

Members

Margo Cook '86, *Chair*
Armand E. Sabitoni '73, *Vice Chair*
David E. Barrett '78
Maria P. Ducharme, DNP, RN - M.S. '96
Michael D. Fascitelli '78
Charles J. Fogarty M.P.A. '80
Joe Formicola '69
Monica J. Games '94
Neil Kerwin, Ph.D. - M.A. '73
Matthew Lenz '11
Roby Luna '04
David J. Martirano '91
Joseph F. Matthews '80
Cortney M. Nicolato '01
Vahid Ownjazayeri
Yahaira "Jay" Placencia '01
Thomas Ryan '75

Ex Officio Members

Marc B. Parlange, Ph.D., P.Eng.
President
Michael Grey, *Chair*
R.I. Board of Education
David Caprio, *Chair*
R.I. Council on Postsecondary Education
Kristine M. Bovy, Ph.D.
Faculty Representative
Ryan Estus '26
Student Representative

**The University of Rhode Island
Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, September 25, 2026 · 9:00 a.m. EDT**

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

This meeting will be held in person and will use videoconferencing.

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

**Virtual access is being provided only as a convenience and is not an
official "location" where access to the meeting is guaranteed.
Being physically present at the meeting is the only way to guarantee
complete access to the meeting.**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Margo Cook, Board Chair

2. OPEN FORUM

Note: Public participants must submit an online public comment form requesting permission to speak **by 4:30 p.m. the day prior to the meeting**. The online request form can be found via this [link](#).

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

Margo Cook, Board Chair

- a. Recent URI Events and Board Engagement
- b. Scheduling Updates for 2027
- c. Recognition of outgoing Trustee Kris Bovy

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Marc Parlange, President

- a. URI Community News and Updates
- b. Budget Review

5. DISCUSSION ITEM

a. Fundraising [Enclosure](#)

Mark Antonucci, Vice President, Advancement, URI and CEO, URI Foundation

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

a. Discussion with President Parlange regarding performance goals for the upcoming year, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(1).

Margo Cook, Board Chair

b. Discussion regarding President Parlange Retirement Account Contributions 401(a), pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(1).

Margo Cook, Board Chair

c. Discussion pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(2), and R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7) pertaining to the investment of public funds; specifically,

(i) Personnel-Related Costs and Budget Considerations

Abby Benson, Senior Vice President, Administration and Finance

Becky Hill, Vice President, Human Resources

d. Discussion regarding investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, either civil or criminal, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(4); specifically,

(i) Athletics Compliance Matter

Pat Lyons, Vice President and Athletics Director

e. Discussion 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 interest of the public, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(5); specifically,

(i) Development of Property on or around Campus

Abby Benson, Senior Vice President, Administration and Finance

f. Discussion regarding matters related to the question of investment of public funds where the premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(7); specifically,

(i) Government Relations Update and Strategic Planning

Lauren Broccoli Burgess, Executive Director, Legislative and Government Relations

- (ii) URI Medical School Update – Leadership Search and Strategic Planning**
Marc Parlange, President

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Ratification of presidential performance goals for the upcoming year.**
Margo Cook, Board Chair
- b. Approval of Retirement Account Contributions 401(a) for President Parlange.**
Margo Cook, Board Chair

8. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ACTION ITEMS

a. Finance and Facilities Committee Report

- (i) Update – September 14, 2026, Committee Meeting
Vahid Ownjazayeri, Committee Chair
- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Consideration of the Finance and Facilities Committee recommendation to approve the University of Rhode Island Total Budget Request for FY 2028. [Enclosure](#)
Abby Benson, Senior Vice President, Administration and Finance
- (iii) ACTION ITEM: Consideration of the Finance and Facilities Committee recommendation to approve an Amendment to the Bond Issuance Resolution approved on April 24, 2026, and February 13, 2026. [Enclosure](#)
Abby Benson, Senior Vice President, Administration and Finance

b. Academic Affairs and Research Committee Report

- (i) Update – September 16, 2026, Committee Meeting
Neil Kerwin, Committee Chair

c. Student Life and Athletics Committee Report

- (i) Update – September 17, 2026, Committee Meeting
Tom Ryan, Committee Chair

9. 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 June 26, 2026, Board Retreat and Meeting. [Enclosure](#)

Approval of the Annual Calendar:

- b. Approval of the 2028 Board of Trustees meeting calendar. [Enclosure](#)

Approval of the Appointment of Board Secretary:

- c. Appointment of Board Secretary to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)

Finance and Facilities Committee recommended action:

- d. Acceptance of the Report on Approvals under the Delegation of Authority to the President Relating to Land and Property [Enclosure](#)

Academic Affairs and Research Committee recommended action:

- 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 Summer 2026 term and who are approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)
- f. Approval of the granting of tenure, effective November 29, 2026 to incoming Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship of the College of Health Sciences, Stephen Sheinkopf, Ph.D., who has met the requirements for tenure at the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)
- g. Approval of legislation from the Faculty Senate, CASC Bill 25-26-CASC-08-C, College of Business organizational change to create a new degree opportunity, Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary & Applied Artificial Intelligence, which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)

10. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 6, 2026.

Notice of Recording

Please be advised that this public board meeting is being recorded, including audio, video, and any remote participation, for recordkeeping, minute preparation, and related public purposes. By attending or participating in this meeting, all participants consent to such recording and acknowledge that recordings may be retained in accordance with applicable law and board policy.

Accessibility Notice

The University of Rhode Island strives to provide inclusive access to events. If you need 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 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.