



Enclosure 2a
March 8, 2017

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
Community College of Rhode Island
400 East Avenue, Room 1040
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, February 1, 2017, at the Community College of Rhode Island. At 5:31 p.m., Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

Present: Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent: Michael Bernstein and Maria Chavez Blanco.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of February 1, 2017.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's December 7, 2016 Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the minutes.

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the meeting of December 7, 2016.
	VOTE:	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes thanked CCRI for hosting the meeting. He then gave an overview of Governor Raimondo's proposed expansion of the Rhode Island Promise Scholarship. Her proposal would enable eligible students to attend one of the state's public postsecondary institutions for two years free of tuition or mandatory fees. He noted that if passed by the legislature, this new initiative would be administered from the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, and he was pleased to see that preparations were already well underway in the Office. He praised the initiative as being a transformational program and an opportunity to focus on students first.

Chair Foulkes also mentioned the Open Textbook initiative as a complement to the Governor's scholarship proposal. He noted that reducing the cost of textbooks would improve affordability for students.

Chair Foulkes looked forward to collaborating with the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education to improve student readiness for college.

Chair Foulkes then shifted his focus to the recent executive order by President Trump, which has gained a lot of attention in the media and has had wide impacts on higher education. He noted that the higher education community has reacted to the order banning entry into the US for those from 7 predominantly Muslim countries as an affront to the values of inclusiveness, diversity and globalism. Chair Foulkes applauded the leadership of all the campuses for their commitment to protecting the safety and privacy of their students, faculty, and staff.

Turning to Council matters, Chair Foulkes noted that the Personnel Committee has completed its performance reviews of the Presidents for 2016, and the Committee has begun a review of the OPC management structure and its personnel, along with Council personnel policies. Regarding the Finance/Facilities Committee, Chair Heather Crosby has provided a very detailed outline for all future meetings with an agenda for each meeting.

Chair Foulkes highlighted several exciting developments in higher education around the state. He was delighted to be part of the 125th anniversary kick off at URI. He was also pleased to tour the new RI Nursing Education Center facility, which is nearing completion, and he praised RIC and URI for their collaboration in bringing this innovative facility to fruition.

Chair Foulkes also reminded everyone of President Sánchez's inauguration that will take place on February 17, 2017 at Rhode Island College.

Finally, Chair Foulkes took a moment to thank Council member Michael Bernstein, who was not present that evening. Since Mr. Bernstein's term has ended, Governor Raimondo will appoint another Council member to replace him, but he deserves recognition for his service as the first Chair of the newly constructed governance system.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam shared with the Council exciting news that Rhode Island was 1 of 10 states nationally to receive the New Skills for Youth grant. The award, \$2 million from JP Morgan Chase in collaboration with the Council of Chiefs State School Officers, will go to support career readiness and postsecondary attainment. Last week the Governor hosted a launch event at the State House for a new initiative, known as Prepare RI, and more details will be shared at the upcoming Board of Education meeting.

Chair Cottam noted that also on the agenda for Board of Education will be an update of the Rhode Island Diploma System for elementary and secondary education. The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has recently adopted new regulations that allow for personalized pathways and designations, and RIDE has recommended 3 designations: the Commissioner's Seal, the Seal of Biliteracy, and Pathway endorsements.

Finally, Chair Cottam reported that the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education voted at its last meeting to endorse the National Core Arts Standards, which would replace fine arts expectations. The new standards were developed by the National Arts Education Association and teacher leaders across the country, and they include standards for dance, music, arts, theater, and visual arts. The endorsement will bring classroom-based materials, resources, and funding for the arts.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that several speakers had signed up to address the Council in the Open Forum, and he called them in order.

Jay Walsh, Executive Director of the URI American Association of University Professors (AAUP), spoke regarding President Trump's executive order on immigration. He asked the Council to consider the following additional actions to protect students, faculty, and staff: 1) Retaining immigration attorney and establish a legal fund to protect students, staff and faculty subject to the executive order on immigration or future similar orders; 2) Preparing and disseminating information on how to handle green card applications, student visa or work visa applications following the executive order or similar directives; 3) Providing immediate assistance to any student, staff or faculty member who is currently abroad or find themselves detained under this executive order; 4) Committing to academic freedom without borders so that the scholarly work is protected; and 5) Following the lead of other state officials who have publically declared opposition to the executive order, including President Dooley who said that URI officers will not act as agents of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Aaron Ley, Professor of Political Science at URI, addressed the Council next regarding the executive order. He suggested that worries about immigration status would affect academic performance for students and job performance for staff and faculty. He voiced his support for the actions of the union and called upon the Council to use their administrative powers and resources at all the institutions of higher education to make sure that their students, colleagues and staff are protected.

David Bidwell, Assistant Professor of Marine Affairs at URI, also wished to speak about the executive order, sharing experiences of several of his graduate students. He told the Council that there is great concern among students from Indonesia and other predominantly Muslim countries that were not on the President's list about planning future travel to see family and undertake research, in case future executive orders prevent them from returning to URI to complete their studies.

Danielle DiRocco, Executive Director of the Graduate Assistants Union at URI, addressed the Council on behalf of a number of graduate employees at the University of Rhode Island that are from both targeted countries and countries that are of concern, in case the list of seven countries should be expanded. She shared the experience of a student who had just come to URI from Iran, having been married only two months before. His wife had her visa cleared to join him in the US, but she cannot come because of the travel ban. She spoke about the need to preserve the University community, and she urged the Council to show their support.

Sahaz Motametti signed up, but another graduate student named Sarah spoke on her behalf. Sarah spoke about the stress and anxiety this ban is creating within the campus community.

Chair Foulkes thanked all the speakers, and reiterated the Council's and the institutions' commitment to supporting and protecting the academic community.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

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

Legislative Update

Commissioner Purcell gave an update on legislative matters as the General Assembly has convened for 2017. The Office has one bill in process which would clarify RIGL §16-40-1 the definition of accreditation:

“(3) for distance learning purposes only a degree granting institution has full accreditation by a Regional Accrediting Agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and equivalent to NEASC.”

He noted that two other bills had been introduced that would be of interest to the Council regarding higher education:

- H5161 & S0033 Westerly Higher Education & Job Skills Center Funding - appropriates \$1.25 million for Westerly Higher Education Center

- H5237 – Student Equal Economic Opportunity Act – establishes certain college tuition opportunities for undocumented students who graduate from Rhode Island High Schools (similar to 2016 Bill)

Budget Overview

Commissioner Purcell invited Dr. Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Management to give the update on the Governor's recommended budgets for FY 2018 and FY 2017 revised.

Dr. LaPanne explained that the Governor's recommended budget for FY2018 included a \$29.5M increase in unrestricted funds (up 15%), which included \$10M for the proposed RI Promise expansion, \$1.25M for the Westerly Education Center, \$4.9M for RI Nursing Education Center lease payments, and \$12.2M for GO debt restructuring.

Regarding RICAP Asset Protection, Dr. LaPanne noted that there was a decrease of \$7.7M (-32%) in FY2018, since the FY2017 enacted budget contained one-time only allowances that would not be continued in future years. Regarding RICAP Special Projects, she pointed out that the FY2017 revised budget was approximately \$5.5M higher than the FY2017 enacted due to several additional projects at URI and increased funds for the Knight Campus Renewal project at CCRI. Special Projects for FY 2018 totaled nearly \$20M for projects across the three campuses.

Dr. LaPanne reviewed the FTE allocations and noted that the Office would see an increase of 10 FTEs in FY2018 for the RI Nursing Education Center administrative staff.

RI Promise Expansion

Commissioner Purcell presented an overview of the Governor's proposal to expand the RI Promise program. If passed by the legislature, the expanded program would cover the cost of tuition and mandatory fees at RI's public institutions for all Rhode Island high school students. Students who graduate this spring 2017 would be able to apply the scholarship to their first two years at CCRI or to their last two years at RIC or URI. The program is intended to make college more affordable and accessible for all Rhode Islanders since most jobs now require a postsecondary credential.

Commissioner Purcell explained that beginning with the high school graduation class of 2017, students must meet certain eligibility requirements, including RI residency, full-time enrollment, FAFSA completion, and admission to the institution of their choice. To keep the scholarship, students must maintain full-time enrollment and Satisfactory Academic Progress. These requirements are designed to encourage students to finish on time. He noted that the amount of the scholarship would be the difference between student aid received and the costs of tuition and fees, and that it would not consider family income or loans in the calculation.

With regard to the overall cost of the program, Commissioner Purcell stated that once fully phased-in, the expected cost would be \$30M per year. In year 1 (FY2018), the program would require \$10M, which would include \$3M in scholarships for CCRI and \$7M in capacity building funds for the institutions and OPC.

Dr. Williams asked whether there is an income cutoff. Commissioner Purcell answered that there is no income cutoff as the program is currently conceived.

Chair Foulkes stated that this proposal would be discussed in greater detail at future Council meetings.

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

Commissioner Purcell gave the following notices:

5b1) Proposal to offer a fully online Associate of Science degree in Business Administration with a General Business Concentration at the Community College of Rhode Island.

Commissioner Purcell welcomed the proposal from CCRI for its first associate degree available fully online. The academic program is the same as the in-classroom program at CCRI, except that it is administered online. CCRI's Business Department Advisory Board is very supportive of the college offering a fully online business degree.

5b2) Proposal for offering an undergraduate Certificate in Energy Economics and Policy at the University of Rhode Island.

Commissioner Purcell stated that the new certificate is designed to meet employer demand for professionals in energy economics, management and policy, which are fields that will continue to grow.

5b3) Proposal to suspend the Bachelor of Science in Sociology at the University of Rhode Island.

Commissioner Purcell stated that URI wishes to suspend its Bachelor of Science program in Applied Sociology because the Bachelor of Arts program in Criminology and Criminal Justice will take its place. He assured the Council that the University intends to allow sufficient time for current students to complete the program before it is suspended.

5b4) Proposal for offering a major track in Religious Studies within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at the University of Rhode Island.

Commissioner Purcell noted that the philosophy department at URI has high enrollments in its courses dealing with eastern religions and religious thought. With the addition of new faculty with expertise in Muslim religion, the University seeks to add a track for religious studies within the undergraduate philosophy major.

5b5) Proposal to offer a post-baccalaureate Certificate Program in Embedded Systems at the University of Rhode Island.

Commissioner Purcell stated that the University seeks to offer a certificate in Embedded Systems, and he indicated that those from URI were on hand to answer any questions about the program.

Following the notifications, Dr. Williams asked whether the cost for the online program at CCRI is the same cost of attending in person. Commissioner Purcell answered yes.

Mr. DelGiudice congratulated President Hughes on the proposal for the online business program and expressed his hope that there would be similar proposals coming in the future.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

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

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

President Hughes welcomed everyone to the meeting. She was pleased to announce that after an extensive search process and two previous failed searches, Dr. Rosemary Costigan has accepted the offer to become CCRI's permanent Vice President for Academic Affairs. Approval of her appointment is on the Council's agenda tonight.

She noted that as interim Vice President for the last year, Dr. Costigan has been critical to the implementation of several important projects that remove persistence barriers for our students including Master Schedule, Multiple Measures assessment, expansion of co-requisite coursework, and expansion of Guided Pathways.

President Hughes also announced the appointment of Dr. Thomas Sabbagh as interim Dean of Business, Science, and Technology following the retirement of long-time dean, Dr. Peter Woodberry. She noted that searches were underway to round out the leadership team to include a permanent Dean of Business, Science, and Technology; and Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences, Vice President for Workforce Development, Director of Institutional Technology and Online Learning, and Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator.

President Hughes gave an overview of the strategic planning process, which will launch in the coming weeks. With the help of an experienced consulting firm, Paulien & Associates, CCRI will engage students, faculty, staff, and key external stakeholders, including the Council, to develop a robust three-year plan.

She noted that CCRI's Student Services has seen an increase in inquiries from potential high school students, following Governor Raimondo's announcement of the planned expansion of the Rhode Island Promise. She expressed her support for the Governor's commitment to making higher education accessible. By offering two free years of college education to our state's high school graduates who enroll immediately after graduation, they will increase their ability to complete their Associates Degree quickly, transfer to a four-year school, and secure high quality employment right here in Rhode Island.

CCRI is making major investments to enhance security measures on their Knight Campus in Warwick. During the spring semester they will be installing new "Lock and Swipe" electronic door locks that require college ID for entrance, as well as exterior and interior cameras and a "Code Blue" alert system. Protecting the safety of our students, faculty, and staff is an important priority, and they are investing a great deal of time and resources into modernizing our campuses.

From June 3 through June 6, CCRI's Institutional Advancement office will be hosting a "giving weekend" that will rally Alumni and community members to support the college and their students. The weekend will start with a scholarship benefit part at the Knight Estate on Friday, June 3, and will end with the annual CCRI Alumni Foundation Scholarship Open on Monday, June 6.

Ms. Rachelle Green asked whether the \$1,000,000 for implementation of the expanded RI Promise program would go directly to the colleges or be distributed to OPC. Commissioner Purcell answered that it goes through OPC.

Chair Foulkes stated that the details of program administration of that are work in progress.

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

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

President Dooley invited everyone to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony on February 3, 2017 to celebrate the opening of temporary classroom space at Schneider Electric during construction of new engineering center on URI's Kingston campus. The University's electrical, computer and biomedical engineering programs, including laboratories, offices and classrooms, will occupy a total of 30,000 square feet on the first and second floors of the Schneider Electric facility at 132 Fairgrounds Road, West Kingston. The facility is about two miles from the Kingston campus.

President Dooley then gave an overview of the University's winter J- Term, now in its fourth year. The program continues to grow in enrollment and programs offered and has helped to improve retention and graduation rates. He noted that if the RI Promise program is expanded, the J-Term will enable students to accumulate the necessary credits to participate.

With a view to commenting on the executive order, President Dooley discussed the global focus of the University. URI sent 17 groups of students all over the world in January. The University also has a strong relationship with Indonesia, wherein employees of the Indonesian federal government are sent to URI for advanced training in fisheries and marine affairs, undertaken at government expense. He also noted that URI is administering \$25 million in grants in Ghana, West Africa to improve coastal sustainability, fisheries and the economies. President Dooley indicated that the University was monitoring the executive situation closely to preserve the sustainability and success of these global programs.

Senator Izzo expressed his concern regarding the Promise Scholarship, if the cost of the J-Term is not covered, since not all students can afford to enroll in the J-Term.

Commissioner Purcell stated that it is being discussed.

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

President Frank Sánchez reported the following updates related to Rhode Island College:

He noted that the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) recently reviewed RIC's educator preparation programs and indicated that, while RIC's School Psychologist program was approved with distinction, significant improvements to other programs would be required in order to meet the needs of Rhode Island's youth, schools, and communities. RIC plans to appoint a change mentor to make recommendations for improving the program and this new position is being voted on by the Council under action items. In addition, they are assembling an advisory council made up of distinguished RIC education alumni and other education leaders around the state, and they plan to extend outreach efforts.

President Sánchez then gave a six-month progress update on the audit of RIC's HR and financial processes, which was completed in the summer of 2016. He was pleased to report that RIC has made progress on all of the report's recommendations, which concerned human resources/ staffing, financial administration and management, auxiliary enterprises, grants and sponsored projects, and purchasing.

Turning to strategic planning, President Sánchez stated that they are in their second phase of engaging the entire campus including students, faculty, staff and stakeholders in a feedback process and preparing a second draft with the goal of launching the 2017-2022 Strategic Action Plan in the summer.

President Sánchez expressed his hope that many Council members would be able to participate in the upcoming inaugural celebrations, with his installation ceremony taking place on Friday, February 17, 2017. He wanted to make clear that no state dollars were going to pay for the celebrations. In addition to fundraising for the inauguration, RIC plans to launch a First in Family Fund to support first-generation students, who currently make up 43% of the freshman class.

President Sánchez also welcomed Anna Cano-Morales as the new Associate Vice President for Community Equity and Diversity, who will lead strategic initiatives on inclusive excellence. He noted that RIC also recently hired Margaret Lynch as Title IX Coordinator and Director of Institutional Equity.

Chair Foulkes thanked President Sánchez for his report. He also thanked Vice President David Gingerella for all his work around the audit.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

7a) Presentation of trends in higher education related to student life including the student mental health crisis.

Chair Foulkes noted that Council member Senator Thomas Izzo had been speaking with the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs at CCRI, RIC, and URI regarding student life issues and specifically on mental health needs and the challenges faced by the counseling centers. As a result of these discussions, the campuses agreed to speak on trends in higher education as related to student life including the student mental health crisis. The Vice Presidents for Student Affairs Kathy Collins from the University of Rhode Island; Sara Enright, Vice President for Student Affairs/Chief Outcomes Officer at CCRI; Scott Kane, Vice President for Student Affairs at RIC and the Directors of Counseling Thomas Lavin, Director of Counseling at RIC, Robert Cipolla, Dean of Student Development at CCRI and Robert Samuels, Director of Counseling at URI provided an overview of the national and campus-specific data on the number and severity of mental health issues faced by students on college campuses. Further, they explored the services that are currently available to students on the campuses and reviewed some of the major challenges for students and the Counseling Centers.

Mr. DelGiudice asked why there was a spike in the demand for counseling over the past two years at URI. Dr. Samuels answered that it is likely because students have become more comfortable accessing services. He noted that URI has also added a triage center which allows students to be seen in the same day and evaluated by a clinician. They are also offering Mental Health First Aid which is a special training for staff members to provide an earlier identification of students in distress and send them to the counseling center.

Mr. Duffy asked how many counselors URI has on its staff. Dr. Samuels answered that they currently have nine slots but they have 2.5 positions vacant because they are unable to offer more competitive salaries.

Dr. Lavin concluded the presentation by recognizing that more clinical resources are needed to support the student populations that include greater numbers of individuals with more serious and complex problems.

Senator Izzo took the opportunity to speak about the mental health first aid initiative he has been working on for the past two years. He was pleased that the three colleges have been sharing resources and he encouraged them to continue to collaborate and spread awareness going forward.

Mr. DelGiudice thanked Senator Izzo for his attention on this issue and noted that on a recent visit to URI, he spent time with the Students Veterans Organization. During the conversation about career development and mentoring, they ended up discussing Mental Health First Aid and the services available to the Veteran population at URI and the other campuses as well.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Discussion and recommendation for approval of a Request for Exemption from the University of Rhode Island's Conflict of Interest Management Committee (CIMC) regarding James O. Prochaska, Ph.D. in accordance with the terms of the Rhode Island Public Private Partnership Act.

Commissioner Purcell presented the recommendation for approval of a Request for Exemption from the URI Conflict of Interest Management Committee (CIMC). Dr. Prochaska is the founder of and a consultant to Pro-Change Behavior Systems, Inc. (Pro-Change). In October 2015, Dr. Prochaska sold his share of Pro-Change, and he has maintained his relationship with the company as a consultant.

Commissioner Purcell 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 Exemption regarding James O. Prochaska, Ph.D., in accordance with the terms of the Rhode Island Public Private Partnership Act. Upon approval by the Council, this request will be forwarded to the Rhode Island Ethics Commission for examination and approval per RIGL §16-59-26(h).

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8b) Approval of Proposed Amendments to Distance Learning Policy.

Commissioner Purcell noted that this item had been on the agenda for discussion at the meeting on December 7, 2016. The revisions to the Distance Learning Policy are intended to clarify what it means to operate in Rhode Island for the purposes of distance learning and what policies and standards apply to approved non-SARA institutions.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the amendments to the Distance Learning Policy as presented.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8c) Approval of recommendations from the System Personnel Review Committee (SPRC):

Commissioner Purcell presented the following recommendations:

8c1) New classification – Vice President, Workforce Development (CCRI)

The Vice President of Workforce Development will lead the effort to enhance and grow the workforce development programs at the Community College of Rhode Island, including: customized training in business and industry; healthcare, nonprofit and government sectors; workforce development programs, professional/career training programs; and small business/entrepreneurial development programs.

8c2) New classification--Director, Instructional Technology and Online Learning at CCRI

The Director, Instructional Technology and Online Learning at the Community College of Rhode Island will oversee the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of on-line and alternative learning formats.

8c3, 4, 5) New classifications for DataSpark positions at URI

President Dooley discussed this position and two other positions related to DataSpark, which is being acquired by URI. DataSpark manages a number of statewide data bases that are extremely valuable and essential to the state, and it makes a lot of sense from their perspective to have them housed and managed at the University of Rhode Island where they can be a research tool amongst other things to assist the state.

President Dooley introduced Dick Spies who is the Chair of the Providence Plan and was there to answer any questions. Chair Spies gave an overview of the Providence Plan, which originated as a partnership between the city and the state.

Mr. DelGiudice asked whether there was funding that comes along with the acquisition. President Dooley answered yes. Mr. Spies indicated that most of the funds come through contracts with state agencies. Commissioner Purcell indicated that OPC was one of the entities, along with DLT and RIDE and others, who contract with DataSpark to produce data reports on specific topics of interest.

8c6) Change Management Mentor at Rhode Island College

Commissioner Purcell noted that President Sánchez spoke about the need for this position in his President's report, related to improving programs at RIC's Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

Following the review of the position recommendations, Chair Foulkes called for a motion regarding the new classification for Vice President, Workforce Development at CCRI.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Vice President, Workforce Development at CCRI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for a motion, regarding the new classification for Director, Instructional Technology and Online Learning at CCRI.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Green 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 Director, Instructional Technology and Online Learning at CCRI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for a motion, regarding the new classification for Director, DataSpark at URI.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Director, DataSpark at URI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for a motion, regarding the new classification for Director, Dev/Ops at DataSpark at URI.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Director, DevOps/DataSpark URI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for a motion, regarding the new classification for Director, Data Analysis at DataSpark at URI.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Director, Data Analysis/DataSpark at URI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes called for a motion, regarding the new classification for Change Management Mentor at RIC.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the recommendation of the System Personnel Review Committee regarding the new classification for Change Management Mentor at Rhode Island College.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8d) Approval of appointment of Vice President for Academic Affairs at CCRI.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the appointment.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the appointment of Dr. Rosemary Costigan as Vice President for Academic Affairs at CCRI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Foulkes congratulated Dr. Costigan, and reminded the Council that it has been a year to the day since she began in an interim capacity.

8e) Approval of appointment of Vice President for Finance and Administration at URI.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the appointment.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the appointment of Abigail Rider as Vice President for Finance and Administration at URI.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8f) Approval of CCRI FY 18 Retirement Incentive Program.

Commissioner Purcell presented the following agenda item.

Commissioner Purcell explained that the retirement incentive program offers a one-time payment of 50% of pre-retirement salary and post-retirement health insurance benefits to eligible employees.

Mr. Duffy asked about the cost projections for the program. Commissioner Purcell invited President Hughes to respond with the details.

President Hughes stated that the program is intended to be self-funded. They are predicting there it will require a \$4.5-million expenditure in the first year, but that in the following year, they will see \$900,000 in savings. There are 73 eligible faculty/ staff, and CCRI is working under the assumption that they will see 50% participation by those who are eligible. The current cost of employing those 36 FTEs is about \$4.5 million in salary and benefits, and the cost of providing them with the incentive is 50% of one year salary is about \$1.5 million dollars. When they replace the FTEs, CCRI intends to fill in the areas of the college that they want to grow and at a lower employment cost.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the CCRI FY 18 Retirement Incentive Plan as presented.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a) The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 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, March 1, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02886.
- c) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at RIC, Alger Hall Room 110, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of February 1, 2017.

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of February 1, 2017.
	VOTE:	8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.