



Enclosure 2c  
May 25, 2016

**Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education  
Special Meeting  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 5:30 p.m.  
Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner  
560 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 100, McKenna Conference Room  
Warwick, RI 02886**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He then asked for the roll call to be taken after which he declared a quorum present.

**Present:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John Rainone, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**Absent:** Judy Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli

**1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to accept the agenda. On a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was

**VOTED:            THAT**        The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the Special Meeting of May 11, 2016.

**VOTE:**            7 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:**            Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:**            0

**ABSTAINS**      0

## 2. Action Item

### **2a. Authorization for the Proposed Lease of Space from Schneider Electric for the College of Engineering during the Development of the new College of Engineering Building.**

President Dooley presented this item to the Council. The University of Rhode Island is preparing to begin the construction of the new College of Engineering which will be financed through the General Obligation Bonds approved by Rhode Island voters in 2014. The University will need to find swing space for the continuation of its programs through the course of that construction period.

The University is planning to use renovated space in Pastore and Morrill Halls on the Kingston Campus to address some of this need. However, significant additional space is needed to house the multiple Engineering College Departments including their teaching, research laboratory, and office functions currently housed in the five buildings that will be demolished to make space for the new facilities.

URI representatives have been involved in conversations with Schneider Electric to provide the remaining space needed to house these programs for the 4-year construction period. Schneider Electric is an international corporation located in West Kingston approximately 1.5 miles from the University's Kingston campus. These conversations have resulted in a plan for the proposed lease of 30,500 square feet of space on the first and second floor levels of their facility. The plan provides for the need to renovate this space to accommodate the College's activities and would be amortized over the course of the proposed 4-year lease.

The costs of alternative swing space located on the campus itself have been explored by University officials. They have determined that swing space on campus would result in additional costs of reconstruction as well as a delay in the beginning of the project by five months. The delay in construction alone would result in an estimated \$1.5M in escalation costs to the overall project.

President Dooley introduced Ben Smith from Schneider Electric. The lease to Schneider would help to upgrade the space in the current buildings. There is a great deal of enthusiasm regarding this lease.

Chair Foulkes stated that there was already money in the budget to cover this lease.

President Dooley anticipated costs and they cannot use bond money to pay for the lease.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Duffy and seconded by Mr. Smith, it was

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the proposed lease of Space from Schneider Electric for the College of Engineering during the Development of the new College of Engineering Building; and
	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education authorize the Chairman to execute the final form of the Lease subject to the review and advice of General Counsel and subject to review and approval by the State Properties Committee.
	<b>VOTE:</b>	7 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS</b>	0

### 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:36 p.m. Chair William Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into executive session for:

Discussion regarding the RIC Presidential Search finalists and the appointment of the new RIC President, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1).

The Chair noted that all of the finalists have been notified of their right to have this discussion take place in Open Session, and that no objection to holding this discussion in Executive Session has been received.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was

**VOTED:**           **THAT**           the Council on Postsecondary Education enter into Executive Session for:

Discussion regarding the RIC Presidential Search finalists and the appointment of the new RIC President, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1).

**VOTE:**           7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:**           Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:**           0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

All non-Council members in the audience were excused with the exception of:

- Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
- Lisa Shevlin

At the conclusion of the discussion and in a motion duly made by Mr. Bernstein and seconded by Senator Izzo, it was

**VOTED:**           **THAT**           The Council on Postsecondary Education return to open session.

**VOTE:**           7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:**           Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:**           0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

**The Council returned to open session at 6:43 pm.**

On a motion duly made by Mr. Duffy and seconded by Dr. Williams, it was:

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the executive session held on May 11, 2016.
	<b>VOTE:</b>	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Kerry Rafanelli, and John J. Smith Jr. and Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	0

**4. Additional Action Items:**

**4a) Appointment of the new president of Rhode Island College and authorization of the Council Chair to negotiate the contract.**

On a motion duly made by Mr. Duffy and seconded by Dr. Williams, it was:

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education:  a) appoint Frank Sanchez as the new President of Rhode Island College and  b) Authorize its chair to negotiate and execute on its behalf and employment contract with President, pursuant to the terms and conditions discussed in Executive Session.
	<b>VOTE:</b>	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam,

Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator  
Thomas Izzo, John J. Smith Jr., and  
Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was:

<b>VOTED:</b>	<b>THAT</b>	The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn its meeting.
	<b>VOTE:</b>	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	<b>YEAS:</b>	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, and John J. Smith Jr., Dr. Jeffery Williams.
	<b>NAYS:</b>	0
	<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	0

**The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.**