



December 17, 2020

Meghan L. Hughes  
President  
Alix R. Ogden  
Associate Vice President Administration  
Knight Campus  
Community College of Rhode Island  
400 East Ave  
Warwick, RI 02886

Re: CCRI ESPA Vote of No Confidence

Dear President Hughes and Vice President Ogden,

As president of the local union representing education support professionals at the Community College of Rhode Island, I feel obliged to inform you that our membership overwhelmingly voted in agreement that we have no confidence in your ability to effectively lead our community college.

Our members are the lowest paid employees at CCRI, yet we have been the most severely impacted from your administration's poor institutional management. While 16% of our members' jobs have been eliminated, high-level administrator positions have ballooned on your watch.

These workers you have chosen to eliminate from our college community, are the first people the students see or speak to when they come to CCRI or inquire about attending. We are the people processing student applications for enrollment, registering and scheduling students for their placement tests, assisting with their financial aid, scheduling them to meet with academic advisors, registering them for their classes, helping them with prerequisite and class-capacity overrides in all academic departments, helping them set up their MYCCRI accounts and all other technology needs.

We are the workers who ensure the students have the correct books and supplies, we keep the campuses clean and safe, and we set up and maintain all academic labs. We give assistance, lend an ear, or offer comfort to students seeking guidance. We are often the first face of CCRI that a student will see in the morning and the last face they see when they leave at night.

Dr. Hughes and Ms. Ogden, to regain the confidence of the CCRI ESPA members, you must engage in dialogue with the union to discuss the cost savings you desire without slashing jobs. Additionally, you must assure the workers who were reassigned to the Department of Health – who answered the call to serve during this public health crisis – that they have jobs to which they can return. Finally, we ask that you treat the entire membership with the dignity and respect we deserve.

Sincerely,

Michael McNally  
President, CCRI ESPA