The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, February 16, 2024 · 9:00 a.m. EST

The University of Rhode Island
The Anchor Room, Robert J. Higgins Welcome Center
45 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881

This meeting will use videoconferencing, with Board members participating virtually. Public viewing is available in person or remotely.

To view the meeting remotely, go to https://web.uri.edu/trustees/meetings/ and select the meeting to watch.

Face coverings are optional for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors attending this on-campus meeting.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Margo Cook, Chair

2. OPEN FORUM
   Note: Public participants must submit an online public comment form requesting permission to speak no less than 2 hours in advance of the meeting. The online request form and instructions for submission can be found via this link.

“The University of Rhode Island occupies the traditional stomping ground of the Narragansett Nation and the Niantic People. We honor and respect the enduring and continuing relationship between the Indigenous people and this land by teaching and learning more about their history and present-day communities, and by becoming stewards of the land we, too, inhabit.”
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Minutes of the November 3, 2023, Board meeting. Enclosure

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
a. University Updates
b. Review of Governor’s Budget
c. Strategic Plan KPIs
   Marc Parlange, President

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION
The Board may seek to enter into executive session for the following items:

a. Discussion regarding President Parlange’s performance, renewal and employment agreement, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(1).
   Margo Cook, Chair

b. Discussion regarding an assessment of information technology security, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(3), as it relates to the matter of security including, but not limited to, the deployment of security personnel or devices, and R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7), as it relates to the question of the investment of public funds where the premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest, and R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(2) for discussion of potential litigation; specifically,
   • Update on External Audit IT Management Observations
   • Update on Series 2018A and 2018B Bonds – Audit
     Abby Benson, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance
     Gabriele Fariello, Interim Chief Information Officer
     Mike Khalfayan, Chief Information Security Officer

   c. Discussion of matters related 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,
      • Investments in graduate and professional programs
      • Proprietary enrollment model
     Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
     Abby Benson, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance
     Dean Libutti, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management
6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Ethics Training Enclosure
   Lynne Radiches, Staff Attorney, Education Coordinator, RI Ethics Commission

b. Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) Update Enclosure
   Thorr Bjorn, Athletics Director

7. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ACTION ITEMS

a. Executive Committee/Compensation Subcommittee Report

   (i) Update – January 8, 2024 Compensation Subcommittee Meeting
       Margo Cook, Chair

   (ii) Update – February 12, 2024 Joint meeting of the Executive Committee and the
        Compensation Subcommittee
       Margo Cook, Chair

   (iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the recommendations of the Compensation
        Subcommittee on performance, renewal, and employment agreement for President Parlange.

   (iv) ACTION ITEM: Ratification of the tentative collective bargaining agreement
        between the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees and the Professional
        Technical Administrative Association (PTAA) for a one-year extension (July 1, 2024
        through June 30, 2025) of the existing collective bargaining agreement with a 2.5%
        across the board salary increase.

b. Ad Hoc Special Real Estate Committee Report

   (i) Update – January 25, 2024 Committee Meeting
       Abby Benson, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance

c. Finance and Facilities Committee Report

   (i) Update – February 5, 2024 Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting
       Armand Sabitoni, Committee Vice Chair

   (ii) DISCUSSION ITEM: Approvals Under the Delegation of Authority to the President
        Relating to Land and Property Enclosure

           • First Amendment of Lease Agreement Between URI and Rhode Island AG
             Technologies, LLC (RIAT)
• A Facilities Use and License Agreement between the University of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island Research Foundation (URIRF)
  
  Abby Benson, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance

(iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of Tuition and Fee Rates for FY2025 Enclosure
  Abby Benson, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance

(iv) ACTION ITEM: Approval under the Policy on Approval and Execution of Contracts and Other Binding Documents greater than $5 million, including:

  • Approval of an Amendment to the Contract between the University of Rhode Island and Katie Schibler & Associates, LLC (KSA) for Media Campaign Advice of Change (AOC) for URI Communications and Marketing Enclosure
  
  • Approval of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) Regarding Commodity Purchases with the State of Rhode Island Recommendation Memo, Natural Gas MOU, Electricity MOU
  Abby Benson, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance

(v) ACTION ITEM: Approval of Changes to the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Procurement Regulations Relative to Outside Attorney Engagements. Enclosure
  Alyssa Boss, General Counsel

(vi) ACTION ITEM: Approval of a Lease Agreement with the Town of South Kingstown for land to house the University of Rhode Island’s Sailing Center. Enclosure
  Abby Benson, Interim Vice President, Administration and Finance

d. Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee Report

(i) Update – January 29, 2024 Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee Meeting
  Matthew Lenz, Committee Vice Chair

e. Academic Affairs and Research Committee Report

(i) Update – February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting
  Neil Kerwin, Committee Chair

(ii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the granting of tenure, effective January 8, 2024, to incoming dean of the College of Health Sciences, Dr. Patrick Vivier, who has met the requirements for tenure at the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure
  Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
ACTION ITEM: Approval of the granting of tenure, effective April 1, 2024, to incoming faculty member Dr. Yoshitaka Ota, who has met the requirements for tenure at the University of Rhode Island. Enclosure
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

ACTION ITEM: Approval of legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2023-2024-04B, College of Arts & Sciences organizational change to create the Department of Journalism & Public Relations, which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University. Enclosure
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

f. Governance Committee Report

(i) Update – February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting
Cortney Nicolato, Committee Chair

8. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2024.

The University of Rhode Island strives to provide inclusive access to events. If you need a reasonable accommodation or have a question about accessing a Board of Trustees’ public meeting, please call (401) 874-4338 in advance of the meeting. For TTY, please call the R.I. Relay Service at 711. We encourage all individuals seeking an accommodation to reach out as early as possible in advance of the meeting as the University’s ability to provide a requested accommodation may be impacted by the timing of the request.