

Academic Excellence and Research Committee

February 2022

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
2:30 P.M.**
FEBRUARY 10, 2022
MARY ANN JENNINGS HOVIS BOARD ROOM
THIRD FLOOR, MARTIN HALL, RADFORD, VA

DRAFT
AGENDA

- **CALL TO ORDER** Dr. Thomas Brewster, *Chair*
- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Dr. Thomas Brewster, *Chair*
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Dr. Thomas Brewster, *Chair*
 - December 2, 2021
- **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT** Dr. J. Orion Rogers, *Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*
 - Academic Affairs Update
Office of the Provost Organizational Restructuring Update
 - Introduction of Dr. Tim Channell, Assistant Provost for Budget and Academic Operations
 - Introduction of Dean Paul Orkiszewski
 - Emeritus Faculty
 - Sense of Belonging Through Academic Support
- **OTHER BUSINESS** Dr. Thomas Brewster, *Chair*
- **ADJOURNMENT** Dr. Thomas Brewster, *Chair*

**** All start times for committees are approximate only. Meetings may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as committee members are ready to proceed.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham, Vice Chair
Ms. Charlene A. Curtis
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes
Mr. David A. Smith
Dr. Katie Hilden, Non-Voting Faculty Advisory Member

February 2022 Meeting Materials

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

Academic Research and Excellence Committee
Written Report
Dr. J. Orion Rogers, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
February 10, 2022

- **From the Interim Provost**

The fall 2021 semester concluded successfully with the implementation of the REAL curriculum as well as continued progress on developing our QEP and submission of the Compliance Certification Report. The spring 2022 semester started successfully with the first day of class on January 18, 2022.

- **Dalton Eminent Scholars for 2021**

The Office of the Provost has announced the faculty selected as Dalton Eminent Scholars for 2021. These faculty members were selected for their records of distinguished national and/or international reputation in their respective disciplines. Recipients of the Dalton Eminent Scholar Award must be Radford University faculty members with service in the rank of Associate Professor or full Professor at Radford University for a minimum of three academic years. The Dalton Eminent Scholar Rising Star Award recognizes a faculty member in no more than his or her sixth year of continuous service as a full-time faculty member at a higher education institution and in at least his or her third year of continuous faculty service at Radford University. Each Dalton Eminent Scholar is provided a \$10,000 award to fund research travel and materials, as well as a \$5,000 award to be granted following successful completion of research and scholarly activity.

Dr. Karen Powers from the ACSAT
Dr. Kristan Morrison from the CEHD
Dr. Sharon Roger Hepburn from the CHBS
Dr. Robert Trent from the CVPA
Rising Star- Dr. Rich Gruss from the DCOBE

- **School of Nursing receives full approval from Virginia Board of Nursing**

The Radford University School of Nursing has received notification from the Virginia Board of Nursing that the baccalaureate degree nursing education programs on the Radford University main campus and Radford University Carilion campus, the Accelerated BSN program at the RUC campus, and the Traditional BSN Program (Teachout) at RUC have all received full approval. The programs next survey visit will be scheduled in 2031. Congratulations to Dean Wijewardane and the faculty, staff, and students of the School of Nursing for these significant achievements.

- **Radford University Top-Ranked Programs for 2022 by Intelligent.com**

Intelligent.com researched over 2,900 colleges and universities for the 2022 online degree report, and each institution was evaluated for the strength of its online resources, reputation, and program strength. Radford University's Top Six Ranked Programs on Intelligent.com:

Best Colleges in Virginia | Ranked #9
<https://www.intelligent.com/best-colleges-and-universities/virginia/>

Best Online Doctorate in Public Health Programs | Ranked #16
<https://www.intelligent.com/best-online-doctorate-in-public-health-programs/>

Best Online Colleges in Virginia | Ranked #18
<https://www.intelligent.com/best-online-colleges/virginia/>

Best Online Master's in Math Education Programs | Ranked #30
<https://www.intelligent.com/best-online-masters-in-math-education-degree-programs/>

Top Online Doctorate in Healthcare Administration Programs | Ranked #32
<https://www.intelligent.com/top-online-doctorate-in-healthcare-administration-programs/>

Best Online Colleges and Top Online Universities | Ranked #33
<https://www.intelligent.com/best-online-colleges/>

- **Emeritus Faculty**

Based on recommendations from the Department Personnel Committee, the Department Chair, the College Dean, and the Provost, the President has awarded emeritus status to the following retired faculty members:

Professor Jayne Bucy	Department of Psychology
Professor Frank Dane	Department of Psychology
Professor Pamela Jackson	Department of Psychology
Professor Nora Reilly	Department of Psychology
Professor Ruth Riding-Malon	Department of Psychology
Professor Jeffrey Willner	Department of Psychology
Professor Bruce Chase	Department of Accounting, Finance and Business Law
Professor Felix Amenkhienan	Department of Accounting, Finance and Business Law
Professor Georgia Hammond	Department of Biology
Professor Bob Sheehy	Department of Biology
Professor Mary LaLone	Department of Sociology
Professor Chester "Skip" Watts	Department of Geology
Professor Erin Cruise	School of Nursing
Professor Iris Mullins	School of Nursing

- **RU MBA named to the Fortune 2022 Best Part-Time MBA Programs list!**

The Radford MBA program has been ranked #64 nationally in the "first-ever ranking of the best part-time MBA programs in the United States" by Fortune magazine. Congratulations to Dean Bhadury, Graduate Program Director Dr. Can Dogan and the Davis College graduate faculty who made this possible. (national rankings are at <https://fortune.com/education/business/mba/rankings/best-parttime-mba-programs-in-2022/#sort=alphabetical>)

- **MBA-DBA Partnership Between Davis College and Paris School of Business**
Dean Bhadury has announced a formal partnership between the Davis College of Business and Economics and Paris School of Business. This partnership provides an opportunity for qualified MBA graduates from the Radford MBA program to enroll in the DBA (Doctorate of Business Administration) program at Paris School of Business (PSB) and receive their doctoral degree. This MOU was developed in collaboration with the McGlothlin Center for Global Education and Engagement and by Dr. Lepre during her time as provost. Radford University students now have a path from undergraduate studies in the Davis College of Business and Economics to the doctoral degree in business.
- **Sense of Belonging Through Academic Support**
Presentations from Dr. Jessica Beckett, Director of the Harvey Knowledge Center, and student Ayana Nichols, Dr. Katie Garahan, Director of the Writing Center, and students Brynn Miller and Monica Roth, and Alvin Overstreet, Director of Academic Support Services at RUC and student Dareous Davis.

**RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
EMERITUS FACULTY**

FEBRUARY 10, 2022

Based on recommendations from the Department Personnel Committee, the Department Chair, the College Dean, and the Provost, the President has awarded emeritus status to the following retired faculty members:

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Dr. Frank Dane	Department of Psychology
Dr. Pamela Jackson	Department of Psychology
Dr. Nora Reilly	Department of Psychology
Dr. Ruth Riding-Malon	Department of Psychology
Dr. Jeffrey Willner	Department of Psychology
Dr. Bruce Chase	Department of Accounting, Finance and Business Law
Dr. Felix Amenkhienan	Department of Accounting, Finance and Business Law
Dr. Georgia Hammond	Department of Biology
Dr. Bob Sheehy	Department of Biology
Dr. Mary LaLone	Department of Sociology
Dr. Chester “Skip” Watts	Department of Geology
Dr. Erin Cruise	School of Nursing
Dr. Iris Mullins	School of Nursing

- Criteria for the awarding of emeritus faculty status are:
 - A minimum of ten years of service to Radford University;
 - Evidence of effective teaching; and
 - Significant professional contributions.

- The privileges and responsibilities attached to emeritus status include:
 - Use of the library;
 - Use of those athletic facilities available to regular faculty;
 - Use of a university computer account;
 - A Radford University identification card and special event discounts available with it; and
 - Attendance at University functions that are open to all regular faculty

Belonging in Academic Support: The Harvey Knowledge Center

RADFORD
UNIVERSITY

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**In my sessions, my coach
would work at my pace
and with my questions.
Everyone there was caring
and non-judgmental.**

*Dominique Tompkins
Class of 2023*

Creating Academic Belonging

Peer-to-peer academic support is the place where social belonging and institutional belonging come together to create academic belonging

Barriers to Help-seeking Behaviors

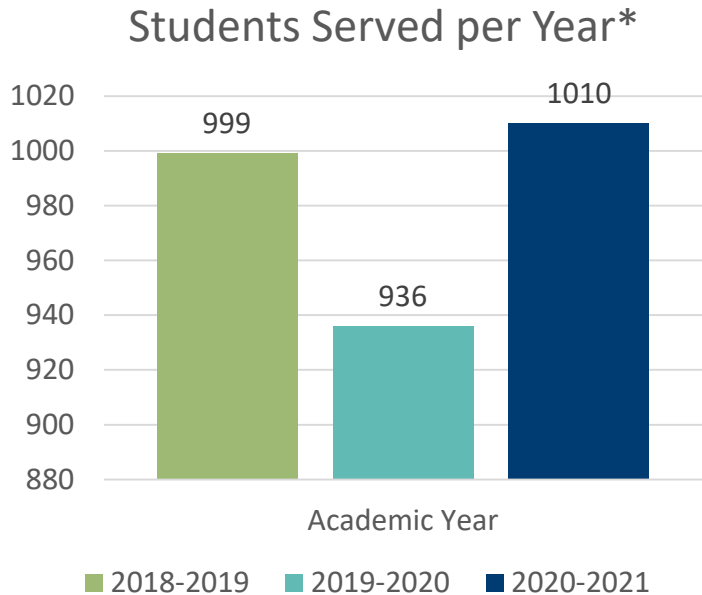
In underprepared and underrepresented students

- Stereotype threat
- Cultural incongruence
- Self-imposed stigmas
- Fixed mindset
- Awareness of services
- Confusion about higher education processes
- Bureaucratic tasks such as registering for accounts or services

Winograd & Rust, 2014; Ciscell, Foley, Luther, Howe, and Gjsedal, 2017

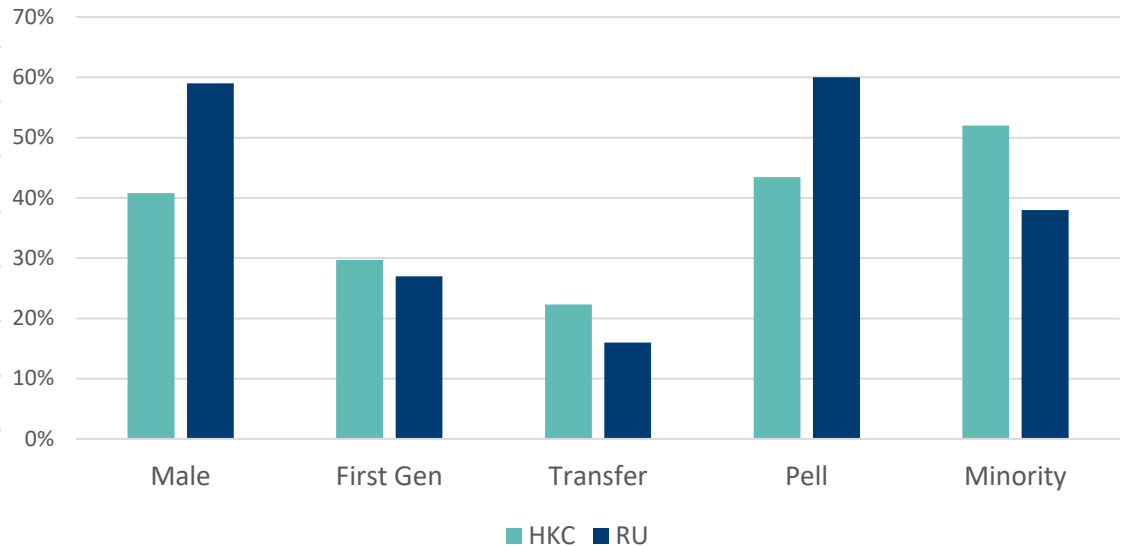
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Who We Serve



*Unduplicated

Demographics of Harvey Knowledge Center Clients in Comparison to the Student Body



Who We Are

- 8 undergraduate student Office Assistants
- 30-40 undergraduate student Academic Coaches
- 6 graduate Assistant Leadership Mentors
- 1 part-time Center Coordinator
- 1 part-time Support Specialist
- 1 full-time Director

Creating Belonging through Culture

- Updated marketing
- Diverse student staff
- Interactive spaces
- Welcoming and kind
- Passion for ongoing learning
- Group training and community building
- Tiered and parallel mentoring
- Strengths-based goal setting cycle

Cascading Culture

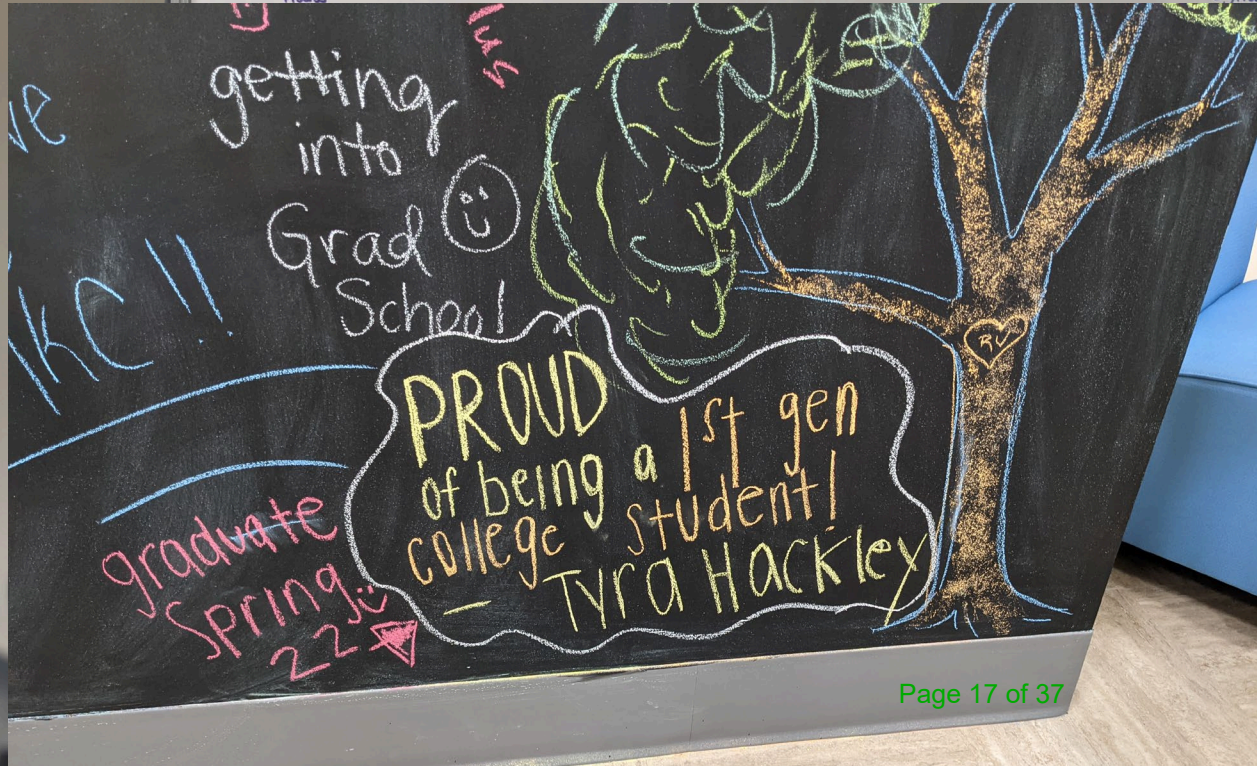
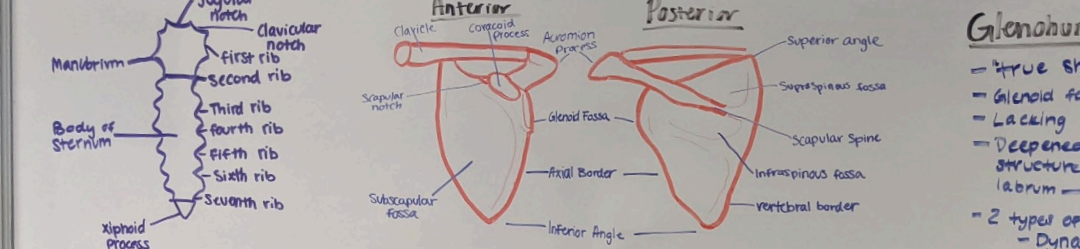
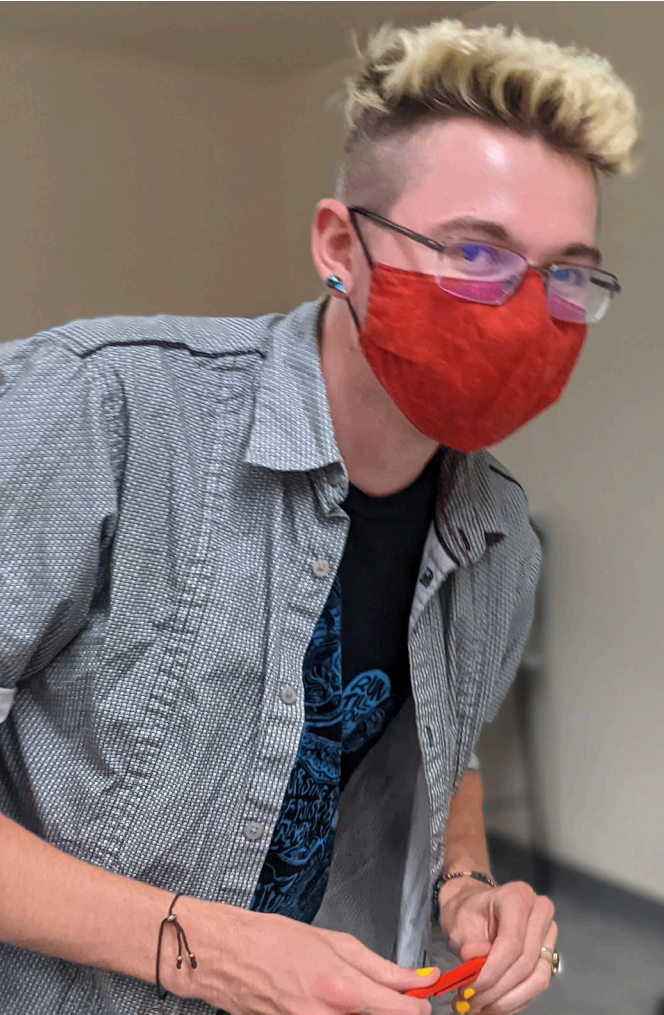
By investing in our student staff, we give them the space to create our culture.

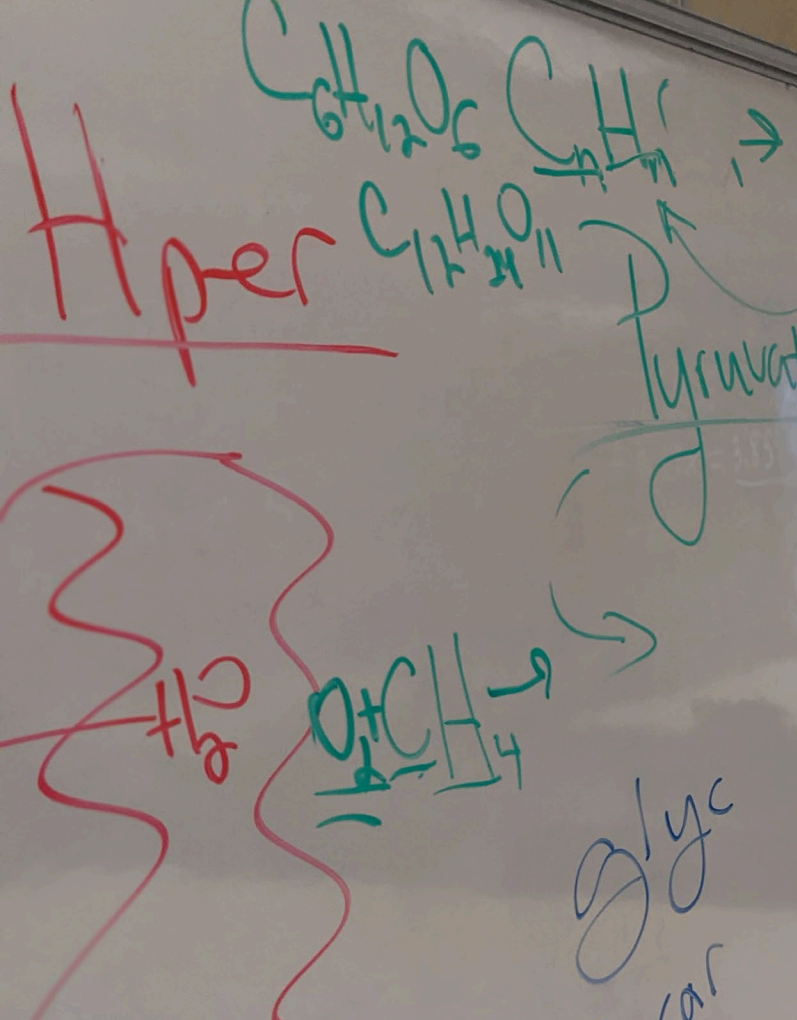
- They feel safe to make mistakes.
- They feel heard and valued for their contributions.
- They have autonomy and trust.
- They feel they have a future.


Cascading Culture

In turn, our student staff help our student clients,

- Feel welcomed into a community.
- Know that they aren't alone.
- See their learning as a personalized journey.
- Feel safe to make mistakes as part of their journey.
- .







**HKC helped improve
my skills. I came in not
knowing how to study
properly, and now I know
what studying skills
work for me. Anastasia**

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH WRITING SUPPORT

DR. KATIE GARAHAN

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

KEY POINTS

- Our mission
- Our impact
- A tutor's story
- A student's story
- Thank you!

SUPPORTING RADFORD'S WRITERS

OUR MISSION

We believe that learning to write is a life-long endeavor, and we welcome writers at any skill level and at any stage in the writing process, from brainstorming to revision. Our tutors are highly trained writing specialists who build collaborative relationships with students to help them gain confidence and hone their writing skills.

BUILDING A WRITING COMMUNITY

OUR IMPACT



ONE-TO-ONE TUTORING



WRITING WORKSHOPS



COMMUNITY EVENTS

A TUTOR'S STORY

BRYNN MILLER
ENGLISH GTA | CLASS OF '22

A STUDENT'S STORY

MONICA ROTH
EDUCATION MAJOR | CLASS OF '24

THANK YOU

E-MAIL:
writingcenter@radford.edu

PHONE:
(540) 831-7605

LOCATION:
Hemphill Hall 4800

WEB:
radford.mywconline.com

THE WRITING CENTER

Building a Writing Community | Fall '21



RU

EXPERT TUTORS

- "My tutor reads and edits at a doctoral level."
- "My tutor was straight forward and honest. Very helpful and knowledgeable."
- My tutor is astute in terms of reasoning, interrogating evidence and thought processes."
- My tutor answered all my questions in a way that I was easily able to understand."
- "The fact that my tutor has teaching experience was incredibly helpful."

COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

- "My tutor was very respectful."
- "I really appreciate how I can come in and not feel self-conscious about my writing."
- "My tutor was helpful, friendly, and patient."
- "Everyone was so very helpful and kind."
- "My tutor is fun to work with and makes me comfortable."
- "My tutor noted she loved one of my lines in my paper even though we were working on something separately."

CONFIDENT WRITERS

- "My tutor really helped me elaborate and feel more confident in my writing."
- "After coming here, I'm very confident in my writing."
- "My consultant made me feel my paper was well done."
- "I could tell my tutors care about my work. I am leaving feeling prepared for success."
- "I think this paper will be one of my best ones yet."

99%

of surveyed clients were satisfied with their appointment.

98%

of surveyed clients learned a writing skill they will use in the future.

100%

of surveyed clients received clear suggestions from their tutor.

99%

of surveyed clients are likely to visit the Writing Center again in the future.

Fostering a Sense of Belonging Academic Support Services at RUC

Al Overstreet, M.Ed.
Director
Academic Support Services RUC

RUC Academic Support Services Learning and Writing Center (LWC)

Free for all Radford University Carilion students

Located on 5th floor - Rooms 506, 507 and 508

- PASS (Pathways to Academic Student Success)
- Subject Tutoring
- Writing Assistance
- Educational Testing Center
- NetTutor
- Starfish

What Encourages a Sense of Belonging: Building Meaningful Relationships

- Starts at or even before new student orientation
- Normalize the need for help from others
- Anticipate barriers
- Be Proactive
- Take time to listen
- Referrals to appropriate resources

What we want students to feel..

- Someone took the time to listen.
- Someone is trying to understand me and my unique circumstances.
- I'm respected.
- I'm valued.
- I'm not being judged.
- I don't have to be perfect.
- I'm being supported.
- I'm not in this alone.
- I've been given helpful tips and suggestions.
- I have hope.
- Someone cares.

Student Story

Minutes

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

1:30 P.M.

DECEMBER 2, 2021

**MARY ANN JENNINGS HOVIS MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
MARTIN HALL, THIRD FLOOR, RADFORD, VA**

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham, Vice Chair
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes
Mr. David Smith
Dr. Katie Hilden, Non-voting Faculty Advisory Member

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT

Ms. Charlene A. Curtis

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Mr. Robert Archer, Rector

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Carolyn R. Lepre, Interim President
Ms. Karen Castele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Special Assistant to the President
Dr. Angela Joyner, Interim Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Dr. J. Orion Rogers, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Deb Love, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Education Section Chief
Dr. Joe Wirgau, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship
Skylar Roberson, Radford University Student
Sam Williams, Radford University Student
Luc White, Radford University Student

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room in Martin Hall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the December 2, 2021 meeting agenda for the Academic Excellence and Research Committee. Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes so moved, Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2021 meeting of the Academic Excellence and Research Committee, as published. Dr. Fowlkes so moved, Mr. David Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs J. Orion Rogers, Ph.D. began his report by sharing that the fall 2021 semester has been very successful in Academic Affairs with the implementation of the REAL curriculum, as well as planning for the development of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) and submission of the Compliance Certification Report. Interim Provost Rogers shared that the first seven faculty appointments as Academic Leadership Fellows (AL Fellows) were announced on September 3, 2021. The AL Fellows program is designed to support leadership development and continuing student support through campus-wide faculty-student engagement. Interim Provost Rogers shared that the Academic Success Center, the Center for Career and Talent Development and many University faculty were present on October 4, 2021 to provide students the REAL Experience, formerly the Majors and Minors Fair. Representatives from more than 45 academic programs were present to talk with students about exploring academic programs and student engagement opportunities, as well as majors and minors within Radford University's new REAL curriculum. The curriculum features majors in 43 areas of study and more than 90 minors.

Interim Provost Rogers provided an update on faculty receiving emeritus status, including:

Professor Reginald Shareef	Department of Political Science
Professor Paul Witkowski	Department of English
Professor Don Secreast	Department of English
Professor Tim Poland	Department of English
Professor Carolyn Mathews	Department of English
Professor Rosemary Guruswamy	Department of English
Professor Garth Montgomery	Department of History
Professor Edward Udd	Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Professor Mark Wagstaff	Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Interim Provost Rogers shared information regarding reorganization in the Office of the Provost, including the position of Budget and Human Resources Manager for Academic Affairs will be filled by Ms. Vickie Taylor; the position of Executive Assistant to the Provost will be filled by Ms. Rhonda Conner; the position of Associate Provost for Research, Faculty Success and Strategic Initiatives has been filled by Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick through a modification of her position of Associate Provost for Academic Programs; the position of Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Education has been filled by Dr. Nicole Hendrix through a modification of her position of Executive Director of General Education.

Interim Provost Rogers reported that Mr. Paul Orkiszewski has been appointed Dean of the Libraries and is currently serving as Interim Dean of the Libraries at Appalachian State University where he leads 39 faculty and 55 staff in fulfilling the teaching and learning mission of the university Libraries with a budget of more than \$10 million. He earned a Bachelor of

Music degree and a Master of Music degree from Rice University, as well as a Master of Library and Information Science degree from University of Texas at Austin.

In conclusion, Interim Provost Rogers stated that the Surgical Technology Program at Radford University Carilion in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services is an associate degree program that was added to the Radford University curriculum at the time of the merger with Jefferson College of Health Sciences in July of 2019. This associate degree program will be transitioning to Virginia Western Community College on July 13, 2022. The two faculty members currently employed in the Surgical Technology program at RUC will become faculty members at Virginia Western Community College to continue the program with a seamless transition for the students.

Sense of Belonging Through Research Presentation

Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Joe Wirgau, Ph.D. began the presentation by providing an overview of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (OURS) and describing their use of four pillars- providing opportunities to present internally and externally, increasing the number of students gaining access to undergraduate research, provide students with the tools needed to leverage these experiences, and develop and support the faculty who provide these opportunities. Dr. Wirgau introduced students Skylar Roberson, Sam Williams and Luc White who shared their experiences and the positive impact the program and mentorship have made in their lives.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Faculty Senate President Katie Hilden, Ph.D. provided information on three initiatives that showcase how faculty are proactively engaging in efforts to maintain the academic health at Radford University. The Course Minimums Committee has studied the trend of low enrolled courses at Radford and examined how other universities have developed policies and procedures around courses with low enrollment. A policy was drafted last spring and deans piloted it this summer with chairs. A University-wide system now exists for collecting course enrollment data to examine trends across and within colleges. The Academic Program Review for 2021-2022 academic year has paused due to faculty recognizing that the current process hasn't worked and to initiate revision of the Academic Program Review and Enhancement Committee's composition and charge. Additionally, a Working Group has been created to develop criteria that could be applied when filling open or vacant faculty positions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Brewster adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda D. Conner
Administrative Assistant to the Office of the Provost

End of Board of Visitors Materials

