



Enclosure 2
July 26, 2017

**Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
Westerly Education Center
23 Friendship Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at the Westerly Education Center, 23 Friendship Street, Westerly, Rhode Island. At 5:34 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

Absent: Vivian Caruolo and Maria Chavez Blanco

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

2.

Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to accept the agenda.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Thomas Izzo, it was

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of June 21, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2a) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's April 26, 2017 Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2017 meeting, which was made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby.

Timothy DelGiudice then introduced a motion to amend the minutes and correct an omission related to the discussion of the transfer policy.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education amends the minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2017, as proposed.
	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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

Chair Foulkes then called for a vote to approve the amended minutes.

On the motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes for the meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education on April 26, 2017, as amended.
	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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

2b) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's May 31, 2017 Special Meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Jeffrey Williams and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes for the special meeting of May 31, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes welcomed everyone and thanked Amy Grzybowski and her staff for hosting the meeting and at the Westerly Education Center. Chair Foulkes also

recognized the Westerly High School Culinary Program for their exceptional menu and delicious food.

The Chair welcomed Sophia Grice to RIOPC and thanked Dr. Phyllis Harnick for her many years of service within higher education and wished her the best on her retirement.

The Chair also noted that in light of recent press attention, the Council's personnel policy on tuition waivers was being reviewed and discussed.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam thanked the Westerly Education Staff for the tour and presentation. She shared news from the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education about the State building authority assessment for assessing facility's needs - Jacobs engineering report will be out next month, and the (Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan that has been posted for public feedback.

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 Rhode Island College on June 7, 2017. The meeting was preceded by a tour of the campus and an overview of the new initiatives happening at RIC. Chair Crosby thanked the staff of at RIC for hosting the meeting and the great tour.

She announced that the July 12, 2017 committee meeting would take place at CCRI - Flanagan Campus, and that it, too, will be preceded by a tour of the campus. The focus of that meeting will be the CCRI Budget, insurance renewal, capital approval plan and operating budget. She also noted that there would not be a committee meeting on August 23, 2017.

3d) Report from the Personnel Committee

Chair Green reported that the Personnel Committee met on June 7, 2017, and then went into executive session to discuss the search for the new Commissioner of Postsecondary Education.

4. OPEN FORUM

The following people addressed the Council during the Open Forum:

- Ed Inman spoke in favor of the PTFU.
- Mike Yefico (signed in and was not there to speak in favor of the PTFU)
- Patricia Maguire spoke in favor of the PTFU and read remarks on behalf of Mike Yefico.
- Dorothy Donnelly, Ph.D., chief negotiator for the URI Part-Time Faculty Union (PTFU), spoke in favor of the PTFU.
- Mikala Arthur spoke in support of RI Promise at Rhode Island College.
- Dennis Sousa spoke in support of RI Promise at Rhode Island College.
- John Burke spoke in support of RI Promise at Rhode Island College.
- Maureen Martin of the AFL-CIO spoke in favor of the PTFU.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

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

Dr. Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner of Finance and Management, addressed the Council on behalf of Acting Commissioner Brenda Dann-Messier, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Dr. LaPanne made a tribute to Dr. Phyllis Harnick on her retirement.

In Acting Commissioner Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier's absence, Dr. LaPanne referred the Council to the written report, which was included in the Council packets and appears in its entirety below:

Key Priorities

Earlier this month, I shared with you a draft of the key priorities we have been developing for the system of public higher education. These priorities align with the Strategic Plan for Public Postsecondary Education passed in 2015, and set action steps for

- Reaching 70% postsecondary statewide attainment
- Closing educational equity gaps
- Providing affordable postsecondary options
- Increasing graduates in high-demand, high-wage fields
- Implementing proven innovation and effectiveness models
- Aligning the work across the system and with partners.

I have received thoughtful feedback from many of you, along with the Presidents, and I am continuing to receive input from stakeholders. I look forward to presenting an updated version of the document at an upcoming Council meeting.

Engagement and Outreach

There is strong momentum in our state around expanding higher education access and increasing our completion rates, and I have received very positive responses about the direction we are heading.

In the two months since I came on as Acting Commissioner, it has been my top priority to build strong relationships with those who support public higher education in Rhode Island so that we can best serve our students and the state. I have met with individual Council members; Presidents Hughes, Sánchez, and Dooley, and members of their staffs; Commissioner Ken Wagner and RIDE staff; DLT Director Scott Jensen; GWB Director Heather Hudson; Commerce RI Director Stefan Pryor; Deputy Treasurer Kelly Rogers. I have also engaged with House and Senate leadership and their staffs, along with active proponents of higher education in the General Assembly. I have also reached out to community partners, including the RI Foundation, RI Kids Count, Institute for Labor Studies, and others.

As Acting Commissioner, I have represented the system of public higher education on a number of boards and councils, including the College Crusade, GWB Career Pathways Advisory Council, New Skills for Youth Steering Committee, Governor's Cabinet, statewide Career/ Technical Advisory Board, and others. I was also delighted to join Governor Raimondo in April for the launch of the Commissioner on Higher Education and Employability, in collaboration with the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). In addition, I have had the opportunity to give remarks at a number of events with our partners, including the financial aid roundtable with Senators Reed and Whitehouse, the ribbon-cutting for the Westerly Education Center, RIC graduation, an apprenticeship/ internship kickoff sponsored by RISLA, the launch of Graduate! RI, the State Longitudinal Data System/ Data Hub convening, the annual meeting of the Articulation and Transfer Advisory Group, the National College Access Network (NCAN) regional conference speaking on partnerships to facilitate college and career readiness, and the RI STEAM Center annual convening. It has been amazing to see all the good work going on around the state.

Key Projects

Westerly Education Center

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us in Westerly on April 28, 2017 for the ribbon-cutting by Governor Raimondo, joined by the federal delegation, state lawmakers, and civic and industry leaders. This event represented the culmination of Chuck Royce's vision for a successful public-private partnership to meet projected workforce growth. Just two months later, the Center was recognized with two awards for its transformative work. On June 5, the Governor's Workforce Board recognized the Royce Family Fund for their financial contribution, leadership and commitment to the State through their role in bringing about the Westerly Education Center. On June 6, Grow Smart RI honored the Westerly Education Center for strengthening Rhode Island through innovative revitalization and preservation initiatives and partnerships. The 2017 Smart Growth Award highlighted the Westerly Education Center's role in transforming a 2.5-acre brownfield site into "a vibrant downtown hub for job training."

I am delighted that you will have the opportunity to tour the Westerly Education Center on June 21st, and also to discuss successful models for higher education centers. The Westerly Education Center is the first of its kind in Rhode Island, but many other states have been running similar centers for more than twenty years. Virginia, for example, has a highly evolved network of these centers, which may serve as helpful models for seeing the potential contributions the Westerly Education Center can make in the region and throughout the state.

Rhode Island Nursing Education Center

As you heard at the Board of Education Meeting, Erin Wilbur was selected as the first Executive Director of the RI Nursing Education Center, and she started her work on June 5. Before joining the RIOPC staff, Wilbur was Assistant Director of the Primary Care-Population Medicine Program at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. While at Brown, Wilbur oversaw all operational aspects of a dual degree program for medical students, which included managing a grant portfolio of \$2.5 million and coordinating the year-long immersive training program. Prior to her work at Brown, Wilbur held positions at Women and Infants Hospital in Providence, RI and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA, where she focused primarily on quality and process improvement projects within neonatal settings.

It is important to recognize the work of the RI NEC Management Committee, which includes the Nursing Deans and operational leads of the institutions. They are now meeting on a weekly basis to ensure that the Center is ready for classes

to begin this fall. I understand that RIC faculty and staff plan to move into the Center by the end of June, with the URI faculty and staff joining in July. Hiring is also underway for the IT, simulations, and operations staff.

RIOPC Staff Development

I wanted to recognize Dr. Phyllis Harnick for her work as Assistant Commissioner of Planning for the Office, as she has recently notified us of her retirement upcoming in July. Phyllis joined the office in 1998 as a Planning Specialist, and among her many accomplishments during her tenure, Phyllis was the main architect of the Joint Admissions Agreement, the Prepare RI dual and concurrent enrollment program, and the transfer policy currently under consideration. Her leadership has been invaluable in working toward a new policy that works for students first and creates a clear path for a student starting at CCRI to graduate with a bachelor's degree from URI or RIC. Please join me in thanking Phyllis for her service to higher education in Rhode Island and wishing her the best in her retirement.

I am also pleased to welcome Sophia Grice as Executive Assistant in the Office. Many of you have already had the opportunity to meet her through her work in the community and her presence in the office. She comes to us with over twenty years of communication, operational, human resources, and marketing experience, including similar roles with the Dean of Students at Salem College and with the Mayor of Winston-Salem, NC.

Searches are underway for a Chief of Staff and Director of Strategic initiatives, and I'll have updates on those positions at the next meeting.

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

Dr. Phyllis Harnick gave the background and introduced each of the proposals submitted to the Council for notification.

- 1) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a BA, BS, and minor in Data Science
- 2) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a minor in Business of Digital Media
- 3) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a minor in Innovation, Management, and Entrepreneurship

- 4) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to add a Creative Writing option to the English major
- 5) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a graduate certificate program in Dyslexia Knowledge and Practice
- 6) Proposal from Rhode Island College to offer a certificate of graduate study program in Health Care Quality and Patient Safety

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

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

President Frank Sánchez thanked the Westerly Education Center staff for hosting the meeting. He acknowledged the issue around tuition waivers recently in the press and confirmed that the appropriate process is being adhered to in alignment to state regulations. He also spoke in support of the RI Promise at RIC and referenced the Tennessee Promise Program. He highlighted areas of his report below:

Rhode Island College to rename School of Management to School of Business

Over the past 10 years, the RIC's School of Management has been in a growth phase. Its undergraduate enrollment increased by 44% to approximately 1200 students, increasingly becoming a first choice among students interested in business.

Reasons for the name change:

1. "Management" does not accurately describe the broad range of degree programs delivered by the school.
2. "School of Management" creates confusion in the business community and among prospective students who wish to study business.
3. Having both a department and a school with the same name creates internal confusion and operational and administrative inefficiencies.
4. The industry standard is to name academic units that deliver business-related programs Schools of Business.
5. Each of the three associations that accredit business programs accredit business (rather than management) schools and programs.
6. There is overwhelming support for a name change among critical stakeholders.

Business School Accreditation Landscape/Options

There are three member-based organizations that accredit collegiate business schools; the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – International (AACSB), the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE).

Currently, RIC's School of Management is one of only two business schools in the state that does not have professional accreditation. AACSB accreditation has been earned by Bryant University, Providence College, Roger Williams University and the University of Rhode Island; IACBE accreditation has been earned by Salve Regina University; and ACBSP accreditation has been earned by the Community College of Rhode Island. The other unaccredited institution, Johnson and Wales University, is a member of IACBE and is believed to be pursuing IACBE accreditation.

Many IACBE schools could be considered peer and “common admit” schools to RIC. The timeline for RIC to receive IACBE accreditation is as follows:

January 2017 Apply for membership – COMPLETED
April 2017 Attend required pre-accreditation workshops – COMPLETED
By 30 July 2017 Submit application for candidacy
By 30 September 2017 Candidacy site visit
Fall 2017 Board of Commissioners decision on candidacy
AY 2017-2018 Accreditation self-study / application fee
Fall 2018 Site Visit
April 2019 Board of Commissioners decision on accreditation

Rhode Island College 2017 Commencement

Rhode Island College celebrated its 163rd undergraduate commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 13, at the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence. RIC conferred 1,765 undergraduate degrees in the morning ceremony, attended by R.I. Gov. Gina Raimondo, R.I. Board of Education Chair Barbara Cottam, U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Representative James Langevin, Ambassador of Timor-Leste Domingos Sarmiento Alves, and Mayors Scott Avedisian, James Diossa, Jorge Elorza and Charles Lombardi. International advocate for social justice and acclaimed author and researcher Sonia Nieto delivered the remarks during the undergraduate ceremony. Nieto also received an honorary degree in education from Rhode Island College for her life-long commitment to activism and advocacy for inclusiveness in education.

Later in the day, Rhode Island College conferred 275 advanced degrees in a graduate commencement ceremony at which Acting Commissioner of Postsecondary Education Brenda Dann-Messier '73 served as speaker.

RIC also awarded presidential medals to Prime Minister Rui Maria de Araújo, and Minister of Defense and Security Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, both of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. Ambassador of Timor Leste Domingos Sarmiento Alves accepted the medals on their behalf.

RIC graduated 690 students with honors: 104 *summa cum laude*, 207 *magna cum laude* and 379 *cum laude*.

RIC welcomes two new vice presidents

Joshua W. Hamilton, Ph.D., Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Joshua W. Hamilton, Ph.D., is Rhode Island College's new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. In this role, Josh will be responsible for assuring the college's academic excellence in its curricula, teaching, research and public outreach.

Josh comes to RIC from the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), where he served as the Dean of the Swenson College of Science and Engineering and a Professor of Biology. Prior to his time at UMD, he was the Chief Academic and Scientific Officer (Provost equivalent) at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts from 2008 to 2013, where he was also a Senior Scientist and had a joint faculty appointment at Brown University.

Jason L. Meriwether, Ph.D., Vice President for Student Success

Jason L. Meriwether, Ph.D., is the new Vice President for Student Success at Rhode Island College. In this role, Jason will oversee the newly created Division of Student Success, which brings together student affairs and academic affairs units with departments focused on student life, enrollment management, and academic support and services.

In his most recent role as Vice Chancellor at Indiana University Southeast, Jason was responsible for the Student Services Division, which included Financial Aid, Admissions, Career Development, Athletics, Counseling, Residence Life and Housing, Center for Mentoring, and Campus Life.

Rhode Island College Named 2017 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School

Rhode Island College was selected as a 2017 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Postsecondary Sustainability Awardee on Thursday for its environmental, health and wellness efforts. The college is one of 45 schools in the nation and one of only nine postsecondary schools to earn this prestigious designation.

"Rhode Island College has long been a hallmark of our state's innovation and determination. This commendation for RIC's tireless commitment to sustainability is

well-deserved, and should serve as an inspiration to other institutions,” said Governor Gina M. Raimondo.

The aim of U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools is to inspire schools, districts and Institutions of Higher Education to strive for 21st century excellence, by highlighting promising practices and resources that all can employ. To that end, the award recognizes schools that:

- Reduce environmental impact and costs.
- Improve the health and wellness of schools, students and staff.
- Provide environmental education, which teaches many disciplines, and is especially good at effectively incorporating STEM, civic skills and green career pathways.

Gaige Hall opens

The newly renovated Gaige Hall will be open for RIC’s second summer session. The project included the complete reorganization of all departments and classroom; a substantial amount of additional student lounge space; and the modernization of auditorium with significantly improved acoustics and an excellent sound system. Energy-efficient features include new windows and a glass curtainwall overlooking the quad to allow for natural light to stream through; new HVAC systems (energy-efficient chilled beam system); and energy-efficient LED lighting throughout.

The renovation of Craig Lee, RIC’s largest academic building, has begun and is expected to be completed in 18 months.

President’s Commission on Inclusive Excellence Holds 2nd Meeting

On May 15, members of RIC’s President’s Commission on Inclusive Excellence came together for a presentation by Dr. David Jones, a higher education consultant, speaker and educator addressing diversity, social justice, retention, access, student engagement, success and leadership. Dr. Jones is also Director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center at Rutgers University. He helped the group come up with some shared language around inclusion and provided guidance for specific work the team could do as part of the commission.

RIC Athletic Director Receives National Award

The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) has selected Rhode Island College (RIC) Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation Don Tencher as the recipient of the 51st James J. Corbett Memorial Award, the highest honor one can achieve in collegiate athletics administration. Tencher will be honored at the James J. Corbett Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, June 13 in conjunction with the 2017 NACDA & Affiliates Convention at the World Center Marriott Resort in Orlando, Florida.

RIC’s Nursing Program Shines

RIC's nursing program continues to excel thanks to the leadership of Dean Jane Williams and her incredible staff. We just got word that the pass rate for the 2017 NCLEX exam was a whopping 98.5 percent! NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) is a nationwide examination for the licensing of nurses.

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

President Hughes was excited for the many new strides being accomplished at CCRI. She highlighted a few areas from her report below:

Recruitment for Leadership Positions

- We are happy to announce that CCRI has filled several crucial positions that will provide significant leadership in important areas of our college.

After an extensive search process, Julian Alssid has accepted the college's offer to become our first Vice President for Workforce Development, pending Council approval. Mr. Alssid brings an impressive, nationally-recognized reputation for driving results in workforce development. He previously served as Chief Workforce Strategist for College for America at Southern New Hampshire University, as well as Executive Director of the Workforce Strategy Center in Rhode Island. We are excited to welcome Mr. Alssid, and we look forward to having his leadership to build employer partnerships and deliver fast, responsive, high-quality education and training at our Center for Workforce and Community Education.

In early June, Elizabeth Canning joined our team as our college's new Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator. She joins us from College of the Holy Cross where she previously served as Director of Title IX Initiatives/Clery Act and Title IX Coordinator. Her impressive background in building inclusive and equitable cultures in higher education will be a great benefit to our college's students, faculty, and staff.

Dr. Thomas Sabbagh has been officially announced as our new full-time Dean for Business, Science and Technology. Dr. Sabbagh served as interim Dean during the spring 2017 semester, following the retirement of Dr. Peter Woodberry, and has been working in higher education for more than 25 years. We thank Dr. Sabbagh for his leadership as interim Dean and know he will continue to be a strong advocate for his division and for our faculty and students.

Dr. Hilary Jansson has assumed the role of interim Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Science. Dr. Jansson previously served as interim Assistant Dean

of Nursing Education since February 2016. Prior to that role, she served as Department Chair of Level 2 Nursing from 2011-16. We thank Dr. Jansson for taking on this critical role.

Strategic Planning Process Updates

- In collaboration with the higher education consulting firm of Paulien & Associates, CCRI has wrapped up a productive semester of institutional conversations that have provided the framework for our college's next strategic plan. Our most recent phase, "Finalizing Goals and Building for Long-Term Success," was completed in May and led to the development of three drafted strategic planning goals:
 1. Enhancing student success and completion;
 2. Expanding partnerships and programs; and
 3. Strengthening the effectiveness of our organization.

Our college is thankful for the dedication to this process that our faculty, staff, and students have demonstrated. We are proud of the inclusive and thoughtful work we have accomplished through in-person and digital open forums and with the guidance provided by our Strategic Planning and Faculty Advisory Committees.

Implementation of the final strategic plan will begin in September when our community returns for the fall semester.

Enrollment and Persistence

Prior Learning Update

- Since adopting an official policy on Prior Learning during the Fall 2016 semester, CCRI has significantly increased the amount of credits awarded to military personnel for prior experience. From January 1 through June 14, our college awarded 735 credits to 52 military personnel. That is more than 14 credits per student. In comparison, from Summer 2010 through Spring 2016, we averaged 85 military personnel per year and only 7 credits per person. By the end of the year, we expect to process more than 1,750 credits for 125 military personnel. We are excited by the substantial progress that has been made in just five months, and we are proud to recognize and award credit for the service of our student veterans.

Reverse Transfer

- In collaboration with RIC and URI, CCRI awarded our first Reverse Transfer associate degrees this past spring. In total, we have awarded 33 degrees to eligible students who cumulatively earned at least 60 college-level credits combined from the three colleges. We expect five to ten more Reverse Transfer graduates by the end of the summer. We are pleased with the early success of this initiative, and we look forward to seeing it grow in the next academic year through our continued outreach to eligible students and in partnership with RIC and URI.

Guided Pathways

- CCRI is continuing to work with Dr. Rob Johnstone of the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement (NCII) to facilitate and implement a Guided Pathways program that will create easier-to-follow program requirements for our students that align with employment and transfer success. Dr. Johnstone will be at CCRI on June 22 to meet with our General Studies Task Force and will return on August 31 to meet with the entire faculty and staff for Opening Day.

Modernizing Security and Safety

- Our college is investing \$900,000 into the construction of a new staircase leading to the Student Commons that will enable us to relocate our Campus Security to a more centralized location on the second floor. Currently, our security office is on the ground floor of the Knight Campus. This project is currently underway and will be completed by the Fall semester.
- Work is currently underway at the Knight Campus to enhance campus security by installing new “Lock and Swipe” electronic key and door systems. CCRI has invested \$2,785,312 in this project which will utilize electric locks that require a college ID for entrance. This measure will increase the overall safety of our faculty, staff, and students. We expect this installation process will be completed by the start of the Fall semester.
- This fall, CCRI will begin a dialogue with our college, our host communities, and local and state law enforcement that will inform the decision of whether or not to arm our college police. We know that this decision is a significant one for our college, and we will engage in these discussions with the intent of making the decision based on what will make our college safe for all.

Campus Renovations

- Work has begun at the Liston Campus in Providence to renovate the Blackstone Street parking area. The \$330,000 project will provide much needed additional parking for students, faculty, and staff, as well as new service access for RIPTA buses. The new parking area will be open by the start of the Fall 2017 semester.
- We have entered the architectural and engineering phase of our lecture hall upgrade project at the Flanagan Campus in Lincoln. This project, partially funded by a \$300,000 grant from the Champlin Foundation, includes new classroom seating, state-of-the-art audio and visual hardware, a new smart classroom, and necessary ADA upgrades. The new lecture hall is scheduled to be open for the Spring 2018 semester.

Alumni and Advancement

- CCRI's first "Raising Opportunities" Benefit was a tremendous success. We raised \$115,000 the night of the event and more than \$185,000 total. More than two-thirds of our 370 guests that joined us at the Knight Estate were discovering CCRI and our talented, hard-working students for the first time. Thanks to the inspiring support of our donors, we raised critical dollars that will allow our college to further invest in expanding student support and developmental education services, ease the cost of expensive textbooks, and continue the modernization of our labs and learning technology.

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

President David Dooley shared highlights from his report below:

Highlights of the 2017-2018 Freshman Class

The incoming class of freshman at the university continues to advance the academic profile of the university as well as expand the diversity of its student population. The university received a record 22,630 applications. As of this report the university anticipates approximately 3,250 freshman students attending this September; student enrollment is subject to change until October 15th. The diversity of the student body will expand given 24% identify as students of color. The average GPA of the incoming class is 3.54 and the combined average SAT score of 1180 represents the strongest freshman class in URI history.

These gains are not without challenge as our residence halls continue to be popular choices for both incoming students as well as upper classmen. The construction of

White Horn Brook is expected to start later this year and will increase the number of available beds by 500. However, the university anticipates a total demand for housing to be at least 1,000 beds. The university will continue to explore housing options for its growing residential population in order to address the demands for on campus housing.

Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour intervention aimed at introducing risk factors and warning signs of mental illnesses, understanding the impact of mental illness, and identifying available community and campus supports. Mental Health First Aid teaches a five-step action plan, ALGEE, to support someone with signs and symptoms of a mental health concern:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen nonjudgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

Like *medical* first aid, Mental Health First Aid prepares participants to interact with people in need and to connect them with appropriate help. First Aiders **do not** diagnose or provide any counseling or therapy, but are trained to answer key questions, like “what do I do?” and “where can someone find help?” URI has 13 nationally certified Mental Health First Aid trainers that span many academic and professional disciplines: Athletics, Campus Safety, Student Affairs, the Women’s Center, Psychology, and Human Development. URI currently has 17 trainings anticipated for the Fall semester (including ALL of the Resident Assistants and Housing Staff), and expect that over 425 people on the URI campus will be trained in Mental Health First Aid before 2018.

7. DISCUSSION ITEM

7a) Update and discussion on Westerly Education Center and workforce development initiatives

Chair Foulkes invited Amy Grzybowski, Executive Director for the Westerly Education Center (WEC), to present. She thanked everyone for being at WEC and presented her report below:

Workforce Development Update

In just a few short weeks we will have been operational for six months. We are extremely pleased with the workforce training and higher educational opportunities that this has brought to the region.

Since January 9, 2017, in conjunction with CCRI, we have successfully trained 173 Electric Boat employees in maritime pipefitting and sheet metal skills. Another 72 students will complete the program by mid-October. In the first year alone, we expect to train over 250 students who will step into high-skilled jobs available now.

URI, through their Office of Strategic Initiatives, is in the midst of training mid-level supervisors for Electric Boat. In the beginning of July, their first 4 cohorts, comprising 88 employees, will graduate training. This initiative is currently scheduled 2-3 days a week through December.

RIC will be beginning their workforce development training here starting in the Fall and will offer Community Health Worker Training through Real Jobs Rhode Island; the Behavioral Health Certificate Program; a cohort for RN to BSN; and a program for Medical Billing and Coding.

Beyond the workforce training initiatives, we have ongoing CCRI, URI, and RISD courses, as well as rentals from businesses such as Washington Trust, Ivory Ella, the Westerly Land Trust, and others.

Real Jobs RI Planning Grant

OPC is excited to share with you our current Real Jobs Rhode Island Planning Initiative for the Process Technician. We are working with Pfizer, Amgen, Toray Plastics, Kenyon Industries, Thielsch Engineering, Eurofins Laboratories, Charter Care, Rhodes Pharmaceutical, CCRI, URI, and Skills for RI. We are designing a certificate program that crosses five different industries in need of the same skill set. The Governor is extremely supportive of our current project and will be co-hosting a meeting at CCRI with us tomorrow (June 22) to encourage other partners to sign on. This is the start of another amazing workforce development opportunity.

Pathway Programs

We are also beginning to work closely with area superintendents both in RI and CT as well as RIDE to develop possible pathway programs for both our EB program and the Process Technician program to start. To date, we have regularly engaged with the Westerly High School culinary and PTECH programs and seek additional partnership opportunities with other local schools.

Awards

The Westerly Education Center was awarded a 2017 Smart Growth Award from Grow Smart RI, and a Workforce System Innovation Award from the Governor's Workforce Board, who also recognized the Royce Family Fund for their role in our public-private partnership.

After Ms. Grzybowski's report, Chair Foulkes asked that the report be circulated to the full Council and asked how the Council can support the work at WEC. Ms. Grzybowski responded that more staff is greatly needed. The Chair thanked her again for the excellent work and promised continued support from the Council.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8a) Approval of revisions to Policy for Articulation and Transfer between Public Institutions of Higher Education in Rhode Island

Chair Foulkes invited Dr. Phyllis Harnick to give a brief overview. She stated that after discussion at the April 26, 2017, Council meeting, the policy revision was developed by representatives from OPC, CCRI, RIC, URI and the Governor's policy staff.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the revisions to Policy for Articulation and Transfer between Public Institutions of Higher Education in Rhode Island, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8b) Approval of proposed amendment to Distance Learning Policy.

Chair Foulkes acknowledged Michael Walker-Jones to confirm the amendment. Dr. Walker-Jones noted that the amendment provided for expanding the authority of the Commissioner to approve RI-SARA and non-SARA reauthorizations, which would no longer need to come before the Council. He assured the Council that they would retain the authority for approving initial authorizations.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Jeffrey Williams and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the proposed amendment to Distance Learning Policy.

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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8c) Approval of appointment of Vice President of Workforce Development at the Community College of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes recognized that the appointee Mr. Julian Alssid came highly recommended for his remarkable work in the field of workforce development.

Dr. Williams commented that the candidate has extensive experience. Sen. Izzo cautioned that the Council may be establishing a precedent in approving a Vice President without an advanced degree. He noted that he will vote in favor of the appointee, however, wanted the Council to be cognizant of the precedent being made with the vote. Mr. DelGiudice commented that he was thrilled the Council is setting this precedent. Mr. Duffy commented that this was not a precedent being set, rather the right person for the job.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Jeffrey Williams and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the appointment of Julian Alssid as Vice President of Workforce Development at the Community College of Rhode Island.

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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8d) Approval of granting of tenure for faculty members at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes invited President Dooley for comments. President Dooley thanked the Council and noted the high caliber of the 15 faculty members being recommended for tenure effective July 1, 2017.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Dennis Duffy and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the granting of tenure for faculty members at the University of Rhode Island, effective July 1, 2017:
Christy Ashley, Ph.D.
(College of Business Administration)
Aaron Bradshaw, Ph.D. (College of Engineering)
Dawn Cardace, Ph.D.
(College of Environment and Life Sciences)
Jason Dahl, Ph.D. (College of Engineering)
Simon Engelhart, Ph.D. (College of Engineering)

Sarah Eron, Ph.D. (College of Arts and Sciences)
Mary Greaney, Ph.D. (College of Health Science)
Jason Kolbe, Ph.D.
(College of Environment and Life Sciences)
Corey Lang, Ph.D.
(College of Environment and Life Sciences)
Erik Loomis, Ph.D. (College of Arts and Sciences)
Liam Malloy, Ph.D. (College of Arts and Sciences)
Serena Moseman-Valtierra, Ph.D.
(College of Environment and Life Sciences)
Thomas Spoul, Ph.D.
(College of Environment and Life Sciences)
Tao Wei, Ph.D. (College of Engineering)
Ping Xu, Ph.D. (College of Arts and Sciences)

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,
Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey
Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

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

Chair Foulkes invited Ms. Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations, to give an overview of the recommendations:

- 1) Reclassification: Associate Director, International Engineering Program (IEP) at the University of Rhode Island
- 2) Reclassification: Associate Director, HRL/Residence Education at the University of Rhode Island
- 3) Reclassification: Associate Director, HRL/Residence Education at the University of Rhode Island
- 4) Reclassification: Associate Director, HRL/ Business Operations at the University of Rhode Island

- 5) New Classification: Director – TRIO Student Support Services & ACE at the Community College of Rhode Island

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the recommendations from the System Personnel Review Committee (SPRC), 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8f) Approval of purchase of a 10,000-square-foot warehouse facility by the Council on Postsecondary Education/ University of Rhode Island.

Mr. Vern Wyman, Assistant Vice President for Business Services at URI, provided the background for this purchase. He noted that a facility recently became available in close proximity to the Kingston Campus (379 Liberty Lane, West Kingston, RI 02892), and that the facility meets identified storage needs for URI's Housing and Residential Life division. The University had included within its capital improvement plans the construction of a facility for that purpose, but the cost of purchasing this existing space was significantly lower than the proposed cost of building a new facility. Mr. Wyman encouraged the Council to act quickly on this opportunity, which already received the approval of the Finance and Facilities Committee at its June 7th meeting.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Heather Crosby and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves

the purchase of a 10,000-square-foot warehouse facility by the Council on Postsecondary Education/ University of Rhode Island, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8g) Approval of a Uniform Real Estate License Agreement between Council on Postsecondary Education/ University of Rhode Island and the new Sigma Pi Alumni Housing Corporation, Inc.

Mr. Lou Saccoccio, General Counsel for the University of Rhode Island, stated that the agreement would allow Sigma Pi to obtain financing to make needed improvements to its Chapter House, including fire safety.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Heather Crosby and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Uniform Real Estate License Agreement between Council on Postsecondary Education/ University of Rhode Island and the new Sigma Pi Alumni Housing Corporation, Inc.

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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Rachelle Green and seconded by Heather Crosby it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education enters into executive session for reason presented, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:55 p.m.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on June 21, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

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 Heather Crosby and seconded by Thomas Izzo, 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: 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

10b) Approval of updated pay plan for non-union, non-classified employees at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island, and the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, effective June 25, 2017.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Rachele Green and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the updated pay plan for non-union, non-classified employees at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island, and the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, effective June 25, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachele Green, and Jeffrey Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

11. Upcoming Meetings

- a) The next meeting of the **Personnel and Finance/Facilities Committees** for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Community College of Rhode Island, Rooms TBA, 400 East Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886. *The tour of the campus will begin at 3:00 p.m.*
- b) The next meeting of the **Council on Postsecondary Education** will be held on **Wednesday, July 26, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.** at the University of Rhode Island, School of Oceanography, 215 South Ferry Road, Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882.
- c) The next **Board of Education** meeting is scheduled for on **Wednesday, August 9,**

2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, Room 4090, 400 East Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886 (*please note date change*).

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to adjourn.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Jeffrey Williams, it was

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of June 21, 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, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, and Jeffrey Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.