



**Members**

Margo Cook '86, *Chair*

Michael D. Fascitelli '78

Charles Fogarty '80

Christine Heenan

Richard S. Humphrey

Matthew Lenz '11

Roby Luna '04

David Martirano '91

Michael F. McNally '81, *Vice Chair*

Dr. Karina Montilla Edmonds '92

Cortney M. Nicolato '01

Vahid Ownjazayeri

Susan Petrovas '92

Yahaira "Jay" Placencia '01

Cecilia Rouse

Thomas Ryan '75

Armand E. Sabitoni '73

## The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee Meeting Friday October 23, 2020 at 11:15 a.m.

*Pursuant to Governor Raimondo's Executive Order 20-34, this meeting was held virtually using the WebEx platform (Board only) and Facebook Livestream (public viewing)*

### MINUTES

Chair Luna welcomed all members of the committee and asked for a roll call, noting after the roll call that a quorum was present, Chair Luna called the meeting to order at 11:18 a.m.

Attendees present for this virtual meeting (all attendees were remote):

**Ex Officio Members**

Tim DelGiudice, *Chair*  
*R.I. Council on Postsecondary Education*

Barbara Cottam, *Chair*  
*R.I. Board of Education*

Mayrai Gindy  
*Faculty Representative*

Christopher Bove '23  
*Student Representative*

**Committee Members:**

- Mr. Tim DelGiudice (ex-officio)
- Mr. Richard Humphrey (Absent)
- Mr. Roby Luna, Chair
- Mr. David J. Martirano
- Ms. Susan Petrovas (Arrived at 11:24 a.m.)
- Ms. Jay Placencia

**Other Board of Trustee Members:**

- Ms. Margo Cook, Chair of URI Board of Trustees
- Mr. Michael McNally, Vice Chair of URI Board of Trustees

**The University of Rhode Island Staff present:**

- Michelle Curreri, Chief of Staff and Board Secretary
- Peter Harrington, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel
- Daniel Moos, Assistant to the Vice President for Administration and Finance
- Abigail Rider, Vice President for Administration and Finance
- Louis Saccoccio, General Counsel for the University of Rhode Island
- Peter Snyder, Vice President for Research and Economic Development

## 1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Luna called for a motion that The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee accept the Agenda for the meeting of October 23, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Placencia and seconded by Mr. Martirano, it was

VOTED: THAT the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee accept the Agenda for the meeting of October 23, 2020.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Roby Luna, David J. Martirano, Jay Placencia

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

ABSENT: Susan Petrovas

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Luna called for a motion that The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee approve the Minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2020.

[Enclosure 2a](#)

On a motion duly made by Ms. Placencia and seconded by Mr. Martirano, it was

VOTED: THAT the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee approve the Minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2020.

VOTE: 3 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Roby Luna, David J. Martirano, Jay Placencia

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

ABSENT: Susan Petrovas

## 3. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Review of timeline and selection process for external auditors and recommendation to full board for consideration and approval

Vice President Abigail Rider discussed the selection process for the external auditors for the University, noting that the current auditors (O'Connor & Drew, P.C.) have held a contract for the University, Rhode Island College, and the Community College of Rhode Island since 2012. She noted that the University in concert with RIC and CCRI have issued a request for proposals (RFP) for this service every three years, which ensures a level of independence with the University's auditors.

The University would, in a normal year, be issuing an RFP this November; however, due to unprecedented circumstances, (COVID-19, a Presidential Search, and a new Board of Trustees), she recommended that the University request to the Auditor General of the State that the University be permitted to extend the current contract with O'Connor & Drew, P.C. for one additional year. She noted that CCRI and RIC are expected to make the same request to the Auditor General. Mr. Martirano expressed support for this request.

Chair Luna called for a motion that the Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees that it approve the timeline and selection process for external auditors as recommended and presented by Vice President Rider.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Martirano and seconded by Ms. Petrovas, it was

VOTED:	THAT	the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee recommend to the URI Board of Trustees to approve the timeline and selection process for external auditors as recommended and presented by VP Rider
	VOTE:	4 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	Roby Luna, David J. Martirano, Susan Petrovas, and Jay Placencia
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0
	ABSENT:	0

#### 4. ADJOURN

Chair Luna called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Martirano and seconded by Ms. Petrovas, it was

VOTED:	THAT	the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee adjourn the meeting October 23, 2020
	VOTE:	4 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	Roby Luna, David J. Martirano, Susan Petrovas, and Jay Placencia
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0
	ABSENT:	0

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

The next meeting of The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees Institutional Risk and Compliance Committee is January 14, 2021.