Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting  
Thursday, March 22, 2018, 4:30 p.m.  
Rhode Island College - Gaige Hall, Room 200  
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at Rhode Island College, Gaige Hall, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02908. At 4:32 p.m., Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

**Present:**  Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy (arrived at 4:50PM), William Foulkes, Rachelle Green (arrived at 4:34PM), Mariela Lucaj and Jeffery Williams

**Absent:**  Thomas Izzo

1. **Acceptance of the Agenda**

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the agenda.

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

**VOTED:**  THAT  
The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the agenda for the meeting of March 22, 2018, as presented

**VOTE:**  5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:**  Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, and Jeffery Williams
2. Approval of the Minutes

2a) Minutes of the January 24, 2018 Meeting

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to approve the minutes.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes of the meeting on January 24, 2018.

VOTE: 5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Reports from the Chairs and Committees

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes thanked everyone for being flexible to accommodate the new meeting date and time due to the weather. He thanked Rhode Island College for hosting the meeting and noted that it was the date of their biggest fundraiser gala. The next meeting on April 25, 2018 will begin at 8AM, and AGB will be making a presentation on their progress. Chair Foulkes also noted that there would be a discussion and vote of a minor tuition increase to help the institutions maintain the momentum on their student success initiatives. Also asked the Presidents to give an update on adult education at their institutions. Lastly, there is preliminary data on the open textbook initiative that show a $3 million savings over the past 18 months.
3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam highlighted three areas for the Council. First, the Rhode Island students who walked out to demonstrate about school safety. She also commented on the importance of student voice and thanked everyone who helped and for all the teachers who were engaged in supporting the students. Second, she shared that the State of the Education was held on March 19, 2018 – there was time for students to ask questions after Commissioner Wagner’s speech, and she thanked Commissioner Dann-Messier for attending. Third, she encouraged everyone to attend the Spring PrepareRI Summit on March 24, 2018. She noted that Governor Raimondo will be in attendance.

3c) Finance and Facilities Committee Chair

Chair Crosby shared that the Finance and Facilities Committee met on March 1, 2018, at Rhode Island College. They discussed RIC’s upcoming capital plan, the process for the performance funding plan, and the budget process for the upcoming FY2020 budget.

During the meeting, President Sánchez gave an overview of updates to the Campus Master Plan. Working with the architectural firm of Saratoga and Associates, RIC continues to focus on several short-term goals, including ongoing renovations to the Welcome Center, Craig-Lee Hall, Horace Mann Hall and the Students Union. Future projects include renovations to the Clarke Science Hall and Whipple Hall, as well as potentially a new Student Success Center. President Sánchez also reviewed RIC’s successful efforts to improve energy efficiency and reduce utility costs.

Chair Crosby also shared that the Performance Funding Working Group has made progress in designing a process that demonstrates that the institutions value accountability. The group will present a draft set of guidelines for discussion at the next Finance and Facilities Committee meeting on April 12, 2018.

Chair Crosby made note that the Finance and Facilities Committee voted to recommend the Council’s approval of a Uniform Real Estate License Estoppel Certificate, Nondisturbance and Subordination Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education / University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Associations, Inc. (Action Item C on March 22, 2018 agenda)

3c) Personnel Committee Chair
Chair Green shared that on March 6, 2018, the Personnel Committee met and Commissioner Dann-Messier gave an update on the staff organizational chart for DHEA and restructuring plans for the office. The next Personnel meetings will be on April 3, 2018 and April 18, 2018.

4. Open Forum

No one signed up for the open forum.

5. Commissioner’s Report

The Commissioner’s report is available here.

6. Reports from the Presidents

6a) Rhode Island College – Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education - including an overview of adult (25+) student population and part-time student population

Clark Greene represented President Frank Sánchez at the Council meeting.

President Frank Sánchez’s report is available here.

6b) Community College of Rhode Island – Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education - including an overview of adult (25+) student population and part-time student population

Julian Alssid represented President Meghan Hughes at the Council meeting.

President Megan Hughes’ report is available here.

6c) University of Rhode Island – Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education - including an overview of adult (25+) student population and part-time student population

President David Dooley presented his report to the Council.

President David Dooley’s report is available here.

7. Discussion Items
7a) Discussion of Revised FY 2019 Tuition/ Fee Schedule for the University of Rhode Island

President David Dooley thanked the Council for their consideration. He noted that the technology fee was applicable to all students. The Council members discussed the increase in fees and asked for clarification on how it would impact students.

7b) Discussion of Revised FY 2019 Tuition/ Fee Schedule for Rhode Island College

Clark Greene thanked the Council for this opportunity for Rhode Island College. He shared that the increase would be approximately $153 annually for each student enrolled at RIC. He also shared that the increase would allow RIC to hire professional advisors for students and invest in an online advising system. RIC would be able to increase their full-time faculty and increase financial aid. The Council was pleased with what RIC would be able to accomplish to benefit students. Council member Dennis Duffy said he was in favor of both proposals. Council member Jeffery Williams asked President Dooley for clarification on the technology fee, if the fee was annual. President Dooley said yes, the technology fee is an annual fee to each student.

8. Action Items

8a) Approval of Revised FY 2019 Tuition/ Fee Schedule for the University of Rhode Island

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 proposed revisions to the FY 2019 schedule of tuition and mandatory fees for 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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0
8b) Approval of Revised FY 2019 Tuition/ Fee Schedule for Rhode Island College

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 proposed revisions to the FY 2019 schedule of tuition and mandatory fees for 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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8c) Approval of Uniform Real Estate License Estoppel Certificate, Nondisturbance and Subordination Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Associations, Inc.

Lou Saccoccio gave the Council background on the new licensing agreement as an ongoing effort to standardize the agreements between the Council/URI and the various fraternity/sorority organizations. He referenced this as a template to adequately address the concerns of the lending community to ensure the necessary funding to construct and maintain properties.

The Finance and Facilities Committee reviewed the document and recommended approval to the Council.

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 Uniform Real Estate License Estoppel Certificate, Nondisturbance and Subordination Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity to construct a new Chapter House at 7 Fraternity Circle, Kingston, RI. Upon the Chair’s execution, the transaction will be presented to the State Properties Committee for final approval and execution.

**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 Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8d) Approval of a Limited License Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island with St. Augustine’s Church for on-campus parking

Lou Saccoccio presented an overview to the Council, explaining that there was a formal agreement with the church to use 27 parking spaces. President Dooley also noted that these spaces would be used on Sundays. Council member Jeffery Williams asked for clarification on the parking spaces, and it was clarified to the Council that St. Augustine’s Church will be using URI’s parking spaces and there would be no fee to the church. Lou Saccoccio noted that the Church would have to provide liability/indemnification insurance.

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 Limited License Agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and St. Augustine’s Church related to on-campus parking. Upon the Chair’s execution, the transaction will be presented to the State Properties Committee for final approval and execution.

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8e) Approval of the Awarding of an Honorary Degree by the University of Rhode Island

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Barbara Cottam and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of an honorary degree to the individual nominated 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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 
8f) Approval of the Awarding of an Honorary Degree by Rhode Island College

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Heather Crosby and seconded by Barbara Cottam, it was

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of an honorary degree to the individual nominated 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 Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8g) Approval of the Community College of Rhode Island FY19 Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program

Alix Ogden provided an overview of the voluntary retirement incentive program. The program will be available to faculty and non-classified staff employed in good standing at CCRI with two options for their eligibility and two options for the program benefits. Alix Ogden also noted that option A was the same as 2017’s program.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Community College of Rhode Island FY19 Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program.

**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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h) Approval of Recommendation from the System Personnel Review Committee:

8h1) Approval of new classification request from the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, Chief Financial Officer

Council member Timothy DelGiudice asked if all positions were discussed at the Personnel Committee. Chair Foulkes and Rachelle Green confirmed they were.

Commissioner Dann-Messier provided the Council with an overview of the CFO responsibilities and noted that this position was being downgraded from an Associate Commissioner position, previously held by Dr. Susan LaPanne.

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 recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, Chief Financial Officer.

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0
8h2) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Chair Foulkes asked Alix Ogden to give background on each of the CCRI positions and then the Council would vote on each one.

Alix Ogden noted that this position was to provide support to the department and more administrative capacity for supervising 15 direct reports and oversight for integrated program offerings such as Guided Pathways.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED:  THAT  The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS:  0

ABSTAINS:  0

8h3) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director, Operations (Information Security)

Alix Ogden shared with the Council the need for dedicated staff to have responsibility to protect CCRI’s digital assets. It was noted that this new classification would be assumed by the current manager of risk. Council member Rachelle Green wanted to know if the current staff had the necessary credentials for this new role. Alix Ogden confirmed that indeed the current staff had the necessary credentials for the new role.
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 recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director, Operations (Information Security).

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h4) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Academic Program Review and Accreditation

Alix Ogden noted that this new classification was a direct result of the NEEASC report that recommended such position exist at CCRI. Council member Rachelle Green asked about the placement on the organizational chart and Alix Ogden confirmed that the position would be under academic affairs.

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 recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Academic Program Review and Accreditation.
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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h5) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Workforce Development Program Delivery

Julian Alssid shared briefly with the Council that this new classification is part of the restructuring to build a strong workforce development team. This position has a new job description and new title that will have a communication focus.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Workforce Development Program Delivery.

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h6) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Workforce Development Program Support
Julian Alssid reiterated that this new classification is part of restructuring to build a strong workforce development team at CCRI.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

**VOTED: THAT**

The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Workforce Development Program Support.

**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 Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

8h7) Approval of new classification request from the Community College of Rhode Island, Director of Special Projects – Academic Affairs

Alix Ogden shared with the Council that this is a new classification as part of restructuring and alignment with a change in responsibilities. This position will report to academic affairs with a focus on prior learning and transfer students.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Jeffery Williams and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

**VOTED: THAT**

The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the recommendation of the system Personnel Committee regarding the approval of a new classification request from the Community College
of Rhode Island, Director of Special Projects - Academic Affairs.

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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

7i) Approval of the naming of the new University of Rhode Island Welcome Center at the Kingston Campus to be named the Robert J. Higgins Welcome Center

Preside David Dooley provided brief background on the significant contribution made by Robert J. Higgins and the honor of having the new Welcome Center named after him. Chair Foulkes commented on the positive impact Robert J. Higgins had.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves that the new University of Rhode Island Welcome Center at the Kingston Campus will be named the Robert J. Higgins Welcome Center, and requests that the matter be forwarded to the Permanent Joint Committee on Naming All New Buildings, Bridges, Edifices and Other State Construction as per Chapter 7.4 of Title 22 of the RI General Laws.

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 Jeffery Williams
9. Executive Session

Chair Foulkes stated that the Council intended to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following item:

a. Discussion of upcoming collective bargaining with fifteen (15) non-classified collective bargaining units pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2)

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

\[
\text{VOTED: THAT} \quad \text{The Council on Postsecondary Education enter into Executive Session.} \\
\text{VOTE:} \quad 7 \text{ members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:} \\
\text{YEAS:} \quad \text{Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, and Jeffery Williams} \\
\text{NAYS:} \quad 0 \\
\text{ABSTAINS:} \quad 0
\]

After a short break, the Council convened in Executive Session at 5:43 p.m.

The Council reconvened in open session at 6:27 p.m.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

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

\[
\text{VOTED: THAT} \quad \text{The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the Executive Session held on March 22, 2018.}
\]
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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

10. Upcoming Meetings

a. The next meeting of the Personnel Committee for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 100, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

b. The next meeting of the Finance/Facilities Committee for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for **Thursday, April 12, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Community College of Rhode Island, Room 4090, 400 East Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

c. The next meeting of the Personnel Committee for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 100, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

d. The next **Council on Postsecondary Education extended meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at 8 a.m.** at Rhode Island College, Gage Hall – Room 200, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908

11. Adjournment

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Council on March 22, 2018.

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

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of March 22, 2018.
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 Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.