



Enclosure 2a
June 21, 2017

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
Rhode Island College
Faculty Center Main Dining Room
Donovan Dining Center
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at Rhode Island College in the Faculty Center Main Dining Room, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. At 5:30 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

Present: Heather Crosby, Barbara Cottam (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo.

Absent: Michael Bernstein, Maria Chavez Blanco, and Jeffery Williams.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Foulkes stated that it has come to his attention that agenda item 8j regarding the approval of an Agricultural Land Lease between the Council on Postsecondary Education/URI and Kingston Turf Farms, Inc. needs to be withdrawn, and he called for a motion.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education amends the agenda as discussed.

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

YEAS: Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda as amended for the meeting of April 26, 2017.

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

YEAS: Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2a) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's March 8, 2017 Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes for the meeting of March 8, 2017.

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

YEAS: Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

2b) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's March 27, 2017 Special Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education on March 27, 2017.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes for the special meeting of March 27, 2017.

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

YEAS: Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes welcomed everyone and thanked Rhode Island College for hosting the meeting. He also thanked the College for the tour of Gaige Hall as construction proceeds for the significant renovation to this academic building. Seeing the construction in progress was very impressive as it relates to the scope of this cluster of renovations financed by General Obligation debt on the RIC campus.

The Chair welcomed the new Acting Commissioner of Postsecondary Education, Brenda Dann-Messier. Since the meeting of March 27th when Dr. Dann-Messier's appointment was approved, she has been a whirlwind of meetings and engagements.

The Chair also pointed out the inclusion of the updated transfer policy which will be discussed this evening. He emphasized the importance of this policy as almost one-third of undergraduate students transfer at some point. This is a vital component in making the process as seamless as possible in order to minimize repetition as well as student debt and to assist with the Governor's goal of 70% with degrees by 2025. These policies need to be revised well in order to help Rhode Island's transfer students to do this well and efficiently.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

No report was given this evening.

3c) Report from the Finance and Facilities Committee.

Chair Heather Crosby reported that the Finance and Facilities Committee had their most recent meeting at the University of Rhode Island on April 5, 2017. The meeting was preceded by a tour of the campus which was focused on places that students inhabit as they go through academic experience at the University. Once again, Chair Crosby thanked the staff of the University for hosting the meeting and for the excellent tour.

She announced that the June 7, 2017 meeting will be taking place at Rhode Island College and it, too, will be preceded by a tour of the campus. The focus of that meeting will follow the content of the URI meeting which will be a focused presentation on the budget to actual projections for the remainder of FY 2017 and the initiatives that will be driving the upcoming budget effort.

In addition, Chair Crosby noted that the Committee had reviewed the upcoming RIHEBC bond issuance application that will appear on this evening's Council report. She noted that the Committee recommends that the Council give the University permission to proceed with this application.

She also summarized the Request for Proposal status for the Upper College Road study which is to include the best academic use for this parcel. Chair Crosby was very concerned that the correct terminology was used for the scope of this study so that all were aware that the goal is to determine the best use for this parcel within the context of the University itself.

Chair Crosby also noted that the Committee is continuing its extensive work on the data dashboard that will be available for use during the upcoming budget season. While the Committee anticipates that most of the data will be recurring, it is the desire of the Committee to create a “living document” that will allow for the inclusion of information for the Council as needed and when needed.

3d) Report from the Personnel Committee.

Chair Green reported that the Personnel Committee called the meeting of the full Council on March 27th in order to determine appropriate transition plan for Dr. Purcell. This has been their focus and they will be meeting in the upcoming period to address other items of concern for the Personnel Committee.

4. OPEN FORUM

The following people addressed the Council during the Open Forum:

- Dorothy Donnelly, Ph.D., chief negotiator for the URI Part-Time Faculty Union (PTFU), spoke about the PTFU contract negotiations.
- Michael Araujo, Executive Director of Rhode Island Jobs for Justice also spoke about the part time faculty union and its significant timeframe without a contract.
- Dr. Pam Elizabeth who has been an adjunct instructor for 12 years also spoke in support of the URI PTFU.
- Edward Inman, President of the URI PTFU, spoke in favor of the PTFU.
- Maureen Martin of the AFL-CIO spoke in support of the PTFU.

5. COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

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

Acting Commissioner Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier spoke about her activities and meetings since assuming her duties and provided updates on the following initiatives:

- Reaching 70% attainment by 2025
- Improving affordability for students
- Launching the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center successfully
- Improving articulation and transfer
- Launching the New Skills for Youth Grant activities
- Aligning PK-20 across system and institutions

Dr. Dann-Messier also reported to the Council that she has been meeting with a large number of constituencies including the three institutional presidents, Commissioner Wagner, state legislators related to the RI Promise Program and other issues affecting postsecondary education-related legislation, and a one-on-one with the Governor. In addition, she has attended her first cabinet meeting as well at the Governor's Workforce Board.

Dr. Dann-Messier spoke at the launch of Graduate RI and looked forward to speaking at the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Westerly Education Center on April 28th.

RI Nursing Education Center Status Update-

Dr. Dann-Messier has also been involved with meetings related to the Nursing Education Center and has found that everyone at the RI Department of Administration is in an "all hands on deck" mode to make this launch happen on time and successfully. It is extremely important that the students return for the fall semester to this new facility in a ready condition for an excellent educational experience.

Legislative Update

Dr. Dann-Messier reviewed the bills of interest as well as the status of the session with the Council members as follows:

- A technical clarification to RIGL §16-40-1 for the definition of accreditation
- H5175 is the Budget Appropriations Act for this upcoming budget year and contains the FY 2018 budget appropriation, the FY 2017 revised appropriations, and Article 3 which contains the Rhode Island Promise Proposal.
- H5161 and S0033 are companion bills related to the Westerly Higher Education and Job Skills Center Funding which appropriates \$1.25M for the Westerly Center.
- H6056 is the Student Loan Bill of Rights which provides education debt consumer advocacy and literacy training for Rhode Island students and their parents. It will establish licensure oversight of debt servicers.

Chair Foulkes asked if there is anything that Council members can go to assist. Dr. Dann-Messier urged Council members who have personal relationship with any of the legislators to talk to them in favor of the legislation that assists postsecondary education.

Westerly Education Center Update

Dr. Dann-Messier reminded the Council members that the June 21st meeting of the Council will be hosted at the Westerly Center and it will include a tour of this new facility. She also recognized the Westerly Education Center for receiving a \$19,000 grant from the Department of Labor and Training through the Real Jobs RI program, and she noted that URI, RIC, and CCRI were also partners on several other Real Jobs training grants.

5b) Proposal for the Creation of a Bioinformatics Track in the Cell and Molecular Biology program at the University of Rhode Island.

Acting Commissioner Dann-Messier gave an overview of the proposed Bioinformatics track within the Cell and Molecular Biology program at the University of Rhode Island. She noted that bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary field that applies computational techniques to understanding problems in the medical, biological and environmental disciplines, and that there is a high demand for professionals in the field. RIOPC staff reviewed the proposal and determined that the academic changes presented are within the mission, role and scope of the University of Rhode Island and do not require Council approval.

She indicated that Provost Don DeHayes and Dr. Gongqin Sun, Chair of the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, were available to answer questions.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS**a) Rhode Island College - Update from last report and current events including articulation and transfer.**

President Frank Sanchez welcomed the Acting Commissioner Dann-Messier who is a RIC alumna, and he welcomed Council back to Rhode Island College, before addressing the following topics.

He noted Rhode Island College's support of the new transfer policy, which was developed and guided by months of discussion between OPC and the three institutions. He reported that RIC welcomed approximately 700 incoming transfer students and expects a similar number in this current year.

President Sanchez reported that CCRI and RIC leadership have met multiple times to discuss various issues related to transfer and advising in order to streamline the process and build bridges for students across these two institutions.

President Sanchez also took the opportunity to notify the Council of two new certificate programs: 1) a continuing study certificate program in Microsoft Office 2016, designed to enhance workplace proficiencies and are approved for state employee incentive credit; 2) a continuing study certificate in the foundations of eating disorders and treatment to address the paucity of education providers within the RI community.

He also highlighted the 12 faculty members who have achieved and documented the requirements for tenure successfully this year, and looked forward to having the Council consider their names for tenure later in the meeting.

The second draft of the RIC's new strategic plan has been released to the RIC community after a second round of listening tours. The final version of the plan is on track to be released this summer.

National Association of Student Affairs Professionals will be including RIC as one of the first schools in the nation to complete a comprehensive review of its student affairs programs and services.

The Office of Innovation has now fully reimbursed the funds initially supported by the RIC Foundation and is now entirely self-funded in order to continue its mission to accelerate innovation across the state.

b) Community College of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events, including articulation and transfer.

President Hughes's report was deferred to discussion item 7a.

After a brief break, Chair Foulkes asked President Dooley if he could provide a brief update on issues and events at the University.

c) University of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events, including articulation and transfer.

President David Dooley thanked the Council and indicated that, in the interest of brevity, Council members may refer to the President's report included with the meeting packet. He did address the following issues:

The University is very eager to participate and support the Joint Admissions Agreement and Transfer Information. He indicated that the University has had many of its prior concerns and questions addressed during the meetings convened with the three institutions and the Office, and that the University supports the revised policy.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

7a) Discussion of proposed revisions to Articulation and Transfer Policy.

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier thanked Dr. Phyllis Harnick for her leadership in bringing this revised Articulation and Transfer Policy before the Council, and she also thanked the Presidents for their active engagement in this policy revision. Dr. Dann-Messier invited her to lead the discussion.

Dr. Harnick noted that this major revision of the policy has been carefully and thoughtfully developed by CCRI, RIC, URI, and OPC, with input from the state's education policy staff. She noted that the new policy was written with the idea that the system should work for students first and is informed by the following ideas: 1) If a student goes to CCRI with the intention of graduating from RIC or URI, they should have a clear path to doing so within four years; 2) If a student goes to CCRI and decides later on that they want to transfer, they should have as seamless and efficient a path as possible; 3) Credits should be transferable across the entire system; 4) Transfer should be easy to understand and navigate, and students should be guided through the process; 5) Faculty are the experts, and each institution is unique.

Dr. Harnick stated that the goals of the policy are to increase the number of students transferring from CCRI to RIC or URI, increase the number of CCRI transfer students who complete baccalaureate degrees; decrease the number of transfer students earning baccalaureate degrees with over 120 credits.

She then gave an overview of the new policy. She noted that among other provisions, it requires creation of transfer associate degrees at CCRI that will enable students to start as juniors. It also requires creation of programmatic pathway maps for every bachelor's degree program connected with associate degree programs.

This new policy is also clearer around communication and responsibility for students. It requires that students are notified if programs or courses are not intended for transfer. It delineates clear responsibilities and rights of students in the policy, and requires institutions to report on transfer outcomes to OPC for accountability and assessment.

After Dr. Harnick's presentation, Chair Foulkes invited President Hughes to give her report on behalf of the Community College of Rhode Island, especially around articulation and transfer.

President's Report - Community College of Rhode Island

President Hughes welcomed Acting Commissioner Brenda Dann-Messier, and then gave an overview of three initiatives that focus on improving persistence, graduation, and transfer rates:

- Online orientation launching this summer
- Guided Pathways to launch in September 2018
- Reverse Transfer, which has already allowed 20 students to graduate with associate degrees this spring.

Regarding articulation and transfer, President Hughes emphasized the importance of this new policy for helping students reach their academic and career goals, and she looked forward to working with colleagues from URI and RIC to ensure seamless transfer for students. She also praised the policy for its inclusion of credit for prior learning, which will benefit adult learners in completing their degrees.

President Hughes went on to address changes that the Community College would like to see in the final version of the policy. Specifically, she hoped that there would be greater flexibility in the development of "transfer associate degrees," as the proposed language is too prescriptive. She also hoped that further clarification would be added so that all 60 credits of a transfer associate degree would apply to bachelor's degree programs at URI and RIC and that bachelor's degree requirements would be the same for incoming transfer associate holders as for the rest of the student population.

Dr. Harnick responded that there would be an opportunity to incorporate further feedback before the policy comes up for a vote at the next meeting.

Senator Izzo asked about input from students regarding barriers to their transfer progress. Dr. Harnick responded that transfer counselors were involved and that they are very aware of the challenges students face.

Mr. Duffy questioned using 2.4 GPA as the threshold for guaranteed acceptance for CCRI students looking to transfer to RIC or URI. Dr. Harnick noted that the 2.4 GPA

threshold was part of the original policy and balances different academic requirements among the institutions.

Senator Izzo asked how soon transfer planning begins for students when they arrive at CCRI. President Hughes responded that advising begins as soon as students set foot on campus, and that she is working closely with President Sanchez to coordinate advising systems. She noted that the policy provides clarity for advising staff and that even without increased staffing, counselors will have greater success in advising students for transfer.

Mr. Duffy asked for more background on 2.4 GPA and past performance of students who successfully transferred to RIC or URI.

Mr. DelGiudice mentioned his own transfer experience into Providence College and pointed to the role of advisors to ensure that courses transferred seamlessly from CCRI. He wondered how seamless the transfer process would be and how easy it would be to find transfer information. Dr. Harnick noted that information on transfers is available to everyone at ritransfers.org, and she offered to demonstrate the website to the Council on another occasion. She also noted that it is the intent of the policy to make transfer as seamless as possible.

Senator Izzo recommended engaging middle school and high school counselors so that students are aware of the options for postsecondary education, especially if they begin at CCRI.

Chair Foulkes thanked everyone for an engaging discussion and noted that the new policy would be up for approval at the June 21st Council meeting.

Chair Cottam arrived during the discussion.

7b) Update on New Skills for Youth/Prepare RI grant.

Acting Commissioner Brenda Dann-Messier noted that Rhode Island is one of ten states to receive funding through the New Skills for Youth grant, which supports career readiness and career pathways work. Prior to joining the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, she served as the coach for six state teams including Rhode Island through her work with the Council of Chief State Schools Officers. She thanked President Hughes for CCRI's active participation and Commissioner Wagner for his leadership, and she indicated that with the active engagement of OPC, they would be able to take a comprehensive systems approach to the work.

7c) Discussion of proposed amendments to Distance Learning Policy.

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, Assistant Commissioner for External Relations and RI-SARA Coordinator, presented the proposed amendments to the Council's Distance Learning Policy. He noted that the change would allow the Commissioner to approve RI-SARA and non-SARA renewal authorizations without returning to the Council after the initial application is approved, and that such a change was intended to reduce the Council's burden around reauthorizations. He also noted that the reapproval process for proprietary schools follows the same model.

Dr. Walker-Jones indicated that the proposed revisions would be considered for approval at the next Council meeting.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Approval of Faculty Tenure at the Community College of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes noted that background information on these individuals was distributed to the members of the Council on Postsecondary Education prior to the Council's meeting this evening, and he called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of tenure to the following faculty members at the Community College of Rhode Island (effective July 1, 2017):

- Leslie Kilgore (Social Sciences)
- Brenda Micheletti (English)
- Rachel Rogers (Psychology)
- Melanie Lally (Nursing).

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8b) Approval of Faculty Tenure at Rhode Island College.

President Sanchez indicated that the individuals proposed have met all requirements for the awarding of tenure, and he noted that background information on these individuals was distributed to the members of the Council on Postsecondary Education prior to the Council's meeting this evening.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of tenure to the following faculty members at Rhode Island College (effective July 1, 2017):

Kieran Ayton (Emerging Technologies)
Juan Barboza-Gubo (Art)
Eliani Basile (Modern Languages/ Education)
Whitney Blankenship (Education/ History)
Andrea Dottolo (Psychology)
Patricia Malloy (Nursing)
Sara Picard (Art History)
Debra Servello (Nursing)
Karen Bucci (Henry Barnard)
Sarah Hess (Henry Barnard)
Julie Richardson (Henry Barnard)
Jennie Schwab (Henry Barnard).

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8c) Approval of the awarding of Honorary Degree at Rhode Island College.

Chair Foulkes noted that background information on the proposed honoree was distributed to the members of the Council on Postsecondary Education prior to the Council's meeting this evening, and he called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of an honorary degree as recommended by Rhode Island College.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8d) Approval of the awarding of degrees by the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes reported that the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island request the approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education for the conference of degrees, diplomas, and certificates to those students who have completed their academic requirements. These students have been determined by faculty at the public higher education institutions to meet their respective degree, diploma, or certificate requirements.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion

of the spring 2017 semester at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8e) Approval of a Naming Opportunity at the University of Rhode Island.

President Dooley gave an overview of the request to name the College of Pharmacy building at the University of Rhode Island *Paramaz Avedisian '54 Hall*. He explained that naming of the building in honor of Paramaz Avedisian is the result of a \$5 million gift to the University of Rhode Island from his brother, Edward Avedisian. Mr. Edward Avedisian, who received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Boston University, was a professional symphonic musician, a university-level teacher, and an arts administrator for decades, retiring in 2009 after 30 years as a clarinetist with the Boston Pops and 43 seasons with the Boston Ballet Orchestra. Mr. Avedisian's commitment to education is significant and his gift commitment will continue that tradition at the University of Rhode Island, in honor of his brother, Pamaraz, a URI College of Pharmacy graduate with a strong commitment to his alma mater, pharmacy and helping others.

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 naming opportunity as recommended by the University of Rhode Island.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8f) Approval of a Naming Opportunity at Rhode Island College.

President Sanchez gave an overview of the request to name the varsity baseball field at Rhode Island College in honor of Arthur R. Pontarelli '71. He noted that Mr. Pontarelli, a lifelong Rhode Islander, has distinguished himself throughout his professional career as an exemplary coach, baseball authority, major league scout and educator. He has been an active supporter and ambassador for his alma mater and his state for a period of almost 50 years.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the the naming opportunity as recommended by Rhode Island College.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8g) Authorization to submit an application to the Rhode Island Health and Education Building Corporation (RIHEBC) for a bond issuance to finance the White Horn Brook Student Residence Complex.

President Dooley gave an overview of the project. He noted that the White Horn Brook Student Residence Complex is a 500-bed residence planned for the Sustainability Living & Learning Community and upperclassmen. The project has been included in the Capital Improvement Plan and was approved by Council and Board in November 2016 for inclusion in FY18 budget, and construction is planned to begin in August 2017, with opening anticipated in September 2019.

The University is requesting approval of a RIBEHC application in order to begin financing for the project. The final submission of this application is subject to legislative approval under the Public Financing Debt Management Act and will require subsequent Council approval of the final resolution for the financing at the July 26, 2017 Council meeting.

Heather Crosby, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, noted that the Committee heard this item at their meeting on April 5th and gave their recommendation for Council approval.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the submission of the RIHEBC application as presented in order to proceed on the financing process for the University's White Horn Brook Student Residence Complex.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h) Approval of RI-SARA reauthorization for Salve Regina University.

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, Assistant Commissioner for External Relations and RI-SARA Coordinator, stated that Salve Regina University was approved by the Council in 2016 to participate in RI-SARA and has submitted all necessary documentation for reauthorization. He also noted that if the Distance Learning Policy is updated, the Council will no longer need to approve reauthorizations, only the Commissioner.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education renew the annual authorization for Salve Regina University to operate as an RI-SARA institution.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8i) Approval of initial RI-SARA application for Brown University.

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones gave an overview of the RI-SARA application process and indicated that Brown University has completed all necessary documentation to support its application to join RI-SARA and participate the reciprocity agreement for distance learning.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

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

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8j) Approval of an Agricultural Land Lease between the Council on Postsecondary Education/URI and Kingston Turf Farms, Inc.

(Item withdrawn)

8k) Recommendation for the Board of Education's Approval of the Resolution Delegating Authority over User Agency Contracts to the Managerial Group at the University of Rhode Island.

President Dooley explained that this item was necessary as part of the University's contracts with the US Department of Defense. In effect, it provides for the addition of Vice President Abigail Rider to those with delegated authority for the negotiations, execution and administration of user agency contracts; and also it provides for her exclusion to this access until her security clearance has been awarded by the Department of Defense.

The recommendation would then go to the Board of Education because the US Department of Defense requests the approval of the Board.

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 recommends that the Board of Education approve the resolution for the delegation of authority over user agency contracts and the resolution for temporary

exclusion for access to classified information for Abigail Rider, URI Vice President for Administration and Finance, at its next scheduled meeting.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council may seek to enter into executive session for the following items:

a) Update and discussion on collective bargaining regarding the URI Part-Time Faculty Union (PTFU), pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2); and

b) Discussion regarding the lease of real property for public purposes or disposition of publically held property, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(5).

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 enters into executive session for reasons presented, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) and R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(5).

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:57 p.m.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on April 26, 2017.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS:

10. Additional Action Items.

10a) Authorization of the Director of Labor Relations regarding collective bargaining with the URI Part-Time Faculty Union (PTFU).

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 authorizes the Director of Labor Relations regarding collective bargaining with the URI Part-Time Faculty Union as discussed in executive session.

 VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

 NAYS: 0

 ABSTAINS: 0

11. Upcoming Meetings

- a) The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., at CCRI, Room 4090, Warwick, RI 02886.
- b) The next meeting of the Finance/Facilities Committee for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the RIC, Faculty Center Main Dining Room, Donovan Dining Center, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908. The tour begins at 3:00 p.m.
- c) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be held on Wednesday, June 21, at 5:30 p.m. at the Westerly Education Center, 23 Friendship Street, Westerly, and RI 02891.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 26, 2017.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of April 26, 2017.

VOTE: 7 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, and Thomas Izzo.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.