Enclosure 3
April 27, 2016

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
Room 4090
Community College of Rhode Island
400 East Avenue
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Thursday, April 14, 2016, at CCRI in Room 4090 in Warwick, RI. 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: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John Rainone, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent: Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of April 14, 2016.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

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2. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that one speaker, Elizabeth Kohr, had signed up to speak at Open Forum. She discussed the contract negotiations for the Graduate Assistants United.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

3a) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's February 24, 2016 Meeting.

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the meeting of February 24, 2016.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS	0

3b) Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education's March 2, 2016 Meeting.

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the Special Meeting of March 2, 2016.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis

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Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

4. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

4a) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam thanked those who attended the legislative hearings on budgets, for both Elementary and Secondary Education and Postsecondary Education, for speaking on behalf of the students. Elementary and secondary related items under review by the legislature include the School and Family Empowerment Act, revisions to the school funding formula and the budget. Both Commissioners have been testifying before the committees.

Chair Cottam discussed the Advanced Coursework Network. This initiative will broaden the selection of dual and concurrent courses available to eligible Rhode Island public school students. This fall, 120 credit bearing courses will be offered with an additional 85 to be available in the spring of 2017. The Advanced Coursework Network is offered in conjunction with the dual and concurrent enrollment through Prepare RI. The goal of dual and concurrent enrollment, including the Advanced Coursework courses, is to encourage students to earn credentials, certificates or degrees while saving time and money.

Earlier in the week, the Rhode Island Commodores hosted a breakfast meeting at which students from URI were in attendance. The RI Commodores are a non-profit, non-partisan organization. One of its goals is to connect college students with business leaders in order to provide networking and mentoring opportunities. Chair Cottam reported that she was very impressed with these students and the questions they had for this network of Rhode Island business people.

4b) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes welcomed Vice President David Gingerella, the new Vice President for Administration and Finance at Rhode Island College. He also welcomed the new Chief of Staff, Alix Ogden at CCRI. He thanked the Vice President of Academic Affairs

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Ron Pitt for filling in for President Carriuolo, as well as Provost DeHayes for filling in for President Dooley. Chair Foulkes thanked CCRI for hosting the Council meeting especially after President Clinton was at the college earlier that day.

Chair Foulkes gave an update on the search for the RIC President and said that it is going according to plan with an aggressive timeline. The final candidates are going to visit the campus between April and May. They are on their second round of interviews. There are over 40 applicants that reached out to them with all sorts of diversity. In addition, they have a very capable search firm, Ligature Partners Inc., that has reached out to over 100 candidates from across the country. He stated that the RIC community has been outstanding.

Chair Foulkes asked Commissioner Purcell to present the summarized budget schedule. He also requested an offsite full day Council meeting similar to the meeting at URI last September. He is open to suggestions.

4c) Finance and Facilities Committee

Chair Bernstein thanked Chair Foulkes for doing a great job. The next Committee meeting is in May. He thanked Mr. Duffy, Mr. Smith, and Dr. Williams for their hard work on the committee as well.

4d) Personnel Committee

Chair Foulkes gave the report in the absence of Chair Rafanelli. The management letter was sent to President Dooley and all the management letters have been completed for this year. The process is to start again at the next Personnel Committee meeting.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

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

Commissioner Purcell reviewed an article in the Providence Journal concerning a report recently released by the Lumina Foundation showing that two out of four working age adults in Rhode Island hold a two or four year college degree. Just over 41 percent of Rhode Islanders ages 25-64 held college degrees in 2014, the lowest of any New England state. The adult attainment of degrees is linked to the strategic plan.

Commissioner Purcell also briefly discussed programs that are available to help students to stay in school and obtain a degree. He also discussed the performance

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funding formula and the ongoing joint work between the OPC and the three institutions.

Mr. Duffy asked when there will be a performance funding formula review with the Council. Commissioner Purcell answered that consultant, Dennis Jones of NCHEMS, will make a presentation at the next Council Meeting on April 27, 2016. It will be approved by the Council and then presented to the legislature.

Dr. Williams asked if the legislation is providing the guidelines. Commissioner Purcell stated that they provided general guidelines and that the system will define what the matrix is going to be specifically.

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

Commissioner Purcell provided notice of the following programs and reminded the Council that the institutions have jurisdiction over these items.

5b1). Proposal for Creation of an Institute for Education in Healthcare at Rhode Island College

5b2). RIC Proposal for a Certificate of Graduate Study in Historical Studies The certificate requires 15 credits in focused graduate history courses.

5b3). RIC Proposal for a B.A. in Liberal Studies

In response to questions from the Council, Vice President Ron Pitt stated that This degree would help students customize a course of studies and thereby focus on a particular topic from an interdisciplinary perspective. It is the general studies replacement but has more structure to it.

5b4). Proposal for changing the name and revising the curriculum of the Labor Studies minor to the Work, Labor and Social Justice minor at the University of Rhode Island.

5b5). Proposal from URI to move the Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design Department from the College of Human Science and Services to the College of Business Administration and to allow the College of Business Administration to certify and grant Bachelor of Science degrees in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design and in Textile Marketing

5b6). Proposal from Rhode Island College to change the name of the RI STEM

Center to the RI STEAM Center.

Vice President Ron Pitt stated that the change from STEM to STEAM reflects the inclusion of art and design which is the trend nationally. This recognizes the importance of art and design working in partnership with business.

5b7). Proposal to change the name of the Department of Nursing to the Undergraduate Department of Nursing and to add a Graduate Department of Nursing at Rhode Island College.

Chair Foulkes raised a cost concern. Dean Jane Williams spoke in favor of the change noting the span of control is currently too large. There will be a reorganization of the committees which will allow meetings to focus on either the undergraduate or graduate programs. This change will allow for greater efficiencies in the administration of the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

Senator Izzo requested to have a conversation at an upcoming meeting about academic issues; he noted concerns about changes resulting from Article 20 in the authority given to each institution for program approval without input from the Council.

Chair Foulkes noted that the Council does now defer to the campuses to make sure the system is moving efficiently.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

6a) University of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events

Provost DeHayes provided the following update from the University:

On Thursday, April 7, 2016, President Dooley hosted a discussion with the University community at the Memorial Union Ballroom. More than 100 students, faculty and staff attended. The President provided highlights of the planning of both the University's 125th Anniversary in 2017 as well as a major capital campaign.

Also, the College of Nursing completed its accreditation review last week. There was a five-person team that reviewed the program. The college received positive reports. There are four standards and they met all the standards and 28 sub standards. In addition, there was a discussion about the Nursing Education Center that will be opening in Spring 2017. Dr. DeHayes reported that the team was very enthusiastic about it saying that it will be the leading nursing center in the country when it opens next year.

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6b) Rhode Island College – Update from last report and current events

Vice President Ron Pitt reported the following update on items related to Rhode Island College:

President Carriuolo was absent this evening as she was hosting a panel at Rhode Island College called "Can Commercial Fishing Be Sustained?" The panel was in conjunction with The Providence Journal, Leadership Rhode Island and Mystic Aquarium. This was scheduled prior to the Council meeting being changed.

The RIC Gerontology Center and the Health Care Administration Program hosted "Building an Age-Friendly Community," on April 13. The goal of the conference was to develop a plan for needed infrastructure and program improvements in housing, transportation and other support systems for Rhode Island's elderly.

RIC's new Center for Research and Creative Activity (CRCA) is coordinating and promoting a number of student projects, presentations and performances under one banner, known as the Spring Expo for Research and Creative Activity. Events include the Open Books, Open Minds Conference, campus-wide poster sessions and a graduate studies symposium, along with student dance, theatre and musical performances.

Also, an invitation was extended to all members of the Postsecondary Council to celebrate the third anniversary of the Central Falls/Rhode Island College Lab, a unique partnership that has brought K-12 and higher education close together with the common goal of increasing the educational attainment of all students and enriching the college's academic offerings and student experiences.

As shown in the attachment, the celebration is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 3:30-5:00 p.m., at the Ella Risk School in Central Falls.

6c) Community College of Rhode Island – Update from last report and current events

President Hughes reported the following updates:

President Clinton visited the campus today to underscore the importance of community colleges in this country. The hall was filled with an audience of students, faculty and staff.

On April 8, 2016, CCRI held its 14th Annual Professional Development Day for 650 faculty and staff. This event was President Hughes' first opportunity to speak with a

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large group of their faculty and staff. It allowed President Hughes to communicate her initial impressions of the college, celebrate some key wins and focus their efforts to improve in three key areas: persistence, completion, and transfer.

Last Tuesday, they celebrated their 10th Annual Community Service Day by sending nearly 200 students, staff and faculty volunteers to eight nonprofits around the state. They worked with the developmentally disabled, helped a Ship History Center sort through thousands of donated items, assisted two theater companies in renovating their spaces, painted walls and cleaned at the Kent County YMCA and spruced up a domestic violence assistance center.

President Hughes also spoke at the Santander Bank-Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce's 16th annual economic outlook breakfast and she asked the audience to step up to partner with the college. She also announced a new mentoring program that will launch in September.

This week, President Hughes, along with Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Rosemary Costigan, Vice President for Student Affairs Sara Enright, and Vice President for Business Affairs Dave Patten, hosted four open forums across all four of the campuses to communicate their priorities for the college, answer questions and listen to faculty and staff about how they can move the college forward together.
President Hughes is also looking to improve graduation rates and they are using multiple measures for placing incoming students into proper programs and courses. She also discussed how getting an associate's degree is better from a financial earnings perspective. She wants to make CCRI the best community college in New England by 2020.

(Mr. John J. Smith left the Council meeting for another obligation at 6:30 p.m.**)**

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

7a) Discussion of the Memorandum of Agreement for dual and concurrent enrollment for 2016-2017 and update on grades for fall 2015.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for 2016-2017 was reviewed at OPC and RIDE in consultation with the public institutions of higher education. It was determined that there would be no changes to the MoA for the next academic year; the cost of concurrent enrollment courses would remain at $65 per credit and tuition for dual enrollment will remain the same as paid by any student attending CCRI, RIC or URI. At the next Board of Education meeting, the cost of concurrent enrollment courses for the next academic year will be presented for a vote to approve.

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Charts were introduced showing the participation and grade distribution for concurrent and dual enrollment courses. In fall 2015, 92.6% of the public high schools participated and 7.4% did not participate. It was noted that a small amount of variation existed in the grades awarded for dual and concurrent enrollment courses. Additional charts presented grade distribution by higher education institution and by secondary school. Council members requested that the dual enrollment slides be sent out to Council members to provide an opportunity for further review.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Approval of the awarding of Honorary Degrees by URI and RIC.

The granting of honorary degrees is an opportunity for the public postsecondary institutions in Rhode Island to recognize individuals of distinguished merit who have made significant contributions to the institution, have given distinguished service to the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and/or have earned high distinction nationally or internationally.

Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island have developed recommendations for honorary degrees that are being submitted to the Council on Postsecondary Education for approval. These nominees have been reviewed by the members of campus community charged with this responsibility and their nomination has been approved by President Carriuolo and President Dooley respectively. There is no requirement that a college or a university award honorary degrees, rather this significant recognition is given only when the granting of an honorary degree is the appropriate award. The Community College of Rhode Island historically has not awarded honorary degrees.

The names of individuals being recommended and a summary of their accomplishments were discussed briefly as there were no questions from the Council members after reviewing the documents submitted by each of the institutions.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of honorary degrees to the individuals selected by the University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island College.

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

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YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8b) Approval of Institutional Application for RI-SARA for:

The following three Rhode Island institutions have submitted their applications to Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, Rhode Island State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement Coordinator:

1) New England Institute of Technology
2) Johnson & Wales University
3) Salve Regina University

Each application and the accompanying documentation was reviewed in order to determine that each was complete. Dr. Walker-Jones submitted his recommendations to the Commissioner for approval of these institutions to NC-SARA for appropriate action and the Commissioner has concurred.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education hereby approve the recommendations for institutional approval for RI-SARA, as presented.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

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8c) Approval of Non-SARA nonprofit institution fee schedule (out of state institutions)

NC-SARA designed the state portal process to make the authorization, monitoring and consumer protection aspects of institutions which provide distance learning as efficient and substantive as possible. However, some states are not a part of NC-SARA, and some institutions do not seek approval through their in-state portal process. Some of these institutions still wish to seek authorization state-by-state. Since Rhode Island has become a portal state, it is clear that the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner has a need and responsibility to monitor distance learning within Rhode Island and to provide consumer protection advocacy. These functions represent crucial elements vital to the success of the RI-SARA program.

The RI-SARA program is designed to be self-sustaining financially. The initiation of an appropriate non-SARA, non-profit institutional fee structure allows the OPC to maintain the RI-SARA program.

OPC has RI-SARA expenses for out-of-state, non-SARA, non-profit institutions that are similar to those for our RI-SARA approval processes in the following areas:

Website documents and ongoing support

- Associate staff support
- Student complaint and monitoring procedure
- Fielding questions and providing responses to non-SARA, non-profit institutions
- Fielding inquiries from ineligible out-of-state institutions, such as for -profit or unaccredited institutions
- Overall burden rate for service (administrative cost)

These are the items which I believe contribute to the need for the OPC to charge appropriate fees to out-of-state, non-SARA, non-profit institutions seeking authorization to provide online distance learning to Rhode Island students.

Finally, the OPC must charge non-SARA institutions (non-profit institutions outside Rhode Island not authorized by their SARA portal or from a NON-SARA authorized state) in order to protect the integrity of our in-state institutions, contribute as a partner with the other SARA affiliates and sustain the viability of the RI-SARA program.

A short discussion ensued in which the Commissioner clarified the types of institutions that are non-SARA, not for profit institutions.

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On a motion duly made by Dr. Williams and seconded by Senator Izzo, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education hereby establishes a fee structure for non-profit, out-of-state institutions that are not part of NC-SARA and apply directly to the Rhode Island Office of the Post-secondary Commissioner for authorization for the purpose of providing online distance learning to Rhode Island residents:

Rhode Island - Out of State – Non-SARA non-profit
Annual Authorization Fees

$5,000.00 – Enrolled FTE – under 2,500
$7,500.00 – Enrolled FTE – under 2,500 – 9,999
$10,000.00 – Enrolled FTE – under 10,000 or more

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8d) Approval of revisions and amendments to Section One of the Council on Postsecondary Education's Policy Manual.

Section One of the Policy Manual includes the following policies:

- Adoption of Policies and Regulations B - 1.0
- *Bylaws of the Council on Postsecondary Education, B - 2.0
- Conflict of Interest and Nepotism B - 3.0
- Requests for Information from Board Members B - 4.0
- Policy on Collaboration in Public Higher Education B - 5.0
- Policy on Naming Opportunities for Recognition of Individuals or Entities B - 6.0
- Policies of Administrative Supervision B - 7.0
- Policies of Corporate Control B - 8.0
- Introducing Legislation Relating to Higher Education -- Regulation B - 9.0

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*Bylaws of the Council on Postsecondary Education, B - 2.0, were revised and approved by the Council on September 16, 2015.

The revised policies were presented for a discussion at the February 24, 2016 meeting. Chair Foulkes has requested another review before the Council votes to approve the policy revisions. Mr. Duffy wants to make sure that the Council is comfortable with the revisions.

Chair Foulkes asked for a motion to table the revision.

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education table the revisions and amendments at the discretion of the Council Chair.
	VOTE:	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

8e) Approval of the Appointment of the Vice President of Student Affairs at the University of Rhode Island.

The University of Rhode Island is requesting in a letter sent to Chair Foulkes and included in this meeting's packet that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the appointment of Kathy Collins, Ph.D., as the Vice President for Student Affairs.

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the appointment of Kathy Collins, PH.D., as the Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Rhode Island.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8f) Approval of lease agreement between the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Office of Veterans Affairs.

The Office of Veterans Affairs (VA) is looking to lease office space in the building owned by the Council on Postsecondary Education, located at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI.

Specifically, the VA is seeking to lease Suite 206 of the building, comprised of 1,428 square feet with existing furniture at a rate of $19.75 per square foot or $28,203.00 annually, payable in monthly installments of $2,350.25. Additionally, the VA will reimburse the Council for its proportionate share (8.5%) of common area maintenance expenses including, but not limited to costs incurred for janitorial, landscaping, snow removal and heating.

The initial term of the lease will be for a period of three (3) years beginning on May 1st, 2016 with an option to renew for additional three (3) year terms contingent upon successful renegotiation of the lease.

The form of the Lease was included in the meeting packet for this meeting.

As with all agreements related to the leasing of space, this agreement will be brought to the State Properties Committee upon approval by the Council on Postsecondary Education.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the lease between the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Office of Veterans Affairs for office space located in the building located at 560 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick, RI. Upon approval of the lease, the lease will be brought to the State

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Properties Committee for its review and approval as required.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8g) Authorization to submit an application to the Rhode Island Health and Education Building Corporation (RIHEBC) for bond issuances to refund previous bond series issuances for significant savings and to finance one approved new project at the University of Rhode Island.

As part of ongoing due diligence with regard to revenue bond financing in place, the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College administration and finance staffs monitor these ongoing debt service commitments and consult periodically with financial advisors to assess refinancing opportunities to reduce annual debt service obligations. Recent changes in market conditions have created a particularly favorable outlook for refinancing a select grouping of bond series that would benefit annual budgetary commitments from both auxiliary and general revenues at the University and the College beginning in FY 2017.

Preliminary analysis has focused on revenue bond series issued in 2005 and 2008. While there is additional professionally supported research and evaluation required before the specific refinancing strategy and bond series inclusion is finalized, current projections suggest that annual debt service savings of several hundred thousand dollars may be achievable, after absorbing issuance related costs given current and projected interest rates for the coming months. Such cost avoidance would continue into the future until the associated bond series' indebtedness is retired. The cumulative effect would be substantial.

In addition, the University is requesting the issuance of revenue bonds for approximately $5.1M of new money for the Fraternity Circle Infrastructure Project Phase I, which was approved for financing by the Council and the State during the 2015 Legislative Session.

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Following consultation with the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner and the Executive Director of the RIHEBC, an application will be filed for approval by the RIHEBC Board for their meeting of April 14th that would enable preparations for both the refinancing and new financing transactions to commence.

Therefore, the placement of this item on both agendas was essential to preserving the ability of the Council on Postsecondary Education to act on this beneficial prospect in advance of the July 4th holiday and to realize full debt service savings in FY 2017.

The Council's permission to proceed with a bond application with RIHEBC is the first step in this process. Once the application has been submitted and approved, the Council will receive a presentation related to the proposed funding to be issued along with the detail of the savings anticipated on the bond refunding. Permission to issue the proposed bonds will be requested in an upcoming meeting of the Council.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education authorize the appropriate financial officials of the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner and the two Institutions to submit an application for the refunding of RIHEBC Bonds and the funding of the single project at the University in order to achieve savings and accomplish beneficial financing for the system.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8h) Approval of a land transfer of property from the Council on Postsecondary Education/Rhode Island College to the Town of North Providence.

Rhode Island College has received and evaluated a request from the Town of North Providence for the transfer of a parcel of land held by the College that is located behind

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North Providence Fire Department Station #2. This parcel of land is approximately 17,842 square feet of open space with the intended use as a location to accommodate a communications tower for the town. The town also intends to lease rights to the tower to Verizon Wireless.

Rhode Island College intends to transfer the property at no cost to the municipality.

Attorney John Murphy has provided the legal support for this transfer and will be present at the Council meeting to answer any questions that members may have regarding this transfer.

Rhode Island College has already sought the approval of the State Properties Committee regarding this transfer. The Committee has provided its tentative approval pending the consideration by the Council on Postsecondary Education.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the land transfer of the property detailed in the meeting packet documents from the Council on Postsecondary Education/Rhode Island College to the Town of North Providence. Upon approval, this item will return to the State Properties Committee for its final approval of this transaction.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:05 p.m. Chair William Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into executive session for:

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9a) Update and discussion on negotiations with CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA) and tentative agreement, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

9b) Update and discussion on negotiations with CCRI Part-time Faculty Association, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

9c) Update and discussion on negotiations with Graduate Assistants United, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

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

VOTED: **THAT** the Council on Postsecondary Education convenes in executive session for:

a) Update and discussion on negotiations with CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA) and tentative agreement, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

b) Update and discussion on negotiations with CCRI Part-time Faculty association, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

c) Update and discussion on negotiations with Graduate Assistants United, pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(2).

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

All non-Council members in the audience were excused with the exception of:

- Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
- Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner, Finance & Management

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- Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations for the Council
- Lou Saccoccio, General Counsel
- Donald DeHayes, Provost, URI
- Meghan Hughes, President, CCRI
- Lisa Shevlin, Executive Assistant

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

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the executive session held on April 14, 2016.
	VOTE:	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

10. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

10a) Ratification of CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA) tentative agreement.

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

VOTED:	**THAT**	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve and ratify the tentative agreement with the CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA), as presented.
	VOTE:	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo,

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and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

a) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at URI, at the Ryan Center, 1 Lincoln Almond Plaza, Kingston, RI , 02881.

b) The next meeting of the Committees of the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 5:30 pm., 560 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI.

c) The next full Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, 5:30 p.m., location to be determined.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns its meeting.

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

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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