



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, December 5, 2011, at Rhode Island College, Student Ballroom, Providence, Rhode Island. Chair Lorne Adrain declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh and Joseph White

Absent: George Caruolo, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Thomas Rockett and Michael Tikoian

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Adrain recognized Governor Amy Beretta, who offered a motion that the agenda for tonight's meeting be amended so that Item 8b3, Review of recommended amendments to the RIBGHE's procurement regulations to reflect several statutory changes, be continued to the next Board of Governors meeting and that the matter be sent back to the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee for further review prior to the next Board meeting; and so that Item 8b5, Approval of an Adopt-a-Lot program at Rhode Island College, be withdrawn from tonight's agenda.

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

VOTED:

THAT the December 5, 2011 meeting agenda be amended as follows:

That Item 8b3, Review of recommended amendments to the RIBGHE's procurement regulations to reflect several statutory changes, be continued to the next Board of Governors meeting and that the matter be sent back to the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee for further review prior to the next Board meeting; and
That Item 8b5, Approval of an Adopt-a-Lot program at Rhode Island College, be withdrawn from tonight's agenda.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by John Walsh it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the agenda as modified by the last motion.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion duly made by Joseph White and seconded by Antonio Barajas it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the November 1, 2011 meeting.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Di Pasquale noted that he had received calls and emails from various constituents with questions about the proposed retirement incentive program at the University of Rhode Island, including questions on why this is not offered at the Community College of Rhode Island. Mr. Di Pasquale stated that the issues are being explored and information will be shared with the Board and with all constituents once the data has been reviewed and discussed.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Adrain thanked President Carriuolo and the Rhode Island College community for hosting tonight's meeting and the RIBGHE committees and their staff for their work preparing this meeting.

As this is the last scheduled board meeting for 2011, Mr. Adrain took a moment to reflect upon the RIBGHE's activities during the past year. He recalled that during an economic recession, Governor Lincoln Chafee requested that \$10 million in state appropriations be

restored to the public higher education system. The General Assembly met the Governor partway by restoring a total of \$4 million to the system, which Chair Adrain views as changing the course of higher education funding in Rhode Island. He noted that the Board should make a priority of continuing to advocate for state support.

This year, the RIBGHE began its exploration of innovations in higher education around the globe. This initiative was begun with the belief that to continue to advance our mission of access, affordability, and effectiveness we must look beyond our current view and practices seeking out and exploring innovations around the globe that may help us do more to meet the changing needs of students and the long term needs and interests of the state.

The Board also amended its residency policy to allow undocumented Rhode Island students who meet specific criteria to attend public higher education institutions at an in-state tuition rate with the intent to provide hope and opportunities to more Rhode Islanders. The RIBGHE will track the impact of that policy change and share the results with legislators and with the public.

In 2012, Chair Adrain stated, the RIBGHE will review its strategic plan—considering new technologies, trends and opportunities—and involve constituents in the plan.

The Board will also continue its mission of access, affordability, and effectiveness through the adoption of innovations, offering educational opportunities in a variety of ways and channels and providing work readiness in a way that reduces higher education cost. This is a high bar to set, but students and Rhode Islanders need to evolve beyond traditional methods. The Board needs to continue its work to seek opportunities and innovations from around the world that are moving quickly. Technology is making new opportunities possible all the time, and the Board should review those opportunities and identify those in which it can invest.

Finally, Chair Adrain noted his expectation that the RIBGHE will continue to refine system operations in 2012.

5. OPEN FORUM

Steffanie Windus, an employee of URI's College of Engineering, questioned the proposed URI retirement incentive program's eligibility requirement of at least 60 years of age with a minimum of 10 years of employment at URI. Ms. Windus has more than 35 years of employment at URI, but at only 58 years old, she would be ineligible for the proposed retirement incentive. She asked the Board's consideration in amending the proposed eligibility requirements to include employees under 60 years of age who have worked for the University for at least 35 years.

Cynthia Faria echoed Ms. Windus' statement. Ms. Faria is also 58 years old but has worked for URI for 38 years. If the age requirement is lowered on the proposed retirement incentive plan, Ms. Faria could take advantage of the plan's tuition waiver—allowing her son, who is in his third year of a 5-year program at URI, to complete his studies—and retire. Ms. Faria stated that 111 additional URI employees would potentially be eligible for the proposed retirement incentive program if the 60+ age requirement were waived for those with 35 years or more of service to the University.

Nicholas Coutis, a current Rhode Island College student, stated that he first enrolled at CCRI in 2006, trying different courses to figure out what he would like to study. He lamented

that many public higher education students do not have that luxury, and that some work multiple jobs just to afford their current courses. Mr. Coutis stated that students who have not necessarily been vocal in the past are paying attention to the RIBGHE's activities now and are beginning to organize. Mr. Coutis stated that the General Assembly needs pressure from such students in order to get the message to invest in the next generation.

Ramona Skelly, president of the CCRI Faculty Association, asked the Board to support URI's proposed retirement incentive program, calling it an exciting opportunity for those ready to retire and a chance for the University to bring in new staff. Ms. Skelly stated that she has received numerous emails of interest from CCRI faculty and non-classified staff and requested that, if the Board approves the retirement incentive program at URI, to consider extending the program to all three public higher education institutions.

6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Di Pasquale provided the Board with a written report and highlighted the following:

Finance and Management

The 2013 operating budget process is well underway, as our budget staff is providing information, answers and clarifications regarding the institutions' budget submissions to the State Budget Office, House Fiscal staff, and Senate Finance staff.

The three institutions will be receiving instructions shortly to advise them about the preparation of their 2012 budgets at midyear, which are the focus of the legislative budget hearings in the March/April timeframe regarding "mid-year" supplemental changes for the budget.

The fiscal year-end closing process continues to work with the external auditors on audits of federal grant programs. The culmination of these audits will be a report summarizing results for presentation to the Facilities, Finance, and Management Committee and for approval by the full Board at a later meeting.

Academic and Student Affairs

We will participate in the U.S. Department of Education Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems FY 2012 Grant Competition and expect our application, made in conjunction with the Departments of Education and Labor & Training, will be submitted shortly. If successful, the State will qualify for \$4 million in funding to support development of fully functional PK-20-W longitudinal data systems that can address the State's policy needs.

7. NEW BUSINESS

None.

8. BOG COMMITTEE REPORTS and RELATED CONSENT AGENDA

a. Academic and Student Affairs

Chair Walsh indicated that he did not have a report this evening.

b. Facilities, Finance and Management

Governor Beretta delivered this report in the absence of Committee Chair Tikoian, reporting that the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee met on December 1st at CCRI in Warwick and recommended several items to bring before the Board.

1. Acceptance of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Governors/URI-Graduate School of Oceanography and the Department of Environmental Management

Governor Beretta reported that URI's Graduate School of Oceanography wishes to renew a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Environmental Management for the maintenance of scientific equipment used in connection with a research project funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) at Misquamicut State Beach in Westerly, Rhode Island.

The Department of Environmental Management does not charge the University for the use of the site. However, it does require proof of insurance in which DEM is named as an additional insured.

Governor Beretta stated that this memorandum of understanding is a five-year renewal of the previous MOU for this same purpose, and it has been reviewed by URI's General Counsel.

On a motion made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

(Item 8b1)	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education accepts the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Governors/URI-Graduate School of Oceanography and the Department of Environmental Management subject to review and approval by the State Properties Committee thereafter.
	Vote:	8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White
	NAYS:	0

2. Conceptual approval of a proposed Land Lease at the University of Rhode Island W. Alton Jones Campus to the Greene School for the construction and operation of its Charter School

The University of Rhode Island is currently seeking the conceptual approval of a land lease to the Greene School for the construction and operation of a school at the W. Alton Jones Campus in West Greenwich. URI believes that its mission parallels the Greene School's mission "to develop a culture of personal, community and global stewardship using a curriculum centered on direct experiences with environmental science and the technology that affects the natural world."

The Greene School is a publicly funded charter school that enrolled 84 students in its first class as of July 2010 and anticipates growing to 210 students by its 5th year of operation.

After a thorough examination of the prospective sites on the W. Alton Jones Campus by the University and Greene School, representatives identified a small hillside area on the eastern edge of the Campus as a potential project site. This area consists of approximately 5 acres of land (which is the amount of land that would be required for this project) and provides good access to the entry road into the Campus.

Governor Beretta stated that the University is seeking a conceptual approval from the Board of Governors at this time so the Greene School can advance their physical and financial planning efforts and so that the University can further define the terms of the lease document. The University will request a review of proposed documents as this project moves forward with the ultimate approval of both the Board of Governors and the State Properties Committee. Tonight's conceptual approval is just one of several steps that will come before the RIBGHE.

Governor Walsh wondered what would happen if the school closes in ten years, and URI General Counsel Louis Saccoccio explained that this conceptual land lease will follow the same template as others, meaning that at the end of the lease the property would become URI's for a nominal fee.

Chair Adrain wondered if the building for the Greene School would also meet URI's needs if the building became URI's in the future. He was assured that all designs consider use by the University of Rhode Island. President Dooley stressed that the proposed Greene School would pursue the same objectives as the environmental studies programs on the W. Alton Jones campus and that the quality and use of facilities would be assessed through every step of the project.

Governor White asked if URI considered whether significant changes or improvements on the site would be necessary, noting that the W. Alton Jones campus is remote with limited egress. URI Vice President for Administration Robert Weygand said that future RIBGHE approvals would include maps showing where the site would be on the campus. Every part of the process would fit in with construction and safety guidelines, and everything from the sewers to the utilities would meet state regulations and URI's design codes. Once the Board approves this conceptual land lease, URI will move forward to gather more information to bring before the Board and the State Properties Committee.

On a motion made by Amy Beretta and seconded by John Walsh it was

VOTED:

(Item 8b2) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education conceptually approves a proposed Land Lease at the University of Rhode Island's W. Alton Jones Campus to the Greene School for the construction and operation of its Charter School, subject to the approval by the State Properties Committee.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

3. Acceptance of updates to the Board of Governors' Procurement Regulations

This item has been continued to the next Board meeting and has been sent back to the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee for further review, prior to the next Board meeting.

4. Confirmation of an extended Letter of Credit commitment associated with the University of Rhode Island Owner Controlled Insurance Program Phase II

The University of Rhode received approval from the Board of Governors in April 2005 to secure a Letter of Credit to provide a second phase of an "Owner Controlled Insurance Program" (OCIP). The letter of credit covers the maximum deductibles anticipated, and there is now only one final claim outstanding before this program will close out.

With a single injury claim outstanding in March 2011, Zurich American Insurance Company granted permission to reduce the value of the Letter of Credit from approximately \$700,000 to \$388,263. This revision contains the same terms and rate of interest as the initial issuance. The annual cost of maintaining the letter was 3 basis points, and the bank interest is the cost of borrowing plus 2%.

The Bank of America has requested a resolution from the Board of Governors to confirm its support for the extension of this revised Letter of Credit and to renew its authorization for the University to be able to draw upon this now reduced Letter of Credit if required. This is required by the Bank for their records as the last of the outstanding claims proceed to closure on the OCIP – Phase II.

On a motion made by Amy Beretta and seconded by John Walsh it was

VOTED:

(Item 8b4) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education confirms of its Support for the extension of a Letter of Credit at a reduced value of \$388,263 in support of the University's Owner Controlled Insurance Program –Phase II and

 THAT the University of Rhode Island, through its Controller, be authorized to draw upon the Letter of Credit only as may be required under the terms of that Owner Controlled Insurance Program – Phase II.

 Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

 YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

 NAYS: 0

5. Approval of an Adopt-a-lot program at Rhode Island College

This item has been removed from the agenda.

6. Approval of the University Retirement Incentive Program

The University of Rhode Island has submitted a proposal for a one-time program to be implemented in Spring 2012 related to the University's Retirement Incentive Program.

Commissioner Di Pasquale noted that the University of Rhode Island did its due diligence in researching the numbers for this proposal, intending that it be informational and that the Board considers it carefully. Mr. Di Pasquale noted that this proposal was designed specifically for URI and was not intended to be a systemic proposal.

The plan recognizes the years of service of eligible URI faculty and non-classified staff by providing a retirement incentive with an advantageous financial situation for both participants and the University. It will allow the University to redeploy faculty and non-classified staff resources to support URI priorities and programs that reflect broad institutional goals and needs throughout the University and the greater community.

President Dooley stated that the University put forward this proposal as a means of reorganizing faculty and non-classified staff while providing an incentive to retire with advantages. It also provides URI with an opportunity to strategize the redeployment of personnel into important areas that have emerged. URI needs to realign personnel with its University and academic strategic plans. He stated that redeploying resources to emerging

areas would benefit students and the State of Rhode Island, making URI responsive and flexible to needs. The program would provide manageable personnel costs, as the University would be able to hire more junior-level faculty and staff to replace those who retire, yet allow URI to bring in new Ph.D. graduates with interest and experience who would work at a lower cost and level than high-ranking faculty. President Dooley feels the time is opportune because URI needs to align its resources and cost structures. The target is a small demographic of staff as selected by URI's workforce analysis. He added that this program would be targeted to mostly RIBGHE employees and that the vast majority of employees to whom this program would apply are those who are not covered by the state pension system. This proposed program would have minimal impact on the state's retirement system or on broader state-wide obligations.

URI Assistant Vice President of Human Resources Anne Marie Coleman added that the Board has offered incentive programs for non-classified personnel in the past, most recently in 2008, which coincided with the state's first phase of pension reform. That year, there was a significant reduction in staff, with 76 people taking advantage of the Board's approved retirement incentive. In the following years, without the incentive, the University's retirement numbers were only 14; then 24; and most recently 26. This summer URI looked at a plan that would make approximately 370 faculty and staff eligible to participate. Although URI cannot currently guess how many of those eligible employees will take advantage of this program, the University is analyzing scenarios from 50 employees to hundreds of employees. The program may need to be first-come-first-serve in order to protect curricula and business operations, as it could be a problem if too many people in one area wish to depart under the incentive.

In all cases, President Dooley stated, the program appears financially favorable to URI and its agenda. Once the Board approves this program and it becomes public, URI can track those employees who call Human Resources or approach deans with questions. If the Board desires, URI can provide a preliminary financial analysis based on those estimates. President Dooley also stated that URI could entertain the possibility of alternative eligibility criteria in its proposal, subject to the same financial analyses, such as those proposed in Open Forum. The current data would need to be redone to ensure that such alterations to the proposal would have the same clear positive economic impact on the University.

Governor Walsh asked whether the savings would be used to fill current vacancies and President Dooley responded that a significant portion of anticipated savings would be reinvested in personnel in order to fill positions and prepare a long-term personnel budget. The President stated that this could also be a positive addition to URI's budget in other areas, and it could assist in maintaining an affordable URI education.

Governor White worried that the plan might not have a positive economic effect if URI found it needed to replace faculty and staff at higher levels than anticipated. He suggested that it is difficult to replace 40 years of experience with recent graduates. He also noted that as the economy rebounds, some people might decide to step aside without this benefit. President Dooley said URI had considered those concerns and wishes to improve, not harm, educational opportunities in high-demand areas and partner with Rhode Island on economic revitalization and renewal. Now is a good time, as the nation has lacked opportunities for talented young tenure-track faculty. There is a large pool of candidates in fellowships right now, and URI also has associate professors and young full professors who will still be in place and are familiar with the University.

Governor Walsh noted the requirement to notify the dean/director of participation in the incentive plan by March 1st and questioned the impact on URI if the Board delays this vote. President Dooley stated that a delay until the next scheduled meeting on January 23rd could

have a negative impact because the University needs to inform faculty of the option, allow them time to sit down with Human Resources, assess the outcomes of decisions, and be prepared before students arrive for the Summer and Fall semesters. He will sit with URI administrators on a timeframe and report back to the Board.

Governor Barajas inquired about plans to fill positions, and President Dooley responded that URI's standard procedure is adequate for levels of retirement, with plans to reallocate positions. He said the University is fully prepared for high-level employees to take advantage of this retirement incentive plan.

Governor White asked about plans to implement this incentive system-wide, with Governor Mancuso adding that the Board does not want to give a perception that this should only be approved for one institution and not others. Although Presidents Carriuolo and Di Pasquale are not currently recommending similar programs at their institutions, they agreed to come back with numbers at the next Board meeting.

Chair Adrain asked how quickly the positive impact would be felt at the University. President Dooley responded that the positive financial impact would accrue in the first year of the program (after the retirements take place) with funds in FY 2013 to hire replacements.

Presidents Carriuolo and Di Pasquale were asked to prepare data for the Board on how similar retirement incentive programs would affect their own institutions.

On a motion made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Antonio Barajas it was

VOTED:

(Item 8b6)	THAT	the University Retirement Incentive Program be sent to the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee for study prior to the next scheduled Board meeting; and
	THAT	This matter be continued to the next Board meeting.
	Vote:	8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White
	NAYS:	0

c. Government Relations

Chair Adrain called on Eva-Marie Mancuso, Chair of the Government Relations Committee, to present this report. Governor Mancuso thanked URI, RIC and CCRI for providing representatives to coordinate legislature to the General Assembly and to the Governor. The Committee will be meeting on a monthly basis as the legislative season begins and will increase the frequency of those meetings if needed.

d. Personnel

Chair White reported that the Committee had been charged with an annual evaluation of President Dooley, President Carriuolo, and President and Commissioner Di Pasquale. The Committee's review, if this Board approves, may be presented to the Board in Executive Session as consistent with past practices.

The Committee also discussed President Dooley's contract, which expires at the end of next June, stating that any potential negotiations for renewal must be introduced within six months of the expiration date—in this case, by the end of December—to be consistent with past practices. The Board may hear more about those negotiations in Executive Session, and if so any related action would be taken by the Board once the meeting resumes in Open Session.

e. Quality, Continuous Improvement and Innovation

Chair Beretta reported that the Committee's proposed goals, priorities and metrics are in draft form, and the Committee has also reviewed the strategic plan developed under the past Board of Governors. Members of the System Vision Task Force that developed the strategic plan will be invited to present the plan to the current Board members.

In addition, Chair Beretta referenced a one-page document outlining board processes that had been emailed to RIBGHE members. The proposed procedural form suggests that the Board work closely with the Commissioner, institutions, and OHE staff to plan in advance the agendas, priorities and flow of the work of the RIBGHE. Chair Beretta requested that board members provide input, corrections or changes, if any, to this document.

f. Student Advisory

None.

9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Approval of the Awarding of Degrees by the University of Rhode Island
- b. Approval of the Awarding of Degrees by Rhode Island College
- c. Approval of the Awarding of Tenure by the Community College of Rhode Island
- d. Approval of the Awarding of Tenure by the University of Rhode Island
- e. Approval of Recommendations from the Personnel Review Committee

On a motion made by Jane Sherman and seconded by Amy Beretta it was

VOTED:

(Item 9a) 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 Fall 2011 semester and who will be approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island;

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 Fall 2011 semester at Rhode Island College.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

Regarding Items 9c and 9d, Associate Commissioner Deborah Grossman-Garber reported that she reviewed the tenure requests from CCRI and URI, looking at each individual's stature in their profession, and determined that all are worthy of tenure. President Dooley also gave a brief synopsis of the skills and education of Dr. Hobbs, about whom URI faculty and administrators are very enthusiastic.

On a motion made by John Walsh and seconded by Amy Beretta it was

VOTED:

(Item 9c) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of tenure at the Community College of Rhode Island to:

Effective January 1, 2012
Kathleen Doolittle, Assistant Professor, Nursing
Francine Knowles, Assistant Professor, Nursing
Leigh Martin, Assistant Professor, English
Lisa Murphy, Assistant Professor, Nursing
John Rood, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

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

VOTED:

(Item 9d) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of tenure with initial appointment as director of the Harrington School of Communication and Media and full professor of Communication Studies at the University of Rhode Island to Dr. Renee Hobbs.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations, and URI President David Dooley presented the Personnel Review Committee's recommendations as outlined in Item 9e. They explained that the Director of Experiential Learning & Community Engagement is a promotion for an existing candidate. Governor Walsh asked if the position involved service learning programs and learned that it does, as well as helping URI students find non-profit internships and providing opportunities for organizations to meet and recruit students. Several board members were enthusiastic about engaging students in a wide range of opportunities.

The new one-year interim Assistant to the Provost for Global Strategies position, charged with carrying out strategic plan initiatives and assessing how to configure them going forward, will be a key element in recruiting international students and will be funded through an existing employee position. This position is not funded through general revenues. If the candidate is doing well at the termination of the one-year position, the Provost will assess changing that job description.

On a motion made by Joan Abrams and seconded by Joseph White it was

VOTED:

(Item 9e)	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Personnel Review Committee's recommendations as follows: At the University of Rhode Island: Reclassify the Coordinator, UC/Internships & Experiential Programs, Grade 11, to a new position Director, Experiential Learning & Community Engagement, Grade 13; and Establish a new interim position titled Assistant to the Provost for Global Strategies, Grade 13.
	Vote:	8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White
	NAYS:	0

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

University of Rhode Island

President Dooley referred Board members to a printed article from the NAFSA Association of International Educators that had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting. The article highlights URI's International Engineering program, calling it a model for other universities due to its quality and its positive impact upon students, Rhode Island, and the nation.

President Dooley also urged Board members to review the copies they received tonight of the "It Gets Better at URI: Coming Out for Change" DVD by members of URI's LGBTQ Women's Group who had been alarmed by gay, lesbian and bi-sexual suicide rates. The video emphasizes the hope, support, and opportunities available to students, including many people who want to help. President Dooley reported that the LGBTQ Women's Group raised \$10,000 to have the video made and professionally edited. RI PBS has been in conversations with the group about airing the video and reactions to it on TV in the spring. The presentation received a warm welcome when recently screened at Rhode Island College.

Rhode Island College

President Carriuolo highlighted several items outlined in her written report. NEASC concluded its site visit, in which Chair Adrain, Vice Chair Tikoian, and other members of the Board participated, and had an extremely positive exit review despite concerns with the condition of facilities and with the need for more marketing of the successes of graduates. NEASC's written report, which will be shared with Board members, should arrive in early 2012.

President Carriuolo also noted that 400 RIC educators recently attended a conference on diversity issues; that RIC alumna Julie Lima Boyle was named the 2012 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year; and that Senator Whitehouse recently met with RIC students and administrators on the need to protect Pell grants, which affect nearly 40% of Rhode Island College students.

President Carriuolo also informed Board members of the undefeated men's basketball team with a 7-0 record and of the successful women's basketball team. The men's basketball team leads the Little East Conference. Finally, President Carriuolo also invited RIBGHE members to a RIC tree lighting on December 13th and to a performance by mezzo-soprano Mary Phillips on December 5th.

Community College of Rhode Island

President Di Pasquale highlighted several items outlined in his written report. CCRI is offering non-credit online courses in which registrants can become OSHA certified, one for general industry and one specific to construction. The courses are designed to help registrants fulfill job requirements and enhance resumes.

In addition, President Di Pasquale noted that CCRI held a successful "Changing Lives" celebration on December 1st and was awarded a \$100,000 grant to support the "College Now for Students without a High School Credential" program,

Finally, for the first time in history, a CCRI student—freshmen Bobby Allen—finished first in the NJCAA Division III Cross-Country National Championship race last month, and the President noted that both the men's and women's CCRI basketball teams have done well this season, with the men's team holding an 8-1 current record.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Governor White reminded the group of the amendment the RIBGHE approved to the budget, in which the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee was charged with putting forth a policy to reduce expenses for 2013 academic year at URI.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Adrain entertained a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Item 12a, newly filed Litigation pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2); Item 12b, collective bargaining pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2); Item 12c, a report from the Personnel Committee on the annual evaluations of Commissioner/President Ray M. Di Pasquale, President Nancy Carriuolo, and President

David Dooley pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1); and Item 12d, a discussion of the contract renewal evaluation for President David Dooley pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1).

It was noted that Presidents Carriuolo, Dooley and Di Pasquale were notified, in writing, of their right to proceed in open session regarding their annual evaluations pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(1); and President Dooley was notified in writing of his right to proceed in Open Session regarding his contract renewal evaluation pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(1). They have all indicated no objection to proceeding in closed session.

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta 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)(1) and R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) for the reasons set forth above.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

After a short break, the Board convened in Executive Session at 7:40 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; Ronald Cavallaro, General Counsel for the Board and Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations. Ray M. Di Pasquale was excused for Items 12c and 12d.

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:28 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Antonio Barajas it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education seal the minutes of the executive session held this evening.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

On a motion duly made by Joseph White and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education agrees to renew President David Dooley's contract and to authorize the Board Chair to negotiate the terms of the contract with President Dooley pursuant to the parameters set forth in Executive Session (and with any additional terms and conditions), and to present the final agreed-upon contract to the Board for its approval.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

13. NEXT MEETINGS

Currently, the next meeting dates are:

Monday, January 23, 2011, 5:30 p.m. at Rhode Island College, Student Union Ballroom, Providence, Rhode Island.

Monday, March 19, 2011, 5:30 p.m. at the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute, Narragansett

The Board held a brief discussion on holding its next regular meeting earlier in January in order to take up the matter of URI's proposed retirement incentive program in a timely manner. A new January meeting date will be determined in the coming weeks.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion duly made by Antonio Barajas and seconded by Joseph White it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members
voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta,
Eva-Marie Mancuso, Jane Sherman, John Walsh, and Joseph
White

NAYS: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Sherman, Secretary