



**Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2024

**Rhode Island Nursing Education Center**  
**350 Eddy Street**  
**Providence, RI 02903, room 311**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Chair Michael Mello called this meeting to order at 4:30pm and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

**Council on Postsecondary Education members present:**

Michael Mello, Chair  
Lawrence Purtill

**Council on Postsecondary Education members absent:**

Jeffery Williams

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

Greg Ebner, Assistant Commissioner, Academics and Student Affairs

**Rhode Island College (RIC) participants:**

Carolynn Masters, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Cindy Kozil, Vice President of Student Success

**Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) participants:**

Allyson Handley, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Greg LaPointe, Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Outcomes Officer  
Amy Kacerik, Associate Vice President Student Affairs  
Barbara Nauman, Dean of Business, Science Technology and Math  
Suzanne Carr, Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Science  
William Stargard, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences  
Elizabeth Del Sesto, Assistant Dean of Business, Science Technology and Math

**1. Acceptance of the Agenda ([Enclosure 1](#))**

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee accept the agenda for the meeting of January 31, 2024.

On a motion made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED:        THAT        The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee accept the agenda for the meeting on January 31, 2024

VOTE:         2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS:         Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS:         0

ABSTAINS:    0

**2. Approval of the Minutes ([Enclosure 2](#))**

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on November 15, 2023.

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED:        THAT        The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on October 13, 2023. Vote was based upon minutes as amended to correct the funding available to the Hope Scholarship. Draft minutes indicated that total to be \$400M per year when the correct amount is \$4M per year.

VOTE:         2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS:         Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS:         0

ABSTAINS:    0

**3. Discussion Items**

- a. CCRI Notices of program revision where greater than 25% of the program has changed (William Stargard):
  - i. Associate in Communication and Media, Communication
  - ii. Associate in Communication and Media, Journalism
  - iii. Associate in Communication and Media, Film
  - iv. Certificate in Communication and Media, Communication
  - v. Certificate in Communication and Media, Journalism
  - vi. Certificate in Communication and Media, Film
  - vii. Certificate in Administrative Support Specialist
- b. CCRI Notices of Program Suspension (Allyson Handley):
  - i. Associate in Professional Studies, Executive Administrative Assistant
  - ii. Associate in Professional Studies, Medical Administrative Assistant
  - iii. Associate in Engineering Systems Technology, Energy Utility
  - iv. Certificate in Engineering Systems Technology, Energy Utility Technology
- c. CCRI Notices of Program Termination
  - i. Associate in Computer Studies & Information Processing, General Information Processing (Barbara Nauman)
  - ii. Associate in Computer Studies and Information Processing, Networking Technology, Network Software Emphasis (Barbara Nauman)
  - iii. Certificate in Computer Studies & Information Processing, Computer Programming (Barbara Nauman)
  - iv. Certificate in Computer Studies & Information Processing, General Information Processing (Barbara Nauman)
  - v. Certificate in Emergency Disaster Management (Suzanne Carr)
  - vi. Certificate in Homeland Security (Suzanne Carr)
  - vii. Associate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (Suzanne Carr)

viii. Associate in Opticianry (Suzanne Carr)

**4. Action Items. Note: After the meeting, it was determined that each of the following program additions fall within the role and purpose of the Community College of Rhode Island and, therefore, should be posted as notices of change (and placed on the agenda with the other discussion items). These items will not be carried forward to a vote of the Council on Postsecondary Education.**

- a. Approval of approval of CCRI Certificate in Ecology and Environmental Biology, Terrestrial (Barbara Nauman) [Enclosure 4a](#)

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED:        THAT        The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve a recommendation to the Council for its approval of the addition of Certificate in Ecology and Environmental Biology, Terrestrial to the program offerings at CCRI.

VOTE:         2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS:         Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS:         0

ABSTAINS:    0

- b. Approval of addition of CCRI Certificate in Ecology and Environmental Biology, Aquatic (Barbara Nauman) [Enclosure 4b](#)

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED:        THAT        The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve a recommendation to the Council for its approval of the addition of Certificate in Ecology and Environmental Biology, Aquatic to the program offerings at CCRI.

VOTE:         2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS:         Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS:         0

ABSTAINS: 0

- c. Approval of addition of CCRI Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)  
(Barbara Nauman) [Enclosure 4c](#)

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve a recommendation to the Council for its approval of the addition of Certificate in Geographic Information Systems to the program offerings at CCRI.

VOTE: 2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

5. Next Meeting: February 28, 2024 at 4:30pm in RINEC Room 325

6. Adjourn

Chair Mello called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Michael Mello, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Success of the Council on Postsecondary adjourn the meeting of Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

VOTE: 2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.