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**The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs and Research Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2026 · 12:00 p.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 June 22, 2026, Academic Affairs and Research
Committee meeting. [Enclosure](#)**

2. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER [Enclosure](#)

Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

- a. Academic Highlights
b. Enrollment Update
c. Update on Searches and Medical School
d. Accreditation Update
e. Leadership Team on Federal Actions Update**

3. REPORT OF THE CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER [Enclosure](#)

Brenton DeBoef, Interim Vice President, Research and Economic Development

- a. Update on Activities of the Division of Research & Economic Development: Research Metrics for the University, Strategic Planning and Needs Assessment**
- b. Review goals and outcomes of research, scholarship, and creative work of the faculty and economic development efforts and impacts of university partnerships and initiatives.**

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- a. 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

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Consideration 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; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)**

Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

- b. Consideration 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; and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)**

Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

- c. Consideration of legislation from the Faculty Senate Curriculum & Standards Committee Report #2025-2026-08C, College of Business organizational change to create a new degree opportunity, Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary & Applied Artificial Intelligence, 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. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Research Committee meeting is scheduled for October 21, 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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