



# THREADS

February 12, 2024

- Message from Provost Usher
- Hiring Announcement
- RISE - Hiring opportunity

## Message from Provost Usher

Dear Colleagues,

Serving on search committees is one of the most important contributions a Radford community member can make. I appreciate everyone who agrees to help select the next members of our teams, because it is an optimistic act that invests in our future. And this year, we have asked many people to serve as we are re-building the leadership teams in Academic Affairs. Thank you to the following people:

Director of Finance and Administration for Academic Affairs

- Brandon Cohen (Chair)
- Allison Pratt
- Tracy Burcham
- Timothy Channell
- Eric Lovic
- Kay Johnson
- Leah Taylor

Assistant Provost for Faculty and Curriculum

- Jeanne Mekolichick (Chair)
- Damien Allen
- Alyssa Archer
- David Beach
- Fredrick Douglas Dixon
- Melanie Fox
- Jenene Lewis
- Courtney Watson

Assistant Provost for Student Success

- Kurt Gingrich (Co-Chair)
- D.J. Preston (Co-Chair)
- Beth Johnson
- Dannette Beane
- Solitaire Kelly-Pepper
- Sarah Kennedy
- Nancy Loosle

#### University Registrar

- Matthew Smith (Chair)
- Benjamin Caldwell
- Vesna Costello
- Allison McCoy
- Jessica Stowell
- Juan Urista
- Margie Vest
- Rahid Zaman

#### Dean of the Davis College of Business and Economics

- Mike Chatham
- Thomas Duncan
- Rich Gruss
- Andrea Stanaland
- Steve Childers
- Tamara Wallace
- Lane Chrepta (Undergraduate Student)
- Austin Taylor (Graduate Student)

#### Dean of the (new) College of Nursing

\*Note that the College of Nursing has been transitioning from the School of Nursing, and thus the composition of the committee was created to meet the spirit of the Handbook and in consultation with the Nursing faculty.

- Steven Bachrach
- Steve McBride
- Sarah Keaton
- Sara Brown
- Kevin Chui
- Katie Katz
- Jessica Fenton
- Carey Cole
- Brooke Blevins (Undergraduate Student)
- (Graduate Student)

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## Director of Finance & Administration for Academic Affairs

The Office of the Provost is very happy to announce that Mr. Adam Neal will be joining us as the

Director of Finance and Administration for Academic Affairs in March. Adam has, most recently, served as the Associate Vice President of Finance and Administration at Roanoke College. Native to the New River Valley, Adam is an alumnus of Radford's MBA program and has previously worked at Radford. We are excited to welcome him back into this role.



**HIGHLANDERS**  
**RISE TOGETHER**

## Hiring for Assessment Director for the RISE Program

**Description:** The Provost's office invites T&R faculty to apply for the position of Assessment Director to lead RISE program assessment. The Assessment Director should have the skills to collect and analyze large data sets, be able to implement and improve upon an existing data plan, and have a passion for student equity and success.

### Expectations:

- Work with Institutional Research (IR) and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement (IEQI) to ensure timely collection of RISE data.
- Produce reports for RISE program based on data collected and analysis. Examples include equity data reports for RISE Community Action Teams, reports for Department Chairs, Deans, and Provost.
- Create and implement data collection plans that support the program. Examples include collection and analysis of student sense of belonging surveys, student outcomes in 100 and 200 level courses, and faculty institute outcomes.
- Thoughtful analysis of data to help inform the direction of the program.
- Consistent effective collaboration with the RISE leadership team.
- Presentation of data to campus partners as needed with a keen focus on closing equity gaps in student success.

- Contribute to yearly progress report to document progress.

**Compensation:** Recognizing the importance of this work as well as the large time commitment required, this position includes a two-course/semester (6 contact hours) reassignment and a summer stipend. This position will report to the Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement.

**Application submission:** Please indicate your interest by emailing your current CV and a letter of interest to [rise@radford.edu](mailto:rise@radford.edu) by **Friday, February 16**. The RISE Leadership Team, in conjunction with Dr. Jessica Stowell, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement, will review applications and conduct interviews with candidates. The current RISE Assessment Director retires May 24, so this position will start in earnest this summer, with expectation of some overlapping time this semester to learn from our current director.

**About RISE:** The Realizing Inclusive Student Excellence (RISE) Quality Enhancement Plan is underway in its first year of programming. RISE aims to improve student success and close racial equity gaps in required 100 and 200 level courses as well as increase student's academic and campus belonging. We are reaching these goals through two programmatic pieces: (1) The RISE Faculty Institute and (2) RISE Community Action Teams (RCATs) in each college. The QEP is housed in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement (IEQI) and has tripartite leadership including a Program Director, Faculty Institute Director, and an Assessment Director. The RISE leadership team closely collaborates with campus partners including Institutional Research, Student Affairs, and the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning. Reach out to us at [rise@radford.edu](mailto:rise@radford.edu) or directly to current RISE Assessment Director, Allison Wisecup [awisecup@radford.edu](mailto:awisecup@radford.edu) for more information!

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