



RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

A regular meeting of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education was held on Monday, May 2, 2011, at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island. New Chair Lorne Adrain declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Present: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William C. Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

Absent: Amy Beretta, George Caruolo and Jane Sherman

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Joseph White and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the agenda for the meeting of May 2, 2011.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion duly made by William Maaia and seconded by Tessa Constant it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the January 24, 2011 meeting.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no communications or announcements.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Adrain thanked President Dooley and the University staff for hosting this evening's meeting.

He thanked the Governors for agreeing to serve and to lead, noting that all the Governors serve as volunteers. The mission of the Board is to work for accessibility and excellence and continuous improvement in the system of higher education in Rhode Island. Our economy, our state and everything that we all hope for and want the best of in this state is dependent on the people having access to the development of their skills and training that they need to contribute to a good and strong society. As his personal motivation, Chair Adrain indicated that he is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island. While at the University, he had his first opportunity to test his leadership and service skills and began to imagine what his life and career might be like and what he might want to pursue. It was at the University that he had the opportunity to begin practicing his role as a father, friend, citizen and servant. It is his personal hope and intention to make such opportunities for growth and leadership available to people throughout Rhode Island and throughout the nation and around the world. He looks to the people of Rhode Island and everyone present to help do this job by making yourselves heard, help us know if you believe that the Board could be doing their job better in some way, help us by challenging us, by holding us accountable, by being a little bit patient as we learn and as we grow into this role, and help us to advocate for higher education in Rhode Island.

5. OPEN FORUM

Five individuals signed up to speak in open forum.

Kevin Cruz, a URI student, spoke in favor of the new Health Studies Program the Board will be voting on this evening. He indicated that the possibility of this new program has changed his life dramatically. Mr. Cruz stated that although he is currently enrolled at the University as a biology major, biology was not exactly what he was looking for. It was not applicable to his overall goals of what he wanted to be in the health profession. He has continued with his Biology major, while trying to find other interests to keep himself afloat. Upon hearing about the Health Studies Program, he began to research all areas of this degree. One of the areas he is now considering is health promotion. Health promotion is an area of the Health Studies Program that employs individuals to be concerned with the overall lifestyle of an individual or small group and to help them improve their health. Mr. Cruz believes the Health Studies Program will be a great perspective for him and will allow him to achieve his goals. He thanked the Board for their time and asked that they give this program a big checkmark.

Scott Sokoll, a parent of two prospective URI students. Mr. Sokoll addressed the Board on the proposed tuition increases. He asked that the Board take a look at the fact that the State of Rhode Island has raised URI's tuition for 5 or 6 years in a row. Mr. Sokoll indicated that he is employed as a high school teacher and understands that education is important. He feels that it is getting to the point where he needs to try to make a decision to send his children to a different type of school because he cannot afford the tuition. He instead asked the Board to consider not

raising the tuition by 8.5%, but by half that amount instead. As a parent and a teacher, he talks to the children who are looking to go on to these programs but they simply cannot afford to go to school anymore. He pleaded with the Board to take a look at the budget, take a look at what else may be possible. Mr. Sokoll thanked the Board for their time.

David Coates, President of the URI Student Senate, stated that he is a native Rhode Islander who will be a senior at the University in the Fall. Mr. Coates addressed the Board on the budget issue and the proposed tuition increase. As a person who is intimately aware of the University's budget, he understands and appreciates the reality of the current situation. He added that he likewise understands and appreciates the economic reality of Rhode Island families. Furthermore, Mr. Coates indicated that as his counterparts in the administration, faculty, staff and students already know, the University is on the verge of pricing itself out of the market for out-of-state students. He understands that this gap must be closed and understands that the University is unable to survive without the additional nine million dollars that will be generated by the increase. In the future, Mr. Coates would like to see the Board hold the state accountable for its obligation to subsidize the education of Rhode Island students.

Aaron Buckley, the Speaker of Student Parliament at Rhode Island College, spoke in favor of the proposed \$15.00 safety and transportation fee at Rhode Island College. This issue has gone before Student Parliament for the last two years and they have been pushing the administration to institute a 50% off discount in bus fares which would bring the College in line with other public colleges in Rhode Island. The College bookstore in the past, before there was any discount program in effect, sold an average of 8-20 bus passes or RIPTA e-fair items. As of April, that number has grown and the College is now selling over several hundred items. At Mr. Buckley's direction, Student Parliament allocated \$25,000 from the student activities fee in order to institute this fare after the monies that the Board/Office of Higher Education had put forward for this program ran out. The College has conducted a survey of the student body. With a 10% response rate, there was majority approval for a safety and transportation fee that could provide the subsidized bus fare and also address some of the other infrastructural transportation issues on campus, including the parking situation. Mr. Buckley stated that he believes in a comprehensive approach to dealing with the parking issue, not just replacing more land with parking lots. He added that with respect to the Board's consideration for tuition increases at the institutions, he differentiated between students' reactions to tuition increases for the sake of going up because the state government is not able to allocate more money toward higher education and keeping tuition costs down. Mr. Buckley stated that he does not support tuition going up broadly, but he does support and conveys the wishes of student community government at Rhode Island College for the safety and transportation fee.

Shawn Kane is the Treasurer of Student Community Government at Rhode Island College. Mr. Kane also spoke in favor of the \$15 safety and transportation fee. Mr. Kane along with five other members of the student body met with members of the Executive Council, President Carriuolo and the Vice Presidents to discuss the proposed safety and transportation fee. There was broad support from the entire student body at Rhode Island College because the students see and understand that there is a service to be provided in return for the fee. This service will be used by the majority of the College's students who commute back and forth to school. Unlike the University of Rhode Island, Mr. Kane noted that Rhode Island College is largely a commuter school that has a significant need for this program.

6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Di Pasquale, on behalf of the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Community College of Rhode Island, their 44,000 students and 4,100 employees, welcomed each and every member of the Board. He said that we are truly excited that you are here and we welcome the opportunity and the discussion of the many issues that face you as a new board.

Among the items that are before the Board for discussion this evening are the proposals to offer a new degree in health studies at the University of Rhode Island and a new certificate of graduate studies in middle/secondary level special education at Rhode Island College. There will also be discussion of the application for a certificate of initial approval for a new proprietary school in Rhode Island and the approval of awarding of degrees by all three institutions at the upcoming commencement activities. There are some recommendations from the Personnel Review Committee for approval as well as the discussion and recommendations involving the mid-year budgets. Lastly, both the University of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College have proposed tuition increases for the FY 2012 academic year.

Regarding the tuition proposals, public higher education has lost \$38.3 million in appropriation since FY 07. By several measures, Rhode Island is ranked last in the entire country for support of public higher education. The prior Board, at one of its last meetings, voted not to raise tuition, but over the course of their time had voted to raise tuition and fees for the last four years. That Board took these votes very seriously and agonized over them as they had to fulfill that obligation in order to continue to move the institutions forward. Aside from the tuition and fees, the state appropriation is the only major source of revenue for the institutions. With such substantial loss of revenue from the State, the Board felt that they had no choice but to raise tuition and fees, although the increase was not on a dollar-for-dollar basis and did not match the \$38.3 million cuts.

Each institution has gone through a rather lengthy series of reviews and cuts in an effort to consolidate and/or eliminate low performing programs. In addition, each institution has left dozens of positions vacant for several years as a means of achieving the budget savings. The most recent figures show that there are approximately 260 positions vacant throughout the three institutions. Any additional cuts would be with major sacrifices, and in some cases, ending entire programs or even closing buildings. With enrollment hitting record levels, the positions left vacant are mostly staff, so that the institutions can be assured that they have enough faculty to instruct the ever-growing number of students that enroll.

Commissioner Di Pasquale explained that the previous Board was looking to send the message that higher education can no longer do this on the backs of the students. With that in mind, the Board sent a strong message for the State to restore \$30 million in funding back to higher education. Governor Chafee has recommended a \$10 million increase in the 2012 budget, showing tremendous support for higher education. The Commissioner also noted that there is much debate in the Senate and in the House, and the \$10 million is not a guarantee. Even with the tuition increases that are being proposed this evening, our institutions have to come back to the Board for further relief if that \$10 million dollars is not restored. With the \$10 million dollars restored, the system as a whole will still be \$20 million short.

Last year, the General Assembly included \$175,000 in its current budget for a feasibility study to determine whether a new joint nursing building in the Providence "Knowledge District" was a good idea and where such a building might be located. The system has been working very diligently through an effort lead by Associate Commissioner Deborah Grossman-Garber.

The University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the Provosts, the Deans of Nursing, the faculty members and, most recently, the Presidents joined in a very good discussion with our architects and consultants to talk about the options. Senior staff has also been involved in several regular meetings. Since last January, the consultants of RGB and HOK, which specializes in planning, design and delivery solutions for healthcare and science buildings in communities, have done tremendous work. We are anticipating that the report will come forward within the next couple of weeks.

Commissioner Di Pasquale again welcomed everyone to the Board.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Recommendation on the Mid-year Review for Fiscal Year 2011 Higher Education Budgets and Tables of Organization

Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Management, presented Item 7a. She indicated that this item is the discussion of the mid-year review for fiscal 2011 Higher Education Budgets at the three institutions and the Office of Higher Education. For Fiscal Year 2012, the allocation of the four line items of the system of public higher education amounted to \$144.0 million, net of GO debt service of \$19.6 million. The Governor has recommended a minor change to the general revenue appropriation for FY 2011; however, that minor change entails the GO debt service.

The mid-year review process provides the Board of Governors the opportunity to review the year-to-date activities and incorporate updated revenue data based upon new enrollment figures. It also provides the opportunity to monitor current trends and activities and advise the executive and legislative branches of the changes that may be required in the revised FY 2011 supplemental budget submission. This approach is consistent with current statutory language that states: "The Board shall receive, review, and adjust the budgets of its several subordinate committees and agencies and for the Office of Higher Education and present the budget as part of the budget for higher education."

Furthermore, the state statute specifically provides for the appropriation of additional revenues based upon updated revenue receipts due to, among other things, changes in enrollments. This is pursuant to section 16-59-9 of the Rhode Island General Laws relating to the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly for Higher Education and section 16-59-18 of the General Laws relating to receipts from sources other than appropriations.

This mid-year review recommendation does not reallocate any state appropriation from one institution to another. This is in compliance with current state law, which requires that the legislature allocate to each of the institutions and to the Office of Higher Education.

In order to realign the education budgets with the actual operating experience of the first half of the fiscal year and projected operations through June 30th, a decrease of \$5.8 million is requested for the unrestricted budget. This includes adjustments in the unrestricted budget that reflect a decrease of \$5.6 million in tuition revenue, the result of a net change in both volume and mix of enrollment across the system. It also includes changes to the general obligation debt recommended by the Governor which totals \$1.0 million along with increases of \$0.8 million in other revenue yield which is a total net change in revenue of the \$5.8 million.

A \$23.1 million increase is requested for the restricted budget. This results in a total system budget of \$1.0 billion for both funds in this current year.

The University is requesting a \$329.7 million unrestricted budget representing a decrease of \$6.0 million from the FY 2011 allocation. Enrollment has decreased at the University by 260 students, a decrease of 1.8%. It is attributable to an increase of 78 in-state undergraduate students and a decrease of 300 out-of-state undergraduate students combined with a decrease of 38 graduate students. This has resulted in a projected FTE of 14,190 generating a reduction of \$6.9 million in tuition and fee revenue. The University is projecting expenditures to exceed revenue by \$3.0 million and intends to utilize a portion of the fund balance to fund the excess expenditures.

On the restricted budget, revenues are projected to increase by \$34.3 million, and expenses are projected to increase by \$6.6 million. The auxiliary funds are projecting a combined deficit of \$2.8 million, which includes a \$1.8 million deficit for Housing and Residential Life, a \$480,304 deficit at the bookstore and at the Memorial Union a \$475,000 deficit. The enterprise funds are projecting a combined deficit of \$32,303 which includes parking services at a \$250,000 deficit and the Ryan Center/Boss Arena with a surplus of \$217,697.

At the College, the unrestricted budget is \$107.0 million for the mid-year allocation. Total enrollment has decreased by 120 FTE (1.7%) from the original FY 2011 allocation which is generating a \$0.4 million projected decrease in tuition and fee revenue. The Governor's recommended supplemental budget reflects a state appropriation of approximately \$37.6 million net of GO debt service.

The restricted budget at the College is increasing by \$3.4 million on the revenue side while expenses are increasing by \$3.9 million from the original allocation. While the Bookstore and the Student Union project small surpluses, the Resident Halls and the Donovan Dining Center are projecting deficits of \$92,849 and \$293,722 respectively.

At the Community College, the unrestricted budget is \$99.5 million. An increase in enrollment of 419 FTE students (4.1%) has generated additional revenues of approximately \$1.8 million. With respect to the restricted budget at the Community College, revenues and expenditures are both increasing by \$12.1 million.

The Office of Higher Education has a state appropriation as recommended by the Governor remaining at \$7.0 million. The OHE restricted budget of \$4.4 million includes the GEAR UP program of \$3.0 million, the Title II Partnership grants of \$0.4 million, Veterans Training and Administration of \$0.1 million, and two new grants, which include the Longitudinal Data Systems Grant and the College Access Challenge Grant which have been budgeted at \$200,000 and \$700,000 respectively.

The members of the Board addressed several questions/clarifications on the budget to Associate Commissioner LaPanne:

Commissioner Di Pasquale: Noted that with only two months to go, the 2011 budget year will be over. He added that typically this report would have been given a few months earlier. This report shows that we are on target, we know what our enrollments are, we know what the dollars are, we have made the adjustments and going forward through June 30th. We are going to finish the fiscal year with no supplemental asks.

Governor Rockett: Commented that the three schools and the Office of Higher Education should be commended for the fact that every year they come in not asking for supplements, but with a balanced budget. If other departments would do the same thing, Higher Education might get a bigger piece of the pie.

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by William Maaia it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the mid-year budget adjustments for fiscal year 2011 as presented.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

b. Approval of a Tuition Increase at the University of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College for the FY 2012 Academic Year

Associate Commissioner LaPanne provided the Board with some background information on the tuition increase request.

She stated that on October 15, 2010, the Board of Governors voted to send a current service level budget to the State Budget Office. The submission included a tuition and fee schedule that reflected a continuation of the 2011 tuition and fee schedule rates through the 2012 academic year with a couple of minor changes in fee structures. In addition, the Board refused to approve the additional budget scenarios that were requested by the State Budget Office as is its tradition.

We are traditionally asked for a Current Service Level Budget, and then we are given direction by the State Budget Office for additional cuts in budget that sometimes can be anywhere between 10-20% decrease from the current service level. Traditionally the Board refuses to accept those proposals and forwards current service level only. Traditionally, it is a balanced budget. However, on October 15th the Board chose to send the message that if it does not increase tuition and fees, a deficit will occur at each of the three institutions.

The Motion to accept the Current Service Level budget was made after long discussion about the level tuition and fees position that the budget submission presented. The intention of the Board was to make this statement to the Governor and to the Legislature while review of the budget process for the State continued to unfold.

The new Governor's proposed budget to the Legislature currently recommends a \$10 million increase for the System of Higher Education. The allocation of this increased funding over the initial SBO proposed system budget, includes \$3 million to the University, \$2 million to the College, \$4.5 million to the Community College and a \$126,000 increase to the Office of Higher Education.

At this time, both the University and the College have reviewed the budgets proposed for each of the institutions. They have concluded that increased tuition and fees are necessary at both institutions even with the increased appropriations recommended by the Governor's budget.

The Community College of Rhode Island does not have a proposed tuition and fee increase for the 2012 academic year at this time, contingent on the \$4.5 million being added to its budget.

Attached to Item 7b were Dr. Dooley and Dr. Carriuolo's recommendations in support of their requested tuition increases. Each President proposes the alternative steps needed if such increases are not approved in order for their institutions to achieve budget. Though the proposed steps to be taken by each institution address the shortfall differently, all of the alternative solutions are dire in both their immediate consequences and in their future and strategic ramifications.

Associate Commissioner LaPanne provided the Board with a schedule of Tuition and Mandatory Fee Rates for the FY 2012 Budget Request as of May 2, 2011 and several charts showing the comparison of URI, RIC and CCRI instate tuition & fees to other New England Schools for both 2010 and 2011 for reference purposes.

Chair Adrain requested that all members of the Board hold their questions until after President Dooley and President Carriuolo finished their presentations to the Board.

Dr. Dooley acknowledged that this is an unprecedented situation. He indicated that "we come before you with a number of transitions taking place simultaneously in Rhode Island that left the institutions and the Board in an admittedly awkward context." Dr. Dooley provided a perspective of what transpired since the submission by the previous Board of their budget in October which projected a budget deficit in excess of \$30 million, with a specific request of the State to make up that deficit with an increase in state appropriation, so the institutions would not be put in a position again of raising tuition.

For the University of Rhode Island, the budget submitted last October would be short \$4.6 million in current services if there were no tuition increase. This budget did not project major new programs or substantial growth in the activities of the institution, but rather was a budget prepared at the direction of the executive at the time to maintain current level of services with directed increases in certain areas consistent with the former Governor's priorities. It is important to understand the context in which this has left the University. Of the general operating budget, which funds essentially all of the critical core educational activities and missions of the University, 22% of that budget is derived from the State, 77% of that budget comes from tuition and fees. Therefore, managing the tuition and fee revenue at the University is a critical part of our budget preparation and budget execution. Enrollment management and projection of enrollment in both resident and non-resident categories, the generation of financial aid, and the timely notification of prospective and continuing students as to tuition and fees and what their financial packages might be is critical for the University to build any budget in the current climate.

As Associate Commissioner LaPanne explained, the mid-year review which the Board just heard and approved indicated that URI's enrollments for the current year were less than initially projected when the budget was built, requiring a mid-year correction. The mid-year correction, which included \$1.7 million in further reductions, was implemented many months ago. The 2012 budget includes the continuation of the reductions that were implemented as a

result of the mid-year review in 2011. URI has been in regular communication with the Governor's office and his staff regarding the preparation of the University's budgets and the necessity for URI to get as early notification as possible to what his recommendations might be.

In March, in order to remain competitive, the University must send out letters to prospective students notifying them what the anticipated tuition and fees will be for the academic year while also notifying them of their projected financial aid award. Frankly, if URI fails to do that, particularly with regard to the recruitment of non-resident students, the University would simply not have a budget that was at all workable because it would be unable to come near its enrollment targets if it failed to hit the market place in a timely way with those notifications. Therefore, the University was put in a very awkward position of having no formal vote by its Board of Governors while having to write to families and students what they anticipated might happen.

President Dooley stated that the University is recommending a yearly increase of a little over \$800 in tuition and fees for residents and a little less than \$200 for non-residents. The current budget shortfall is \$14.6 million, If the enrollment projections are met, the recommended tuition increase will generate roughly \$8.7 million. Even if the Governor's recommended \$3 million and the \$8.7 million in tuition in fees are received, the University will still have to implement further reductions in 2012 in order to have a balanced budget. The reductions at this level are manageable in terms of protecting access and quality of the education that the University's students seek when they enroll. President Dooley emphasized that the University is very sensitive to the comments made earlier this evening. He acknowledged how difficult it is for families in Rhode Island to cover the cost of an education at URI given the dramatic cut in state funding that has occurred in the past several years. The University's best approach, as it has done in the past, will use part of the revenues that are generated by tuition and fees to fund financial aid. The University is proposing a significant increase in financial aid for 2012 over the 2011 budget. In 2011, the financial aid budget was \$29 million. In FY 2010 it was \$21 million. For the 2012 budget, the University is projecting a further increase of \$10.5 million. This increase will allow the University to try to make sure that those Rhode Islanders most in need of financial aid receive it.

If the University does not generate the \$8.7 million in increases for FY 2012, they would be facing a budget reduction with less than 2 months to implement it. The University has already done their best due diligence in planning for the number of classes that need to be taught in the fall, given the projected enrollment at the institution. They have made commitments to individuals to teach those classes and to the student support staff necessary to support the student activities on campus at the projected enrollment levels.

Should the University not receive the \$8.7 million proposed increase, there will be a number of other consequences. In part, enrollment would probably suffer. A decline in enrollment, as reflected in 2011, would lead to further budget reductions and decreases in the financial aid that the University is able to offer students because of a shortage of revenues. Financial aid for Rhode Island residents is provided in large measure by the University of Rhode Island from the tuition paid by non-residents. Sixty-four percent of Rhode Island students receive some form of financial aid, most of which is generated by the University.

Dr. Dooley thanked the Board for their patience and offered to answer any questions the Board may have at the conclusion of Dr. Carriuolo's presentation.

Chair Adrain asked Dr. Carriuolo to continue with her remarks at this time.

Dr. Carriuolo added that although the University and Rhode Island College have different missions and different demographics, much of the work that President Dooley described in terms of managing a budget also applies to Rhode Island College. Although the College's budget is smaller, it still has to go through many of same activities. As was done at the University, Dr. Carriuolo indicated that Rhode Island College also sent out their letters back in March. Without having a Board vote in advance of distributing the letters, the College indicated that they were anticipating a 4% increase at Rhode Island College, pending approval by the Board of Governors.

For comparison purposes, Dr. Carriuolo noted that the levels of support given to the College for this fiscal year, in terms of state appropriation, equaled the amount of support the College received back in 1998. With this type of reduction in support, the College has made cuts in every way thinkable and has done everything possible to reallocate funds and to also bring in new funds. In terms of the College's current appropriation, it is \$4.6 million less than was requested. This request was based on needs that were determined by work that was done in terms of the College's NEASC self study. In preparation for the College's 10th year comprehensive accreditation visit happening in October of 2011, a great deal of planning and work went into figuring out exactly what the College needed to do in order to meet the standards. The College's budget was based on those discussions along with work that went into the College's strategic plan which was just finished recently.

President Carriuolo acknowledged the \$2 million more that the Governor has proposed for Rhode Island College. She credited the Governor for stopping the downward spiral and hopes that state support for higher education can begin to rebuilt back up again.

In regard to tuition and fees, the increase that the College has projected would yield approximately \$2.8 million, assuming a minimal increase in projected enrollment in 2012. An increase in tuition also has the potential to perhaps cause a decrease in enrollment, and such a decrease not only affects the unrestricted budget, but it would also affect the College's auxiliary enterprises. Dr. Carriuolo also spoke on the new \$15 transportation fee. The projected revenue would bring in approximately \$300,000. This would be used for transportation on campus, primarily the e-fair discount with RIPTA. Dr. Carriuolo credited the student government leaders for conducting a survey which showed support for the transportation fee by the entire student body.

The College's projected revenue shortfall, even with the projected tuition increase, will be \$1.5 million. This shortfall would have to be addressed by making reductions in personnel, operating and capital expenditures. As Dr. Dooley indicated, Rhode Island College also had to plan on raises that had already been worked into the budget by the previous Governor. The College had to plan for these increases as they are owed to these individuals. Two other Rhode Island College labor contracts are currently being negotiated.

President Carriuolo advised the Board that, at the moment, 56% of the College's staff are adjunct faculty. In preparation for the upcoming accreditation visit, the College is looking to hire 17 full-time faculty. Full-time faculty take on responsibilities that the adjunct faculty do not, such as student advisement, craft new programs, and keep curriculum updated and current. A portion of the tuition funds that the College is seeking will support these additional faculty members. The tuition increase will also help to increase student aid by thirteen percent as well as help to keep technology updated in order to present quality programs.

The Board was given the opportunity to question both Dr. Dooley and Dr. Carriuolo at this time.

Governor Rockett recalled President Dooley's statement that 64% of URI students receive some form of financial aid. He inquired of President Carriuolo what percent of Rhode Island College students receive financial aid?

President Carriuolo responded that the total aid package is around \$8,000 more or less. (Later in the meeting, President Carriuolo confirmed that 82% of the students at Rhode Island College receive financial aid.)

Governor Mancuso questioned whether Rhode Islanders are being moved out of URI due to the increase in tuition of just under \$1,000 and whether this will cause a burden on CCRI because they are not going to see an increase in their tuition for this year.

President Dooley responded that it is very common in public higher education systems to deliberately target tuition for the community college in terms of its entry level mission and its workforce development mission to be as low as possible. Enrollment at the University, as reflected in last year's numbers, shows that there were more Rhode Islanders at the University last year than any other year. This reflects the very good work that URI's enrollment and financial aid staff do in very carefully looking at the trade, the list price and the financial aid that the University can award to try to ensure that Rhode Islanders have a path forward to afford a URI education.

Governor Mancuso recalled Dr. Dooley's statement that financial aid for Rhode Islanders is largely supported by out-of-state dollars. She wondered whether the \$200 increase to out-of-state students makes enough of a difference and, if not, why isn't the increase in tuition more on the backs of out-of-state students instead of those in-state?

Dr. Dooley explained that, last year, the University experienced a decline in the enrollment of non-residents. That was a great concern to the University. After looking into it very carefully, the University concluded that they are priced competitively but by the thinnest of margins. Secondly, URI concluded that the degree of financial aid that it was able to offer non-residents last year, was probably not competitive, as it was not for Rhode Islanders. Right now, the numbers indicate that the University is doing a very good job with the anticipated increases and financial aid that the University has put out there to bring in a very healthy class of non-residents.

Governor Walsh commended the institutions for the work that has been done in balancing the cuts in the institutions with tuition increases in the past while making sure that both the institutions and the students shared some of that burden. He believes it is shameful that Rhode Island government's allocation of funds to public higher education is the lowest in the nation. Regardless of how this Board votes tonight, he hopes that the Board, in cooperation with the University, the Colleges and the general public, advocate strongly at the State House for the Governor's proposed budget this year and for future increases for higher education. He inquired of President Dooley whether the letters that were sent out earlier in the year reflected the proposed financial aid increase.

Similar to the letter sent by Rhode Island College, Dr. Dooley indicated that the University's letter was guarded in its language and stated that the amounts were anticipated. Also enclosed in that same letter were the University's proposals for financial aid. These numbers were predicated on those anticipated levels of tuition and fees.

If the Board does not approve the increase in tuition, Governor Walsh asked if the University would have to send out new letters that would reduce the financial aid packages to which the University has already committed to.

Dr. Dooley stated that should the tuition increase not be approved, the University would have to start over again, the consequences of which would be catastrophic.

With respect to both in-state and out-of-state students who are wait listed, Governor Tikoian asked how, when the opportunity comes for them to be accepted, does the University's decision making process take place to determine whether out-of-state or in-state students will be accepted based on revenue driven expectations.

President Dooley clarified that the University bases those decisions almost entirely on the qualifications of the students, including grades, scores and class rank. URI is committed to admitting students to the University who can succeed. It is not desirable to base admissions on revenue. He added that if the students do not succeed, then they do not stay.

President Carriuolo commented that Rhode Island College likewise does not consider revenue in regard to admission of students. President Carriuolo noted that at the College, 90% of the students are Rhode Islanders.

Governor Constant stated that she understands the dire situation, but as the student representative of the Board she spoke on behalf of her constituents and peers at the University and the Colleges who do not want any tuition increase. They feel the increases have been put on the backs of the students for the past few years. She feels it would be a breach of her duty to vote yes on the tuition increase. In addition, Governor Constant indicated that although the tuition increase does not impact CCRI directly, it does affect all of the CCRI students who were planning on transferring to either the University or the College and who may not be able to do so.

Governor Maaia indicated that, as newly appointed board members picking up from where the old board members left off, they find themselves in the perfect storm. Governor Maaia spoke on how he does not view the tuition increases to be excessive, but would like to see a larger amount of the increases be shifted to out-of-state students, perhaps having the out-of-state students pay at least as much as the in-state students. He would not be opposed to tabling the vote on the tuition increase while waiting to see what happens with the Governor's proposed \$10 million. Governor Maaia asked whether the Presidents would be uncomfortable if the Board tabled this matter so that they may see some of these items come forward, and also consider a reapportionment of how non-residents and residents are assessed.

With good reason, President Dooley understands the Board's feeling of being in the perfect storm. He went on to explain that the institutions had wished they were able to engage with the Board at an earlier point, but due to the confirmation process, the clock continued to tick for both the Board and the institutions. It is also correct that this is a complicated multivariable problem. What the Board sees before them is the institutions' proposed solution. On the basis of the data that the institutions have today, the interest in coming to URI is high, much better than it was last year. That means it is more probable that URI will hit the targets that they felt they needed to hit. This would mean starting the calculation over, re-informing everyone and hoping very few of them would react negatively. Although President Dooley acknowledged that there may be a way to put together some other set of numbers which may work, he added that he is very uncertain about that and feels that creating uncertainty at the eleventh hour is very problematic.

President Dooley also pointed out that there is one thing worse than graduating college with debt, and that is going to college, accumulating debt and failing to graduate because the institution is unable to deliver the programs. This causes students to leave without the degree but with all the debt. This is a problem that is happening increasingly across the United States: students leaving institutions without degrees, without being prepared to pursue their hopes and dreams and aspirations, to get that job, and they are still carrying with them the debt of the effort. This is the risk the Board runs when we all continue down this road of reductions upon reductions. Ultimately, you get to the point where you start cutting down on the quality, you start cutting down on the access, you start cutting down on the availability of classes, because you have nowhere else to go and that turns around and hits graduation rates and hits students in a very negative way. This will only make a bad problem worse.

Chair Adrain took a moment to express his appreciation for the patience on the part of the Governors and the hard work on the part of the Presidents and their staff. This is a difficult situation. He looked for clarification from the Presidents as to the expectations that the incoming students and their families have versus the reality of the tuition increase that is being recommended. For instance, he asked whether the letters that went out in March indicated that the tuition and fees would be "X" and now we are asking for "X" or we are asking for "X" plus something else. All of these are good questions and he recognizes that this is a very complicated model and multiple variables have to be balanced. One important thing that needs to be considered is what are people out there expecting.

President Dooley responded that what people have seen are the prices for URI with the proposed increases as presented, including the financial aid packages. These were the numbers that were anticipated and which appeared in the letter they received. The closer they get to enrollment, if those expectations are not met, the more problematic it becomes.

Chair Adrain added that, as difficult as the prospect of raising tuition might be, it is exactly what everyone is expecting. It is exactly what produced the acceptances and yield in the enrollment management formula.

The Chair again opened the meeting up for questions.

With regard to revenue sources, Governor White asked whether the two primary revenue sources are simply the state subsidy and the tuition and fees or are there additional revenue sources that can come into the University and have these been explored.

President Dooley responded that the University's operating budget, which pays for the core costs and activities of the institution, (approximately \$320 million), is derived 22% from the state and 77% from tuition and fees. That is approximately half of what is spent annually at the University. The remainder of the revenues that come into the University come from a variety of sections. A major piece, over \$100 million, is sponsored research. These funds are for specific research projects and must go entirely and solely to support that sponsored research activity of the institution. The University also generates a lot of revenue from auxiliary enterprises, room and board, bookstore, parking, etc. These funds are kept separate from the general unrestricted budget.

President Carriuolo added that the funds that come in through the Rhode Island College Foundation or through other development efforts are often tightly restricted and may be designated strictly for a particular type of scholarship. These are not monies that can be used for other purposes.

Governor White said he feels the Board would feel more comfortable voting knowing that the institutions have considered all additional revenue sources before they vote on the tuition increase. The Board understands that expenses have been cut consistently and that the institutions are operating at a limited budget right now, but Governor White felt they would also like to hear that all other sources of revenue have been explored and that there are no additional sources of revenue for 2012.

Dr. Dooley responded that it would be fair to say that in preparation of the 2012 budget, the University looks at the totality of the University's revenues. He does not believe that there is another significant source of revenue that the University could move into the general operating budget of the institution to make up the shortfall that is projected to exist the Board does not implement the proposed tuition increase.

At this time, Governor Constant made a motion that the Board postpone the vote on the tuition increase to the next scheduled Board meeting.

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education postpone the vote on the tuition increase to the next scheduled Board meeting.

Vote: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 7 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso

NAYS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, William Maaia, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

On a motion duly made by John Walsh and seconded by Thomas Rockett it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the increase in tuition at the University of Rhode Island to reflect those proposals made by the institution as presented

AND FURTHER

That the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the increase in tuition and fees at Rhode Island College to reflect those proposals made by the institution as presented.

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 3 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, and William Maaia

c. Approval of a Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to Offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Studies

Associate Commissioner Deborah Grossman-Garber presented the Board with an overview and background information on this proposal. She explained that in accordance with the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education Regulations governing academic changes in Rhode Island's public institutions, staff members of the RIOHE have given careful review to a proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Studies.

This new major will leverage existing institutional academic capacity at URI within the thematic area of health, identified as a strategic priority for investment in the University's recent Academic Plan for 2010-2015. The proposed Health Studies major is novel in that it is structured so as to transcend individual disciplines. Most academic majors are hosted by a single disciplinary or professional department and are administered and owned by the relatively few faculty who have appointments in that department. The proposed Health Studies major is intended to chart a more strategic and efficient delivery method for educational content that is broadly focused on contemporary issues in health and wellness. Health provides an organizing theme that taps into a broad array of expertise that exists across all URI campuses and many departments. The proposed inter-disciplinary health studies major will capitalize on already existing expertise in 24 different departments across the University.

The new degree program is designed to ensure that graduates will have achieved a level of health, understanding and literacy that is needed in society today and will prepare them for current and future non-clinical health sector jobs related to disease prevention, public health, risk management, health insurance, health administration, health policy and health sales. Staff reviewers note that an important strength of the new major is the opportunity students will have to benefit from expertise of more than 130 faculty members from across the University. The program will also provide an attractive option for students who may have broad interests in health and wellness but who are either not interested in pursuing a specific clinical pathway, such as pharmacy and nursing, or who are unsuccessful in gaining acceptance into very popular and oversubscribed programs at URI, such as nursing, pharmacy, nutrition and kinesiology. Further, the University is anticipating that the interdisciplinary Health Studies degree will function as an attractive means to help retain and graduate students from URI who do not experience initial academic success within a clinically focused major. This new major is meant to serve as a retention measure, as well as a draw for new students into the University.

In accordance with the regulations, the Community College of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposal. Rhode Island College noted that the recently approved Health Care Administration degree at RIC does not significantly overlap in the intent and expected pool of interested students. Therefore, program duplication is not a consideration.

RIOHE is expecting that students who begin post-secondary education at the Community College of Rhode Island will be able to transfer 60 credits towards the baccalaureate degree at either URI or RIC. A Joint Admissions Agreement plan which provides students with a specific plan of study to move seamlessly from CCRI to the University or to RIC, has been drafted so that students may transfer into this major and gain the benefits of participating in a JAA program. It is anticipated that the program will enroll 25 current students and 40 new students in its first year with expected growth in future years. The program will initially be housed in the Kinesiology Department as a stand-alone program. The University has

sufficient library resources to support this new major, and there are no new instructional costs that are anticipated, other than one additional new faculty member.

The RIOHE Management and Finance unit have reviewed the proposal's budgetary documents and have issued an opinion that the projections for the revenues, costs, and enrollments of the proposed program appear to be presented fairly in all material aspects and do not contain obvious misstatements.

Based on the information presented by the University and the RIOHE staff, it is recommended that the proposal be approved by the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by William Maaia it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education grant approval to the University of Rhode Island to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Studies.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

d. **Approval of a Proposal from Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. to Operate Ridley-Lowell Business & Technical Institute as a Proprietary School in the State of Rhode Island**

Associate Commissioner Deborah Grossman-Garber presented the proposal of Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. The Rhode Island Office of Higher Education staff members from the Academic and Student Affairs Unit, Finance and Management, and Legal Affairs have reviewed the application for initial approval.

The Ridley-Lowell Business & Technical Institute is a private, for-profit school that offers diploma-level career programs which prepare individuals to work in technical, business, and health care fields. Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. currently operates a network of these schools, two in the State of New York and two in the State of Connecticut. It now seeks authorization to establish a school in the State of Rhode Island.

The owner of record for Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc., is Mr. Wilfred T. Weymouth. Ms. Alicia Carroll, Director/Dean of Education at Ridley-Lowell Business and Technical Institute in New London, CT, will function as the overall director of the Rhode Island School. The school, if approved, will be located at 200 Washington Street, West Warwick, RI.

The Ridley-Lowell Business & Technical Institute intends to offer nine instructional programs in Rhode Island. The Academic and Student Affairs staff of the RI Office of Higher Education have reviewed and approved the syllabi for each of the courses in the nine programs: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Electrical Systems Technician, Information Technology,

Legal Administrative Assistant, Massage Therapy, Medical Administrative Assistant, Medical Assistant and Medical Billing and Coding. All equipment essential to the pursuance of the above programs will be available in the school building. The school plant is being leased from the St. John/St. James Roman Catholic parishes. Ridley-Lowell intends to hire qualified instructors to teach in the programs listed. Mr. Weymouth understands that all instructors must have sufficient experience and must be approved by the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education as outlined in Standard 1.5 of the regulations.

The pre-application Assessment of Financial Condition and Initial Application documents were submitted and reviewed by RIOHE's Internal Audit staff. Based on that review, it has been determined that the Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. meets the Board's requirements for financial stability.

The Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. has submitted a surety bond in the amount of \$10,000. The amount of the bond was set in consultation with RIOHE Internal Audit staff and is sufficient to cover the total tuition and fees collected in advance of any education services. However, the school may be asked to augment this bond if enrollments warrant doing so.

Given the positive review, the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education recommends Board approval for the Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc., to operate as a proprietary school within the borders of Rhode Island.

On a motion duly made by Tessa Constant and seconded by William Maaia it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education grant a Certificate of Initial Approval to Ridley-Lowell School of Business, Inc. to operate Ridley-Lowell Business & Technical Institute as a proprietary school in the State of Rhode Island. Final Board approval is contingent upon receipt of pertinent building certifications and a site visit by a member of the RIOHE staff.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

e. **Adoption of Revised Resolution Regarding the University's Facility Clearance and Temporary Exclusion to Classified Information**

The Board was presented a resolution reflecting an amendment to a resolution that had previously been approved by the Board at its December 2010 meeting. In order to comply with Navel Underseas Warfare College (NUWC) regulations, the University has revised its resolution to reflect the change in membership to the Board of Governors for Higher Education. The revised resolution contains this personnel change.

In addition, the Board was provided with a second resolution, a temporary exclusion for the Chair from obtaining access to any classified information in possession of the University until they have completed the Department of Defense security clearance process.

President Dooley explained that the intent of this resolution is for the Board members to delegate to the Board's Chair and other senior management and clearance officers at URI, the authority to enter into all of the agreements necessary for security clearances to be granted to faculty and students at the University of Rhode Island to do work at NUWC. The exclusion is to temporarily exclude the Chairman from having access to classified information while he is undergoing the security and clearance process.

Governor Maaia asked General Counsel Cavallaro for his thoughts on this short scenario: If these Board members were to be asked to vote on either dismissing someone pursuant to a military contract for cause or to approve a military contract with significant or substantial content or to defend a breach of the contract, one way or the other, and vote on litigation being brought to us that indicates we should do a, b, c, or d, he would not want to be in a position to hear "we can't answer your question, because we cannot share with you the information of what we are asking you to approve or disapprove, because you are not allowed to have that information." He believes this is a problem where the Board is being put in a very precarious situation of voting on something that only the Chairman would know the content of what the issue and the history would be about.

General Counsel Cavallaro indicated that he does not believe that the Board would be in the position to be taking action against an employee of the University as a discipline or termination. This would be a University matter. The Board does not get involved on the day-to-day operations of the University. As for the contracts with NUWC, the University would be entering into those contracts as the agent of the Board. This motion is about the classified information that these University individuals will have access to by virtue of entering into this agreement with the NUWC for research.

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by the entire Board it was

VOTED:	That	the Board of Governors for Higher Education adopts the attached revised resolution which delegates authority over user agency contracts to a managerial team at the University of Rhode Island; and further,
	That	the Board of Governors for Higher Education adopts the attached temporary exclusion resolution which bars access of classified information from those who have not yet obtained security clearance.
	Vote:	10 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White
	NAYS:	0

f. **Approval of Naming the Greenhouse at Rhode Island College**

President Carriuolo requested the Board's endorsement on the naming of the Greenhouse at Rhode Island College. The greenhouse, although it is a very small building, is free standing and therefore President Carriuolo thought it should come before the Board for approval.

She requested that the greenhouse be named after Leslie Cameron, a member of the class of 1970. Ms. Cameron passed away recently, and left a bequest in her Will. Ms. Cameron's contribution will allow the College to renovate the greenhouse which is very much in need of renovation. The greenhouse is used by the biology department and their biological research and also the art department in their drawing and sketching.

On a motion duly made by Joan Abrams and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education authorizes the naming of the greenhouse at Rhode Island College in honor of Leslie Cameron,

and further,

That the Board of Governors for Higher Education submits this recommendation to the appropriate committees and the General Assembly

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

8. BOG COMMITTEE REPORTS and RELATED CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Adrain indicated that at this time there are no committees. He will be working on assembling the various committees within the next few weeks.

9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Adrain introduced Item 9 on today's agenda. He indicated that there were three consent items under Item 9. The consent items on today's agenda are:

a. **Approval of the Awarding of Degrees by the Community College of Rhode Island**

b. Approval of the Awarding of Degrees by Rhode Island College

c. Approval of the Awarding of Degrees by the University of Rhode Island

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by the entire Board it was

VOTED:

(Item 9a) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of appropriate degrees, diplomas and certificates to the candidates in satisfactory compliance of the prerequisites of the Community College of Rhode Island at Commencement Exercises on May 20, 2011

and further,

(Item 9b) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of undergraduate and advanced degrees to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2011 semester at Rhode Island College

and further,

(Item 9c) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Rhode Island to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2011 semester and who will be approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

d. Recommendations from the Personnel Review Committee (PRC)

Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations, presented the Personnel Review Committee's recommendations.

The University is requesting to establish a new classification, Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity, Board of Governors Pay Grade 18 (\$75,146 - \$163,350). This position will supervise the University's Affirmative Action Office, Multicultural Center, Women's Center and the GBLT Center.

At Rhode Island College, they have requested a change in title to an existing position. The College has had two unsuccessful searches on the Associate Vice President for Center for Workforce and Community Education and requested approval from the Personnel Committee to change the title only to Associate Vice President, Professional Studies and Continuing Education. The request was approved by the Personnel Review Committee on April 21, 2011.

Governor Mancuso asked that the two recommendations of the Personnel Review Committee be voted on separately.

Chair Adrain accepted Governor Mancuso's recommendation to vote on the two items separately, and opened the meeting for discussion.

Governor Mancuso looked for clarification on the four existing centers at the University that would be overseen by this new cabinet-level position with new funds for an administrator.

President Dooley explained that one of the four strategic priorities of the University is to make the building of a diverse community dedicated to equity and diversity a hallmark of the University of Rhode Island. He feels that in order for the University to succeed in building that kind of community at the University, it would be highly desirable and a necessity to have someone who really looks after that primary strategic priority on a daily basis. As for the financial side, monies were rebudgeted from vacancies that reported to President Dooley to put in part towards the cost of this new position. He added that although the position is new, not all the funds are. The role and scope of the position are quite new to the University. To have someone in a cabinet-level position who has this as their primary agenda, is in fact, a new step for the University of Rhode Island. This position was approved in the budget process at the University in which the concept was presented to the strategic budget and planning committee who weighed it, ultimately prioritized it on behalf of the University and made a recommendation that this should be one of the things that the University should seek to fund in the 2012 budget year. The Committee and President Dooley both agreed that this was an important priority for the University, and at that point some of the interim funds remaining from the rebudgeting exercise were allocated and URI made an appointment in an interim capacity. URI is committed to conducting a full search for this position beginning in the fall.

In response to an inquiry by Governor Mancuso, President Dooley explained that this individual will oversee the broad University agenda with regard to building community, equity and diversity across the campus, integrating efforts across the colleges, the different divisions of the University, including academic affairs as well as facilities, finance and administration. The individual has a University-wide portfolio to work on those agenda items.

Governor Walsh added that he could see a small connection between the proposal for offering a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Studies with the proposal for establishing the Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity position. Part of the justification for the Bachelor Degree in Health Studies was that society has problems – Universities have disciplines. Part of what he heard in President Dooley's answer to Governor Mancuso's question about the work being done in four different places was that they are separate and distinct, but those social problems are interrelated and connected, and the Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity can help unify those and create a central theme. Governor Walsh applauds the University's prioritization of the mission of community, equity and diversity, and hopes that if the Board approves the position, the Associate Vice President will be able to further that mission.

Chair Adrain added that throughout our society and societies around the world, people are discriminated against and treated unfairly by some. He feels that the opportunity to establish a position that provides coordination, but more importantly leadership, in this important area that makes all students feel welcome, makes all students feel valued, all people in this community feel welcome and safe is a very important and meaningful thing and he applauds the University for this effort.

Governor Mancuso indicated that she would be voting against this new position and would like it noted that she thinks the University does a fabulous job in these areas now. The University has taken moves in affirmative action, it has taken moves in integration, whether it is the Women's Center, whether is racial, sexual orientation, and she feels it would be great to have a cabinet-level person do an even better job at it, but she also thinks it would be really great to have a division I basketball team and a division I football team and a big huge UConn football stadium...to her, its dollars and cents. Governor Mancuso added that people who know her know that there is no one more of a civil libertarian or advocate of individual rights, as this is what she does for a living every day. That does not mean that the University does not already do a fabulous job and if there was a budget that was enormous, she would certainly like to see an entire division, but at this time, she feel that this position is a luxury.

Chair Adrain asked about the incremental cost for adding this position. He also asked whether international students are part of the group being coordinated in terms of the services. He stated that as a group, immigrants and people who are here on visas to study, have hurdles that are far beyond what most of us are accustomed to and face similar sorts of discrimination.

President Dooley stated that the University is looking at how they are structuring international programs. This is another area of the University that he feels deserves more concerted attention and action. The vision for this position is a broader vision than combating bias. Based on his conviction and the conviction of the University, it is increasingly important that we build into the University fabric of education and everything we do an effort to build capacity in our students to find common ground with people and to understand people who are very different than they are, who do not share their world views, who do not share their religious convictions, who do not look like they do, who may come from a different part of the world and who do not share any of the American assumptions about how the world works. This is an important educational mission for the University, and that is in part what this position is designed to facilitate, working with the Provost and the other elements and members of the University. It is that kind of systematic integration educationally of this necessity to understand and to build bridges amongst people and individuals who are extremely different from one another.

In response to Chair Adrain's question on the cost of the position, President Dooley explained that with the rebudgeting in place, the University anticipates that the incremental cost depending on where it is budgeted and when it is filled on a permanent basis would likely be between \$75,000 and \$125,000.

Governor Barajas appreciates the concerns of Governor Mancuso regarding the financial concerns of this position. He applauds President Dooley's efforts and believes that this has become more globally recognized by the institution and is very important. He feels this project would clearly put the University of Rhode Island at a whole different level internationally.

Governor Maaia said that he does not feel there is anyone who did not articulate the merit of the position, but he also agrees with Governor Mancuso that it sends the wrong message, that you are telling the Board that the University is cutting everything to the bone and the University is now looking to add a position at a pretty high level at a pretty high cost. He feels it

has wonderful merit and would like to see it instituted down the road when the dollars are there.

As a result of that review process, the Personnel Review committee is recommending that the Board approve the following:

On a motion moved by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by William Maaia it was

**VOTED:
(Item 9d)**

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

At the University of Rhode Island:

- **Establish the new classification, Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity, Board of Governors, Pay Grade 18 (\$75,146 - \$163,350).**

Vote: 7 members voted in the affirmative, and 3 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: Eva-Marie Mancuso, William Maaia and Tessa Constant

On a motion moved by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

**VOTED:
(Item 9d)**

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

At Rhode Island College:

- **Change in Classification from Dean of Professional Studies and Continuing Education to Associate Vice President, Professional Studies and Continuing Education, Board of Governors, Pay Grade 18 (\$75,146 - \$163,350).**

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

10. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

a. Rhode Island College

President Carriuolo made a few announcements:

- The College now has a Certificate of Graduate Study (C.G.S.) in Middle-Secondary Level Special Education. The CGS in Middle-Secondary Level Education was created to provide teachers who are currently eligible for teaching certification in elementary-middle level mild-moderate special education a graduate program to extend their certification through high school. The program is consistent with the content and competencies outlined by the Rhode Island Department of Education, and extends learning to provide additional coursework in Middle Level Education. The Certificate requires completion of three graduate courses and a 16-week internship.
- Anne and Bob DeStefano have made a 5-year \$100,000 commitment to an undergraduate research fund. Ms. DeStefano is one of the College's alums.
- The Recreation Center project at Rhode Island College has broken ground and the Center will be renovated using funds that came from a student fee.
- The Art Center architects have provided the College with an etching and project cost for renovation. The project cost has been estimated at only \$70,000 over the \$17 million bond that the Board approved. The College is proceeding with the project.

b. Community College of Rhode Island

President Di Pasquale presented the Board with a report highlighting the College's enrollment and events. Some of the reports highlights included:

- Enrollment for the summer session has increased by 8.3 percent. To date, there has been an 11.2 percent increase in credit hours. Enrollment for the fall semester has already begun and the College is seeing a 5.34 increase over fall enrollment at this time last year. Credit hours are also up 6 percent for the fall.
- CCRI welcomed and serviced a variety of students including traditional age, adult learners, transfer students and veterans during the third annual Education Expo held on Saturday, April 9th. More than 560 prospective students attended the Expo, a 25 percent increase over last year.
- In April, CCRI celebrated the fourth annual All College Week, showcasing the ways that the Community College benefits the State of Rhode Island. The week began with the third annual High School Technology Day on Friday, April 8th, and concluded with a celebration of CCRI's dedicated faculty and staff during the ninth annual Professional Development Day on Friday, April 15th.

President Di Pasquale provided the Board with a written update on the Energy Utility Technology Certificate program, a 27-credit certificate program created by the College in consultation with National Grid and three community colleges in Massachusetts. Graduates of the certificate program may choose to apply all credits they earn toward an Associate in Science degree in Energy Systems Technology or use the credits as electives in a General Studies program. The college was awarded a \$760,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to support hiring a coordinator, purchasing equipment, developing a curriculum and supporting faculty training. The program is on schedule to begin in the fall semester 2011.

Lastly, President Di Pasquale noted that Commencement at the Community College will be held on Friday, May 20th; Rhode Island College's undergraduate commencement will be held on Saturday, May 21st and the University will hold their undergraduate commencement on Sunday, May 22nd.

c. University of Rhode Island

President Dooley announced a minor change to the University's academic offerings, the addition of a second option in a single major, the Bachelor of Arts Degree which will have an option in Classical Civilization Culture.

President Dooley invited everyone to the groundbreaking for URI's newest dorm, Hillside Hall, on May 10th. The new dorm will house 429 freshmen and sophomores. This is a very efficient green building as well as a state-of-the art residence.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Antonio Barajas 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: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

After a short break, the Board convened in Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.

All non-Board members in the audience were excused with the exception of Ray M. Di Pasquale, Commissioner and President of the Community College of Rhode Island; University of Rhode Island President David M. Dooley; Rhode Island College President Nancy Carriuolo; Ronald Cavallaro, General Counsel for the Board; Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations; Steven Maurano, Associate Commissioner for External Affairs; Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner for Finance & Management; and Deborah Grossman-Garber, Associate Commissioner for Academic Planning and Policy.

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:53 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education seal the minutes of the executive session held this evening.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

13. NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, June 27, 2011, 5:00 p.m. at the Rhode Island College.

Monday, August 15, 2011, 3:00 p.m. at the University of Rhode Island.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion duly made by Thomas Rockett and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas

Rockett, Michael Tikoian, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary