

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING 4 P.M.

APRIL 22, 2021

ART MUSEUM

COVINGTON CENTER, RADFORD, VA

DRAFT **MINUTES**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jay A. Brown, Chair
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston, Vice Chair
Dr. Thomas Brewster
Mr. David A. Smith

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Gregory A. Burton

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Robert A. Archer, Rector
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Cory Durand, Deputy Athletics Director
Mr. Robert G. Lineburg, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Ms. Ashley Schumaker, Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Operations
Mr. Allen T. Wilson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Jay A. Brown, Chair, formally called the Governance, Administration and Athletics Committee meeting to order at 4:18 p.m. in the Art Museum, Covington Center. Dr. Brown informed the Committee that Special Advisor to the President for Partnerships and Chief Innovation Officer Angela Joyner, Ph.D. was absent, and that there were no actions items from her areas for this meeting. He asked the Committee members to review the report and materials submitted earlier.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Brown asked for a motion to approve the April 22, 2021 agenda. Dr. Thomas Brewster so moved, Mr. David A. Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Brown asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting of the Governance, Administration and Athletics Committee, as published. Mr. Smith so moved, Dr. Brewster seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS REPORT

Director of Athletics Robert Lineburg shared the April 21 announcement of naming Darris Nichols as the eighth Men's Basketball Head Coach in program history. This follows the announcement of Mike Jones' resignation, as he will assume the head basketball coach position at UNC Greensboro.

Mr. Lineburg shared that Men's Basketball finished their 2020-21 season with an overall record of 15-12 (12-6 conference) and a second play finish in the regular season. Fah'Mir Ali was named to the Big South All-Freshman Team and Jordan Hemphill added another post-season award for the Highlanders, as he was named to the Big South All-Academic Team. The 2020-21 season marked the 5th straight appearance in the Big South Tournament Semifinals or better.

Mr. Lineburg reported that Women's Basketball finished the season 9-11 (9-9 conference) but missed the 2020-21 Big South Tournament due to COVID-19 related issues. He also reported that Men's and Women's Cross Country had strong finishes in post-season play. The men's team finished third overall while the women's program finished second. Annsley Eckert was named the Big South Scholar Athlete of the Year for Women's Cross Country and Joe Limo was named to the All-Academic Team for Men's Cross Country. Sam Bradley won his first Big South Coach of the Year honors for Women's Cross Country.

Mr. Lineburg reported that Women's Soccer finished the 2021 season 7-3-1 (6-2-1 conference) with a second play regular season finish. Brianna Oliver, Gabi Paupst and Kayla Thomas all received Big South First-Team All-Conference recognition. Kayla Thomas was also named the Big South Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

Mr. Lineburg also informed the Committee that both Men's and Women's Tennis programs had an incredible year with both ending up in the championship match for the second straight season. Men's Tennis dominated the post season awards by seven individuals receiving post-season recognitions. Highlighting the group is Yevhen Sirous, who was named First-Team All-Conference Singles Player. Women's Tennis had a second-place finish which was also highlighted by Salma Loudili who was named the Big South Freshman of the Year and Big South Player of the Year. This is the first time in program history that this accolade occurred.

Mr. Lineburg reported that as of March 25, the Radford Athletics has secured over \$2.1 million dollars in new gifts and pledges for the 2020-21 Fund Drive. This amount includes a new \$1 million partnership that will benefit not only the Highlander Club unrestricted fund but also a portion going toward the sponsorship revenue. The formal announcement for this new gift will be made public over the summer months. Mr. Lineburg added that Radford Athletics secured almost \$300,000 in sponsorship revenue for the 2020-21 academic year. New highlighted partners include Food City in Radford, Tru Hotel by Hilton, TicketSmarter and English Meadows Senior Living.

Mr. Lineburg also shared in his presentation that Radford Athletics held its first athletics-only department-wide giving challenge: RAD48. The 48-hour fundraising drive included all 16 Division I athletic programs in multiple challenges to raise funds for Radford Athletics. By the end of the two-day challenge, 279 donors comprised of alumni, parents and friends of the University raised over \$57,000. Donors had the option to give to the department's three unrestricted funds: Highlander Club Annual Fund, Student-Athlete Scholarship Fund, and Women's Sports Leadership Fund. The focus was placed on unrestricted funds because they touch all student-athletes and allow for greater flexibility in supporting the areas that need it the most: scholarships, academic support services, athletic training and nutrition, strength and conditioning and facility enhancements. He added that the women's soccer team finished the 48-hour period with the most money raised at \$10,275, followed by the men's golf program at \$8,750. The women's golf team led all of the athletic programs in alumni-athlete participation percentage with 22%, while the women's basketball took second place with 14% alumni-athlete participation.

Mr. Lineburg shared upcoming events with the Committee, including the Radford Athletics Virtual RUBY's Awards Banquet on April 26; the Radford Athletics Cording Ceremony on April 29; the Graduation Ceremony for Baseball/Softball on May 7; and Highlander Half Marathon and 5K on May 8. In closing, Mr. Lineburg thanked the Board of Visitors for their support of the Athletics programs and especially the student athletes. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment A* and is made a part hereof.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion and Nominations for Board Officers

Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston, serving as Chair of the Nominations Committee, reported that she had received nominations from Board members for Rector and Vice Rector. Dr. Johnson stated that all nominations were for current Rector, Mr. Robert A. Archer, as Rector and for Dr. Jay A. Brown, as Vice Rector. Dr. Johnson then shared the steps necessary to present the nominations to the full Board. Dr. Johnston asked for a motion to take forward these names for Rector and Vice Rector. Dr. Brewster made the motion, Mr. Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The Committee members thanked those nominated for their willingness to serve.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the committee, Dr. Brown requested a motion to adjourn. Dr. Johnston so moved, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MaDonna Overstreet

Executive Administrative Assistant to the Special Advisor to the President for Partnerships and Chief Innovation Officer

Intercollegiate Athletics

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Agenda

- Student-Athlete Experience
- Competitive Excellence
- Resource Development
- Important Dates & Initiatives

Student-Athlete Experience

Radford Athletics Virtual RUBY's Awards Banquet

- Virtual celebration for all 275 student-athletes, coaches and staff to highlight and recognize the accomplishments of the 2020-21 season. Virtual ceremony will be held on April 26.

Radford Athletics Cording Ceremony

- Cording ceremony on Thursday, April 29 for the class of 2020 and 2021 at Cupp Stadium. Pending approval from COVID-19 Task Force.

Graduation Ceremony for Baseball/Softball

- Due to their competition schedule, the Baseball and Softball program will miss the 2021 Graduation Ceremony that is currently scheduled for the weekend of April 30. A small ceremony is scheduled for May 7 to recognize the 2021 graduating class for these two programs.

Education Training - April 2021 (Diversity Committee)

- We will be having local and state law enforcement speaking with all student-athletes to answer any questions and to have real conversations around social injustice. Goal is to build positive relationships and help both groups learn from each other.

Competitive Excellence

- **Men's Basketball**

- Overall Record 15-12 (12-6 Conference)
- Finished 2nd in the regular season
- Fah'Mir Ali - named to the Big South All-Freshman Team
- Jordan Hemphill - named to the Big South All-Academic Team
- 5th straight year making an appearance in the Big South Tournament Semifinals or better

- **Women's Basketball**

- Overall Record 9-11 (9-9 Conference)
- Missed the 2020-21 Big South Tournament due to COVID-19 related issues
- Tina Lindenfeld - named to the Big South All-Academic Team



Future of Radford Men's Basketball



Competitive Excellence

Spring 2021 Highlights

- Men's & Women's Cross Country
 - Men's Cross Country finished 3rd overall
 - Women's Cross Country finished 2nd overall
 - Annsley Eckert – named Big South Scholar Athlete of the Year for Women's Cross Country
 - Joe Limo – named to the Big South All-Academic Team for Men's Cross Country
 - Rachel Werking, Rachel Millirons and Chloe Wellings all finished in the top-10 individually and all three were named to the Big South All-Conference Team
 - Sam Bradley – named Big South Coach of the Year for Women's Cross Country
- Women's Soccer
 - 7-3-1 Overall (6-2-1 in conference)
 - Finished 2nd place in Big South regular-season standings
 - Brianna Oliver, Gabi Paupst and Kayla Thomas named First-Team All-Conference
 - Kayla Thomas named Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season

Competitive Excellence

Spring 2021 Highlights

- Men's & Women's Tennis
 - Men's Tennis – Runner up finish in the Big South Championship
 - Yevhen Sirous named First Team All-Conference Singles
 - Andres Silva/Demis Taramonlis & Guilherme Severin/Yevhen Sirous named First Team All-Conference Doubles
 - Women's Tennis – Runner up finish in the Big South Championship
 - Salma Loudili and Malin Falk named First Team All-Conference Singles
 - Emily Brandow/Malin Falk named First Team All Conference Doubles
 - Salma Loudili named Big South Freshman of the Year & Big South Player of the Year
- Men's Golf
 - Finished 2nd place in Big South Tournament Match Play – Best finish ever for in tournament play

Resource Development

Radford Sports Properties Revenue Update (3/25/21):

- Overall Revenue: \$288,125 (\$188,625 cash / \$99,500 trade)
- Overall Percentage to Budget: 91% (\$315,000)
- Cash Revenue Target: 88% (\$215,000)
- Trade Revenue Target: 99% (\$100,000)

Projected 2020-21 Revenue - \$292,500 (\$193,000 cash / \$99,500 trade)

Notable new sponsors in 2020-21 include:

- Food City in Radford
- Tru Hotel by Hilton in Radford
- TicketSmarter
- English Meadows Senior Living

Looking ahead to 2021-22, we have already secured over \$135,000 in sponsorship agreements between cash/trade.

Resource Development

2020-21 Fund Drive Update (3/25/21):

	FY20	FY21 (as of 3/25/2021)	FY21 GOALS
<i>Total New Gifts & Pledges</i>	\$1,121,806.52	\$2,168,614.69	\$1,200,000
<i>Unrestricted</i>	\$169,482.84	\$739,616.92	\$300,000
<i>Athletic Donors</i>	1,110	823	1,350

Resource Development

RAD48 Giving Challenge

Radford Athletics held its first athletics-only department-wide giving challenge: RAD48. The 48-hour fundraising drive included all 16 Division I athletic programs in multiple challenges to raise funds for Radford Athletics. By the end of the two-day challenge, **279 donors comprised of alumni, parents and friends of the university raised over \$57,000.**

Donors had the option to give to the department's three unrestricted funds: the Highlander Club Annual Fund, the Student-Athlete Scholarship Fund, and the Women's Sports Leadership Fund. The focus was placed on unrestricted funds because they touch all student-athletes and allow for greater flexibility in supporting the areas that need it the most:

- Scholarships
- Academic Support Services
- Athletic Training & Nutrition
- Strength & Conditioning
- Facility Enhancements

The women's soccer team finished the 48-hour period with the most money raised (\$10,275), followed by the men's golf program that raised \$8,750. The women's golf team led all of the athletic programs in alumni-athlete participation percentage with 22%, while the women's basketball took second place with 14% alumni-athlete participation.

Important Dates & Initiatives

1. Radford Athletics Virtual RUBY's Award Banquet

- Monday, April 26

2. Highlander Open Golf Tournament

- Friday, April 23 - Pete Dye River Course

3. Highlander Half Marathon & 5k presented by Carilion Clinic

- Saturday, May 8 - Radford, VA

Discussion

End of Board of Visitors Materials

