

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

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*Student Representative*

## The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Meeting Friday, September 22, 2023 · 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.  
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 now optional for all faculty, staff, students,  
and visitors attending this on-campus meeting.**

### AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. WELCOME REMARKS

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee  
Governor, State of Rhode Island

*"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. 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](#).

### **4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

- a. Discussion of President Parlange's annual self-assessment, performance review and goals pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(1).
- b. Discussion regarding President Parlange's employment agreement and compensation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(1).
- c. Discussion regarding potential litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(2).
- d. Discussion regarding pending litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(2) including:
  - (i) Burt and Thomson v. Board of Trustees of the University of Rhode Island (1<sup>st</sup> Cir. No. 23-1188 and 23-1192) (Consolidated), and;
  - (ii) Louis Kwame Fosu v. The University of Rhode Island, University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees, David M. Dooley, President, The University of Rhode Island, Donald DeHayes, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Jeannette E. Riley, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, C.A. No. 21-279-JJM-PAS (U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island).
- e. 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), including Student Housing and URI Campuses.

### **5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

- a. Report on recent President's Stewardship Council

### **6. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

- a. Updates from the start of the semester
- b. Rankings
- c. University budget overview and highlights

## **7. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ACTION ITEMS**

### **a. Executive Committee/Compensation Subcommittee Report**

- (i) Update – September 13, 2023 Joint Committee Meeting
- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Ratification of presidential performance goals for the upcoming year.
- (iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of an amendment to the employment agreement with President Parlange.
- (iv) ACTION ITEM: Approval of an annual bonus to President Parlange for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.
- (v) DISCUSSION ITEM: Comprehensive Presidential Performance Review Process – Steps associated with the process, and commencement of the process.

### **b. Finance and Facilities Committee Report**

- (i) Update – September 14, 2023 Committee Meeting
- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the renaming of the URI Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences to The Joseph '56 and Ruby DeChristofaro Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences. [Enclosure](#)
- (iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the University of Rhode Island Total Budget Request for FY 2025. [Enclosure](#)

### **c. Governance Committee Report**

- (i) Update – September 18, 2023 Committee Meeting

### **d. Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee Report**

- (i) Update – September 13, 2023 Committee Meeting
- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the full resolution set forth in the Enclosure through which the Board, in summary, is approving the establishment and registration of a branch and/or other appropriate model under the laws of the Republic of Madagascar,

in the name of “University of Rhode Island”, or such other appropriate name, and authorizes, the President of the University of Rhode Island, Dr. Marc Parlange, or his designee(s), to undertake the execution and submission of all documents, instruments, applications, authorizations and designations that may be required by the applicable governmental authorities and agencies in the Republic of Madagascar, and to take any and all other actions necessary and/or appropriate for the establishment, registration and operations of a branch and/or other appropriate operational model under the laws of the Republic of Madagascar, and for the efficient and effective conduct of “The USAID Resilient Inclusive Abundance in Key Ecosystems (RIAKE) Madagascar Program”, under the leadership and direction of the University’s Coastal Resources Center. [Enclosure](#)

**e. Academic Affairs and Research Committee Report**

- (i) Update – September 14, 2023 Committee Meeting
- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, certificates, and honors to be conferred by the President to the candidates who have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Summer 2023 term and who are approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)

**f. Student Life and Athletics Committee Report**

- (i) Update – September 7, 2023 Committee Meeting

**8. 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:**

- a. Approval of amendments to the Executive Committee Charter and Calendar. [Enclosure](#)
- b. Approval of amendments to the Compensation Subcommittee Charter and Calendar. [Enclosure](#)
- c. Approval of the 2025 URI Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar. [Enclosure](#)
- d. Approval of Minutes of the Jun 29, 2023 Board Meeting and Retreat. [Enclosure](#)

**9. ADJOURN**

The next URI Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2023.

URI Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 22, 2023

*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.*