



Enclosure 2b  
 October 17, 2018 Meeting  
 Minutes  
 November 14, 2018

**Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 17, 2018**  
**University of Rhode Island Welcome Center**  
**45 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at the University of Rhode Island Welcome Center, 45 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881. At 5:34 p.m., Chair Timothy DelGiudice welcomed everyone and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

**Present:** Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo

**Absent:** Jeffrey Williams, Marianne Monte, Joseph MarcAurele

**1. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to approve the agenda.

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

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the agenda for the meeting of October 17, 2018, as presented

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

**YEAS:** Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

## **2. Approval of the Minutes**

### **2a) Minutes of the September 26, 2018 Meeting**

Due to a clerical error, Chair DelGiudice postponed the approval of the minutes of the September 26, 2018 meeting until the following regular meeting of the Council.

## **3. Reports from the Chairs**

### **3a) Council on Postsecondary Education – Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education**

Chair DelGiudice reminded the Council of the upcoming meetings related to the postsecondary budget submission. He asked for feedback on the newly instituted process.

### **3b) Board of Education – Updates and issues affecting local and national PK-20 education**

Chair Cottam mentioned that she had attended the PrepareRI Summit on October 13, 2018. She thanked President Sanchez for hosting the Summit at Rhode Island College and commended the team led by OPC who planned and executed the event.

## **4. Open Forum**

Rudolf Kraus, a member of the RIC faculty, spoke in favor of finalizing the contract for RIC faculty. Additionally, he expressed concerns about the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary's mandates, including those regarding teacher certification regulations.

Mikaila Arthur, a department chair at Rhode Island College, expressed concerns about RIC's budget and the resulting effects on students. She also spoke in favor of increasing faculty salaries.

Chiara Falangolo, a faculty member at RIC, spoke about staffing shortages at RIC and the work burden on existing faculty. She advocated for an increase in the number of full-time faculty positions.

Stephanie Costa, a department chair at RIC, advocated for including RIC in RI Promise.

Sue Abbotson, a faculty member at RIC, spoke about the financial struggles that existing faculty face and the difficulty in recruiting and retaining faculty because of low faculty salaries.

Jill Harrison, of Rhode Island College, shared a letter from a recently hired faculty member at RIC. The author of the letter shared details of the financial difficulties faced by this faculty member and advocated for increased salaries for RIC full-time faculty.

John Burke, of Rhode Island College, advocated for fair contract negotiations given the salary study that compared RIC salaries to its peer institutions. He also advocated for an increase in RIC's overall budget.

## **5. Commissioner's Report**

The Commissioner thanked the University of Rhode Island for hosting the Council meeting.

The Commissioner highlighted the PrepareRI Summit and thanked the faculty and staff from the institutions who participated in and attended the event. She also reminded the Council of the performance funding reports that each institution will submit and the evaluations that OPC will complete in preparation of the budget hearings in November. The Commissioner also highlighted the continuing work of the tuition policy working group and the working group on student loan borrowers protections.

Commissioner Brenda Dann-Messier's full report can be viewed [here](#).

## **6. Reports from the Presidents**

### **6a. University of Rhode Island - Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education - presentation regarding fall undergraduate and graduate fall enrollment data**

President David Dooley welcomed the Council and guests to the University's newly open Welcome Center and provided some information on the support the University received to help fund the Center. President Dooley shared preliminary enrollment numbers, which showed success in efforts to recruit, retain, and graduate students. He also highlighted the Coastal Resiliency Symposium recently held at the University.

President Dooley's full report can be viewed [here](#).

### **6b) Community College of Rhode Island-Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education - presentation regarding fall undergraduate and graduate fall enrollment data**

President Meghan Hughes shared details of CCRI's fall enrollment numbers, including data on the RI Promise students. She also shared information on the retention and credit accumulation efforts of the CCRI staff and faculty, which bode well for future graduation rates. President Hughes shared information on improvements in the passage rate of CCRI's nursing students under the new nursing curriculum. Finally, President Hughes highlighted new workforce development partnerships that provide additional opportunities for students.

In response to a question, President Hughes emphasized the strategy to ensure that CCRI students leave with an associate's degree ready to transfer to RIC or URI.

President Hughes' full report can be viewed [here](#).

**6c) Rhode Island College - Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education – presentation regarding fall undergraduate and graduate fall enrollment data**

President Frank Sanchez shared details related to RIC's fall enrollment numbers and efforts that the College is undertaking to strengthen recruiting and retention efforts. He highlighted continued work with CCRI on "2+2" pathway development for transfer students, as well as the Council approved Northeast Neighbors program. President Sanchez also highlighted rebranding efforts and other strategies to grow RIC's enrollment.

President Sanchez shared the news that RIC graduate Michelle Johnson received the prestigious Milken Award and RIC graduate George Nee will receive the World Peace Prize in November. The RIC team has recently spent time with RIC graduate Viola Davis who is newly re-engaged with the College. Finally, both the School of Nursing and the School of Social Work successfully completed their accreditation processes with high marks.

President Sanchez's full report can be viewed [here](#).

**7. Executive Session**

*The Council may seek to enter into Executive Session for the following items:*

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to enter into executive session for the following items:

- a. Discussion - update on collective bargaining, all bargaining units, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(2)
- b. Update on collective bargaining pursuant to RIGL §41-46-5(a)(2) – Ratification of collective bargaining with the following:
  - The American Association of University Professors (URI Full-time Faculty)
  - CCRI Part-time Faculty Association/NEARI

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

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

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

**YEAS:**            Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo

**NAYS:**            0

**ABSTAINS**        0

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The Council reconvened in open session at 7:30 p.m.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to seal the minutes of the executive session.

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

**VOTED:**            **THAT**            The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the executive session held on October 17, 2018

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

**YEAS:**            Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo

**NAYS:**            0

**ABSTAINS**        0

**8. Action Items**

**8a. Ratification of collective bargaining with the American Association of University Professors (URI Full-time Faculty)**

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

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

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the collective bargaining agreement with the American Association of University Professors (URI Full-time faculty), as presented
	<b>VOTE:</b>	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	0

**8b. Ratification of collective bargaining with the CCRI Part-time Faculty Association/NEARI**

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

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

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the collective bargaining agreement with the American Association of University Professors (URI Full-time faculty), as presented
	<b>VOTE:</b>	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	0

**9. Upcoming Meeting**

The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. at University of Rhode Island, Welcome Center, 45 Upper College Road, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

**10. Adjournment**

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Council on October 17, 2018.

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

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of October 17, 2018
	<b>VOTE:</b>	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, and Thomas Izzo
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	0

**The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.**