

# RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

## STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

4:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 1, 2022

ROBERT A. ARCHER EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM  
MARTIN HALL, SECOND FLOOR, RADFORD, VA

### **DRAFT** MINUTES

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Mark Lawrence, Chair  
Mr. Tyler Lester  
Mr. George Mendiola, Jr.  
Mr. Marquett Smith

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ms. Lisa Pompa, Vice Chair  
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham  
Ms. Michaela Baker, Non-Voting Student Advisory Member

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President  
Dr. Marten denBoer, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mr. Craig Cornell, Vice President for Enrollment Management  
Dr. Eric Plummer, Chief of Police  
Ms. Angie Mitchell, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students  
Ms. Tricia Smith, Associate Vice President for Student Life  
Ms. Nancy Loosle, Associate Vice President for Campus Life-RUC  
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Executive Director of Governmental Relations

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Mark Lawrence, Chair, formally called the meeting to order 4:10 p.m. in the Robert A. Archer Executive Conference Room in Martin Hall.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Lawrence asked for a motion to approve the December 1, 2022 meeting agenda for the Student Success Committee, as published. Mr. Marquett Smith so moved, Mr. George Mendiola, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Lawrence asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022 meeting of the Student Success Committee, as published. Mr. Smith so moved, Mr. Mendiola seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS**

Ms. Justine McLaughlin, Student Government Association (SGA) President, presented an update on SGA initiatives and programming. Two Cabinet and seven Senate members joined the organization this semester. SGA has hosted numerous events so far this year including a tailgate at the women's soccer game, breast cancer awareness trivia night, trunk or treat and pumpkin painting. An intentional goal for each event is to create a sense of belonging for students through relationship building. Civic engagement and voter registration information sessions were held. Talk About it Thursday Surveys have been collected each week. UnityFest planning is underway and will be held again in the spring semester.

Vice President for Student Affairs Susan Trageser gave an update on the Student Affairs goals with a focus on process improvement and highlighted work in the areas of first-generation student support and student well-being. Through process mapping, the Division of Student Affairs has been reviewing and updating business practices to increase efficiency, reduce errors and ensure compliance all with the goal of easing student usage, access and engagement. The various forms of communication with students regarding decisions and policies are also being reviewed.

The Center for Opportunity and Social Mobility was established in fall 2021 to support first-generation students. Current enrollment is 32% first generation. The Center facilitates connections for first-generation students to their peers through social programming. Informational sessions and events are held and focus on available campus and community resources and navigating processes. First-generation students have been given the opportunity to connect with faculty and staff who are also first generation. The first gen union, a student organization, was established this semester. Students Sydney Jackson and Chelsy Alonso spoke to the committee regarding their experience as a first-generation student.

Vice President Trageser presented the framework that guides work geared toward health and wellness initiatives. A holistic, individualized and collaborative approach is employed to support students and their well-being. As the largest student employer on campus, Student Recreation and Wellness staff have a direct line to building relationships with students that foster and promote dialog leading to referrals and resources. Student Recreation and Wellness is also reviewing efficiencies such as a consistent application for all positions that will be implemented spring semester.

The Dean of Students office provides advocacy and support to students with varying levels of need through many avenues and processes.

Assistant Provost of Undergraduate Education Nicole Hendrix reported on the Highlander Student Success initiatives. The Student Impediment Reduction Committee was formed to focus on improvement in operations to reduce impediments to student success and retention. Drop for nonpayment procedures will change and a reduction in off-grid course scheduling. Sub-committees have been formed to review processes and identify changes that may be needed to improve or enhance the student experience. Midterm grades were reported by 96% of faculty. Any student with a D or F at midterms was contacted by the Highlander Success Center to offer help and support.

New student orientation has been refined to a one-day format to be held in early summer. Enhanced connections will take place over the summer months and new students will come to campus earlier in August for an extended orientation and introduction to campus life.

Expanded pathways to success will help to ensure student success. A focus on curriculum, connections and career has been designed to support students at each stage of their college journey.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Lawrence adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jenni Webb  
Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs  
Secretary to the Committee

End of Board of Visitors Materials

