



Enclosure 2a
July 27, 2016

Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting

Wednesday, June 22, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
URI-Graduate School of Oceanography
215 S. Ferry Road
Narragansett, RI 02882

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, June 22, 2016, at the University of Rhode Island at the Graduate School of Oceanography. At 5:34 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green, John Rainone and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

Absent: Heather Crosby, Dennis Duffy, Senator Thomas Izzo

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of June 22, 2016.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2a) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's May 25, 2016 Meeting.

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

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes for the meeting of May 25, 2016.

VOTE: 5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS Rachelle Green

2b) Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education's June 8, 2016 Special Meeting.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Bernstein and seconded by Mr. DelGiudice, it was

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes of the June 8, 2016 Special Meeting.

VOTE: 5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS Rachelle Green

3. REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

3a) Chair Bill Foulkes

Chair Foulkes thanked URI for hosting the Council meeting. He also wanted to pause for a moment and offer his sympathies to the family and URI community for Leo Vagias, a sophomore and member of the URI football team. He passed away in a tragic accident in New Jersey.

He welcomed the newest Council member Rachele Green. She is an attorney at Duffy & Sweeney.

He then mentioned the report of the management audit of Rhode Island College, which was released this week and reported on in the *Providence Journal* today. He thanked the Department of Administration for their very hard work. It was a demonstration of all the resources in the State working well together and coming up with some great future solutions. He thanked Commissioner Purcell for the countless hours that he put in. He realized that it was not an easy task and it was done very professionally. He also thanked the RIC community for all their support and Interim President Clark Greene and Vice President David Gingerella.

Chair Foulkes spoke with President-elect Sanchez over the weekend who starts on July 1, 2016. He ended his tenure at CUNY on Friday.

Chair Foulkes stated that they will be reviewing and voting on the Council's and committees Schedule for 2016-2017. He hopes that it does not have as many special meetings going forward. He is looking forward and rethinking committee structure. The Finance Committee is represented by Mike Bernstein, Dennis Duffy, Dr. Jeffrey Williams and Heather Crosby. Chair Foulkes asked Heather Crosby to be the Chair of the Finance/ Facilities Committee. He knows that the former Chair Mike Bernstein will help Heather Green in the transition.

The Personnel Committee consists of Chair Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Timothy DelGiudice and Rachele Green. Chair Foulkes has asked Rachele Green to be the Chair of Personnel Committee.

Chair Foulkes stated that they are going to talk about the calendar tonight. He is open to any suggestions to make the meetings more effective and efficient. He wants to make good use of everyone's time and use it as wisely as possible.

3b) Chair Barbara Cottam

Chair Cottam has three updates. They had a surprise announcement for Teacher of the Year. This year it goes to Nikos Giannopoulos from Beacon Charter High School in Woonsocket. He is a special education teacher and coordinator at the school. He has been teaching there six years. He co-teaches algebra, chemistry and film making. He is also responsible for creating a transition plan for students with special needs. When they made the announcement there was an overwhelming support from the audience.

Next, Chair Cottam provided an update on the Secondary School Regulations. At the last Board of Education meeting, they reviewed and had a presentation on the secondary school regulation proposed changes, and the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has put them out for public review and comment for the summer. RIDE will be scheduling 5 public hearings in the fall for those regulations and these are the requirements to the Rhode Island diploma system. Finally, RIDE has developed and posted on their website policy guidance on transgender and gender nonconforming youth. The guidance was developed as a result of expressed district need. RIDE put together guidance and it included pertinent federal and state laws, as well as information on best practices that can help the local districts develop their own local policies. Rhode Island is strong in supporting health and safety for Rhode Island youths.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chair Foulkes reported that no one had signed up to speak at Open Forum.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

5a) Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education: Legislative Update

Commissioner Purcell stated that the Performance Based Funding passed.

Commissioner Purcell introduced Dr. Michael Walker Jones to give the update. Dr. Walker Jones thanked the partners at RIC, URI and CCRI.

Dr. Walker-Jones reviewed the following:

Legislative Update 2016 Rhode Island Legislative Session

S 3054 Senate Resolution Respectfully Requesting The Commissioner Of Postsecondary Education To Provide Recommendations On The Provision Of Health Insurance To Adjunct Faculty Members - Miller.

Dr. Walker Jones stated that some research has to be done and completed by January.

H 8310 & S 3074 Includes armed college and university police officers of the state colleges among the class of individuals who are subject to control by the personnel administrator or by any officer or board other than the council on post-secondary education - Fogarty & Sosnowski

President Dooley can provide you more information.

H 7865 Requires institutions of higher learning to adopt a policy which grants amnesty for violations of drug/alcohol policies for those who report incidents of violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault - Ackerman

S 2118 Permits city and town councils, at their options, to enter into agreements with police departments of colleges and universities, to permit such police to cooperate in responding to emergency situations - Fogarty

S 2169 Senate Resolution Supporting and Encouraging STEM/STEAM Degrees and Programs in Rhode Island Elementary, Secondary, and Institutions of Higher Education - Gallo

S 2118 Permits city and town councils, at their options, to enter into agreements with police departments of colleges and universities, to permit such police to cooperate in responding to emergency situations - Goldin

H 7275 Mandates public/private high/middle schools, and athletic fields/other locations where sporting events held maintain functional AED on site at all times effective 8/1/16 - Malik

Article 12

Commissioner Purcell reviewed Article 12, which authorizes the Board of Education to establish a restricted receipt account for the Westerly Higher Education and Industry Center (also known as the Westerly Job Skills Center or Westerly Higher Education Learning Center) and to collect lease payments from occupying companies, and fees from room and service rentals, to support the operation and maintenance of the facility. All such revenues shall be deposited to the restricted receipt account.

Regarding the performance funding bill, Interim President Clark Greene asked what are the dates for the Senate bill. Commissioner Purcell answered October 1, 2016, for the Senate Bill.

Chair Foulkes asked what they want by October 1. Commissioner Purcell answered the funding formula part.

Commissioner Purcell then **acknowledged** Mr. Todd Flaherty, President of College Crusade. This was Mr. Flaherty's last official meeting as President.

Budget

Dr. LaPanne provided an update on the budget appropriations enacted for the system for both the FY 2016 revised budget and the FY2017 enacted budget.

The results were as follows:

- The system enjoyed an overall increase of 4.9% for programmatic changes in its operating budget. Most of this increase was in the area of salaries and benefits and a contribution to the Westerly Higher Education Center.
- RICAP, which is divided into two categories, was funded as follows:
 - o Asset Protection Funds for FY 2017 totaled \$21.9M for the system vs. \$15.1M for FY 2016
 - o Five specific projects were funded totaling \$9.3M.

Various highlights of the budget were reviewed and discussed by the Council and Dr. LaPanne responded to a few questions by Council members relating to those specifics.

Nursing Education Building

Dr. LaPanne gave a brief update on the Nursing Education Building. The proposed \$3.4M was deferred because of a delay in the building schedule. There is some language in the lease that indicates rebates on leased amounts if specific deadlines are missed.

Westerly Higher Education and Industry Center

Dr. LaPanne gave a brief update on the Westerly Education Center.

- RICAP Budget for Furniture & Equipment: \$2,000,000
- Funds in support of Building:

- FY 2017 - \$ 750,000
- FY 2018 - \$1,250,000 (proposed)

- Establishment of the Westerly Center as a Restricted Fund

Bond Referenda for Postsecondary Education

Dr. Susan LaPanne provided the following information regarding the Bond Referenda for Postsecondary Education.

- \$25.5M - to provide funds for Phase II of the URI College of Engineering project.
- \$20.0M - to build an innovation center connected with URI through a university/business collaboration for research, product, service and business development.

Community Service Grants - OPC

Dr. Susan LaPanne gave an update on the Community Service Grants provided through the legislature. In the past the office was responsible for six of these grants in terms of administering funds properly, but the office was not responsible for their budgets. The FY2017 budget leaves only two for the office to administer. One is Best Buddies for \$30,000 and the other is for the College Crusade in the amount of \$355,000, which supports their administration.

Dr. Williams asked about the Best Buddies Program, and Dr. LaPanne answered that is a mentoring program for mentally disabled children.

Letters went out to the agencies that were affected by the cuts so that they could make appropriate plans for their own budgets.

Other Budget Updates

Dr. LaPanne reviewed other highlights of the budget which included the continuation of the Rhode Island Promise Scholarship for \$10,095,000. These funds come from the Division of Higher Education Authority reserves.

The Dual Enrollment program which is in this current fiscal year has been extended to next year for \$ 1,300,000.

The Wavemaker Fellowship is a \$ 5.0M to expand loan forgiveness programs as an incentive to stay in Rhode Island after they graduate.

Chair Foulkes thanked Dr. LaPanne for the overview.

Commissioner Purcell gave an update on the following:

5b) Notices of new programs and/or changes that were submitted and reviewed for notification to the Council:

5b1) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

The University of Rhode Island is proposing to offer a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJ). The initiation date for this program would be the fall of 2017 with the first degree expected to be granted as early as May 2018.

The BA in Criminology and Criminal Justice would be an interdisciplinary program taught by professors from the departments of Sociology and Anthropology, Political Science, Psychology, Gender and Women's Studies, and Economics, as well as Criminology and Criminal Justice faculty. This program would prepare students for entry-level positions in criminal justice and related fields, especially at the state and federal level, or for advanced study in graduate and professional programs. Currently, Criminology and Criminal Justice is a track within the BS in Sociology. This degree program will replace this track. This new major is expected to attract students with this interest, as well as those who wish to transfer into a CCJ program from other schools such as CCRI. URI anticipates this will attract 80 students in the first year with an additional 10% each year after that. In addition, URI expects that the majority of the current BS in Sociology students will transfer into the new program, as well as some students from other majors.

5b2) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to offer a Minor in Landscape Architecture.

The University of Rhode Island is announcing its intent to offer a Minor in Landscape Architecture.

URI states that many of their students are inquiring about obtaining a minor in Landscape Architecture. URI had offered an unofficial minor; however, with the move of the Department of Landscape Architecture to the College of Arts and Sciences, the curriculum was revised and the university is seeking recognition of the minor. Students will study landscape installations in urban, suburban and rural settings and learn about landscape materials and practices, as well as the cultural applications relating to plants and their environments. No additional faculty or learning resources

will be required. RIOPC staff has determined that the academic changes presented are within the mission, role and scope of the University of Rhode Island and do not require Council approval.

5b3) Proposal from the University of Rhode Island to Offer a Minor in Robotics Engineering.

The University of Rhode Island is announcing its intent to offer a Minor in Robotics Engineering in the College of Engineering starting in September 2016.

URI states that there is a large regional and national demand for robotics engineering at the undergraduate level, much of which has come from the increasing number of students in K-12 who are exposed to robotics through various extra-curricular competitions. The University asserts that there is a diverse population of highly motivated and highly qualified students who will base their college decision on whether there is a quality robotics curriculum offered. In order to attract these students, URI feels it is necessary to offer this program of study. The primary source of students will be the undergraduate population of the College of Engineering. RIOPC staff reviewed the proposal and has determined that the academic changes presented are within the mission, role and scope of the University of Rhode Island and do not require Council approval.

6. PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

a) University of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events.

Provost DeHayes provided the following update from the University, giving a brief overview of his written report:

Provost DeHayes welcomed the new members and indicated that President Dooley was attending the annual board meeting of the International Engineering Program in Barcelona, Spain.

In the fall President Dooley shared a memorandum with Council members with his ideas for the University of Rhode Island and the potential to expand their presence into the 195-redevelopment area in Providence. A small working group has been put together between the University of Rhode Island, Brown and the Department of Health to explore the potential for shared research and laboratory space.

Secondly, last week Governor Raimondo kicked off a small group along with Stefan Pryor from the Department of Commerce. She has asked President Dooley to Chair this group which represents all the higher education institutions that might participate with the I-195 project. URI, Brown, RIC, J & W, RISD were at this meeting; it is a very positive step to promote the dialogue & conversation as far as what they might do together and in partnership with companies.

Last week URI held a moving vigil on the Kingston campus quad to honor the victims and their families and friends and support the injured of the Orlando massacre. It was attended by several hundred students, staff, faculty and community members who came together as a community to denounce violence, bias, and hate.

The University of Rhode Island has a world renowned Center for nonviolence and peace studies that was modeled after the Dr. Martin Luther King's approach to conflict resolution. Every year the Center holds an international workshop on the campus where leaders from around the world attend. This year, Senator Jack Reed attended and spoke to the group at the certificate award and recognition and program.

On a positive note, the University of Rhode Island Baseball Team made it to the NCAA Tournament.

Finally, regarding the Ryan Institute for Neuroscience, they hired a world class Director a few months ago. Recently, we held the first on campus forum on neuroscience, which was attended by over 70 faculty and staff and partners. The focus of the conversation was how to best frame how neuroscience and brain science might be best addressed on the campus and to begin to articulate specific expertise that we would like to add to the campus as part of a new neuroscience cluster hire.

b) Rhode Island College - Update from last report and current events.

Interim President Clark Greene reported the following update on items related to Rhode Island College:

He highlighted two items from the full report, which appears in the Council packets:

RIC is now the home to the national NCAA division III hammer throw champion - Senior Edward Cummings. This is our first individual champion since 1991. Congratulations Edward and our athletic department.

Contrary to predictions, the enrollment is growing. Next year's freshman class will be the largest it has been in the last five years, with 1737 new student deposits (70 more than last year). He attributed the growth to working with an enrollment consultant last year to make some adjustments to our recruiting processes.

Frank Sanchez is getting ready to begin as the President of Rhode Island College on July 1, 2016. He has been on campus a few times to meet with staff and begin his orientation. They have provided him with transition reports from each division, and policy papers on the major issues. They are also in the process of posting positions for his office and setting up his standing internal meetings.

They have developed a 100-day plan for him to ensure that he meets with all of the necessary internal and external constituencies, and it includes all of the major campus and external events where he will have a role.

He and his wife Lori have two college age sons, and a daughter heading into 7th grade who will attend LaSalle Academy. Frank is very excited about coming to RIC and is extremely enthusiastic about its strengths and potential.

Lastly, as you are aware, yesterday the state's Bureau of Audits released their report on RIC. The auditors were extremely thorough in their work; they were at RIC for 5 months. They provided specific recommendations in the following areas:

- HR policies and procedures
- Budget planning
- Interim appointments
- Grants management
- Purchasing controls
- Fiscal management of the auxiliaries.

The major finding in all these areas was a lack of adequate controls to minimize risk in critical fiscal areas. No evidence was found of unethical or abusive conduct. What they did find is that they are not mitigating risks well enough. The report points to staff shortages and instability as major contributing factors.

The good news is that RIC is building capacity in these areas:

- Recently hired budget director
- Recently hired Grants manager
- Recently hired VP for Admin and finance
- Recently hired facilities manager

- And a controller set to start July 1. This position has been vacant for over a year.

Work has begun to implement the recommendations.

Mr. Bernstein stated that Clark Greene and Commissioner Purcell and office did a great job. He thanked everyone for their hard work.

Mr. DelGiudice stated that RIC needs to improve its infrastructure.

c) Community College of Rhode Island - Update from last report and current events.

President Hughes welcomed Tim DelGiudice and Rachelle Green and reported the following updates:

She stated that it is a very energetic and busy time at CCRI. That morning President Hughes handed out Associate degrees at the medium security correctional facility in Cranston. It was a great honor to be there. Commissioner Purcell was also there.

President Hughes encouraged everyone to read the President's Report in the packet. She stated that two areas they are focusing on are "people" and "summer initiatives." CCRI has three new significant arrivals onto campus this week. Two new hires, Tony Parziale and Izabel DeAraujo-Rivera, respectively the CIO and Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement, fill long vacant positions. In addition, Alphonso Atkins is the first full time Director of Diversity, EEO, and Title IX Coordinator. She is thrilled to have them on the senior team.

The two initiatives that she highlighted from the report are the following:

1. The Proposed Pilot with RIDE.
2. CCRI's work with their sister institutions around transfer.

CCRI sits at the intersection of K-12 and transfer into their sister institutions. It is important to partner very effectively with both. She feels very optimistic about Commissioner Wagner and his willingness to bring his team to the table. They are meeting for the first time tomorrow to collaborate on how to address the need for developmental coursework. She looks forward to giving an update at the upcoming Council meetings.

CCRI is working very closely with the four year colleges and universities to strengthen the pathway that takes their students through a four year degree. She thanked RIC and URI for working with them to help make this possible.

Chair Foulkes stated that he looks forward to hearing the upcoming reports from President Hughes.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

7a) Discussion of the Proposed Reverse Transfer Policy.

Commissioner Purcell gave the presentation on the Reverse Transfer Policy.

Reverse transfer refers to transferring credit from a four-year to a two-year institution. Reverse transfer policy promotes transferring credits back to a community college for purposes of awarding the associate degree or certificate to students who have not earned a postsecondary credential. The policy applies to CCRI, RIC and URI students.

Under the reverse transfer policy, students are eligible to have transcripts evaluated for awarding a degree or certificate if they have:

- 60 college-level credits.
- A combined GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- No outstanding financial obligations.

Students, who have met all of the CCRI degree requirements, including the residency requirement, will be notified that an associate degree or certificate may be awarded. Some students will need to take additional courses at CCRI to meet degree or residency requirements. The NEASC standard requires students to earn 25% of the degree or certificate at the institution awarding the degree; for a 60 credit associate degree, 15 credit hours must be taken at CCRI to meet the residency requirement.

Reverse transfer benefits students:

- Earning the associate degree makes students more competitive in the workplace.
- The median lifetime earnings of individuals with an associate degree is 27% higher than the earnings of a high school graduate.
- Adults with postsecondary degrees have an improved quality of life. They are more likely to volunteer in their communities, follow a healthier lifestyle, participate in civic matters, and report being happier thereby raising the level of society in general.

Reverse transfer benefits CCRI, RIC, and URI:

- Improves graduation rate at CCRI.
- Early studies suggest reverse-transfer may improve graduation rates at four year institutions.

Commissioner Purcell stated that the reverse transfer policy was being introduced at this Council meeting and that there will be a vote at the next Council meeting on this item.

Mr. DelGiudice asked if students can take CLEP exams if they don't have 15 hours or a specific class that the need. Commissioner Purcell stated that he would get an answer to that question for Mr. DelGiudice.

Mr. DelGiudice asked if there is any opportunity to apply for life experience credits. Chair Foulkes stated that he was also going to ask that question. Chair Foulkes asked if this will tie in with the career training programs that are going on right now. Commissioner Purcell stated that students will be able to use credit earned through the evaluation of life experiences and training. CCRI is working hard on Prior Learning Assessments (PLA) and they have hired staff specifically to help adults get credits through PLA.

Chair Foulkes asked if they can use the work going on at CCRI as a foundation to enhance PLA. Commissioner Purcell said yes and noted that OPC is planning a conference this fall on prior learning assessment for the campuses. Members of the Council will be welcome to attend.

President Hughes stated that she does not know the answer about CLEP exams. However, she reported that CCRI just hired a top notch PLA coordinator who really gets the importance of PLA and is moving quickly at the college. There is a survey to use with incoming students. Students who believe that they should be awarded credit for PLA, take the survey. The survey results will give students an indication of the likelihood of having prior learning accepted for credit through the college. Students will have the opportunity to develop a portfolio that demonstrates the knowledge gained to the Chair of the particular department for an assessment of whether college credit may be awarded. This will be a growth area for CCRI and the college believes that it has the right person in place to implement an effective process.

Commissioner Purcell thanked President Hughes and the staff.

8. ACTION ITEMS.

8a) Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding related to the expanded Delegation of Purchasing Authority to the Commissioner of Postsecondary Education.

Dr. Susan LaPanne thanked Betty Gil, Vern Wyman the Vice President of Finance, from the University of Rhode Island and the Vice President of Finance and Administration at RIC, David Gingerella.

She explained that currently the institutions must use the State Division of Purchases to procure goods and services purchased with State Funds. The delays in the processing of requests for proposals, bids, and awards are enormous. A great deal of staff time is spent on following up on paperwork and requests. These delays have not changed over time and often range from 3 months to as long as 12 months for a single procurement.

How this new process would help is that this delegation expands the ability of the institutions to act autonomously eliminates duplication of efforts in processing state requisitions. Currently, the institutions have an expanded authority in regard to the procurement of goods and services funded by Restricted Funds. This new expansion of authority extends that to the procurement of goods and services funded by State Funds.

Dr. LaPanne stated that Public Works would stay with State purchases. They have a critical mass of expertise. All the large construction projects will stay with the State. However, all the other state funded purchases would now be at the institutions.

All purchasing must comply with the State Purchases Act as well as State Procurement Regulations. Guidance is provided by the Council's Procurement Regulations.

Changes are required in the Council's Procurement Regulations. The workgroup has developed these revisions to align with the current MOU terms. The Council will review and discuss these regulations at the next scheduled Council meeting. The Council will vote on them at the meeting after that in accordance with Council Bylaws.

Mr. DelGiudice asked if we are losing economies of scale. Dr. LaPanne said no. The vehicles would stay with the state.

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

VOTED: THAT the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding related to the

expanded Delegation of Purchasing Authority to the Commissioner of Postsecondary Education, pending the final review and approval by the Director of Administration and His Legal Counsel.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8b) Approval of Council Schedule & Committees Schedule for 2016-2017.

Chair Foulkes presented the schedule to the Council.

On a motion duly made by Mr. DelGiudice and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was:

VOTED: THAT the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the meeting schedule for 2016-2017 as presented.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8c) Approval of a two-year External Audit Contract for independent Certified Public Accountants related to the Division of Higher Education Assistance.

Dr. Susan LaPanne gave the update. OPC received 5 bids in response to the RFP for external audit services related to the Division of Higher Education Assistance. Two were disqualified in the technical review. Three bids were reviewed for cost considerations. The qualified bidder scores ranged from 63.0 points out of 70 to a high score of 67.7. The cost span for the two-year contract was fairly wide: \$75,000 to \$121,000. O'Connor and Drew, P.C. won the bid.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Bernstein and seconded by Ms. Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT the Council on Postsecondary Education approve this recommendation that a two-year audit contract be awarded to O'Connor and Drew, P.C. for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and 2017.

AND further, acknowledge that the award was subject to review and approval by the Department of Administration and the State Auditor General as required by state statute.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:52 pm Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for:

Discussion related to the potential acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or disposition of publicly held property, pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(5).

He stated that any action that may be required for Item 9 will be taken when the Council returns to Open Session.

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education enter into Executive Session pursuant discussion related to the potential acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or disposition of publicly held property, pursuant to RIGL§ 42-46-5 (a)(5).
	VOTE:	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

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

- Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
- Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner, Finance & Management
- Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel
- David DeHayes, Provost, URI
- Meghan Hughes, President, CCRI
- Lisa Shevlin, Executive Assistant

Chair Barbara Cottam recused herself from the Executive Session.

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:24 p.m.

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

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on June 22, 2016.
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VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

10. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a) The next meeting of the Personnel and Finance/Facilities Committees for the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02886.
- b) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be held on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at the University of Rhode Island, at the Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO), 215 S Ferry Rd, Narragansett, RI 02882.
- c) The next full board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at CCRI, Room 4090, Warwick, RI 02886.

11. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made by Mr. DelGiudice and seconded by Ms. Green, it was:

VOTED: **THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of June 22, 2016.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Timothy DelGiudice, William Foulkes, Rachelle Green and Dr. Jeffrey Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.