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**The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs and Research Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 · 2:00 p.m. EST**

**The University of Rhode Island
The Alumni Center – Beagle Board Room
73 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.**

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

Ex Officio Members

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AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Minutes of the October 26, 2023, Academic Affairs and Research
Committee Meeting (Open Session.) [Enclosure 1.a.](#)**

“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.”

- 2. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER [Enclosure](#)**
- Dr. Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
 - a. Review progress of University academic performance metrics.**
 - b. Review of academic efforts in support of student success, including academic advising, career development support, experiential learning, academic enhancement center, undergraduate research, and innovation projects.**
 - c. Update of progress, metrics, and planned action steps of academic initiatives in the current University Strategic Plan.**
- 3. REPORT OF THE CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER [Enclosure](#)**
- Dr. Bethany Jenkins, Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development
 - a. Updates on research landscape in terms of overall funding and distribution across colleges.**
 - b. Updates on large grants submitted and highlights of new awards.**
 - c. Updates on community building exercises for URI strategic plan- town hall events, staffing in accordance with President's goals to grow research including use of fund balance to support graduate student fellowships.**
- 4. ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Review 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, and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)**
- Dr. Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - b. Review 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, and recommendation to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)**
- Dr. Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - c. Review and approve 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 of Rhode Island, and recommendation for approval to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure](#)**
- Dr. Barbara Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

5. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Research Committee meeting is scheduled for April 10, 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.