



**Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee Meeting**  
Monday, June 24, 2024

**Rhode Island Nursing Education Center**  
**350 Eddy Street**  
**Providence, RI 02903, room 325**  
**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  
Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel

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

Carolynn Masters, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mikaila Lemonik Arthur, President of RIC/AFT

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

Greg LaPointe, Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Outcomes Officer  
Amy Kacerik, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs  
Barbara Nauman, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Kelly Morrissey, Dean of Student Financial Assistance and Scholarships

**1. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic Affairs and Student Success

Committee accept the agenda for the meeting of June 24, 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 June 24, 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**

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on April 3, 2024.

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 April  
3, 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

## **3. Discussion Item**

### **a. CCRI Low Completion Report.**

Barbara Nauman, Interim VP for Academic Affairs, presented CCRI's report on programs with low enrollment, highlighting the steps that the college will be taking with each program.

b. RIC Low Completion Report.

Carolyn Master, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, presented RIC's report on programs with low enrollment, highlighting the steps that the college will be taking with each program.

c. Notices of Change (Rhode Island College): Carolyn Masters, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, presented notices of change to the college's academic programs.

i. Creation of Certificate of Undergraduate Study in Cyber Security

ii. Revision of the Master of Education in Advanced Studies of Teaching & Learning

iii. Creation of a Public Policy Bachelor of Arts Program

Note: In the original agenda for the meeting, this program was identified as a Master of Arts Program. During the meeting, Asst Comm Ebner noted the discrepancy and the discussion continued.

iv. Change of Modality for Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

This program will change to an online BSN program. This is a beneficial change to the modality that will allow more Rhode Island RNs to complete their BSN within the state.

v. Creation of a School Nurse Teacher Certificate of Graduate Studies.

Committee Member Purtill asked about the expected numbers of students. VP Masters indicated that the college expects approximately 20 students to enroll in the program per year. Committee Member Purtill asked for a follow-up report on student numbers in the future.

#### **4. Action Items**

a. Approval of Proposed Change to Rhode Island Scholarship Program (CPE Policy S-17)

VP for Student Affairs Greg LaPointe presented a proposed change to the Council policy on the Promise Scholarship. The proposal requested that the timing of the number of credits required for students to remain in the program be extended to include the entire school year. Current policy requires students to complete 24 credits in the Fall and Spring semesters. The proposed change would allow students to take courses anytime during the year to meet the 24-credit

requirement, expanding to courses in the winter and summer terms.

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 policy and proposed change to the CPE Policy on Promise Scholarship (Policy S-17)

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: July 31, at 4:30pm

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 Monday, June 24, 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 5:34 PM