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**The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs and Research Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 2022 • 4:45 p.m. EST**

**The University of Rhode Island
Robert J. Higgins Welcome Center, Hope Room
45 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881**

**PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR MCKEE'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-01,
THIS WILL BE A HYBRID MEETING.**

To view the meeting remotely,
go to <https://web.uri.edu/trustees/meetings/>
and select the meeting to watch.

If you have technical difficulties, please contact our IT support email at
uribotsupport@etal.uri.edu

**The University of Rhode Island health guidelines require universal
indoor masking for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors on campus.**

AGENDA

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Minutes of the September 23, 2021 meeting [Enclosure 2.a.](#)
- b. Ratification of the Agenda and Approval of the Minutes of the November 4, 2021 meeting [Enclosure 2.b.](#)

3. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

- Dr. Laura Beauvais, Interim Provost, Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - a. Report on key performance metrics (2020-2021)
 - b. Overview of Academic Efforts in Support of Student Success
 - c. COVID 19 Update

4. DISCUSSION ITEM

- a. Establishment and registration of a University of Rhode Island branch office in the Republic of Fiji and the USAID-funded Pacific Islands Fisheries Project known as “OurFish OurFuture” under the leadership and direction of URI’s Coastal Resources Center. [Enclosure 4.a.](#)
- Dr. J.P. Walsh, Director, Coastal Resources Center

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Review of the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, certificates, and honors conferred by the President to the students who have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Fall semester for December 2021 and who have been approved by the URI faculty, and recommendation for approval to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure 5.a.](#)
-Dr. Laura Beauvais
- b. Review of the advancement of Film Media Studies from “Program” to “Department” status, and recommendation for approval to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure 5.b.](#)
-Dr. Laura Beauvais
- c. Review of the awarding of tenure to Dr. Melissa Sutherland, Professor of Nursing, College of Nursing, and recommendation for approval to the URI Board of Trustees. [Enclosure 5.c.](#)
-Dr. Laura Beauvais

6. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Research Committee meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022.

The University of Rhode Island strives to provide inclusive access to events. If you need a reasonable accommodation or have a question about accessing this event, please call 401-874-4411 at least five business days in advance. For TTY, please call the R.I Relay Service at 711.