



COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Office of the President

DATE: August 13, 2015
TO: Rhode Island Board of Education Postsecondary Council
FROM: Ray Di Pasquale, President
RE: President's Report – August 2015

Real Jobs Rhode Island planning grants

- The Community College of Rhode Island is a strategic partner in six of the 21 Real Jobs Rhode Island planning grants through the Department of Labor and Training that Gov. Gina Raimondo announced July 31.
- Planning grants are the first step in developing a strategic demand-driven workforce development system that meets the needs of Rhode Island's employers and trains Rhode Islanders for the job openings of today and the future.
- CCRI is a strategic partner in planning grants in areas from information technology to hospitality to health care to banking and insurance; the range of awards represent a diverse set of fields and speaks to CCRI's ability to engage a multitude of industries to help them address skills gaps in the workforce.
- The planning grants in which CCRI will be a strategic partner are:
 - Biomedical Equipment & IT Technician Project, with lead applicant and convener Claflin Medical Equipment
 - Cyber Security Partnership with lead applicant and convener Southeastern New England Defense Industry Alliance (SENEDIA)
 - CNA Apprenticeship Program with lead applicant and convener Stepping UP
 - Rhode Island Food Management Partnership with lead applicant and convener Rhode Island Hospitality Association
 - Real Jobs RI – Information Technology Partnership with lead applicant and convener Tech Collective
 - Real Jobs Partnership of Northern Rhode Island with lead applicant Connecting for Children & Families – Woonsocket and convener Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce

Westerly education and job center

- The proposed \$4.5 million education and job training center in Westerly was the focus of a front-page story in the Aug. 7 edition of The Providence Journal.
- It noted that the center would serve as a training site for Electric Boat, which is facing a shortage of skilled laborers, and will be financed with a combination of public and private money, including nearly \$1.8 million from The Royce Family Fund. The project is up for planning board approval later this month.

Portrait unveiling

- Nearly 100 staff, students, alumni, faculty and guests gathered at the Community College of Rhode Island's Knight Campus in Warwick on July 30 to view the unveiling of portraits of each of the college's four presidents.
- The portraits, a gift of the first graduating Class of 1966 to mark the college's 50th anniversary celebration, are enlarged black-and-white photographs that hang together for the first time in the fourth-floor board room.
- The program was brief but full of emotion, with each portrait unveiled by someone of significance to the subject. Members of the Flanagan family – including sons James and Jack and daughter Ellen – were on hand to pay tribute to their father, Dr. William F. Flanagan. Edward Liston's portrait was unveiled by his longtime administrative assistant, Linda Sincerny. Deborah Aiken unveiled the portrait of her husband, Dr. Thomas D. Sepe, and Sondra Pitts '66 unveiled my portrait.

Students' play is accepted at FringeNYC

- Two CCRI students are making their off-Broadway debut in the annual New York International Fringe Festival this month with an original work called "PICKLES."
- Warwick residents Alexander Rotella and Laura Minadeo co-wrote the play, which is the only entry from Rhode Island to make the cut in the juried 200-show festival. In a story about them on the college's website, the pair credited their professors at CCRI for giving them the ability and confidence to write their own show and submit it to the festival.
- After a two-night run at the Knight Campus in Warwick last week, the show will run as part of the FringeNYC festival at Flamboyant Theatre at the Clemente Aug. 20 to 29.

New scholarship application process

- The CCRI Foundation has implemented STARS Online, which will process scholarships electronically. This secure processing system allows students to apply for multiple scholarships at one time online.
- The Foundation offers more than 80 scholarships and awards for full-time and part-time students, based on academic preference, degree program, financial need and/or merit.

Opening Day Convocation

- We will officially kick off our 51st year with our annual Opening Day Convocation at 8 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, at the Knight Campus in Warwick. We will begin with breakfast in the Great Hall and then move into the Bobby Hackett Theater for a look back and ahead to the new academic year.

21st Annual CCRI Fall Classic

- The Community College of Rhode Island will hold its 21st Annual CCRI Fall Classic on Sept. 21 at Warwick Country Club. Proceeds from the tournament will help defray college expenses for CCRI students. Tournament details can be found online at www.ccri.edu/president/golf.