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**The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs and Research Committee Meeting
Monday, June 22, 2026 · 11:00 a.m. EDT**

**The University of Rhode Island
Room 107 Green Hall
35 Campus Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881**

This meeting will be held in person and will use video conferencing.

**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. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**a. Minutes of the April 9, 2026, Academic Affairs and Research
Committee meeting. [Enclosure](#)**

2. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

- a. Academic Year Wrap Up**
- b. Accreditation Update**
- c. Academic Leadership Updates**
- d. Promotion and Tenure Process Review**

3. REPORT OF THE CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER

Bethany Jenkins, Vice President, Research and Economic Development

- a. Recent Research Highlights
- b. Status of Research Portfolio

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Review enrollment management activities, outcomes, and initial enrollment projections for the 2026- 2027 academic year.

Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

Dean Libutti, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management and Student Success

- b. 2026 URI Annual Report, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 16-32-2.1. Efforts and progress related to students, staff, and faculty recruitment and retention at URI. [Enclosure](#)

Markeisha Miner, Vice President, Community, Equity, and Diversity

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Consideration of the annual granting of tenure for University of Rhode Island faculty members; effective July 1, 2026, and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
- b. Consideration of the granting of tenure, effective July 26, 2026, to incoming Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Pamela E. Swett, PhD, who has met the requirements for tenure at the University of Rhode Island; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
- c. Consideration of the granting of tenure, effective August 9, 2026, to incoming University Librarian, Brian W. Keith, MLIS, who has met the requirements for tenure at the University of Rhode Island; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
- d. Consideration to approve legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2025-2026-07C, College of Arts and Sciences organizational change to create a new degree opportunity, Bachelor of Arts in Film which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
- e. Consideration to approve legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2025-2026-07C, College of Environment and Life Sciences organizational change to create a new degree opportunity, Bachelor of Arts in Sustainable Food Systems which has been approved by the faculty and president of the University of Rhode Island; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- a. **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); specifically,**
 - (i) **Promotion and Tenure**
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
- b. **Discussion regarding 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,**
 - (i) **Enrollment and recruitment**
Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
Dean Libutti, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success
 - (ii) **Updates on URI research funding process**
Bethany Jenkins, Vice President, Research and Economic Development
 - (iii) **Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposed regulations amending federal grant making guidance and impact to URI**
Bethany Jenkins, Vice President, Research and Economic Development
 - (iv) **Research support from partner organizations**
Bethany Jenkins, Vice President, Research and Economic Development

7. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Research Committee meeting is scheduled for September 16, 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

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