



RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

A regular meeting of the Board of Governors for Higher Education was held on Monday, June 25, 2007, at the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education, 301 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Chair Frank Caprio declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon

Absent: Kenneth Aurecchia, Kathrin Belliveau, Miriam Coleman, Brenda Dann-Messier, Pierre LaPerriere, and Michael Ryan

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Joseph Hagan and seconded by Solomon A. Solomon, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the agenda for the meeting of June 25, 2007.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion duly made by James DiPrete and seconded by Thomas Rockett, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the May 21, 2007 meeting.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank Caprio announced the retirement of Governor James DiPrete who has served on the Board of Governors with honor, distinction, and brilliance for many years while serving as chairman of the Board of Regents. Governor DiPrete has brought a wealth of experience,

information, and wisdom to the Board of Governors for Higher Education and has reflected great credit upon the Board of Regents, Elementary and Secondary Education, and upon higher education in the State of Rhode Island. Chair Caprio expressed his appreciation and thanked Governor DiPrete on behalf of higher education and on behalf of all of the people of the State of Rhode Island by presenting him with a plaque on behalf of the Board of Governors for Higher Education for his distinguished contributions in improving all levels of education in Rhode Island.

Governor DiPrete stated that it has been his pleasure to serve in a profession that he loves dearly and cares deeply about and thanked Chair Caprio and the Board. Governor DiPrete further stated that he has had a wonderful experience working with everyone in higher education.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

None

5. OPEN FORUM

Kelley Conti, a CCRI student with a disability appeared before the Board to discuss the importance of respecting the confidentiality of students with disabilities. Ms. Conti is appreciative that CCRI has accepted her as a student with a disability and that it has agreed to make accommodations for her there. Ms. Conti noted that her first choice in colleges would not accept her as a student with a disability.

Although Ms. Conti has the utmost respect for President Di Pasquale, she informed the Board that she has had four incidents involving her disability since she has been at CCRI.

Ms. Conti described a recent experience that occurred during a summer class at CCRI wherein her confidentiality as a student with a disability was breached. Ms. Conti is distraught that she was singled out in front of the entire class and feels her rights as a student were violated.

Ms. Conti wants to preserve the rights of students with disabilities and is looking forward to meeting with Vice President Morgan in an effort to work with CCRI to make it a better place for students with disabilities to obtain an education. Ms. Conti noted that after 3 years at CCRI she is maintaining a G.P.A. of 3.8 and does not feel she is being treated fairly.

Ms. Conti appears before the Board asking for guidance so that other students with disabilities, no matter what college in the state they attend, have the same rights and opportunities as able bodied students. Ms. Conti is eager to do whatever it takes to succeed at CCRI. After completing her studies at CCRI, Ms. Conti would like to pursue a 4-year degree at Rhode Island College and be an advocate for people in the work place.

Chair Caprio thanked Ms. Conti for appearing before the Board. Chair Caprio expressed full confidence in the administration at the Community College and is certain that the issues spoken of will be addressed in a timely fashion. Chair Caprio indicated that Ms. Conti is welcome at any future Board meeting to express her feelings and relay future progress.

6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Warner commented on the open forum presentation by saying he was impressed to hear from a student with a disability who is able to maintain a G.P.A of 3.8. The Commissioner also expressed confidence that Ms. Conti's concerns will be met.

Commissioner Warner added his voice of congratulations and gratitude to Governor James DiPrete for his leadership, collaboration, and spirit of wanting to work with higher education.

The Commissioner reported on a major priority of the Board which is to improve graduation rates and retention rates while looking particularly at populations that have been underserved. CCRI provided its latest updated retention and graduation report at a recent Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting. The Commissioner indicated that CCRI is showing steady, incremental progress in its retention rates and noted that great effort is being made to more carefully benchmark graduation and retention rates against peer institutions and against other national standards. Commissioner Warner noted that because it takes 3 or 6 years to make a difference in graduation rates, particular attention is paid to the incremental progress made to improve student retention rates. The Commissioner reported that CCRI continues to enjoy a relatively high transfer rate when compared with its peers. A report will be issued next year that tracks how CCRI students are performing at the 4-year institutions. The Commissioner is confident that CCRI is seriously committed to employing the standards of best practice to improve retention and graduation rates.

The ASAC Committee will hear the reports from Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island at the next meeting which will be reported on at the August Board meeting.

Commissioner Warner provided a quick overview of some of the features of the fiscal 2008 budget and noted that this was not a good budget year for higher education, particularly on the general revenue side. The Commissioner reported that higher education will receive the Governor's recommended general revenue amount of approximately \$180 million; however, the numbers will actually reflect \$197 million, of which \$17 million is additional debt service transfer. The State is interested in having the higher education budget reflect the total expenditures that the state makes in their investment and as a result of this new way of reporting, the general obligation bond debt will appear by institution as part of the general revenue number that goes forward. The problem with this process is that it artificially inflates the base over previous years and masks the fact that there were actual reductions in the budget.

The Commissioner noted that the net amount of \$180 million is down \$2.2 million from the general revenue of last year. The University was hit the hardest with a \$5.4 million reduction in general revenue over fiscal 2007. Rhode Island College will receive only \$700,000 more than last year, and CCRI will receive about \$2.1 million more than last year. When you factor in the tuition and fee increases for the institutions, each institution will be up between 4% - 4.3% in total revenue dedicated to operations.

Commissioner Warner was pleased to report that CCRI was able to have \$1.7 million restored to its budget for the HVAC system at the Lincoln campus. The Children's Crusade of Rhode Island received a 25% reduction in their general appropriation, losing just under \$400,000 in general revenue for the coming year. On the better news side in the budget, the Commissioner reported that higher education received \$400,000 to support dual enrollment which will be used to make a more uniform system out of the various dual enrollment programs that currently exist. Dual enrollment, or dual credit as it is often called, allows high school students to earn credit both toward high school graduation and toward making progress toward college degrees. These funds will be used to subsidize lower income students who want to participate in dual credit programs.

Commissioner Warner reported on the status of the chemistry and the nursing buildings at URI. Plans for the chemistry building were reduced and moved to 2009. Plans for the nursing building were moved to 2010. The Commissioner noted that the construction of these buildings is key to the development of the northern part of the campus and the eventual research park.

In closing, the Commissioner addressed Item 8a4 on tonight's agenda which relates to the revision of the general education requirements at all three institutions. The Commissioner praised Nancy Carriuolo and the academic leadership at all three institutions for taking part in revising the general education requirements to be consistent with Board policies and revised NEASC requirements. There are several faculty and other academic leaders in the audience tonight who participated in this process. Commissioner Warner is pleased to recommend approval of this item and commended the academic vice presidents, deans, and the faculty who worked on these revisions.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Item 7a under new business calls for the approval of the partnership agreement between the Central Falls Board of Trustees and the University of Rhode Island for the establishment of the Central Falls High School: A University of Rhode Island Academy. In the absence of President Carothers, Chair Caprio called upon Abu Bakr to address the Board.

Mr. Bakr reported that activity on this partnership began last September/October when former interim superintendent Bill Holland conducted site visits in Massachusetts to look at other institutions who have partnered with public high schools. Some time thereafter a search took place for a new superintendent in Central Falls which resulted in the hiring of Dr. Fran Gallo. Most recently, leadership has been put into place at the high school with the hiring of a new principal. Mr. Bakr noted that much of the work that has been done was under the leadership of James DiPrete, who was chairperson for the Board of Regents at that time. Although the effective date of the partnership is July 1st, a great deal of planning and activities took place before this date both at the high school and at the university in order to develop the partnership agreement which is on tonight's agenda for approval.

Mr. Bakr noted that the need to address the professional development needs of faculty at the high school required immediate attention because alternative instructional technologies are extremely important in terms of turning around the student performance issues that have existed at Central Falls High School for over 5 years.

Mr. Bakr reported that the partnership is in the process of developing student leadership training to get students actively involved in the restructuring of the high school. In addition, facility and technology assessments have been performed, as well as the development of fundraising. Discussions have taken place with IBM which is very interested in helping to support the partnership by providing hardware and software donations. Mr. Bakr further indicated that lengthy conversations have taken place with the Rhode Island Foundation which is also interested in providing substantial support. Mr. Bakr believes that what is being done at Central Falls has the potential for being a model and being replicated in other schools throughout the state as a measure of urban reform.

Mr. Bakr indicated that twenty faculty and staff at URI have been involved in developing a Nellie Mae Foundation grant proposal that will support the University over the course of 4 years not only in terms of providing academic support for students at the University, but also supporting academic development activities at the high school itself. The collaborative nature of

the partnership has come to the surface on both sides. The next step is to begin to implement the action plan that has been, and will continue to be developed this summer and to see whether or not a positive change in student performance outcomes can be effectuated.

Governor DiPrete commented that the creation of this partnership agreement was not an easy endeavor and noted that contributions are being made by both Rhode Island College and the Community College. Governor DiPrete believes this partnership will make a great difference in Central Falls.

On a motion made by Sarah Courtemanche and seconded by the entire Board, it was

VOTED:

(Item 7a)

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| That | the Board of Governors approves the proposed basic partnership agreement between the Central Falls Board of Trustees and the University of Rhode Island for the establishment of the Central Falls High School: A University of Rhode Island Academy; and |
| That | the Board of Governors authorizes the Commissioner of Higher Education, in consultation with the Board Chair and advised by the Board's legal counsel, to negotiate with the Commissioner of Education, General Counsel for the Board of Regents, and the Central Falls Board of Trustees, and to approve any further proposed or requested changes to the language of this agreement. |
| Vote: | 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows: |
| YEAS: | Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon. |
| NAYS: | 0 |

Chair Caprio indicated that Item 7b under new business calls for the approval of a contract between the University of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island Foundation. In the absence of President Carothers, Chair Caprio called upon Anne Morrissey to address the Board.

Anne Morrissey reported that in August of 2005 the University received a report from capital campaign consultants Bentz Whaley and Flessner addressing certain reorganization issues in conjunction with the capital campaign. URI, in conjunction with the Foundation, then called in the Association of Governing Boards. Thereafter, representation from the Association came in and worked together with the University and the Foundation to consider different models of reorganizing, all with the goal of enhancing fundraising on behalf of the University. From there, a series of meetings to seek consensus from the Foundation Board as to how to best move forward were held over the past 18 months. Consensus has been reached with the goal of reorganizing the fundraising efforts on behalf of the University's fundraising goals.

The culmination of this work is before the Board this evening for approval in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding. Representatives from the budget office, legal office, human

resources, as well as the Foundation CEO are available this evening to address any questions Board members may have on this agreement. Anne Morrissey introduced the president of the Foundation, Glen Kerkian, along with Ruth Jarrett, the financial manager, who have been instrumental in helping to reach an agreement.

Commissioner Warner noted that two pages were distributed this evening modifying the first two pages of the document which stipulates the effective date of the agreement to be today.

Chair Caprio congratulated and acknowledged the University and members of the Foundation for crafting a wonderful agreement which serves the interest of both the University and the Foundation.

On a motion made by Solomon A. Solomon and seconded by Daniel Ryan, it was

VOTED:

(Item 7b) That the Board of Governors authorizes the University of Rhode Island to enter into the proposed agreement with the URI Foundation setting the terms of the new relationship between the parties; and

That the Board of Governors authorizes the Commissioner of Higher Education, in consultation with the Board Chair and advised by the Board's legal counsel, to approve any further proposed or requested changes to the language of this agreement.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

Chair Caprio called upon President John Nazarian to address the Board on Item 7c which relates to the approval of the recommendation of the Henry Barnard School tuition rates for 2007-2008.

President Nazarian reported that the members of the Henry Barnard School Tuition Rate Setting Committee met to discuss the funds necessary to operate the school on a balanced budget. President Nazarian supports the recommendation before the Board this evening for an increase in tuition rates of 5.5% over FY07.

On a motion made by Joseph Hagan and seconded by James DiPrete, it was

VOTED:

(Item 7c) That the Board of Governors approves the tuition rates for Henry Barnard School for the 2007-2008 fiscal year as presented.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

Chair Caprio called upon Louis Saccoccio to address the Board on Item 7d which calls for the approval of a telecommunications facilities license agreement between Cox Communications and the University of Rhode Island.

Louis Saccoccio stated that the recommendation before the Board is for the approval of a license agreement that authorizes Cox Communications to bring fiber into the Narragansett Bay Campus, particularly the Horn Laboratory. This agreement is similar to what is normally received from utility companies, such as utility easements to bring electric or gas to a facility. In order to receive the service being sought, Cox is requiring the University to sign a license agreement authorizing them to come upon the property to connect the fiber. Modifications to the agreement requested by Attorney Saccoccio have been agreed to by Cox Communications. If approved by the Board, this agreement will go before the State Properties Committee for their approval.

On a motion made by Daniel Ryan and seconded by Sarah Courtemanche, it was

VOTED:
(Item 7d)

That the Board of Governors approves the telecommunications facilities license agreement between Cox Communications and the University of Rhode Island, subject to the approval of the State Properties Committee.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Academic and Student Affairs

Governor Jim DiPrete reported that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on June 12, 2007. At that time an informational report on retention rates was presented by CCRI. Governor DiPrete reported that in general, one-year retention rates at CCRI increased for men and decreased slightly for women when compared to last year's results. CCRI's retention rates remain above peer averages, especially for the part-time student population. Governor DiPrete indicated that reports will be given by RIC and URI at the next ASAC meeting.

Governor DiPrete noted that there are several items on tonight's agenda recommended by the committee for approval by the full Board as follows:

1. Transfer of Ownership of a Proprietary School

Transfer of ownership of a proprietary school requires Board approval. The Arthur Angelo School of Cosmetology and Hair Design requested a transfer of ownership to EEG, Inc. The school's two campuses (Warwick and Providence) appear as separate approval items because they have separate facilities and different student bodies. Staff of the Board's legal, academic, and financial departments reviewed the request to transfer ownership and support the approval contingent upon eight conditions outlined in the motion and agreed upon by EEG, Inc, as prospective owners.

2. Review of Programs with Low Completion Rates

The institutional researchers provide annual data regarding undergraduate programs that have graduated five or fewer bachelor's or master's degree students annually for three consecutive years. Doctoral programs with three or fewer graduates for three consecutive years are also noted. Such programs are triggered for review and consideration by the institution and the RIBGHE for retention, retention under focused two-year review, consolidation, or elimination.

CCRI had no programs triggered for review.

URI brought forward some programs for elimination this past fall. Others are still under review and will be brought forward later.

RIC brought forward twelve programs, which are grouped in the motion by the type of action that is recommended.

In particular, the committee discussed the problem with recruiting teachers into master's degree programs. Now that RIDE no longer requires a master's degree for ongoing certification, significantly fewer teachers enroll in master's programs. As a result, RIC is closing some of the master's programs for teachers due to low enrollments and completions. Commissioner Warner and Commissioner McWalters plan to discuss the issue of whether or not a master's degree should once again be required for ongoing certification.

3. Review of General Education Requirements

In May 2006, the RIBGHE charged URI, RIC and CCRI with ensuring that their general education requirements are in keeping with the newest NEASC accreditation and Board regulations pertaining to general education.

All three institutions now meet the standard of 20 credits or more of general education for associate's degree programs. At the senior institutions, NEASC has accepted a minimum of 39 credits as sufficient to meet the stated 40-credit requirement for bachelor's programs.

The work in general education at CCRI is particularly notable because CCRI did not previously have general education guidelines for all programs. This effort has been ongoing for more than two years. The Committee commends Ray Kilduff and Jack Owens, co-chairs of the General

Education Committee, as well as the academic administrators, CCRI faculty, and Board staff who have worked on this initiative.

In closing, Governor DiPrete expressed his gratitude to all, particularly Solomon A. Solomon, Thomas Rockett, Sarah Courtemanche, Brenda Dann-Messier, and Miriam Coleman – all hardworking members of the ASAC Committee.

On a motion made by Solomon A. Solomon and seconded by James DiPrete, it was

VOTED:

(Item 8a1) That the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education (RIBGHE) approve the application for a Certificate of Approval for EEG, Inc. (which will be owned by Empire Beauty Schools, Inc. and Regis Corporation) to purchase 100% of Par Management Corporation's stock contingent upon the following items:

1. EEG, Inc.'s provision of a \$196,097 surety bond on or before July 31, 2007 (proposed merger date is July 1, 2007);
2. EEG, Inc. must register with the Rhode Island Secretary of State's office as a foreign corporation qualified to do business in Rhode Island;
3. Submit evidence from EEG, Inc. that all conditions of its closing have been met and that it has, in fact, received the assets of the Regis Corporation and the Rhode Island schools (Providence and Warwick locations);
4. Inform the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education (RIOHE) as to the ownership of bank accounts which contain student tuition payments. If these will be new accounts, the account should be identified as to its number and bank name. This requirement would also apply to accounts which would hold any deposits for incoming or existing students;
5. Show evidence that the existing student contracts will be honored by the new corporation (EEG, Inc.);
6. Indicate to the RIOHE, in writing, the location of and the parties responsible for past, present, and future student files and other information;
7. Submit a signed acknowledgement by EEG, Inc. that school administrators will comply with Standard 11 of the regulations, which pertain to retention of student records;
8. Provide evidence to the RIOHE that EEG, Inc. has, in fact, been formed correctly under the laws of Delaware.

(Item 8a2) That the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education (RIBGHE) approve the application for a Certificate of Approval for EEG, Inc. (which will be owned by Empire Beauty Schools, Inc. and Regis Corporation) to purchase 100% of Warwick Academy of Beauty Culture Inc.'s stock contingent upon the following items:

1. EEG, Inc.'s provision of a \$128,415 surety bond on or before July 31, 2007 (proposed merger date is July 1, 2007);

2. EEG, Inc. must register with the Rhode Island Secretary of State's office as a foreign corporation qualified to do business in Rhode Island;
3. Submit evidence from EEG, Inc. that all conditions of its closing have been met and that it has, in fact, received the assets of the Regis Corporation and the Rhode Island schools (Providence and Warwick locations);
4. Inform the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education (RIOHE) as to the ownership of bank accounts which contain student tuition payments. If these will be new accounts, the account should be identified as to its number and bank name. This requirement would also apply to accounts which would hold any deposits for incoming or existing students;
5. Show evidence that the existing student contracts will be honored by the new corporation (EEG, Inc.);
6. Indicate to the RIOHE, in writing, the location of and the parties responsible for past, present, and future student files and other information;
7. Submit a signed acknowledgement by EEG, Inc. that school administrators will comply with Standard 11 of the regulations, which pertain to retention of student records;
8. Provide evidence to the RIOHE that EEG, Inc. has, in fact, been formed correctly under the laws of Delaware.

(Item 8a3)

1. **THAT the following Rhode Island College programs be eliminated, in keeping with the institution's administrative review and request:**

1. Bilingual/Bicultural Education, M.Ed.	2. Career and Technical Education, B.S.
3. Counseling, M.Ed.	4. Industrial Technology, M.S.
5. Radiologic Technology, B.S.	6. School Administration, CAGS
7. Special Education, CAGS	8. Teaching English as a Second Language, MAT.

2. **THAT the following Rhode Island College program be eliminated as a free standing program, but be consolidated with another, more active program:**

1. Latin American Studies, B.A. (consolidation as a concentration within the Spanish B.A. program)
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3. **THAT the following Rhode Island College programs be retained since courses in the program are required for general education, other majors, minors, and/or electives, thereby creating little or no additional cost to offer the major. The programs will be monitored through the institution's regular cyclical program review process:**

1. Art, with concentration in art education, M.A.	2. Chemistry, B.S.
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4. **THAT the following program, which had a low-completion rate, be retained with the proviso that RIC provide the resources necessary to pursue strategies for increasing enrollments and graduation rates. This program will undergo a focused review in two years (spring of 2009), possibly with the help of an external consultant, to determine whether or not**

the criteria for continuation (see RIBGHE program review policy, attachment #1) have been met.

1. Music, B.M.

- (Item 8a4)** That: the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education (RIBGHE) approve the general education requirements for CCRI, RIC and URI and consider those requirements to be in keeping with the RIBGHE's Regulations Governing Academic Changes in Rhode Island Public Institutions of Higher Education (p. 10) and the NEASC standard 4.17 that requires that an institution "ensures that all undergraduate students complete at least the equivalent of forty semester hours in a bachelor's degree program, or the equivalent of twenty semester hours in an associate degree program in general education," and furthermore,
- That: any changes in the general education requirements be promulgated to the NEASC, entering students, and the general public.
- Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
- YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.
- NAYS: 0

b. Government Relations Committee

In the absence of Kenneth Aurecchia, Associate Commissioner Steve Maurano reported that the Government Relations Committee met earlier this afternoon prior to the Board meeting principally to review the recent General Assembly session which ended early on Saturday, June 23rd. Mr. Maurano is pleased to report that the committee was able to achieve the two main legislative priorities that it set out earlier in the year: (1) the legislation approving the URI Research Foundation; and (2) a non-legislative item which called for the restoration of the HVAC funds for CCRI's Lincoln Campus. In addition, Mr. Maurano reported that none of the bills identified by the Committee as being harmful to higher education passed the legislature this session.

Mr. Maurano commended all of the institutions for their assistance in preparing testimony, both personal and written, to support the efforts of higher education. Mr. Maurano believes this testimony played a major role in the success that was achieved.

9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Caprio has reviewed Item 9a and recommends its approval.

On a motion made by Joseph Hagan and seconded by James DiPrete, it was

VOTED:

(Item 9a)

That

the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Personnel Committee's recommendations as follows:

At the University of Rhode Island:

1. Establish a new classification, Associate Director, Alumni Relations, BOG, Grade 13 (\$47,592-\$93,040)
2. Upgrade an existing position, Specialist, II, HCM & Financial Systems, BOG, from Grade 10 (\$37,855-\$73,629) to Grade 12 (\$44,095-\$86,203)
3. Change in title and job description only, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs to Vice Provost for Academic Affairs & Dean of Graduate School (Will remain at BOG Grade 20; (\$80,677-\$162,242).

At the Community College of Rhode Island:

1. Reclassify the position, Executive Assistant, BOG, Grade 8 (\$32,524-\$62,930) to Site Manager-Newport Campus, BOG, Grade 9 (\$35,161-\$68,043)

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.

NAYS: 0

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

11. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

a. Rhode Island College

President Nazarian reported that he toured the inside of the new residence hall today for the first time and every indication is that the building will be ready for occupation for the beginning of the fall semester. Dr. Nazarian noted that the new residence hall is the largest building on campus with 125,000 square feet. Crews are working night and day in order to meet the July 31st deadline. The next step will be for the furniture to be moved in and finishing touches applied before the students move in. Members of the Board will be invited to tour the new residence hall before commencement of the fall semester.

President Nazarian reported that current enrollment of new students is up significantly when compared to enrollments for the same time last year.

b. Community College of Rhode Island

President Di Pasquale thanked Governor DiPrete on behalf of the Community College for his help, support, and guidance over the past year.

President Di Pasquale acknowledged the great work of Professors Raymond Kilduff and Joseph Allen for their efforts on the general education requirements, as well as the CCRI faculty and Vice President Lela Morgan.

President Di Pasquale is pleased to report that CCRI has received a very favorable response from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) as a result of the follow-up study conducted last September. According to NEASC, the September progress report was fully accepted because it was responsive to the concerns previously raised by the commission. NEASC specifically acknowledged progress in approving the new mission statement, the substantial work of the general education committee, the steps taken to enhance the effectiveness of a governance structure, development of an effective faculty evaluation system, and the success of the Newport campus. Although work at CCRI is not done, NEASC acknowledged that the College is moving forward.

President Di Pasquale thanked Associate Commissioner Steve Maurano and Commissioner Warner for their tireless efforts in having \$1.7 million restored to CCRI's budget for a new HVAC system at the Lincoln campus.

President Di Pasquale reported that CCRI has received a \$100,000 grant in collaboration with the State Department of Labor & Training to assess the needs of minority construction firms. President Di Pasquale is excited to have CCRI participate in this very unique study which hopes to raise the awareness of minority construction firms amongst Rhode Island residents through a website to be implemented in the fall.

President Di Pasquale informed the Board that he recently visited the ACI to award associate degrees to three inmates. President Di Pasquale described the experience as remarkable and is hopeful that CCRI can play a small part in helping inmates as they are released to have a better life and get back on track with their dreams and aspirations.

President Di Pasquale announced that on June 3, 2007 the *Providence Sunday Journal* reported on a certificate program for a land surveying course at CCRI that was recently approved by the Board. CCRI has received more than 36 inquiries on the program since the article ran. President Di Pasquale noted that the implementation of this program is a great example of how CCRI responds to the needs of the community in a timely manner.

Finally, President Di Pasquale reported that CCRI is training 13 new instructors to teach a program for those convicted of driving under the influence. Not only will instructors be able to present a more current, updated curriculum, but for the first time in CCRI's history, this program will also be offered in Spanish.

President Di Pasquale indicated that CCRI continues to move forward with the NEASC mid-year report which is due in 2009 and the full NEASC report which is due in 2014.

Chair Caprio indicated that he has received and reviewed the NEASC report issued to the Community College of Rhode Island. Chair Caprio commented that the favorable report issued by NEASC is a testimony to President Di Pasquale's leadership and extended his

congratulations to President Di Pasquale. Chair Caprio encouraged President Di Pasquale to share the NEASC report with his colleagues and his peers.

c. University of Rhode Island

Inasmuch as President Carothers is heading up a meeting of the Global U-8 this week, he could not attend today's meeting. In his absence, Provost Beverly Swan reported that the University is finishing up its freshman orientation this week with nearly 3,000 freshman students coming to visit the campus and set up their schedules for the fall. Provost Swan noted that record numbers of parents also attended the parallel parent orientation.

Provost Swan noted that there are three notices of change on today's agenda:

1. A change in the name of the Department of Military Science to the Department of Military Science and Leadership;
2. A change in the name of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering to the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering; and
3. The establishment of a post-baccalaureate certificate in Women's Studies.

In closing, Provost Swan joined the chorus of those praising the work of Governor James DiPrete. On behalf of the University, Provost Swan thanked Governor DiPrete and indicated it has been a pleasure to work with him over the years.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Caprio indicated that he would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss an update on pending litigation and collective bargaining, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(1) and R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

On a motion duly made by Sarah Courtemanche and seconded by Solomon A. Solomon, 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:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS	Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.
	NAYS:	0

After a short break, the Board convened in Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

Non-Board members in the audience were excused with the exception of Ronald Cavallaro, General Counsel for the Board; Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations; Louis Saccoccio, General Counsel for the University, President John Nazarian; President Ray Di Pasquale; and Associate Commissioner Steven Maurano.

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:11 p.m.

13. NEXT MEETING

Monday, August 20, 2007, 4:00 p.m. at the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Institute, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

Monday, September 17, 2007, 5:00 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, Board Room 4090, Warwick, Rhode Island.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

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

VOTED:	That	the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.
	Vote:	7 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Frank Caprio, Sarah Courtemanche, James DiPrete, Joseph Hagan, Thomas Rockett, Daniel Ryan and Solomon A. Solomon.
	NAYS:	0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Aurecchia, Secretary