

Council Notes

October 23, 2019

Prepared by: Deb Zielinski

Attendees: Meghan Hughes, Deb Zielinski, Robyn Greene, Ron Cavallaro, Sara Enright, Kristen Albritton, Amy Kempe, Phil Gordon, Bobby Gondola, Greg LaPointe, Elizabeth Canning, Amy Kacerik, Kelly Morrissey, Michael Cunningham, Alix Ogden, Ali Rafieymehr, Bryan Brophy-Baermann, Bob Cipolla, John Arujo, Barbara Nauman, Sean Collins, Julian Alssid, and Tracy Karasinski.

President's Remarks:

Meghan welcomed everyone and introduced student, Madeline Holden, who shared her story and CCRI experience. Madeline is the Newport County Campus Student Government president.

Minutes of 5/22/19 (previously distributed)

Meghan called for a motion to approve the Council minutes dated 5/22/19. Ron C. made a motion to approve, Alix seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

President's Update:

- Meghan welcomed newcomers to the President's Council, Sean Collins, Phil Gordon, and Mike McNally (Mike not in attendance), as well as those fairly new to the college, Ali Rafieymehr and Bryan Brophy-Baermann. Meghan stressed the importance of recommendations made by this group regarding policies and the crucial dissemination of information brought back to each member's team and constituencies.
- Elizabeth Canning will be leaving the college to begin a new career as an independent Title IX consultant, sharing Elizabeth's achievements over the last 2.5 years. Elizabeth spoke about her future plans.
- Our FY21 budget was presented to the Council on Postsecondary Education two weeks ago; it will be voted on later this evening. Meghan gave a high-level review of the details of the budget, including the FY21 budget request, the tuition and fee breakdown, tuition comparisons with other community colleges, our state appropriation request, new initiatives for '21, our capital improvement plan. If approved by the CPE as presented, it will then go to the Governor Office for consideration.

Administration Update

Alix walked us through the CIP and the bond request. Alix talked about the strategic approach to building the CIP and the \$62m General Obligation bond request the college has made. The bond money will allow us to modernize academic classrooms, labs, and student support space; expand campus technology, improve energy efficiency, improve campus traffic flow, and further our ADA compliance (to name a few). This will be the first GO bond requested for CCRI since 2000.

Academic Affairs Update:

In Rosemary's absence, Bryan offered his background; he began at the college in July and has 20 years of experience in the classroom before moving to administration. Bryan reported on the Dean on Duty initiative, which was started because there was no evening administration on the campuses. The deans and assistant deans rotate to all campuses. Each campus is covered one evening a week from 3:30-7:30 (except Fridays). The feedback has been positive.

Student Affairs Update:

Sara reported on fall enrollment, commenting that we are in the best position we have been in in a long time. We are 236 above last fall's headcount, or 1.6%+. It means 14,755 people are counting on us. She

offered some context – CT is 4.7% down; NH is 6% down. Sara acknowledged that the RI Promise is a significant driver of enrollment and is growing, with 3 cohorts running simultaneously.

Workforce Partnerships Update:

Julian reported that we have 90 employer partnerships in various stages of development. Infosys is the flagship. Julian discussed DEAL and Infosys’ goal of creating 500 jobs by 2022. They are committed to hiring 45 CCRI students in entry-level positions. Salary starting at \$45k. Six of our students have already been hired.

Finance & Strategy Update:

Kristen gave an update on things happening in IT. To improve the customer experience, cut down waiting time, and tracking help tickets, they are now using Teamdynamix, the new help desk portal. Kristen walked through the capabilities and noted a future launch of a project management arm to this.

Institutional Advancement Update:

Bobby presented on the college’s 25x25 endowment campaign (\$25m by 2025). He explained that when we reach the \$25m, we will have access to \$1m every year for direct student support. We are building a high-performing advancement team, describing how they are working together building a pipeline of donors and engaged community members, collecting data, innovating, strengthening, and identifying efficiencies in their work, and engaging in professional development and training to learn best practices. There are four alumni campus parties scheduled; \$25pp. The goal is to engage 400 alumni (100 at each campus).

Meghan added that since Bobby’s arrival, we have secured the first-ever grant from the Fidelity Foundation; we have our first \$1m donor, Alan Hassenfeld.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is December 4, 2019.