



Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Rhode Island Nursing Education Center
350 Eddy Street
Providence, RI 02903, room 307
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
Jeffery Williams

Council on Postsecondary Education members absent:

None

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

Greg Ebner, Assistant Commissioner, Academics and Student Affairs
Jailene Colon, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Xiong, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner and Liaison to the Council

Rhode Island College (RIC) participants:

Carolynn Masters, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Jennifer Boulay, Interim Director of the Hope Scholarship

Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) participants:

Barbara Nauman, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
Amy Kacerik, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
William Stargard, Dean of Students Arts Humanities and Social Sciences

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

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

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

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

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted
in the negative.

YEAS: Michael Mello, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams.

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 June 24, 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 June
24, 2024.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in
the negative.

YEAS: Michael Mello, Lawrence Purtill Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Discussion Item

a. Notices of Change (Community College of Rhode Island)

i. Creation of Photography Certificate

CCRI Dean of Student Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, William Stargard briefed the Committee on the Photography Certificate. He announced that although the college was currently offering the course, the courses would not be included in the college's course catalog until next year. Mr. Stargard answered Committee Member Lawrence Purtill's question about accessibility to equipment, stating that the school would loan equipment to the students taking the course. Mr. Stargard indicated that the program would overlap video

and digital art, combining aspects from departments such as photography, communications, and media. Mr. Stargard confirmed that students would be eligible receive an associate's degree while participating in this course.

b. Hope Scholarship Annual Report (Rhode Island College)

Interim Director of Hope Scholarship Jennifer L. Boulay gave a brief presentation of the overview of RIC's data on the Hope Scholarship. Discussions included gender distribution, with an emphasis on increasing enrollment of males of color. Reasons for student attrition were noted, and the complexity of defining full-time status and its impact on graduation timelines was addressed by Ms. Boulay. She also discussed the financial aspects including scholarship eligibility and avoiding punitive policies for students requiring additional time. Lastly, Ms. Boulay informed the Committee on the fiscal implications, with state costs estimated at \$4 million and federal aid data provided for informational purposes.

4. Action Items

a. Proposed Change to Policy on Athletics

Assistant Commissioner Gregory Ebner presented an overview of the proposed change to the Policy on Athletics. Assistant Commissioner Ebner highlighted the proposed changes in language and addressed the updated roles and responsibilities the school and of the President.

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 Policy on Athletics.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Michael Mello, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

5. Next Meeting

Chair Mello announced that the next Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee meeting will be held on September 11, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

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, July 31, 2024.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative
and 0 members voted in the
negative.

YEAS: Michael Mello, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM