THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THINK BIG WE DO℠

Alumni Center, 73 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881 USA

The University of Rhode Island
Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, April 24, 2026 · 9:00 a.m. EDT

The University of Rhode Island
Brookside South Residence Hall, Multipurpose Room
40 W. Alumni Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881

OFFICIAL MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
Margo Cook, Chair

Chair Margo Cook welcomed everyone to the April 24, 2026, meeting of the University of Rhode Island (URI) Board of Trustees and noted that the meeting was being held in person at the Brookside South Residence Hall, with some board members participating remotely via Zoom. Virtual access to the meeting was available via the YouTube video platform. A recording of the meeting is available for viewing at https://web.uri.edu/trustees/meetings/.

Interim Board Secretary Emily Diomandes conducted a roll call attendance and reported that a quorum of members was present. Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

URI Board of Trustees members in attendance:

- Margo Cook, Chair (in person)
- Armand E. Sabitoni, Vice Chair (in person)
- Dave Barrett (in person)
- Maria Ducharme (in person) (arrived at 10:10 a.m.)
- Michael Fascitelli (in person)
- Charles J. Fogarty (in person)
- Joseph Formicola (remote)
- Monica Garnes (remote)
- Neil Kerwin (remote)
- Matthew Lenz (remote) (9:21 a.m. – 10:22 a.m.; 11:27 a.m. – 12:14 p.m.)
- David Martirano (in person)
- Joseph Matthews (in person) (left meeting at 11:45 a.m.)
- Cortney Nicolato (in person) (left meeting at 12:45 p.m.)
- Jay Placencia (in person)

- Tom Ryan (in person) (arrived at 9:09 a.m.)
- Marc B. Parlange, President (ex officio, non-voting) (in person)
- David Caprio (ex officio, non-voting) (in person)
- Kristine Bovy (faculty representative, non-voting) (in person)

URI Board of Trustees members not participating:

- Roby Luna
- Vahid Ownjazayeri
- Michael Grey
- Ryan Estus

URI President's Stewardship Council members in attendance:

- Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance (in person)
- Lauren Burgess, Executive Director, Legislative and Government Relations (in person)
- Chelsea Berry, Senior Advisor to the President and Chief of Staff (in person)
- Alyssa Boss, Vice President and General Counsel (in person)
- Gabriele Fariello, Chief Information Officer (remote)
- Becky Hill, Vice President, Human Resources (in person)
- Jeanne Hruska, Senior Advisor and Chief of Staff to the Provost and Executive Vice President (in person)
- Bethany Jenkins, Vice President, Research and Economic Development (in person)
- Dean Libutti, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management and Student Success (in person)
- Pat Lyons, Vice President, Director of Athletics (in person)
- Matthew McDonald, Vice President, Communications and Marketing (in person)
- Brittney Miles, Deputy Athletics Director and Chief Operating Officer, Athletics (in person)
- Dan Moos, Chief of Staff to the Vice President, Administration and Finance (in person)
- Dave Palazzetti, Interim Assistant Vice President, Facilities Group (in person)
- John Poehlmann, Assistant Vice President, Financial Strategy and Planning (in person)
- Ellen Reynolds, Vice President, Student Affairs (in person)
- John Stringer, Executive Director, Institutional Research (in person)

URI staff members in attendance:

- Robin Cawley, Legal Assistant, Office of the General Counsel (in person)
- Emily Diomandes, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President and Interim Board Secretary (in person)
- Meg Metheven, Assistant Head Coach, Women's Basketball (in person)
- Colleen Mullen, Head Coach, Women's Basketball (in person)
- Lynn Owens, Associate Secretary to the Board of Trustees (in person)
- Jay Walsh, Executive Director, URI/AAUP (in person)

Guests:

- Brooklyn Gray, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)
- Valentina Ojeda, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)

- Amori Jarrett, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)
- Ta'Viyanna Habib, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)
- Ines Debroise, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)
- Sophia Vital, Women's Basketball student-athlete (in person)

Chair Cook acknowledged that the University of Rhode Island occupies the traditional stomping ground of the Narragansett Nation and the Niantic People.

2. RECOGNITION OF URI WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM
Margo Cook, Chair

Chair Cook opened the meeting by celebrating the URI women's basketball team, recognizing their historic 28–5 season, a dominant 16–2 conference record, and their first-ever Atlantic 10 tournament championship. Team members were invited to the front of the room to introduce themselves as the university community honored their achievements, with both players and coaches expressing gratitude for the support they have received. The recognition also highlighted Tammy Reiss, the program's all-time winningest coach, for her lasting impact. In addition, attendees were introduced to new head coach Colleen Mullen—formerly of UAlbany and Lehigh—whose arrival was enthusiastically endorsed by new athletics director Pat Lyons. Mullen emphasized her commitment to developing young people on and off the court while continuing the program's competitive success.

3. INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEE DAVE BARRETT
Margo Cook, Chair

Chair Cook welcomed newly appointed board member Dave Barrett, a 1978 URI alumnus and managing partner at Polaris Partners. Barrett, appointed by the Governor in March, has remained an active supporter of URI through service on the URI Foundation Board, the Edwards Society, the College of Business Dean's Advisory Council, and as an advisor to Athletics. In 2024, he and his wife Kristin established the Barrett Family Business Scholarship to support student-athletes pursuing an MBA. The trustees expressed appreciation for his commitment and welcomed him to the Board.

4. OPEN FORUM

No one signed up to speak during the Open Forum.

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR
Margo Cook, Chair

a. Recent URI Events

Chair Cook reported on the successful URI Day at the State House event and highlighted strong relationships with state legislators. She heralded the recent economic study showing a $17 return on investment for every dollar invested at URI.

b. Board Member Recognition

Chair Cook recognized several board members for recent achievements and contributions. Cortney Nicolato was honored with multiple regional awards for leadership and DEI impact. Joe Matthews was thanked for establishing the Matthews Family Engineering Scholarship. Jay Placencia was acknowledged for serving as a panelist for the Alumni of Color Network, and Ryan Estus was recognized for receiving the Maureen McDermott Student Leadership Award and for continuing as the student trustee while entering graduate studies. Chair Cook also thanked trustees who attended the NCAA women's basketball game in Kentucky. Trustee Matthews additionally recognized Chair Cook for the Cook-Cohen Scholarship and her leadership.

c. Preparation for June Meeting

Chair Cook noted that the June governance meeting will focus on important board self-evaluation and budget discussions. She encouraged trustees to reflect on the importance of state support and the university's continued growth. She highlighted that URI's ability to innovate is constrained by funding limitations, underscoring the importance of strengthening partnerships with state leaders, corporate partners, and foundations. The Board is expected to receive the Tripp Umbach medical school business plan in June, which will guide next-step discussions. Chair Cook also noted that the June retreat will include discussion of AI—its use in business, its impact on the university, and its potential role in a future medical school.

6. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
Marc Parlange, President

President Parlange welcomed everyone and presented slides linked here. He thanked the trustees for their generosity and engagement on the Board. He recognized the work of the committees and their organization.

a. Community Updates

President Parlange reviewed community updates and highlighted several achievements, including faculty involvement in a national microplastics initiative and the success of the Inclusive Excellence Awards, World Quantum Day, Biomechanics Day, and this season's theatre presentation. He welcomed Pat Lyons and Colleen Mullen to URI, and recognized Brittany Miles on her promotion to deputy Athletics Director. The President recognized the generous Matthews family gift and the Cook-Cohen scholars' program which will have a lasting impact on URI students.

President Parlange highlighted the university's strong application numbers and thanked all faculty and staff involved in enrollment efforts. He celebrated the growth of the university's campuses and facility improvements and thanked the Rhode Island voters and state legislators and leadership for their financial support.

b. Medical School Update

President Parlange reported that the state and the University are set to receive a business report on the medical school from Tripp Umbach focusing on financial sustainability, clinical partnerships, and a long-term operating model. The General Assembly is considering legislation to make an initial investment of $5 million to fund a state medical school at URI. There is a statewide physicians' survey underway. Advocates for a public medical school are evaluating the workforce needs and the shortage in primary care and key medical specialties in Rhode Island. The President spoke of plans to build on the inter-professional healthcare platform available at URI. At the June meeting, the Board will discuss AI's impact on universities and the potential integration with a medical school.

c. Government Relations Update

President Parlange celebrated another successful URI Day at the State House and thanked state leaders and trustees for their participation. He emphasized the need for increased state operating budget support and discussed a proposed $166 million general obligation bond for integrated health facilities. He spoke about the new report that highlights URI's significant economic impact on the state, including a $17.39 return for every dollar invested by the state. The state is considering a request for a URI exemption of the full-time equivalent requirements, along with legislative changes to enhance Board of Trustees' oversight on procurement and minimizing the institution's risk.

d. Strategic Priority 1: Broaden Our Impact

President Parlange reaffirmed URI's priority to broaden its impact through a renewed commitment to its land-grant and sea-grant missions and to the State of Rhode Island. He emphasized that the findings of the recent economic report strongly support this direction. As part of this discussion, he reviewed the ambitious goals and current performance metrics associated with Priority 1 of URI's Strategic Plan.

The President also presented FY26 fundraising and alumni engagement statistics, underscoring the importance of expanding corporate and foundation partnerships. He noted that Vice President Mark Antonucci is leading efforts to strengthen Foundation relationships.

President Parlange reviewed current research expenditures, which exceed $126 million, along with publication metrics and upcoming fundraising initiatives. This included the URI Day of Giving scheduled for April 28, with a goal of raising $1.4 million from 4,000 donors. The President further highlighted recent alumni engagement events and previewed the upcoming Spring Commencement ceremonies on May 15–17. Honorary degree recipients will include Marc Randolph, co-founder and first CEO of Netflix, Dan Harple of Context Labs, and anti-poverty advocate Kate Brewster, CEO of the Jonnycake Center for Hope in South Kingstown.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Introduction of Vice President, Director of Athletics Patrick Lyons
Marc Parlange, President
Patrick Lyons, Vice President, Director of Athletics

President Parlange formally welcomed Pat Lyons as the new athletic director at the University of Rhode Island and shared his background. Vice President Lyons expressed enthusiasm about joining the University. He recognized former Athletics Director Thorr Bjorn for his commitment to URI.

b. Update on RI Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and URI ERP Project
Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance
Becky Hill, Vice President, Human Resources

Vice President Benson provided an update on the state's Workday ERP implementation. She provided details on the challenges with the state's rollout. The University will continue to monitor and address remaining payroll and benefits issues for approximately 300 URI employees affected by the state's Workday implementation, including ongoing coordination with the Department of Administration.

Vice President Hill provided an update on URI’s own Workday modernization project. The University’s Workday ERP implementation remains on schedule and within budget following its January 2026 launch. The planning phase established key foundations, including a new chart of accounts, institutional data mapping, and URI’s first enterprise-wide organizational structure. Staff across finance, human resources, payroll, and information technology have supported the effort. The project will enter the “Architect and Configure” phase in mid-May through late fall, with increased workload expected. URI is also reducing reliance on the state’s ERP configuration by developing its own Workday environment to improve system accuracy and better support institutional operations.

Chair Cook asked if URI is now less dependent on the state’s ERP. Vice President Hill confirmed that URI is moving toward greater independence from the state’s ERP configuration, though collaboration will still be required for integration and testing. URI will configure its own Workday environment to meet institutional needs, with the expectation that this approach will reduce errors experienced in the state system and lessen long-term reliance on state-driven adjustments.

Trustee Maria Ducharme arrived at 10:10 a.m.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board may seek to enter into executive session for the following items:

a. DISCUSSION ITEMS: Discussions as they relate to the question of the investment of public funds, which includes any investment plan or matter related thereto, where the

premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7), specifically:

(i) Update on the merit-based performance review and compensation process
Becky Hill, Vice President, Human Resources

(ii) Government Relations: Update on 2026 Legislation
Lauren Burgess, Executive Director, Legislative and Governmental Relations

(iii) Update on Medical School Business Plan
Marc Parlange, President

b. ACTION ITEMS: Discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the public interest, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5 (a)(5); and R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7) as it relates to the question of the investment of public funds, which includes any investment plan or matter related thereto, where the premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest, specifically:

(i) Discussion of Terms Regarding the Upper College Road Mixed Use Development and Approval of Authorization to Negotiate Final Terms
Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance

(ii) Discussion of Terms Regarding the Ocean Technology Innovation Center and Approval of Authorization to Negotiate Final Terms
Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance

Chair Cook called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by David Martirano and Armand Sabitoni and seconded by Charles Fogarty, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED: That the URI Board of Trustees convene into executive session pursuant to:

R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7) for discussion regarding the merit-based performance review and compensation process, a Government Relations Update on 2026 Legislation, and an Update on the Medical School Business Plan; and,

R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(5) and (7) for discussion and action authorizing the negotiation of final terms for the Upper College Road Mixed Use Development and the Ocean Technology Innovation Center, as referenced on the posted agenda.

VOTE: 14 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Monica Garnes, Neil Kerwin, David Martirano, Joseph Matthews, Cortney Nicolato, Jay Placencia, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

All those participating remotely confirmed that no other persons were present or able to hear the discussion at the remote locations.

At 10:14 a.m., the Board entered executive session. Virtual public access was paused.

Trustee Matthews left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

At 12:35 p.m., the Board returned to open session. Virtual public access resumed.

Chair Cook called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by Charles Fogarty and seconded by David Martirano, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED: That the Board seal the minutes of the April 24, 2026, executive session.

VOTE: 13 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Neil Kerwin, Roby Luna, David Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Jay Placencia, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

9. ACTION ITEM

a. Approval of an across-the-board salary increase for non-union, non-classified employees.
Enclosure
Becky Hill, Vice President, Human Resources

Vice President Hill provided an overview of the proposed salary increase as noted in the enclosure.

Chair Cook called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by Armand Sabitoni and seconded by Neil Kerwin and Dave Barrett, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED: That the Board approve a 3% across-the-board salary increase for non-union, non-classified employees, effective June 28, 2026.

VOTE: 12 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Neil Kerwin, Roby Luna, David Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Trustee Placencia was not available for the vote.

10. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Chair Cook reported that the President's annual performance review is underway and provided an overview of the process. The Executive Committee and its Compensation Subcommittee will review his self-assessment at the June 11th committee meeting, followed by full board review at the June 26, 2026 Board meeting.

a. Governance Committee Report

(i) Update – April 8, 2026, Committee Meeting
Cortney Nicolato, Committee Chair

Committee Chair Cortney Nicolato reported on activity at the April 8, 2026, meeting. The Committee heard updates including the reappointment of several board members and appointment of Dave Barrett, the continuation of Ryan Estus as student trustee, and a reminder to complete the state financial disclosure form (due today). The Committee reviewed plans for the June retreat meeting to include discussion of the annual self-assessment, board goals and key performance indicators. The Committee recommended amendments to its charter and calendar, as listed under the Omnibus Vote.

Following the committee report, Trustee Nicolato left the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

b. Academic Affairs and Research Committee Report

(i) Update – April 9, 2026, Committee Meeting
Neil Kerwin, Committee Chair

Committee Chair Neil Kerwin reported on activity at the April 9, 2026, Academic Affairs and Research Committee meeting. The Committee approved several action items, as listed under the Omnibus Vote. Committee Chair Kerwin noted that no changes were made to the committee charter or calendar.

On behalf of Provost Wolfe, Associate Vice President Dean Libutti provided updates on ongoing searches for the Dean of Arts and Sciences and University Librarian positions, while announcing the successful appointment of Dr. Beth Meyerand as Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School. The Committee discussed the NECHE accreditation process, which involves extensive community engagement and data collection, with the final report due in 2027 and a campus visit scheduled for October 2027. Associate Vice President Libutti also presented an overview of the Fannon Institute for Student Success, highlighting its various components including career and experiential education, academic support, retention services, exploratory studies, and support for student-athletes.

Vice President Jenkins reported on updates to URI's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, highlighting the hiring of Pete Rumsey as Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. Vice President Jenkins discussed plans to rebrand the Research Foundation as "URI Innovations" and mentioned a pending National Science Foundation grant to accelerate research translation.

Committee Chair Kerwin reported that the NECHE reaccreditation process will require significant engagement from the Board, particularly on governance and board-management relations, with updates to be provided throughout the review. In response to trustee questions, he noted that the process appears consistent with prior cycles despite the change in federal administration. He added that while the U.S. Department of Education is currently undertaking a national rulemaking effort on accreditation, any resulting changes are unlikely to affect the current cycle but may influence future ones.

c. Finance and Facilities Committee Report

(i) Update – April 13, 2026 Committee Meeting
Armand Sabitoni, Committee Vice Chair

Committee Vice Chair Sabitoni reported that the Committee welcomed new board member Dave Barrett and recognized the upcoming retirement of Associate Vice President (AVP) for Facilities Karl Calvo, with Dave Palazzetti appointed as interim AVP. Vice President Benson reported on the FY28–32 Capital Improvement Plan, the university's improved Fund 100 financial outlook—from a $7.1 million budgeted shortfall to a projected $1.2 million surplus due to increased interest income, vacancy savings, and reduced financial aid expenditure — and progress on the new budget model launching July 1, 2026. She also reviewed the university's $211 million in outstanding tax-exempt bonds and potential new bond issuance in fall 2026 for key facilities and infrastructure projects. Additional materials included updates on delegated presidential actions, a research-space lease with East Stroudsburg University, and the annual Appendix A review. The Committee recommended approval of changes to its calendar, a bond issuance and refunding resolution, and the demolition of three Bay Campus buildings to support Phase 2 modernization.

(ii) DISCUSSION ITEM: Capital Improvement Plan FY2028-2032 Enclosure
Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance

Vice President Benson reviewed the FY28-32 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) presentation slides encompassing projects that have a total project cost of greater than $1 million; requests for asset protection funding and various projects including public safety building construction, Narragansett Bay campus shoreline stabilization, and library HVAC replacement. During the review, the Vice President highlighted the link between the University's Comprehensive Campus Plan and the CIP. Vice President Benson also highlighted ongoing discussions about potential new projects such as a Marine Operations Building and other renovations at the Bay Campus, and a natatorium complex feasibility study. She reviewed some of the longer-term comprehensive plan potential projects, including the next phase of housing, a Plains Road parking structure, and decarbonization and geothermal projects.

Vice President Benson reviewed the General Obligation Bond Strategy for FY26 (Integrated Health Building), FY28 (Student Success Center), and possible future projects. She reviewed the University's Kushner authorizations with bonds not yet issued.

Board members discussed with the Vice President the high cost of geothermal projects, the State's energy strategy, and the University's energy plan.

The Board will consider approval of the FY28-32 Capital Improvement Plan at the June 26, 2026 meeting.

(iii) ACTION ITEM: Bond Issuance Resolution Enclosure
Abby Benson, Vice President, Administration and Finance

Vice President Benson reviewed the request to approve a resolution authorizing up to $42.2 million in education and general bonds for three projects: Utility Infrastructure Upgrade Phase 3, repaving and hardscaping improvements, and Facility Service Sector Upgrade. She noted that the University works closely with its financial advisors and does not think the issuance of these bonds would have a significant impact on our credit rating.

Committee Vice Chair Sabitoni confirmed that the Finance and Facilities Committee is recommending approval of this action. He called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by Joseph Formicola and seconded by Dave Barrett, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED: THAT the Board approve the resolution authorizing the borrowing in connection with the issuance of Rhode Island Health and Educational Building Corporation Higher Education Facility

Revenue Bonds for 1) Utility Infrastructure Upgrade – Phase III; 2) Repaving and Hardscape Improvements; 3) Facilities Service Sector Upgrade; as well as the refunding of Series 2016A and 2016B bonds (if market conditions are favorable), as presented in enclosed Resolution.

VOTE: 11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Neil Kerwin, Monica Garnes, David Martirano, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Trustee Placencia was not available for the vote.

d. Student Life and Athletics Committee Report

(i) Update – April 16, 2026, Committee Meeting
Tom Ryan, Committee Chair

Committee Chair Tom Ryan reported on activity at the April 16, 2026, Student Life and Athletics Committee meeting. The meeting covered an update on student life initiatives, Athletics, and a review of the Clery Report on campus safety and security. The Committee recommended approval of amendments to its charter and calendar, as listed in the Omnibus Vote.

Vice President Pat Lyons reviewed the impressive academic performance of student-athletes with a 3.33 cumulative GPA and 54.6% on the Dean's List. He discussed recent athletic achievements and facilities improvements. The Vice President noted ongoing NCAA discussions about potential rule changes, including the "5-for-5" proposal and transfer limitations, though he expressed doubt about their implementation this summer.

Vice President Ellen Reynolds reported on recent student life initiatives, noting the efforts of essential workers during the recent blizzard and progress on major capital projects, including new residential housing, the Graduate Village redevelopment, and the Mainfare Dining Hall renovation. The Committee recognized several campus achievements, including the Maureen McDermott Student Leadership Award presented to Ryan Estus, successful irrigation of three athletic fields, first-ever accreditation of the Counseling Center, and the Health Center’s full three-year Joint Commission accreditation. The collegiate recovery program secured funding for a second year, and multiple club sports teams qualified for national championships alongside strong academic performance. The Vice President also outlined early planning for a potential three-phase renovation and potential expansion of the Memorial Union to better support student organizations. She extended an invitation to Family Weekend scheduled for October 23–25.

Committee Chair Ryan reported on Chief Jagoda's review of the recent Clery Report, noting that URI continues to demonstrate a strong safety record and that the URI Police Department recently achieved state accreditation. He also outlined updates to federal reporting requirements, including new categories for stalking, dating violence, and hazing.

The Board discussed national developments affecting collegiate athletics, including challenges surrounding a proposed one-transfer rule, legal constraints related to recent antitrust rulings, and the implications of the House settlement, which allocated $2.8 billion to student-athletes from select conferences. President Parlange noted the limited ability of smaller conferences, such as the A-10, to influence these outcomes. Vice President and General Counsel Boss noted that future changes may require congressional action.

Trustee David Caprio reported that Chief Jagoda and campus police chiefs from Rhode Island's higher education institutions met at the Governor's request—coordinated by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner—to align campus security protocols. The initial meeting focused on joint agreements and coordinated procedures. CCRI and RIC received approval to arm their campus security forces, supported by professional consulting to ensure proper implementation.

11. OMNIBUS VOTE ON COMMITTEE-RELATED ACTION ITEMS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approval of the actions described below, as recommended by the referenced committees and presented in the referenced enclosures where applicable:

Approval of Minutes:

a. Approval of the Minutes of the February 13, 2026, Board Meeting. Enclosure

Governance Committee recommended action:

b. Approval of amendments to the Governance Committee Charter and Calendar Enclosure

Academic Affairs and Research Committee recommended action:

c. Approval of the granting of tenure effective December 28, 2025, for Allison Sylvetsky, PhD, who has met the requirements for tenure at the University. Enclosure

d. Approval of the awarding of a posthumous academic degree at Spring Commencement 2026. Enclosure

e. Approval of the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, certificates, and honors to be conferred by the President to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2026 term and who are approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure

f. Approval of legislation from the Graduate Council #2025-2026-05C, College of Arts and Sciences to create a new degree opportunity in Applied Science Communication, Master of Arts which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure

g. Approval of legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2025-2026-06C, College of Engineering organizational change to create a new degree opportunity, Bachelor of Science, Environmental Engineering, which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure

h. Approval of legislation from the Graduate Council #2025-2026-04C, College of Education to create a new degree opportunity in Health Professions Education, Master of Arts which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure

i. Approval of legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2025-2026-05C, College of Engineering, to implement an organizational change establishing a standalone Department of Biomedical Engineering, which has been approved by the faculty and the President of the University of Rhode Island. This will be accomplished by transitioning the biomedical engineering program out of the Department of Electrical, Computer, and Biomedical Engineering and renaming that unit as the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, thereby creating two separate departments. Enclosure

Finance and Facilities Committee recommended action:

j. Acceptance of the Report on Approvals under the Delegation of Authority to the President Relating to Land and Property Enclosure

k. Approval of the Demolition of the Sheets Building, Horn Laboratory, and Center for Atmospheric Chemistry Studies on the Narragansett Bay Campus. Enclosure

l. Approval of amendments to the Finance and Facilities Committee Calendar. Enclosure

Student Life and Athletics Committee recommended action:

m. Approval of amendments to the Student Life and Athletics Committee Charter and Calendar. Enclosure

Before proceeding with an Omnibus Vote to approve the past meeting's minutes and the committee-recommended action items, Chair Cook asked if there were any action items listed in the Omnibus Vote for which any member had questions or would like to discuss, oppose, or remove from the Omnibus Vote to be voted on individually.

Hearing none, Chair Cook called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by Armand Sabitoni and seconded by Charles Fogarty, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED:	That the Board approve agenda action items 11.a. through 11.m. as recommended and presented.
VOTE:	12 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
YEAS:	Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Monica Garnes, Neil Kerwin, David Martirano, Jay Placencia, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni
NAYS:	0
ABSTAINS:	0

11. ADJOURN

Chair Cook called for a motion, and on a motion duly made by Jay Placencia and seconded by David Martirano, and hearing no discussion on the motion, it was

VOTED:	That the Board adjourn the meeting.
VOTE:	12 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
YEAS:	Dave Barrett, Margo Cook, Maria Ducharme, Michael Fascitelli, Charles Fogarty, Joseph Formicola, Monica Garnes, Neil Kerwin, David Martirano, Jay Placencia, Tom Ryan, Armand Sabitoni
NAYS:	0
ABSTAINS:	0

At 1:46 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

The next URI Board of Trustees Meeting and Retreat is scheduled for Friday, June 26, 2026.