



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, January 23, 2012, at Rhode Island College, Student Ballroom, Providence, Rhode Island. Chair Lorne Adrain declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Present: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams*, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and Joseph White (*Governor Abrams arrived after the start of the meeting.)

Absent: George Caruolo, William Maaia, and John Walsh

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Thomas Rockett it was

VOTED: That the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the revised agenda for the meeting of January 23, 2012.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, 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 January 9, 2012 meeting.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Adrain thanked President Carriuolo and the Rhode Island College community for hosting tonight's meeting.

He shared with everyone updates on some of the activities since the last meeting. The Board will be holding a retreat on February 13th, an agenda has been distributed to all Board members.

Chair Adrain will be meeting with Pierre LaPerriere and fellow participants in the System Vision Task Force to share their reflections on their work, the context within which their work was done, and how their suggestions and recommendations fit in our world today.

The Governor's budget will be submitted shortly. Chair Adrain expects that Governor Chafee will suggest a strong support of higher education as he did last year. The Board will do everything it can to support the Governor in that effort. Chair Adrain reminded everyone that Governor Chafee's State of the State Address is scheduled for next week (Tuesday, January 31st). He asked that anyone who is able to attend, please do so to show your support.

The nursing building issue remains on our docket. Governor Tikoian has been helping move this issue forward with some help from the Governor's Office as well.

The monthly PEEC meetings are intended to be an opportunity for each of the Presidents to put issues on the table as they develop at each institution. This ensures that all three Presidents have a heads up regarding what is going on at each of the institutions, and allows the Board to put it on our collective radar. Also, the Quality, Continuous Improvement and Innovation Committee is working on a process that will get items on the Board's agenda early enough to address them in a way that the Board does not feel rushed. Those meetings will be very helpful in that process as well.

Chair Adrain participated in a conference call with Martha Laboissiere who leads the higher education consulting practice for McKinsey & Co. Ms. Laboissiere went through an overview of McKinsey's observations of education systems around the world. She discussed current issues and opportunities that are seen as well as the cost saving opportunities that have been identified at institutions and systems around the world. Chair Adrain asked Ms. Laboissiere to develop a proposal by taking a quick look at our system and identifying potential opportunities for savings. The proposal is expected in about a week or so. Chair Adrain will share the proposal with the Board and will discuss how such a proposal might be handled.

Lastly, as per the recommendations in Director Licht's report, Chair Adrain was pleased to announce that Governors Amy Beretta and Joan Abrams have agreed to represent the Board and serve on the PK-20 Council if and when it is established.

5. OPEN FORUM

None.

6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Di Pasquale noted that today was opening day at all three institutions.

With respect to the URI Early Retirement Incentive Program, the Facilities, Finance & Management Committee indicated that talks in this regard will be brought before the Committee for a hearing prior to being heard by the full Board.

In response to Director Licht's report, Governor White is overseeing talks on developing strategies for efficiencies. We will begin conversations with the three institutions and will identify key people from each institution to begin overall efficiency talks, we will report back to the Board periodically.

We are in the process of preparing our 2012 mid-year reports. The Facilities, Finance & Management Committee will review the reports at its March 1st meeting. We are continuing to respond to the 2013 budget as the Governor puts his final touches on it. The office continues to work very closely with the State Budget Office in preparation of this year's budget.

7. NEW BUSINESS

None.

8. BOG COMMITTEE REPORTS and RELATED CONSENT AGENDA

a. Academic and Student Affairs

1. Approval of a Proposal from the University of Rhode Island for full Board recognition of The Institute for Immunology and Informatics

Associate Commissioner for Academic Planning and Policy, Deborah Grossman-Garber, presented item 8a1 on behalf of Chair Walsh.

The stated mission of the Institute for Immunology and Informatics at the University of Rhode Island (*I'Cubed*), which has been operating under temporary status since 2008, is to improve human and animal health by applying the power of Immunomics (informatics, genomics, and immunology) to the design of better vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics.

The University is applying to the Board for the permanent establishment of *I'Cubed*. As a non-traditional academic center of the University, the Institute has been operating under conditional status since 2008 and the University is now bringing the Institute forward for permanent status.

Provost DeHayes added that this is a largely self-funded research and education enterprise. The institute is a \$13 to \$14 million dollar a year operation, of which the University invests approximately \$70,000. The process of temporary status is part of the normal process at the University for the approval of any center or institute. The work done at this institute is not only important to the State of Rhode Island and the University's strategic priority around health, but he noted that they have a national and global reputation as well. The University expects that the operation will expand its external funding and overhead generated in the near years to come.

Associate Commissioner Grossman-Garber reported that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee voted and agreed that *I'Cubed* is likely to reap intellectual and monetary benefits for both the University and the State.

On a motion made by Thomas Rockett and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

(Item 8a1) THAT the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the request from the University of Rhode Island for permanent establishment of The Institute for Immunology and Informatics.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

2. Approval of a Proposal from Rhode Island College to Implement a Substantive Revision of RIC's General Education Program

Associate Commissioner Grossman-Garber stated that Rhode Island College is seeking Board approval to offer a revised, college-wide general education program beginning fall 2012 for undergraduate students who will matriculate into the College in September 2012. The College has submitted an exciting assessment focused proposal that has great promise for reinvigorating undergraduate education at Rhode Island College.

Rhode Island College's Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Ronald Pitt, explained that this program comes before the Board on modification of a program that has been in place since 1992. This program applies to every major at the College, all five schools, all academic departments, and every undergraduate student.

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

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and Joseph White

NAYS: 0

b. Facilities, Finance and Management

Chair Tikoian reported that the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee met on Thursday, January 12, 2012. He thanked Governors Beretta, Sherman, Barajas, Mancuso and Constant for conducting the meeting in his absence. Chair Tikoian indicated that Governor Abrams has requested she be appointed to the Facilities, Finance and Management Committee. As such, Chair Tikoian asked that Chair Adrain forward to Governor Abrams an appointment letter in that regard. The Facilities, Finance and Management Committee welcomes Governor Abrams.

At the January 12th meeting, the Finance Committee rendered a decision on two items:

1. Discussion and recommendation for the approval to pursue the acquisition of Allen Harbor Property from the U.S. Department of Education via Federal Surplus Procedures.

The Committee is asking the Board for approval to submit an application for the acquisition of the Allen Harbor property from the United States Department of Education via the Federal Surplus Procedures. The University is seeking Board approval to submit an application for the acquisition of a 1.8 acre, waterfront property at the entrance of Allen Harbor. The Allen Harbor property continues to be used by the Ocean Engineering Program and the Graduate School of Oceanography for the dockage of research vessels. The annual cost, subject to acquisition, is between \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. Prior to 1998, it was used by the FDA for their shellfish quality testing program. In 1998 when the program was terminated, URI was able to secure an exclusive license by the URI Ocean Engineering Program for use of the property for educational and research purposes.

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

(Item 8b1) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the continuation of URI's application to procure of Allen Harbor Property from the U.S. Department of Education via Federal Surplus Procedures.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

2. Notice and Discussion of the Recommended Proposed Amendments to the Board of Governors' Procurement Regulations.

The Committee also approved a notification for this evening followed by a vote at the next Board of Governors meeting addressing the proposed amendments to the Board of Governors' Procurement Regulations. The regulations were thoroughly discussed at two Finance Committee meetings. They are here before you as they parallel the State purchasing statutes and regulations and still address the particular needs of the schools of higher education. There will be no vote taken this evening but merely a notification that this will be brought before the Board for the March 19, 2012 Board meeting.

Governor Beretta expressed her appreciation for the manner in which the language being used has been cleared up and for the explanation as to why said language is being used.

Chair Adrain thanked Chair Tikoian for his report and the work of the Committee.

c. Government Relations

Chair Mancuso did not provide a report this evening. She asked that all Board members make an effort to attend the State of the State address next week and show your support for higher education.

d. Personnel

Chair White did not have a report.

e. Quality, Continuous Improvement and Innovation

1. Approval of the Process for the Setting and Implementation of Agendas for the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

Chair Beretta reported that at the last meeting of the Quality, Continuous Improvement and Innovation Committee, the Committee asked the Office of Higher Education to provide the Committee with information about a "cost of degree." This is something that has come up frequently in trying to establish metrics, and it is used frequently as a term of art, as if it had some defined meaning that all people would understand and really what we have learned through information gathered by staff is that there is no such term of art as "cost of degree." The Committee also reviewed the process document that is coming before us tonight entitled *Process for the Setting and Implementation of Agendas for the Board of Governors for Higher Education* which includes recommendations for an annual retreat. At the retreat which has been scheduled for February 13, 2012, the Committee will:

- Set the agenda and prioritize policies for the upcoming year for the Board of Governors;
- Assign various items to specific committees for study, review and recommendation;
- Identify stakeholders and outside constituencies on which we wish to consult on various issues;
- Assess the fiscal impact of those items or policies that are under consideration; and
- Estimate the time frame for each priority.

The *Process for the Setting and Implementation of Agendas* also recommends a year end memorandum from each committee chairman reflecting the past year's work of that committee with observations, insights and recommendations for the upcoming year.

The memo will then create an agenda of goals and priorities for the next academic and fiscal year.

Both Chair Adrain and Vice Chair Tikoian thanked Governor Beretta for all her efforts and good work.

On a motion made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

VOTED:

(Item 8e1) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education accepts the process for the Setting and Implementation of Agendas for the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

f. Student Advisory

Chair Constant stated that the Student Advisory Committee last met on December 8, 2012. At that meeting the Committee voted unanimously to bring forth a recommendation to the Board regarding the redesign of the RIBGHE website.

The Committee is scheduled to meet again in February.

On a motion made by Tessa Constant and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

(Item 8f1) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Student Advisory Committee's recommendation that the RIBGHE website contain a page for students with some condensed, up-to-date information and with links to each of URI's, RIC's and CCRI's student government pages with contact information for each student governing body.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA

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

a. Approval of the Awarding of Honorary Degrees by the University of Rhode Island

Provost DeHayes stated that the University has submitted several names for consideration by the Board for the recipients of honorary degrees at this spring's commencement. The list of recipients will remain confidential until publicly revealed by the University. The Committee, which Provost DeHayes chairs, includes faculty, staff, students and members of the community.

Governor Beretta questioned the Board's authority to approve or disapprove and why? She stated that if these are honorary degrees that URI wishes to confer, why does it need to come before the Board?

Commissioner Di Pasquale explained that the approval of honorary degrees is a policy of the Board wherein honorary degrees were to be reviewed by the Board and voted on. This process is not ruled by statute, but rather a policy that has been in place since the Board's inception.

Governor Mancuso questioned the Board's authority to discuss the nominees in executive session.

General Counsel Cavallaro explained that there are certain statutory provisions that allow a public body to go into executive session. The way the statute is written, the awarding of an honorary degree would not come under any of those exceptions. When the Board goes into

executive session to discuss the character, physical or mental health, or job performance of an individual or employee, that individual or employee, prior to the Board going into executive session, must receive notice in writing of the Board's intention, and must be given the right to exercise their right to request that the proceeding be held in open session.

On a motion made by Jane Sherman and seconded by Tessa Constant it was

VOTED:

(Item 9a)	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the awarding of honorary degrees to the individuals selected by the University of Rhode Island;
	Vote:	8 members voted in the affirmative, and 1 member voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian
	NAYS:	Eva-Marie Mancuso

b. Approval of Recommendations from the Personnel Review Committee

Anne Marie Coleman presented a total of five recommendations from the three institutions:

At the University, Vice President Alfonso is proposing to change the title of the first two positions, from assistant vice president to associate vice president. There is no change in compensation. Both positions are currently occupied.

The third position comes from Rhode Island College, also is a federally funded position which is currently established for a one-year duration. It may be extended depending upon the level of funding. This position is being brought before the Board as a new classification being established and it is a non-union position.

The fourth and fifth positions come from the Community College of Rhode Island. The fourth position is being brought before the Board as a new classification and a non-union position. Lastly, the Community College proposes to change the title only of the Dean – Institutional Advancement & College Relations to Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement & College Relations.

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

VOTED:

(Item 9b) THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Personnel Review Committee's recommendations as follows:

At the University of Rhode Island:

- Change in Title only, from Assistant Vice President/ Intellectual Property Management & Commercialization to Associate Vice President, Research/Intellectual Property Management & Commercialization; and
- Change in Title only, from Assistant Vice President for Research Administration to Associate Vice President for Research Administration;

At Rhode Island College:

- Establish a new classification, STEM Coordinator, RITES Project, (BOG, Grade 10) (\$40,964 - \$86,827);

At the Community College of Rhode Island:

- Establish a new classification, Director, Operations, (BOG, Grade 16) (\$53,818 - \$94,624); and
- Change in Title only, from Dean – Institutional Advancement & College Relations to Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement & College Relations

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

a. Rhode Island College

President Carriuolo shared some highlights of the report she provided the Board:

On Wednesday, January 25, 2012, the College will host a conference held by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. The Hispanic student population at RIC is the fastest growing demographic cohort. In 2010, Rhode Island College became the first institution of higher education in Rhode Island to join the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities that are committed to the success of Hispanic students.

As of the close of business last Friday, January 20th, the total student headcount stood at 7,823 with an FTE enrollment of 6,187. The headcount is running about 4% behind the enrollment target at this point and about 4.7% behind the FTE target. There were 516 students dropped for non-payment, but the official spring enrollment numbers will not be established until the end of the "add period" on February 3rd.

Rhode Island College has been recognized for its strong core curriculum requirements in national survey by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni. This survey evaluates the strength of core curriculum requirements at over 1,000 public and private colleges and university in the United States. RIC was rated as one of the top two institutions in Rhode Island out of six surveyed.

b. Community College of Rhode Island

President Di Pasquale's report included updates on:

Spring classes began today, January 23rd. Enrollment stood at 16,016, an increase of 1.81 percent over this time last year. Final spring enrollment numbers will be released following the add/drop period. President Di Pasquale noted that the number of students requiring remedial coursework has increased.

Last week, CCRI hosted a meeting of 25 representatives from municipal and state offices, community groups and business leaders at the CCRI Liston Campus to introduce the prospect of OHE and several partners creating a RIOHE/OIC Urban Research and Public Policy Center for the State of Rhode Island. Dr. Barry Bluestone, Dean of the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University made a presentation on the development and great success of Northeastern's center and how we in Rhode Island might create such a center of our own. Individuals from URI, RIC, CCRI and OHE have been working on this project for the past six months. President Di Pasquale indicated that he would soon be sharing a proposal to create a center in Rhode Island that would help improve the state's economy and strengthen its workforce.

Last Wednesday, the Nursing Program at the College graduated 105 nursing students. President Di Pasquale proudly added that the College's nursing students have been scoring at the very top of all community colleges, as well as universities and colleges. The program has now graduated over 7,500 nurses.

c. University of Rhode Island

Provost Donald DeHayes provided the Board with an update in President Dooley's absence.

He stated that the University has rolled out a new program, *Finish What You Started*. This program reaches out to former students of the University who perhaps successfully completed three quarters of their academic credits and dropped out within the last 8 to 10 years. The University will work with these former students and offer flexibility in procedure to allow them to reenter the University, whether it is via on-line or whether it is through conventional face-to-face classes.

Last Friday the University held its 4th Annual Academic Summit. The theme was Interdisciplinary Learning. While this was something the University had planned many months ago on this topic, it was further stimulated by the session that Chair Adrain arranged with McKinsey & Co. While they were looking at national/global trends in higher education, they reported that the development of interdisciplinary programs for the future was very high on the list of current students and employers.

The new interdisciplinary major in health studies approved by the Board last fall, now has 53 students enrolled. The University has received approximately 235 applications and expects to continue to receive more during the application process.

Tomorrow evening the House Commission on Higher Education Access and Affordability is holding another public hearing at the URI Kingston Campus. All are invited to attend and share your opinions on issues related to access and affordability along with the faculty, staff and students.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Adrain 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 Joan Abrams 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: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

After a short break, the Board convened in Executive Session at 7:08 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 Provost Donald DeHayes; Rhode Island College President Nancy Carriuolo; Ronald Cavallaro, General Counsel for the Board; Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations; 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 7:40 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Thomas Rockett and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

VOTED:

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

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

13. NEXT MEETINGS

Currently, the next meeting dates are:

Monday, March 19, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at the University of Rhode Island, Coastal Institute, Narragansett

Monday, May 7, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, Board Room 4090, Warwick

14. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

VOTED:

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta,
Tessa Constant, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett,
Jane Sherman, and Michael Tikoian

NAYS: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Sherman, Secretary