

**Council of Rhode Island College, 2019-2020  
Council Meeting  
Friday, May 3, 2019  
Faculty Center Main Dining Room, Donovan**

**MINUTES**

*Present:* J. Arango, A. Barlow, N. Blasdell, V. Bohlinger, E. Christiansen, C. Connelly, C. Creamer, J. Diem, L. Downes, M. Duncan (for A. Berg), J. Eagle, D. Freeman, G. Harkness (for R. Clark), B. Holmes, D. Kaspin, E. England-Kennedy, R. Kraus, M. Lawrence, G. Ladd (for R. Kim), P. Little, M. Lynch, M. Mock, A. Montali, M. Motte, L. Pinheiro, M. Raimondo, F. Sánchez, A. Shonkwiler (for Z. Jalalzai), K. Saatcioglu, S. Turki, S. Weiss

*Excused:* E. Basile, A. Del Vecchio, J. Kim, M.E. Kregler, S. Pearlmutter, J. Percy

*Absent:*

1. Call to Order	2:02pm
2. Election of the 2019-2020 Executive Committee of College Council	Leo Pinheiro, Chair of the Elections Committee, facilitated the election of the Executive Committee. No position was contested:  Chair: Vince Bohlinger Vice Chair: Marianne Raimondo Secretary: Claire Creamer Executive Committee member: Erik Christiansen Executive Committee member: Elizabeth England-Kennedy
3. Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by M. Motte at 2:04pm, seconded by A. Barlow

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*Excused:* J. Kim, M.E. Kregler, P. Mettauer, S. Oliveira, J. Percy, J. Rosario, B. Young

*Absent:*

1. Call to Order	2:05pm
2. Minutes of the April 12, 2019 Council Meeting	Motion to approve by M. Motte; seconded by R. Kraus. Approved unanimously.
3. Updates from the Chair	Vince Bohlinger, Chair of Council, called for volunteers for Council Committees and encouraged members to ask for volunteers to fill out the online volunteer form. Final placement of committee members will be made over the summer. V. Bohlinger thanked Alison Shonkwiler for serving as Chair of the Committee on Committees and announced that Leo Pinheiro has volunteered to serve as next year's Chair.
4. President's Discussion Items	<p>President Sánchez introduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eric Rivera, Interim Vice President for Student Success</li> <li>• James Mendonca, new Chief of Campus Police</li> </ul> <p>Brief discussion of the gun-shell casing found on campus. Campus Police determined it was not a threat to community.</p> <p><u>RIC Promise:</u> F. Sánchez will be speaking with the Governor soon. He stated that very few are debating the policy. Instead, the major concern is affordability (for the state), requiring a 3 million dollar investment. Students must qualify to get the Promise (i.e., 60 credit hours earned and a minimum GPA of 2.5 in order to receive the last two years of tuition covered by the grant).</p> <p><u>Search Updates:</u> Jeannine Dingus-Eason will be joining RIC as the new Dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development. The search for the Dean of the School of Nursing has been extended.</p> <p><u>RIC Gala:</u> Over 400 RIC staff, faculty, and friends attended the 'Celebration of the Arts' themed Gala.</p> <p><u>Commencement speaker:</u> Civil Rights activist Ruby Bridges will be speaker at Commencement. Luis Miranda, one of the sponsors of the Miranda Scholarships, will be receiving an honorary degree.</p>
5. Proposal for By-Laws change from the Academic Standing Committee	<p>Holly Shadoian, Member of the Academic Standing Committee &amp; Vice Provost for Academic Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See attached document (18-19_004)</li> <li>- First vote: motion to approve by C. Connolly; seconded by M. Motte. Unanimous vote in favor. There will be an open comment period</li> </ul>

	followed by a second vote (required for By-Laws changes) at the next Council meeting.
7. Proposal from CAPP on Posthumous Degrees & Certificates	<p>Holly Shadoian, Member of the Committee on Academic Policies and Procedures [CAPP] &amp; Vice Provost for Academic Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See attached document (18-19_005)</li> <li>- H. Shadoian restated the rationale for the proposal and responded to a few questions. A slight amendment was made to simply allow those with 90 or more earned credits to be eligible for a posthumous degree.</li> <li>- Motion to approve made by M. Motte; seconded by M. Mock.</li> </ul> <p>Unanimous vote in favor.</p>
8. Proposal from CAPP on change to Academic Standing Policy	<p>Holly Shadoian, Member of the Committee on Academic Policies and Procedures [CAPP] &amp; Vice Provost for Academic Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See attached documents (18-19_006, 18-19_006a, 18-19_006b)</li> <li>- Motion to review proposal made by M. Raimondo and seconded by J. Diem. H. Shadoian summarized proposal.</li> <li>- Discussion included how to improve keeping track of students when they don't return. It is unclear how the first generation of Starfish will incorporate this information for advisors, and MIS (Management Information Systems) will look at programming needs. There needs to be a chart for faculty that will help them navigate through the policy steps for Academic Standing and Academic Probation. F. Sánchez stated that there is a need to develop a policy and system on the withdrawal process. Veterans, for example, should be informed that receiving an F is better rather than a W because veterans do not pay out of pocket for the course if they receive the former.</li> <li>- Unanimous vote in favor.</li> </ul>
9. Commencement Update	<p>Kavinda Arthenayake, Director of College Events &amp; Conference Services &amp; Commencement, Chair of the Committee on Convocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presented PowerPoint slides.</li> <li>- Number of graduates = 1145.</li> <li>- There will be trained Marshals drawn from the faculty at the ceremony. The roles of the Marshals have changed.</li> <li>- Two shuttles will be available for faculty to use for transportation to and from the Dunkin Donuts Center on Commencement day. They will be located outside of Roberts Hall with departure times of 7:15am &amp; 7:30am. K. Arthenayake stated he will distribute email information about the shuttles.</li> <li>- F. Sánchez emphasized that we have streamlined the speakers. The goal is for the combined graduate and undergraduate ceremony to last no more than 3 hours. Faculty driving themselves to the Dunkin Donuts Center need to get a parking pass for the garage.</li> </ul>
10. Open Discussion	No open discussion.

	In closing remarks, V. Bohlinger stated that issues to work on for the fall include a revision of the Faculty Search Guidelines, policy on class sizes, and campus safety. Members are welcomed and encouraged to bring additional issues to the attention of V. Bohlinger.
11. Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by M. Motte at 3:12pm; seconded by C. Connolly.
	Minutes taken by Nancy Blasdell, Secretary of Council