

President's Council Minutes
January 24, 2024
Prepared by: Deb Zielinski

Attendees: Rosemary Costigan, Alix Ogden, Amy Kempe, Deb Zielinski, Suzanne Carr, Greg LaPointe, Amy Kacerik, Andréa Ray, Bill Stargard, Naglaa Gaafar Rego, Joe Hopkins, Tracy Karasinski, Beth Anish, Kelly Morrissey, Roger Hart (for Kerri Friel), Lauren Webb, Jude Tomasino, Taiwo Adefiyiju, Shilo Henriques, Peter Bardsley, Allyson Handley, Bella Zainyeh, Phil Gordon, Rebecca Helmel, Jennie Johnson, Ron Cavallaro, Bob Cipolla, Bobby Gondola, Elizabeth Del Sesto, Sybil Bailey (via WebEx), and Rich Sullivan (via WebEx).

Welcome and Introductions

Rosemary welcomed everyone and introduced Bella, who will be assisting the President's Office with communications. Roger Hart attended for the Faculty Senate.

Minutes of 10/25/23 (previously distributed)

Naglaa made a motion to approve, Tracy seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved, noting 2 abstentions by Amy Kempe and Rebecca Helmel, who were not in attendance at the October meeting.

President's Update

- Spring Semester – this is the 7th semester for enrollment increase.
- NECHE – the self-study is ready; thanks to Lauren for her work. The visiting team is here March 3-6.
- Legislative updates – RC talked about attending the State of the State. She said that attending for the first time as a graduate, faculty member, and administrator, and donning her CCRI regalia, was a moment of immense pride.
- CCRI Day at the State House is April 4.
- Rosemary spoke about her visit to the White House for the Communities in Action convening. CCRI was the only higher ed institution from RI invited to attend.
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Divisional Updates

Academic Affairs – Allyson Handley

- Allyson reported that Lisa Furtado is the new Assistant Dean of Nursing.
- Learning Commons Updates, which included the completion of the Workgroup Report, the ongoing search for the Assistant Dean for Library.

Student Services – Greg LaPointe, Amy Kacerik

- Greg & Amy presented on the final Winter Session enrollment numbers, noting that there was a 200% increase from 2019-2022, and a 22% increase from last year.
- SAP – 11% of Fall 2023 students (886) that received financial aid did not meet SAP requirements, which means they won't be here in the spring unless we figure out how to reduce the number. We will switch to running SAP every semester, rather than annually.

Institutional Equity, Human Resources, & Org Development – Alix Ogden

- 2024 Performance Evaluations – Alix reviewed timeline and thanked Andréa and team for their work. They will come out a month earlier. We are aiming for 100% this year.
- Alix reported on the commitment to attracting and retaining a diverse workforce and encouraged use of our Talent Acquisition Team. Alix reviewed the incremental increases in hiring and retaining persons of color, noting that 29% of 2023 new hires were BIPOC.
- Title IX/Non-Discrimination/ADA – Kara is available to train; there is an on-line reporting tool and case management system.

Foundation/Alumni – Bobby Gondola

- Bobby reported on the fundraising budget YTD.
- He discussed the Bally's gift, and submitting the Champlin grant.

- We are supporting students and faculty through book awards (\$40,000), Faculty Innovation (\$25,000), Emergency Grants (\$108,000), and scholarships (\$471,000).
- Bobby talked about smart goals in the Strat Plan. Rosemary added that we are looking at this group for not only policies, but to be guardians of the Strategic Plan

Workforce Partnerships – Jennie Johnson

- GWO – we are in the home stretch of the project and have passed the state audit. We are awaiting official notice from GWO with training center ID and will begin training students 2/24 (~80 trained by April, ~175 by 12/24).
- Bally's – we will meet with Bally's in February to convene to build a CCRI-led Dealer Training School, to launch in late 2024 (in support of Bally's \$5m commitment to CCRI).
- Real Jobs RI – This year, CCRI received an award of \$1.4m to support training of 225+ Rhode Islanders across 15 cohorts in 8 training program areas, including Bi-lingual Early Education, Cannabis, Case Manager, Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Patient Support Specialist, Property & Casualty Insurance, and Securities Industry Essentials.

Faculty Senate – Roger Hart

- Roger thanked Rosemary and Allyson for supporting the Senate – it is still growing.
- Senate goals include increasing awareness of the work of the Senate.
- Constitution and Bylaw review is underway.
- Teaching & Assessment Committee will have a public hearing regarding Annual Assessment Reporting and Academic Program Review on 2/2 for 2 policies (Annual Assessment Reporting Policy and Academic Program Review Policy).
- Hybrid learning policy will be voted on this Friday.
- Academic Standards – WP/WF has been a problem. The bill is back in committee; may soon be ready for VPAA review.
- Common Syllabus Bill – Public hearing held on 11/10/23; back to committee and final language approved and added 1/19/24. Vote on bill will be held at Friday's meeting.

Staff Assembly – Naglaa Gaafar Rego

- Naglaa thanked Alix and Rosemary for their support of the Staff Assembly and thanked the Senate leadership over the past 2 years in allowing the Assembly to learn from its experience.
- Privacy Policy Update – it has been posted on PolicyStat to be brought to the President's Council for review/approval.
- College-wide Engagement – New Staff Orientations are scheduled 12/20/23, 1/31/24, and 3/6/24. Elections Committee to start discussions on increasing engagement and awareness of Assembly work in preparation for April elections.

NECHE – Lauren Webb

- Lauren thanked Rosemary for the self-study, noting that you cannot do a 296-page document without all the committee leaders, collecting evidence; everyone was very responsive. She also thanked the Marketing team; we are now in the fun phase of planning the visit. We will be working on what the actual meeting schedule will look like.
- Rosemary thanked Phil and team for assembling all of the data.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2024