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Faculty Representative

Christopher Bove '23
Student Representative

The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, January 21, 2022 • 9:30 a.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 November 4, 2021 Plenary Session [Enclosure 2.a.](#)
- b. Minutes of the November 5, 2021 Meeting [Enclosure 2.b.](#)

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 regarding potential and anticipated litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Approval of the Revocation of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters conferred upon Lieutenant General Michael Flynn (retired) by the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)
- b. Approval of the Revocation of the Honorary Doctor of Laws conferred upon former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani by the University of Rhode Island. [Enclosure](#)
- c. Approval of the awarding of Honorary Degrees for Commencement 2022.

6. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Academic Affairs and Research Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 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 Fall 2021 term and who have been approved by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island.
[Enclosure 6.a.\(ii\)](#)
 - (iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval to advance Film Media Studies from “Program” to “Department” status. [Enclosure 6.a.\(iii\)](#)
 - (iv) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the awarding of Faculty Tenure to Dr. Melissa Sutherland, Professor of Nursing, College of Nursing. [Enclosure 6.a.\(iv\)](#)
 - (v) DISCUSSION ITEM: 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.
-Dr. J.P. Walsh, Director, Coastal Resources Center
- b. Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 Committee Report

- (ii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the full resolution set forth in [Enclosure 6.b.\(ii\)](#) through which the Board, in summary, is approving the establishment and registration of a University of Rhode Island branch office in the Republic of Fiji and the taking of all necessary and appropriate actions, by the University President or his designees, including the submission of all required applications, authorizations and designations required by governmental agencies in the Republic of Fiji, to enable the establishment and registration of the branch office, and to undertake the performance and administration of the USAID-funded Pacific Islands Fisheries Project known as “OurFish OurFuture” under the leadership and direction of URI’s Coastal Resources Center. [Enclosure 6.b.\(ii\)](#)
-Dr. J.P. Walsh, Director, Coastal Resources Center
- c. Finance and Facilities Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 Committee Meeting
 - (ii) DISCUSSION ITEM: Report on Approvals Under the Delegation of Authority to the President Relating to Land and Property [Enclosure 6.c.\(ii\)](#)
 - (iii) ACTION ITEM: Approval of the First Amendment to the Ground Lease Agreement dated December 8, 1999 between the University of Rhode Island/Board of Governors for Higher Education for the State of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island Foundation and Alumni Engagement, as extended, thus extending the term of the Ground Lease an additional 10 years until February 18, 2032 with an additional 10-year extension option. [Enclosure 6.c.\(iii\)](#)
- d. Executive Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 21, 2022 Committee Meeting
- e. Governance Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 Committee Meeting
- f. Student Life and Athletics Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 Committee Report
- g. University Advancement and External Affairs Committee Report
 - (i) Update – January 20, 2022 Committee Meeting

7. DISCUSSION ITEM

- a. Review of Current Research Programs and Overview of URI Research Foundation
[Enclosure 7.a.](#)
Dr. Peter J. Snyder, Vice President for Research and Economic Development

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- Alternate Retirement Plan Committee
- Recognition of Outgoing Board Members: Christopher Bove, Mayrai Gindy

9. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

- URI Strategy: Community, Scholarship and Rhode Island
- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – The Build Back Better Framework – URI leading regional coalition

10. ADJOURN

The next URI Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2022.

The University of Rhode Island strives to provide inclusive access to events. If you need 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.