

Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education
Wednesday, September 27, 2023



Meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education
Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Community College of Rhode Island
400 East Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886, Room 4090
Meeting Minutes

Chair David Caprio called this meeting to order at 8:25 a.m. and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

Council on Postsecondary Education members present:

David Caprio, Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education
Dennis Duffy
Rachelle Green
Michael Grey
Thomas Izzo
Lawrence Purtill
Marcy Reyes
Ana Duarte Spencer

Council on Postsecondary Education members absent:

Michael Mello
Jeffery Williams

Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (RIOPC) staff present:

Shannon Gilkey, Ed.D., Commissioner
Ronald Cavallaro, Esq., General Counsel
Beth Bailey, Director of Communications
Greg Ebner, Assistant Commissioner of Academic and Student Affairs
Molly Cote, Chief Policy Officer
Zachary Saul, Chief Financial Officer
Jackie Xiong, Assistant to the Commissioner, Special Liaison to the Council on Postsecondary Education
Jill Olson-Crowley

Rhode Island College (RIC) participants:

President Jack Warner
Kimberly Bright, Interim Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives
Jenifer Giroux, Vice President of Corporate Relations and Professional Studies
Clark Green, Interim Vice President for College Advancement
Cindy Kozil, Vice President for Student Success
Margaret Lynch-Gadaleta, General Counsel / Interim Assistant Vice President of Human Resources
Carolynn Masters, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and other staff members
Anna Cano Morales, Interim Vice President of External Relations and Diversity Equity and Inclusion

Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) participants:

President Rosemary Costigan
Sybil Bailey, Director of Institutional Equity and Human Resources
Maddie Burke, Executive Director of Strategic Partnerships, Liston Campus Leader
Bobby Gondola, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement and College Relations
Allyson Handley, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
Jennie Johnson, Vice President, Division of Workforce Partnerships
Amy Kacerik, Associate Vice President Student Affairs
Amy Kempe, Executive Director, Marketing, Communications & External Affairs, Newport County Campus Leader
Greg LaPointe, Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Outcomes Officer
Alix Ogden, Special Advisor to the President
Andrea Ray, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and Organizational Development
Rich Sullivan, Vice President, Administration & Finance

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair Caprio called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of September 27, 2023.

On a motion made by Larry Purtill and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting on September 27, 2023
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.
	NAYS:	0

ABSTAINS: 0

Chair Caprio thanked and welcomed honorable guest, Governor Daniel J. McKee who gave opening remarks. In the Governor's remarks, he thanked the Presidents of the two colleges and the Council for their service and work. He also gave strong words of encouragement and spoke on Learn 365.

2. Discussion Items

A. Discussion regarding the Presentation on Enrollment Trends in U.S. Higher Education by Chris Mullin from the Lumina Foundation.

Chair Caprio called upon Commissioner Gilkey to introduce guest speaker, Chris Mullin, from the Lumina Foundation. Mullin gave a presentation discussing contextual factors and strategic tactics to address Rhode Island's future regarding enrollment trends in Higher Education. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Mullin answered questions.

President Rosemary Costigan inquired about how the metrics of enrollment trends were determined for the college system in Florida to which Dr. Mullin explained it was a collaboration between colleges to create the construct of measurement. President Costigan commented on the difficulties of implementing remediation plans due to the uniqueness of a community college.

Senator Thomas Izzo inquired about data gathering for degree completion and retention rates for attainment purposes. Dr. Mullin responded that both private and public institutions that participate in Federal student aid programs must submit data to the Federal Department of Education.

Council Member Dennis Duffy inquired about data gathering in skilled trades. Dr. Mullin responded that in addition to surveys from the U.S. Census Bureau, there are also efforts from Federal Government workgroups that help aid in the gathering of data collection surrounding skilled trades.

B. Discussion regarding the Community College of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College Enrollment and Student Success Strategies for FY 2023-2024.

Chair Caprio called upon Commissioner Gilkey to lead the Council and Higher Institution leaders in the breakout sessions.

During the Community College of Rhode Island breakout sessions, President Costigan and the CCRI leadership team briefed the Council on key enrollment and outcomes at the college. Throughout the presentation, there were questions and discussions among Council Members and the CCRI team.

During the Rhode Island College break-out sessions, President Jack Warner, Provost Carolyn Masters, and Vice President for Student Success, Cindy Kozil, presented an

overview of enrollment and student success at Rhode Island College. Throughout the presentation, there were questions and discussions among Council Members and the RIC team.

3. Action Items

A. Approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education 2024 meeting schedule.

Chair Caprio called for a motion that the Council approve the Council on Postsecondary Education 2024 meeting schedule.

On a motion duly made by Rachelle Green and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was:

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve of the Council on Postsecondary Education 2024 meeting schedule.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

4. Adjourn

Chair Caprio called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion duly made by Rachelle Green and seconded by Marcy Reyes, it was:

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary adjourn the meeting of Wednesday, September 27, 2023.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.
	NAYS:	0

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ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 PM.