (USC).**

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the application of the University of Southern California (USC) to operate in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, non-profit institution.

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

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8n2) **Approval of Non-SARA Application for Regis College, Weston, MA.**

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the application of Regis College, Weston, Massachusetts
to operate in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, non-profit institution.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

10. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

a) The next full board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at CCRI, Room 4090, Warwick, RI 02886.

b) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Rhode Island College, Donovan Dining Center, Faculty Center Main Dining Room, Providence, Rhode Island Warwick, RI 02908.

c) The next meeting of the Personnel and Finance/Facilities Committees for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02886.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of November 9, 2016.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.