



**Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, November 20, 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 4:30 pm and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

**Council on Postsecondary Education members present:**

Michael Mello, Chair  
Lawrence Purtill  
Jeffery Williams

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

Gregory Ebner, Assistant Commissioner of Academic Student and Success  
Rebecca Ryan, Director of Compliance and Student Protection  
Jaime Wager, Program Specialist  
Jailene Colon, Administrative Assistant

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

Cindy Kozil, Vice President for Student Success  
Shelia Fleming, Provost Vice President of Academic Affairs

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

Greg LaPointe, Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Outcomes Officer

Barbara J. Nauman, Interim VP of Academic Affairs  
Amy Kacerik, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs  
Suzanne Carr, Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences  
Leslie Filippelli-DiManna, Interim Dean of Business, Science, Technology & Mathematics

**Intelvio Participants:**

Monica Sanborn, Director of Licensing and Compliance

**1. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic and Student Success Committee accept the agenda for the meeting of November 20, 2024.

On a motion made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Jeffery Williams it was:

VOTED:        THAT            The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee accept the agenda for the meeting on November 20, 2024.  
VOTE:                3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.  
YEAS:                Lawrence Purtill, Jeffery Williams, and Michael Mello  
NAYS:                0  
ABSTAINS:        0

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

[Item 2.a.](#)

Chair Mello called for a motion that the Academic and Student Success Committee approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 that took place on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.  
VOTE:                2 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.  
YEAS:                Lawrence Purtill and Michael Mello  
NAYS:                0  
ABSTAINS:        Jeffery Williams

**3. Action Items**

- a. Approval of the recommendation to the Council for its approval of the operations of Intelvio (d/b/a Phlebotomy Training Specialists), a proprietary school, within the State of Rhode Island [Item 3.a.](#)
  - i. Director of Compliance and Student Protections Rebecca Ryan, and Program Specialist Jaime Wager from the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner presented their recommendation to the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee to seek an approval of the operations of a new proprietary school, within the State of Rhode Island.
  - ii. Ms. Ryan discussed Intelvio’s compliance with the review, referring to the various documents and checks that had to be approved before the committee's approval. Intelvio’s Director of Licensing and Compliance, Monica Sanborn, joined virtually and addressed the committee members' questions about potential career opportunities for graduates.
  - iii. Dr. Carr, Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences at CCRI, mentioned that CCRI has a phlebotomy program and that Intelvio may present competition to the community college. Committee Chair Mello pointed out that the committee is tasked with ensuring that proposed schools meet all regulatory requirements as specified in Council policy.

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 operations of Intelvio (d/b/a Phlebotomy Training Specialists), a proprietary school, within the State of Rhode Island.

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

YEAS:        Lawrence Purtill, Jeffery Williams and Michael Mello

NAYS:        0

ABSTAINS:    0

- b. Approval of the recommendation to the Council for its approval of amendments to Council Policy S-8, The New England Regional Student Program [Item 3.b.](#)
  - i. Assistant Commissioner of Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Gregory Ebner presented the proposed version of the Council Policy S-8, New England Regional Student Programs (NERSP). Dr. Ebner explained that the policy provides students in the region, the opportunity to study at a

public school in another state within the compact at a reduced tuition rate which will attract out-of-state students. Dr. Ebner informed the committee that this policy has been in existence since the 1950s as part of Rhode Island's membership in the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). Over the past decades, the program has been amended, but the Council policy (NERSP) had not been changed to fully reflect the NEBHE agreement. The amendments made to the New England Regional Student Programs (NERSP) reflect the changes and bring us in line with The New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE).

On a motion duly made by Jeffery Williams 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 amendments to Council Policy S-8, (NERSP)

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

YEAS: Lawrence Purtill, Jeffery Williams and Michael Mello

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

#### 4. Discussion Items

- a. Notice of Program Closures (CCRI) [Item 4.a.](#)
  - i. CCRI's Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Barbara J. Nauman announced notices of change surrounding five program closures, those being:
    1. Administrative Office Technology, Legal Administrative Assistant
    2. Professional Studies, Executive Administrative Assistant
    3. Professional Studies, Medical Administrative Assistant
    4. Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Certificate
    5. Cloud Computing – Associate in Science
- b. Creation of Certificate Program in Business Admin, Hospitality, and Tourism Management (CCRI) [Item 4.b.](#)
  - i. CCRI's Interim Dean of Business, Science, Technology and Mathematics, Leslie Filippelli-DiManna, discussed the creation of two new programs at the Community College of Rhode Island, starting with the Certificate Program in Business Admin, Hospitality, and Tourism Management. Dean DiManna explained that tourism is a large industry in the nation and in Rhode Island. This certificate would prepare students for a career in those

fields. Dean DiManna highlighted that this new certificate would upskill students and that CCRI is working with the RI Hospitality Association to make this happen.

- ii. CCRI's Barbara J. Nauman informed the committee that they have a full cohort of 20 in-person students for this Fall and 28 students online for the Spring. Vice President Nauman indicated that the certificate is 18 credits, and some course credits can transfer to Johnston and Wales University. Vice President Nauman explained that students will get an orientation to hospitality, food services, management services which are certificates that are stackable and align with culinary programs.
- c. Creation of Associates in Science, Surgical Technology (CCRI) [Item 4.c.](#)
  - i. CCRI's Dean of Health and Rehabilitative Sciences, Suzanne Carr, continued the discussion on new programs by introducing the Associates in Science, Surgical Technology program at CCRI. Dean Carr informed the committee that this new degree in science is a surgical technologist certificate, and it can create opportunities for clinical placements. The program is up for final approval to be brought to the Council on Postsecondary Education.
  - ii. RIC's Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sheila Flemming, inquired about the differences between the medical programs. Dean Carr responded that the most significant difference is the OR teams. Dean Carr also mentioned that the college foresees discontinuing the certificate and launching a degree program instead.
  - iii. Committee Member Lawrence Purtill requested more information on how the certificate expands students' learning. Dean Carr responded that there is no significant change other than the credits and classes that are required for a degree. Mr. Purtill asked if RI Promise or financial aid would be available for students interested in this program. CCRI participants confirmed that yes, anyone who qualifies could pursue this degree.
  - iv. Finally, committee members discussed potential career paths these students can take, average potential salary, and the national shortage of medical professionals.

**5. Next Meeting:** January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, at 4:30 PM

**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:

Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024

VOTED:        THAT        The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the  
   Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of  
   November 20, 2024.

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

YEAS:        Lawrence Purtill, Jeffery Williams and Michael Mello

NAYS:        0

ABSTAINS:   0

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.