



## RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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A regular meeting of the Board of Governors for Higher Education was held on Monday, August 21, 2006 at the University of Rhode Island's Bay Campus, located in Narragansett, Rhode Island. Chair Frank Caprio declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**Present:** Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Pierre LaPerriere, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

**Absent:** Miriam Coleman and Joseph Hagan.

### 1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by James DiPrete and seconded by Sarah Courtemanche, it was

**VOTED:** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the agenda for the meeting of August 21, 2006.

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS: 0

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion duly made by Solomon A. Solomon and seconded by Kenneth Aurecchia, it was

**VOTED:** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the June 29, 2006 meeting.

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS: 0

**3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Warner welcomed the audience to the annual Board retreat.

**4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR - None**

**5. OPEN FORUM**

Melanie Murphy, a single parent of a recent Prout School graduate, appeared before the Board to request that the Board reconsider the eligibility criteria for the University's Centennial Scholarship as it relates to her son, Dylan. Although Dylan Murphy met the minimum SAT requirement, he did not rank in the top third of his graduating class: He is therefore deemed ineligible for the Centennial Scholarship. Ms. Murphy suggested that class rank in private high schools represents a different level of achievement than the same class rank in public high schools. Ms. Murphy believes that had her son attended *any* public high school in Rhode Island, he would have been eligible for the University's Centennial Scholarship. Ms. Murphy provided Board members with documentation to support her assertion.

**6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER**

Commissioner Warner thanked President Carothers and the University for hosting today's event.

The Commissioner highlighted the major items that appear on today's agenda, including the annually revised Capital Improvement Plan and the 5-year Asset Protection Program. Each year the Board updates a rolling fifth year of a 5-year capital plan, adding new projects. The capital plan itself describes ongoing projects as well as new projects. This provides the basis for investments that the system will make in its capital projects either through bond issues, revenue bonds, or other financing devices to keep the system's infra-structure up-to-date. The Asset Protection Program has been a valuable way of protecting the system's infra-structure.

Commissioner Warner commented on the proposed mission statement for the Community College of Rhode Island, also on today's agenda for approval. CCRI was previously cited by NEASC for failing to update its mission statement for many years. There was considerable discussion and debate in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting about the issues of developmental education and who the Community College serves. Although the proposed mission statement does not contain an explicit reference to developmental education, Commissioner Warner is confident that the reference ". . . meet the wide-ranging educational needs of our diverse student population . . ." contained within the mission statement represents a commitment to provide developmental education. The Commissioner will look for references to developmental education as CCRI translates its mission statement into a strategic plan. Commissioner Warner is pleased with the issues that are being discussed and debated at the institution, especially discussion relating to minimum student skill levels. The Commissioner will follow this issue with regard to CCRI's strategic planning and how CCRI will fit within the K-12 program and the adult literacy system.

Commissioner Warner also noted that the mission statements for the University and for Rhode Island College were previously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Warner announced that the annual discussion and retreat will take place following the Board meeting. Paul Harrington, a labor market economist at Northeastern University, will speak on demographic issues specific to Rhode Island.

7. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. **Academic and Student Affairs**

Governor DiPrete reported that the Academic and Student Affairs committee met on August 4, 2006. The committee welcomed two new board members to the committee: Sarah Courtemanche and Brenda Dann Messier.

The committee recommended approval of CCRI's new mission statement and noted that the mission will provide a good base for later planning by the institution, including future plans for developmental education. Although CCRI is open to all comers, CCRI is not always prepared to accept the challenges they bring; therefore, it is incumbent on those in the PK-12 system to work closely with CCRI to make certain students are ready for higher education. Governor DiPrete discussed the possibility of giving Accuplacer exams to all students in grade 10 to ascertain their learning levels.

The committee also recommended for Board approval the revisions of four longstanding policies relating to student affairs. The policies have all been reviewed by the vice presidents and their staffs, as well as legal counsel at the institutions and at the RI Office of Higher Education. A policy relating to the Board's system wide data warehouse was also recommended for approval. These policies are on the agenda today to provide a notice of change and will be on the agenda for approval at the next full meeting of the Board.

Governor DiPrete indicated that representatives from URI, RIC and CCRI presented brief reports on the Joint Admissions Agreement (JAA) to the committee. The agreement is an excellent vehicle for students who know early on that they plan to continue their studies at either Rhode Island College or the University. The committee is disappointed that only 84 students are enrolled in the agreement. CCRI discussed some impediments related to staffing. The senior institutions noted that the program still holds great promise. The RI Office of Higher Education plans to provide assistance to CCRI in building the program in the coming year by lending the institution a professional staff member from Academic Affairs, Dr. Phyllis Harnick, to recruit and advise CCRI's JAA students as well as to coordinate the program.

The next ASAC meeting will be on Friday, October 6th, at 8:30 at RIOHE.

Governor Brenda Dann-Messier commented that she is pleased to learn that Dr. Harnick has been assigned to assist with the Joint Admissions Agreement program.

On a motion made by James DiPrete and seconded by Brenda Dann-Messier, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept  
(Item 8a1) the Community College of Rhode Island's revised mission statement;

Furthermore, that the RIBGHE charge CCRI with using the mission statement as a basis for reviewing and revising, as necessary, their vision statement and for developing a statement of prioritized goals to be used in reviewing and revising, as necessary, existing planning documents and

attendant action plans. The institution's list of prioritized goals should include goals that support the institution's vision for its future as well as goals that support the RIBGHE's system wide goals for higher education. These documents will become a guide in assessment of the institution by the NEASC, the RIBGHE, and the institution itself. The mission statement and related planning documents will also be used as a guide in the allocation and reallocation of resources;

Furthermore, that the college's mission statement, vision statement and prioritized goals be used by the institution's various units (e.g., schools and departments) to develop their own mission statements, vision, and objectives for use in planning, including resource allocation and re-allocation. Each unit's mission, vision and objectives should be a reflection of the institution's broader mission, vision and goals. Such planning documents developed by a unit should clearly demonstrate how that particular unit is contributing to the institution's mission and attainment of future goals;

Furthermore, that the institution is charged with institutionalizing a clear procedure for regularly reviewing and revising the mission and vision statements and prioritized goals as well as the planning documents upon which they are based.

B. Furthermore, that RIOHE is charged with consulting with URI, RIC and CCRI and assisting with development of each institution's vision statements, prioritized goals, and planning documents; and

Furthermore, that after consultation with URI, RIC, CCRI and the system wide consultant (NCEMS), the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the RIBGHE will set dates by which progress reports and later final reports on the above initiatives are due for discussion at regular meetings of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and then with the full Board, in keeping with the importance of this initiative.

**(Item 8a2)**

Notice: Revisions to four RIBGHE student policies: Student rights policy (S-1); Policy on students with disabilities (S-3); Prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse policy (S-4); and Inter-institutional student exchange: RI public institutions (S-7).

**(Item 8a3)**

Notice: New policy on data submission and security of confidential data housed in the RI Board of Governors for Higher Education system wide data warehouse.

**(Item 8a4)**

The Joint Admissions Agreement (JAA): Institutional Progress Reports

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members

Voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

**b. Facilities**

Chair Caprio reported that the Facilities and Finance and Management Committees met on Wednesday, July 26, 2006, at which time the committees received an overview of the capital budgeting process as well as an executive summary of forty-eight (48) projects included in the five year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) covering the period 2008-2012.

Chair Caprio indicated that Item 8b(1) on today's agenda is a recommendation for approval of the 2008-2012 Capital Improvement Plan. The Office of Higher Education has prepared an Executive Summary as well as a compilation report for the Board of Governors' FY 2008–FY 2012 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This Board of Governors' plan combines the Capital Improvement Programs of the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island. The total projected capital cost for these projects for the period FY2008 through 2012 is \$713.0 million. Of that amount, \$580.3 million is for the University, \$81.97 million is for Rhode Island College and \$50.68 million is for the Community College of Rhode Island.

Specifically, the five-year capital improvement plan recommends the following by funding source:

General Obligation Bonds	\$374.9 million
RIHEBC Bonds & Loans	\$140.6 million
RI Capital Funds	\$140.1 million
Other Funds	\$ 13.4 million
Asset Protection	\$ 1.0 million
Private funds	<u>\$ 43.0 million</u>
Total	\$713.0 million

Chair Caprio indicated that Item 8b(2) on today's agenda is a recommendation for approval of the 2008-2012 Asset Protection Program. The Office of Higher Education has also prepared a compilation of the Board of Governors' FY2008–FY2012 Asset Protection Program. This plan combines the Asset Protection Programs for the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island in one source document. As Board members may recall, asset protection funds are a part of the Rhode Island Capital Fund and are appropriated each year by the General Assembly. While a specific dollar amount is appropriated for asset protection funds each year, there is also included a multiyear appropriation which includes an annual 5% growth factor. For the University, the asset protection appropriation for FY 07 is \$3,990,000. For the College it is \$1,732,500, and for the Community College it is \$1,102,500.

Chair Caprio indicated that Item 8b(3) on today's agenda is a recommendation for approval of the Board of Governors' Vehicle Replacement Program. The Office of Higher

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Education has compiled a report for the Board of Governors' Vehicle Replacement Program. This is the first year that State Administration has asked that this plan be included with the Capital

budget submittals. This document, plus the CIP and Asset Protection plans, are combined to comprise the full submission of the Capital Budget request to the State Budget Office. This is the beginning of the approval process required in order to authorize and fund a project.

Chair Caprio indicated that Item 8b(4) on today's agenda is a recommendation of the University's request for Board approval to adopt the updated "University of Rhode Island Parking Regulations-August 2006". The significant changes to the parking regulations include:

- A specific referral to the University's Parking Services website for detailed information and for on-line purchase of parking permit decals.
- A policy statement reflecting the practice whereby students on campus during the Summer Session and summer months are not required to purchase or display a parking permit decal.
- Clarification of information regarding permit decals, their display, their replacement, the permit decal fee refund policy, and the requirement for students and staff to update the vehicle and address information associated with their issued permit through the Parking Services website.
- Clarification that all fraternity and sorority parking lots on University property require the purchase and display of the appropriate permit decal.
- Notice of evening parking exceptions to facilitate visitor and student access to facilities and programs during evening hours.

On a motion made by Solomon A. Solomon and seconded by Thomas Rockett, it was

**VOTED:**

- |                   |       |  |
|-------------------|-------|--|
| <b>(Item 8b1)</b> | That  | the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the 2008-2012 Capital Improvement Plan as presented.   |
| <b>(Item 8b2)</b> | That  | the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the 2008-2012 Asset Protection Program as presented.   |
| <b>(Item 8b3)</b> | That  | the Board of Governors approve the Vehicle Replacement Program as presented.   |
| <b>(Item 8b4)</b> | That  | the Board of Governors approve the University's request to adopt the updated "University of Rhode Island Parking Regulations – August, 2006.)                                |
|                   | Vote: | 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:   |
|                   | YEAS: | Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon |

NAYS: 0

**c. Finance and Management**

Vice Chair Michael Ryan reported that the Finance and Management Committees met on Wednesday, July 26, 2006. There is one item on this afternoon's agenda on which the committees are recommending approval to the Board.

Vice Chair Ryan indicated that Item 8c(1) is a recommendation for approval of the internal audit report, "Review of Alger Hall Renovations Project-Rhode Island College." The renovation and modernization of Alger Hall, a 28,000 square foot facility of office and classroom space, had a capital budget of \$5.6 million. The renovations included asbestos removal, installation of fire protection sprinkler systems, upgrading of the bathrooms, modernization of the HVAC systems, replacement of windows and a new entrance. Upon completion of this project, the Office of Higher Education (OHE) Internal Audit Unit reviewed internal controls over the project and found the controls to be adequate and effective. The project was completed within its adjusted budget of \$5.6 million, met its adjusted completion date of June 2005, and included satisfactory completion of all original contract deliverables plus a number of enhancements. The internal audit included review of contracts, purchase orders, insurance and bond documents, change orders, warranties and payments. The audit review concluded that Rhode Island College has detailed policies and procedures in place to ensure management review and authorization of all project transactions. Test procedures indicated that these policies and procedures are operating as designed.

On a motion made by Sarah Courtemanche and seconded by Solomon A. Solomon, it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8c1)** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the Internal Audit report "Review of Alger Hall Renovations Project-Rhode Island College."

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS: 0

**9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion made by Thomas Rockett and seconded by Kathrin Belliveau, it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 9a)** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the Personnel Review Committee's recommendation to establish the position of Financial Reporting Analyst at a pay grade 13.

**(Item 9b)** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the

awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the summer session 2006 and who will be approved by the faculty at the University of Rhode Island.

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members Voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS: 0

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**11. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS**

**a. Rhode Island College**

President Nazarian joined Representative Patrick Kennedy and John Gregory, President of the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce, to announce a new job training program to be offered through the Outreach Programs at Rhode Island College. It is funded by a federal appropriation of \$148,000 from the U.S. Small Business Administration and is a collaborative venture with the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. The program is called the Financial and Functional Literary Incentive Program, or FLIP. The purpose of the program is to improve English language reading, writing and speaking skills and provide math and accounting skills to improve financial literacy skills. The 50-week English-language program includes 24 weeks of functional and financial literacy classes for students. After completing the 24-week financial program, students have the option of joining one of the outreach programs, a vocational-training program, seeking a job with assistance from a job-skills specialist, or advancing in their current job.

President Nazarian announced that the new residence hall is 12-13% complete and is running one to two weeks behind schedule. The delay has been brought to the attention of both the contractor and the architect.

President Nazarian introduced Christine Flynn Saulnier from Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts. Ms. Saulnier will be spending her sabbatical at Rhode Island College assisting with outcomes assessment and faculty development.

**b. University of Rhode Island**

President Carothers indicated that there are five items on today's agenda that require notice to the Board, as follows:

- Notice of change: Name of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to the Department of Electrical Computer and Biomedical Engineering at URI
- Notice of change: Name of the Department of Art to the Department of Art and Art History at URI

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- Notice of change: Name of the B.A. in Art Studio to the BA in Art at URI
  
- Proposal to add an Archaeology and Anthropology Option within the M.A. in History at URI
  
- Proposal to add an Underwater Archaeology minor within the B.A. in History at URI

President Carothers introduced Garry Bozylinski as the new Vice Provost for Information Technology Services. Mr. Bozylinski joins URI from the University of Northern Iowa. President Carothers also introduced Captain Vincent Wilczynski, the new AC Fellow from the American Council of Education. Mr. Wilczynski joins URI from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

President Carothers announced that Winnie Brownell, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, received the Producer's Circle Award from the Rhode Island International Film Festival.

President Carothers also announced that Dean David Farmer recently received the unique honor of being named a 2006 Fellow of the Royal Society, the United Kingdom's National Academy of Science. This honor is bestowed on people for their exceptional contributions to science, engineering and medicine. Other members of the Society include Sir Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, Stephen Hawkins, and Sir Timothy Berners-Lee, who invented the World Wide Web.

President Carothers called attention to a two-day global conference on National Security, Natural Disasters, Logistics & Transportation: Assessing the Risks & the Responses that the University will be hosting on September 25 and September 26. This is the largest and most significant national/international conference that URI has held to date. The conference is sponsored by the eight universities that are a part of the Global U8 Consortium.

### **c. Community College of Rhode Island**

President DiPasquale reported on the progress that CCRI has made over the last several months, starting with the mission statement passed by the Board at today's meeting. It has been 25 years since CCRI has changed its mission statement. The approval of the mission statement begins to move the institution forward and will allow the process of developing a strategic plan to begin this fall. President DiPasquale thanked Commissioner Jack Warner, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer Nancy Carriuolo, and Governor James DiPrete for their assistance in re-writing the mission statement. The new mission statement will be posted on CCRI's website and will be widely distributed to the campus in the very near future.

President DiPasquale reported that CCRI submitted its progress report to NEASC on August 9, 2006. The progress report team will be visiting CCRI September 24-September 26, 2006. The progress report highlighted CCRI's progress in updating the mission statement and included highlights of its progress in new general education requirements; the development of a clear governance and communication system; the implementation of a strategic planning process to begin this fall; and plans for faculty assessment, hiring, and achievement of diversity goals. President DiPasquale is looking forward to the NEASC team visit.

President DiPasquale announced that the Rhode Island Equal Opportunity Center received a \$737,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education that will allow CCRI to assist more than 4,000 low income, first generation students. EOC counselors offer help with financial aid, admissions, academic issues and career counseling to all Rhode Islanders.

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President DiPasquale also announced that Senator Jack Reed will be hosting the second phase of a conference on nursing at CCRI on October 11, 2006. Senator Reed will talk about

nursing shortages and the critical need for nurses in the State of Rhode Island. The first phase of Senator's Reed conference was held at the University of Rhode Island.

President DiPasquale reported that opening day will be held on August 31<sup>st</sup> with the welcoming of faculty and staff. President DiPasquale anticipates that CCRI will hit its target for student enrollment when it opens its doors on September 5<sup>th</sup> with a total of 16,300 + students.

President DiPasquale announced that the Ferland-DiMaria Golf Classic Tournament will be held on September 26<sup>th</sup>. This is an important event that raises funds to be used for books and scholarships for CCRI students.

**12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Caprio indicated that he would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to receive an update on collective bargaining and pending litigation pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

On a motion duly made by Daniel Ryan and seconded by Katherin Belliveau, it was

**VOTED:** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education convene in Executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) for the reasons set forth above.

Vote: 10 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James DiPrete, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS: 0

The Board convened into Executive Session at 2:03 p.m.

Non-Board members of the audience were excused with the exception of Sandra A. Lanni, General Counsel for the Board; Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations, President Robert Carothers, President John Nazarian, President Ray DiPasquale and Associate Commissioner Stephen McAllister.

[Pierre LaPerriere arrived during executive session]

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 2:10 p.m.

**13. NEXT MEETING**

Monday, September 18, 2006 at the Community College of Rhode Island, Knight Campus at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, October 23, 2006 at Rhode Island College, Alger Hall, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue,

**14. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion duly made by Daniel Ryan and seconded by Brenda Dann-Messier, it was

**VOTED:**        THAT                    the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.

Vote:            11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members  
voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS:           Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Frank Caprio,  
Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, James  
DiPrete, Pierre LaPerriere, Thomas Rockett, Daniel  
Ryan, Michael Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

NAYS:           0

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Paul Harrington, Associate Director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University, presented demographic, educational and employment data relative to the State of Rhode Island following the Board meeting.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Kenneth Aurecchia, Secretary***