

The MAGAZINE of

# RADFORD

FALL 2014

UNIVERSITY



Maya Angelou

1928–2014



**WE REMEMBER** and celebrate the life of Maya Angelou, who was named Radford University's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the 1989-90 academic year and returned to

Dear Alumni and Friends of Radford University,

Greetings from your Radford University!

Many of our experienced readers of *The Magazine of Radford University* may notice this edition's unique cover and think it may look familiar.

There are few occasions in our lives when we meet someone who has been so influential in telling the human story. For many of us associated with Radford University, that once in a lifetime opportunity was learning from one of humanity's greatest advocates — Maya Angelou.

As we were finalizing this edition of the magazine, deciding what might be the most compelling cover illustration, we were saddened to learn of her passing. As we recounted her life's inspirational story, we recalled that few others captured the human spirit the way she did. We felt inspired to commemorate with the Radford University family her many contributions, doing so with this portrait as the cover for our magazine.

It is rare that we have the opportunity to know personally someone so passionate and eloquent as she was. In Radford University's case, our first opportunity was during her service as Radford University's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the 1989-90 academic year. She made a lasting and heartfelt impression on many RU faculty and students — inspiring them to be lifelong learners and advocates for humanity and justice.

Then, in 2006 in conjunction with my inauguration, we were privileged to have her return to RU and participate, along with Jehan Sadat, widow of slain Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, Virginia First Lady Anne Holton, and myself, in a symposium on women's leadership. Once again Maya Angelou inspired another generation of RU students and faculty.

Through her lifetime of work, Angelou offered uncommon wisdom and insight into the human spirit, as only she could. Like many that day in 2006, I was captivated by her story and her determination in light of adversity as I sat on the panel with her. She touched us all in so many ways, inspiring us to be better citizens of the world and advocates for mankind.

And so, when we learned of her passing, we felt that we wanted to honor her and her connection to our university by republishing the portrait of her that first appeared on the April 1990 edition of this magazine. This beautiful work of art was painted by RU's own Professor of Art Zheng Liang-Feng, M.F.A. '89.

As another example of her graciousness towards others, we have also included her heart-warming poem honoring the artist, reprinted on the facing page.

Maya Angelou was an author, playwright, poet, actress, historian and educator. Through her work and her experiences, she was also a spokesperson for humanity. Her conscience lives on through all of us as we aspire to make our communities and our world better places in which all individuals are valued and respected, and in which learning and education are cherished. I am proud to say those aspirations thrive at Radford University today through the commitment of our faculty, staff, students and generations of alumni.

With warmest regards,

Penelope W. Kyle



**From left: Jehan Sadat, The Honorable Anne B. Holton, Maya Angelou and President Penelope W. Kyle**

campus to speak about women's leadership in conjunction with President Kyle's inauguration as the first female president of Radford University.



## Z.L. Feng Knows This Man

By Maya Angelou

*I know this man.* He worked and waited months and years to find oil. When the black gold gushed skyward, he ran to bathe in it, showering in the slick blackness. When the earth returned him brackish water or nothing at all, he hitched up his britches, pulled up his stakes and strode on ancient cowboy boots across the hard land to place another claim, to plant another hope.

*You know this man.* High sounding words have spoken to him of wisdom, but it is time which has made him wise. Hard, but hopeful, loyal, but often absent. He might give a good word in the morning, and an impatient grunt by nightfall.

*We know this man.* He looks to the future, but old landscapes crowd his vision. His eyes are irritated with the dust of unrealized ambitions.

I, you and we know this man, for he continues to dream our dream: Somewhere deep in the earth, up beyond the clouds, perhaps over the next mountain top, the answers to our perennial questions await,

Where did we come from?  
Why are we here?  
Where are we going?



The April 1990 issue of the magazine featured Maya Angelou on the cover and contained Z.L. Feng's painting "Miles to Go?" and the poem reproduced here.

The collaboration resulted from a serendipitous exchange between the writer and artist during the meeting when Angelou reviewed her portrait.

A story about Professor Z.L. Feng was featured in the Fall 2013 issue of *The Magazine of Radford University*.



Left to right: Dr. Donald Dedmon (RU President 1972-1994), Maya Angelou as RU's Distinguished Visiting Professor for 1989-90, Arthur J. Goldberg and Dr. Karl H. Pribram

# RADFORD UNIVERSITY

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## CONTENTS

**3** Up front

**26** Sports

**40** Class notes

### Alumni

**10** Shredding stereotypes

Mimi Knoop '00

**14** Communication crusader

Cynthia Price '87

### Research

**18** Polar tech

Polar ice research team returns richer in data and experience

**20** Aero drive

Physics major Brian Uthe researches vehicle wind drag solutions

**22** Taking a stab at a cure

Collaborative research aims to mitigate mosquito-borne viruses

### The arts

**28** Small space, big idea

**29** Hayes' stage

**30** Opening digital doors

**31** By design

### Campus

**32** Building minds and bodies

### Student affairs

**36** Advocacy

**38** Century of leadership

**39** Alumni empower future Greek leaders

**40** Four score+



## HIGH HONORS FOR HIGHLANDERS

### Military friendly

**SINCE THE GI BILL** went into effect at the end of World War II, many American universities have maintained a special relationship with service members and veterans of the United States military.

Radford University is committed to its military and veteran students and was recently recognized for its efforts in the 2014 Guide to Military Friendly Schools. The guide acknowledges institutions for their contributions to the education of veterans.

According to the Military Friendly Schools website, “These schools offer military students the best services, programs, discounts, scholarships, clubs, networking and staff.” Military Friendly Schools focus on recruiting military students and bolstering the policies, efforts and results that positively serve military and veteran students.



Victory Media, the parent publishing company for G.I. Jobs, The Guide to Military Friendly Schools, Military Spouse magazine and Vetpreneur magazine, sets standards for ranking the most military-friendly employers in the nation as well as for schools that recruit military personnel and veterans as students.

A cornerstone of RU's commitment to its military and veteran students is the university's Military Resource Center (MRC). The purpose of the center is to support those students with ties to the military, especially student veterans. By offering programs geared to former service members, the MRC supports veterans' integration into academic and professional lives at RU by providing support networks and a central resource for veterans' information on campus and in the local community.

“Looking toward the future,



Radford University is committed to improving our services to better serve our veterans, their families and ROTC students in our community,” said Interim Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Matt Dunleavy.

As part of that mission for the future, the MRC coordinates several programs for the benefit of active military and veteran students, including multiple RU veteran student organizations; the RU Student Veteran Research Team, which studies the needs of military students on campus; and the services of an academic transition coach dedicated to the needs of RU's military and veteran population.

### Washington Monthly magazine honors RU

**RADFORD UNIVERSITY** was recognized in 2013 as a “Best Bang for the Buck” institution by Washington Monthly magazine.

In the September-October edition, RU was ranked 15th of 152 U.S. universities categorized as master's institutions and 44th of the 349 top-ranked colleges and universities in all categories. Radford University was the highest ranked Virginia university in both categories.

Washington Monthly evaluated 1,572 colleges and universities across the United States in determining its rankings. “We created our ‘Best Bang for the Buck’ ranking—our exclusive list of the colleges in America that do the best job of helping ... students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices. And it is a pretty exclusive list. Only 349 made the cut as best-bang-for-the-buck schools,”

**BEST  
BANG  
FOR THE  
BUCK**

wrote Robert Kelchen for Washington Monthly. Kelchen is an assistant professor of higher education in the Department of Education Leadership, Management and Policy at Seton Hall University.

“We are again honored that Radford University has been nationally recognized for offering a high-quality education to our students that is also within reach financially,” said President Kyle. “Students

have many choices regarding which university is best suited for them. This ranking helps them and their families make informed decisions. It validates that RU is an excellent institution, offering one of the best values in the nation.”

According to Washington Monthly, its specific combination of ranking criteria produces a list that spotlights schools not routinely recognized on other national college rankings.

## Radford University ranks in U.S. News & World Report

**2014  
BEST  
REGIONAL  
UNIVERSITIES  
IN THE  
SOUTH**

**U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT** lists Radford University among its Best Colleges 2014 rankings.

RU moved from 50th place (2013 edition) to 32nd place (2014 edition) of public and private universities in the south region category. Radford University was also named as one of the top 20 public regional universities in the South, going from 21st place last year to 13th place.

“We’re pleased that Radford University continues to be recognized

as one of the top universities in our region,” said President Kyle. “I am delighted at this achievement. This ranking is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff, who are very committed to our students. Radford University is known for offering a quality, student-focused education, and this ranking validates that RU is achieving its goal.”

## DesignIntelligence lists RU among top interior design schools in the South

**FACULTY AND STUDENTS** already know that the RU Department of Interior Design and Fashion (ID&F) provides one of the region’s finest undergraduate educations in interior design. A recent ranking as one of the Top Interior Design Schools in the South for 2014 is spreading the word around the country.

The ranking was published in the latest edition of America’s Best Architecture and Design Schools, published by DesignIntelligence, which lauded RU ID&F programs in fashion design, interior design, fashion merchandising, interior merchandising, design management and design culture.

“I am of course thrilled but not surprised to hear about DesignIntelligence’s recognition of the quality of our interior design program,” said Joe Scartelli, former dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, which houses ID&F. “For years, I have been observing the faculty, led by Holly Cline, methodically hone the curriculum and provide the experiential learning that best prepares students for the contemporary expectations and demands of the profession.”

Earlier in 2013, DesignIntelligence asked firm leaders, deans and students to offer their perspectives on which programs best prepare the next generation of design talent. More than 1,300 firms and corporate leaders in all design disciplines responded with their picks for the country’s best programs.

Programs were ranked on overall quality as well as their ability to teach critical skills like analysis and planning, communication, cross-disciplinary teamwork and sustainable design.



Staying at the top of the rankings is a challenge, according to Cline, department chair. Cline points to the strong, supportive relationships found between the ID&F’s students and educators as the secret to Radford’s success.

“We’re very hands on,” said Cline. “The faculty is always here—there aren’t graduate students teaching our classes; it’s all housed within our department—and it’s a very close-knit group.”

RU’s ID&F has previously appeared as one of DesignIntelligence’s top 10 programs in the country.

In addition to the stellar undergraduate experience, the ID&F Master of Fine Arts in Design Thinking was named one of the best affordable online degree programs in Virginia by Affordable Colleges Online. The M.F.A. in Design Thinking provides students with in-depth experiences in using the design process to solve complex problems. While enrolled in this graduate program, students participate in interdisciplinary teams using creative and multifaceted design methodologies that address international issues.

## RU receives “best value” recognition as a top 75 U.S. public university

**FOR THE SECOND** consecutive year, Radford University has been lauded as one of the best institutions of higher education in the nation by The Princeton Review’s “The Best Value Colleges: 2014 edition,” which profiles 75 public and 75 private colleges and universities.

The Princeton Review surveyed 2,000 colleges and universities in 2012-13 and considered academics, cost and financial aid data, as well as student opinion surveys. Radford University was also named to the Princeton Review’s Best Value College listing in 2013.

James Pennix, the university’s dean of admissions, said, “RU is known as one of the best academic values in Virginia. We offer a number of options to ensure that students from all demographic and economic strata have the means to reach their educational goals.”

The full list and information about all 150 colleges and universities in The Princeton Review’s “2014 Best Values College Edition” can be found online on at

[www.princetonreview.com/bestvaluecolleges](http://www.princetonreview.com/bestvaluecolleges) and [bestvaluecolleges.usatoday.com](http://bestvaluecolleges.usatoday.com).



## Growing up and giving back

### Richfield funds 4 full-tuition scholarships for nursing students

**NURSING MAJOR** Kevin Soriano says caring for the elderly is his way of giving back to those who have created opportunities for his generation. Soriano lived in the Philippines until he was 13, when his father received a job that allowed his family to move to Centreville, Va. He has a great appreciation for the opportunities available in America because of the previous generations who have worked hard and created a way of life.

“They were the ones who set us up so we can have a great future ahead of us. They have the right to relax and enjoy the rest of their lives,” Soriano said.

Soriano’s grandmother Ofelia moved with the family to America. She was then employed for years as a caregiver at a nursing home and introduced Soriano to the importance of the work. “I used to visit her all the time, and it gave me the opportunity to meet such wonderful people,” Soriano said.

While in high school and on summer break from Radford, Soriano was employed as a cook in a nursing home specializing in Alzheimer’s care. “It was a truly humbling experience and is an experience for which I will always be grateful. Even though I only worked as a cook, I was in the facility for 12 hours a day. In my free time, I walked around and conversed with the

residents. It was tough because it was difficult for me to see how someone can just lose their memories and the ability to care for themselves. The residents struggled to perform the most basic and habitual actions like eating,” Soriano said.



**Kevin Soriano with his grandmother Ofelia**

This was when he realized that gerontological nursing is where he can make a difference. He watched the nurses at the facility care for their Alzheimer’s patients and was inspired. “These nurses would power through

every difficulty and still provide the care that these residents needed. It really does take a special person to be able to do that,” Soriano said.

He is in his second year of nursing school and looks forward to making a difference in a resident’s life. Soriano recently received a full scholarship for his last year at RU from Richfield Retirement Community. He will work for the facility for two years following graduation as a nurse in its Salem location. Soriano is looking forward to every day that he can make a difference in someone’s life.

“Working in a nursing home and talking with the Alzheimer’s patients gave me the opportunity to provide joy and make a difference. Just seeing the warmth in their smiles helped me power through my most difficult days. Even though the patients never remembered my name, they would always ask for it. While it’s unfortunate that these people never remember my name, it is a chance to make them happy over and over. I look forward to being that person to provide them company and the care they deserve,” Soriano said.

American poet Maya Angelou is one of Soriano’s favorite authors. “She said, ‘They may forget your name, but they will never forget how you made them feel.’ That definitely rang true in my experiences. I want to make a difference in someone’s life and do something bigger than myself,” Soriano said.

# New Deans Join RU Community

Following national searches and a series of candidate interviews, two new deans have taken the reins of Radford University's College of Business and Economics (COBE) and College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA).

Dr. George Low, COBE's new dean, brings a wealth of professional and academic experience

that will complement its tradition of excellence. Margaret Devaney, former chair of the RU Department of Dance, was selected as CVPA dean in order to continue growing that college's already impressive artistic profile.

"Deans Low and Devaney were selected from extremely competitive fields of candidates with a wide

**LOW** comes to Radford with a unique mix of professional and academic experience that will help connect COBE with the world beyond campus.

## George Low, COBE

Low was formerly the associate dean for Undergraduate Studies and International Programs at Texas Christian University's M.J. Neeley School of Business in Fort Worth.

"Dr. Low has an exciting vision to build upon the successes of RU's

College of Business and Economics, including our focus on scholarship and preparing our students for the dynamic career fields they will experience," Kyle said.

In addition to his administrative roles at Texas Christian, Low served as marketing department chair (2007-11), associate professor of marketing (since 2000) and assistant professor of marketing (1996-2000).

Low also served as an American Council on Education Fellow at the University of Texas at Arlington (2011-12) and has taught marketing at the University of Lethbridge,

Alberta, and Brigham Young University's Marriott School of Management.

Low brings to RU expertise in marketing communications management, brand and product management and marketing performance management.

"We are honored to welcome him to Radford University," said President Kyle.

Prior to his career as an administrator and educator, Low worked in advertising throughout Canada.

Low earned a Ph.D. in Business Administration at the University of Colorado-Boulder Graduate School of Business Administration, a Master of Business Administration from The University of Western Ontario Richard Ivey School of Business, and a Bachelor of Arts in advertising at Brigham Young University.

COBE's graduate and undergraduate programs in business administration are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB). Less than 15 percent of the world's business schools have achieved business and/or accounting accreditation from AACSB (607 business schools worldwide as of December 2010).

Recently, the college was listed as one of the Princeton Review's "Best 295 Business Schools" in 2014.





variety of skills and experiences,” said President Kyle. “Their confident stewardship of these colleges will benefit the entire Radford community.”

Low and Devaney assumed their new positions on July 1, 2014.

“I want to sincerely thank the members of the COBE and CVPA dean search committees

for their great efforts to successfully conclude these searches,” said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Sam Minner. “Many highly qualified applicants were considered for these important positions and the committees demonstrated extraordinary commitment and dedication to their tasks,” Minner added.

**DEVANEY** has left her mark on CVPA already, having served as the chair of the RU Department of Dance since 1985 and as interim CVPA dean in 2010-11.

## Margaret Devaney, CVPA

“Her dedication to RU has proven to be second-to-none and her vision for the future of the College of Visual and Performing Arts will ensure students receive a superior education in all the arts disciplines,” said President Kyle. “She is a proven asset to our campus and we look forward to the energy and enthusiasm she will bring to her new role as dean.”

In addition to her service as a department chair and interim dean, Devaney remained active in the classroom as an associate professor of dance from 1985 through 2000.

Before joining the RU faculty, Devaney served as an assistant professor of dance at West Virginia University (1979-85) and an instructor of dance at Auburn University (1978-79).

Devaney earned a Master of Fine Arts in choreography and performance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1978. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in English literature and sociology at the State University of New York at Albany in 1973.

CVPA prides itself on the combination of artistic and academic excellence across all of the arts disciplines. Students in all CVPA programs—art, dance, interior design

and fashion, music and theatre and cinema—work closely with accomplished and renowned faculty who serve as outstanding mentors and professional role models. The college also presents an outstanding calendar

of events on an annual basis that provides the campus and community with a rich, vibrant variety of plays, exhibits, dance performances, design and fashion shows, concerts as well as outreach activities in the Radford region.



## Scartelli leaves a legacy as CVPA dean



# Here's to you, Joe!

**President Kyle  
applauds Joe Scartelli  
at the Arts Society's  
silver anniversary  
celebration in April.**

**SINCE 1988**, the Radford University College of Visual and Performing Arts has experienced tremendous growth and change, all guided by the steady hand of Dean Joseph Scartelli.

Scartelli stepped down at the end of the 2013-14 academic year and will return to the classroom. The successes of his tenure as dean are manifold, and he leaves the dean's chair with a job well done.

Perhaps one of the most telling successes of Scartelli's administrative career is the incredible growth of the Radford University Arts Society, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in April. For the past quarter century, the members of the Arts Society have gathered before university arts events to support students in the CVPA. The silver anniversary celebration fell on April 16, before a performance by master jazz pianist Chick Corea in Bondurant Auditorium.

"It's been 25 years since we started this Arts Society," Scartelli told the crowd. "Some of you were here. We started with almost nothing. But it continued to grow every year, in both good years and bad years, economically speaking."

The audience was shocked when



**Myrl Jones, president of the Arts Society, President Kyle, Joe Scartelli and wife Fran Scartelli.**

he announced that since the Society's inception, more than \$6 million in scholarships has been raised and awarded to students.

President Kyle offered a personal salute to the dean at the Arts Society gathering, recognizing his impending return to teaching.

"Joe, you have done an absolutely perfect job in building a college that expects excellence and exceeds expectations. Thank you for all you do and all you have done," the president said.

Scartelli joined the RU faculty in 1981 as the director of the school's music therapy program, which was new to the university at the time. He

took on the role of dean in 1988. Between 2009 and 2011, at President Kyle's request, Scartelli served as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Scartelli is an artist as well. He has been a key member of the Faculty Jazz Quartet, adding rich bass tones to the music of fellow faculty members Christopher White, Wayne Gallops and Al Wojtera.

Today, CVPA students readily enjoy access to all of the arts, leading to an experience in which the student's major is complemented by exposure to a diverse artistic environment. Students in all CVPA programs work closely with accomplished and renowned faculty who serve as outstanding mentors and professional role models.

It is estimated that nearly 4,000 students have graduated from the CVPA during Scartelli's tenure.

Although Scartelli will remain at RU as a teacher, his legacy as dean will not be forgotten. At the Arts Society 25th Anniversary Reception, Wojtera, chair of the Department of Music, offered one last toast to Scartelli, on behalf of the CVPA faculty.

"The chairs could not do our jobs without the support we've gotten from Joe," Wojtera said. "Joe, your work has enabled us to serve the students as best as we can."

# Five faculty and staff honored for excellence



Associate Professor of Education **Jennifer Jones** received the Donald N. Dedmon Distinguished Teaching Professor Award. The Dedmon award recipient must be dedicated to teaching as a primary function at the university, and demonstrate excellence in their teaching and advising of students.



Professor of Marketing **Angela Stanton** received the Distinguished Faculty Advising Award for her excellence in taking on the responsibilities of academic advising.

THE RADFORD UNIVERSITY Foundation honored five outstanding faculty and staff members at the conclusion of the 2014 Spring Semester.

The Radford University Foundation annually bestows awards upon teaching and administrative faculty whose performance has been exceptional. Nominations are made by members of the RU community, and award recipients are recommended to President Kyle by the Faculty Awards Committee.

Through the generosity of the Foundation, each award recipient received a plaque and a monetary prize at the Fall Convocation and, in consultation with a committee of colleagues, selected an outstanding student who receives a scholarship in the award recipient's name.

# Outstanding!



Associate Professor of Dance **Inessa Plekhanova** received the Distinguished Creative Scholar Award for her consistent record of creative contributions to her academic discipline. Creative Scholarship is defined to include basic and applied research, artistic production and creation of original works.



Associate Professor of Biology **Justin Anderson** was this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his service to RU over an extended period. Anderson's work on campus has contributed significantly to the enhancement of Radford's operations, academic climate and sense of community.



Academic Advising Coordinator in the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences **Deborah Kitts** received the Award for Administrative and Professional Excellence for her distinguished leadership and service in her role at RU.

## Mimi Knoop '00

is ecstatic when she hears about the vast number of skaters—particularly the girls who glide on longboards and regular size skateboards—who now populate the Radford University campus sidewalks and surrounding streets.

“That’s crazy,” said Knoop, nearly shouting with excitement. “It shouldn’t surprise me because that’s what I see everywhere I go now, but there really were none when I was on campus.”

By Chad Osborne

Skateboarding  
Fetereotypes



Photographs courtesy of Ricoy



**Knoop, far left, joins skateboard enthusiasts at a Hoopla event.**

Knoop, who now lives near San Diego, has been skateboarding since she was a young girl living on Virginia's East Coast and for a few years in Cuba, where her father was stationed with the Navy. She went to Radford to play soccer and famously, or perhaps infamously if you ask RU women's soccer Coach Ben Sohrabi, sped to practice down the hill to the Dedmon Center on her skateboard.

"She was the only girl on campus who skateboarded," recalled Carly O'Brien '00, Knoop's roommate and soccer teammate at Radford. "Everybody knew her. Everybody knew Mimi the skateboarder because back then, no girl skated. She was awesome. She was probably better than any guy."

Knoop turned riding skateboards for fun—though she insists that's all she's still doing—into a full-time, professional gig, winning numerous competitions, including five medals in ESPN's X Games. She has won numerous bowl contests around

the world and is known in skating communities as one of the top female vertical bowl skateboarders in the world.

"For many years, Mimi dominated women's skateboarding, especially in concrete bowls," said Colin Bane, an action sports writer for ESPN's XGames.com

Skateboarding has long been a passion for Knoop, but she has never been content with simply riding and performing tricks; she is driven to grow the sport's popularity, particularly among girls and young women.

"I want to help cultivate the sport for girls coming up," Knoop said. "That's something I'm passionate about. I feel like I've accomplished the goals I wanted to accomplish competing and I'll keep skating (competitively) as long as it's fun, but my main focus is on cultivating the sport."

Since Knoop turned pro in 2003, her passion for growing skateboarding

has allowed her numerous opportunities that stretched beyond skate parks and empty swimming pools. She's a promoter, a mentor and entrepreneur.

In 2005, Knoop, along with friend and skateboarding legend Cara-Beth Burnside and former sports agent Drew Mearns, formed The Alliance, an organization they use as a tool to promote and "give voice" to female skateboarders and other action sports athletes.

"Our goal is to keep women's skateboarding legitimate and fair and have the best girls skating at the top events," Knoop explained. "Not everyone knows about all the events, so we try to keep our fingers on the pulse so the best girls can get into these events and we can show the best skating."

In the beginning, Knoop and her colleagues at The Alliance took on the challenge of guaranteeing prize money for women action athletes was on par with prizes for male skaters,

“I want to help cultivate the sport for girls coming up.”

snowboarders and other action stars.

“At the time,” Knoop explained, “prize money for men and women was very different. Men could win 50 grand for finishing first place in an event and women would win \$2,000 for first place. There was no way to make a career out of skateboarding even if you were the best girl skater in the world.”

Knoop now serves as director of women’s events at the X Games, and her role as promoter jibes with her passion for bringing the top skaters in the world to the X Games as well as other top events. But it’s not just the big events that interest Knoop; she simply wants to help provide the opportunity to skate—anytime and anywhere—to those girls and boys who want to jump on a board.

That desire also led Knoop and Burnside to establish Hoopla Skateboards, a company that provides skateboards and equipment to girls “so they can get out there and do what they do,” Knoop excitedly explained.

Hoopla also is a team of skaters. “We’re a pretty tightly knit group,” Knoop proudly said of the group, who can be seen in videos on the company’s website. “It’s powerful for girls to see other girls skate. I can’t explain it, but it just does something and kind of ignites them.”

One of those team members receiving support from Knoop is Alana Smith, an up-and-coming 12-year-old girl skateboarder who in 2013 became the youngest person to earn a medal at the X Games.

The young star credits Knoop for helping her advance so quickly in the competitive sport.



“She has opened up many doors in the skating industry for me by introducing me to sponsors, sending me product and creating competitions for girls to attend that help us get our names out there,” Smith said while at a skate camp with Knoop in Kings Canyon National Park in California.

When it comes to identifying and positively promoting young skaters, ESPN’s Bane said Knoop and Burnside have a special talent.

“They’ve done a great job of identifying kids when they were young who showed some talent, and they helped them get on big stages like the X Games pretty quickly,” Bane said. “Mimi seems to have a really good eye for girls coming up.”

Aside from all the work of organizing and promoting events and skaters, Knoop still gets her kicks from skating.

“It’s still fun for me,” she said. “I’ve always said the day it stops being fun is the day I’ll stop competing. I like competition because it helps progression, ... and skating with the

top girls, they’re all so good now, it makes me want to improve my own skating. It’s all about progression and surprising yourself by doing things you thought you couldn’t do.”

Through her work with The Alliance and Hoopla Skateboards, Knoop said, she has seen skateboarding’s popularity grow among girls and women. “More girls are skating and more parents are putting their girls into skating now because there is a future there,” she said.

And with more girls skating, the standards and skills are growing, too. More girls and women, Knoop says, are strapping on helmets and knee pads and swooping through empty swimming pools, twisting through the air and gliding past pedestrians across college campuses everywhere.

“I’m really glad there are more girls skating at Radford now,” Knoop said. “I’m glad skateboarding has become more mainstream and accepted because it is such a fun thing to do. It’s a good confidence builder for anyone who tries it.” ■



Cynthia Price stands in a classroom brought back to Richmond from Ghana after it was updated by ChildFund International.



# COMMUNICATION CRUSADER

Cynthia Price '87 is a worldwide advocate for children

By Dan Waidelich



## WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNEW YOU COULD NOT FAIL?

Would you excel at school? Volunteer and serve your community? Travel the world?

Cynthia Price '87 chose all of the above. After graduating with a degree in English with minors in journalism and German, Price began to apply the education and opportunities she gained on campus into a career full of hard work, service, success and reward.

She knew she wouldn't fail.

"For me it was about finding the passion—communication—and giving back," Price said. "Then I've found the jobs that will let me do that."

Since 2008, Price has been the director of communications for ChildFund International, where she is responsible for the public relations projects of the organization on a global scale. Her work takes her around the world telling stories of poverty and need in the effort to make better lives for the children of the world.

"If you had asked me when I was at Radford what I'd be doing today, this would not be it, but you have to be open to opportunities and seize them when they come along," she said.

ChildFund was founded in 1938 to support orphanages for children left without homes or families in the wake of the second Sino-Japanese War. Since then, the organization's work has spread to 30 countries. In 2013, workers helped about 18.1 million children and their families. Price's work as director of communications makes her an important link

between workers in the field and potential sponsors back home, one of her most important duties.

ChildFund had boots on the ground in the Philippines to offer help after Typhoon Haiyan hit the country in 2013. It was Price's job to coordinate its messages to potential sponsors who could send funds to help with relief efforts.

"I was in Bangkok when the typhoon hit," she said. "When you see that devastation, you want to help, you want to do more."

Before her position with ChildFund, she dabbled in just about every communication profession possible. Price has served as the president of the National Federation of Press Women, taught as an adjunct professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, managed public affairs at the Richmond Police Department, served as an editor at the Federal Reserve and worked as a reporter in Harrisonburg.

"Every position I've had has been a stretch, and it's been well worth it," Price said.

Price originally hails from Bethlehem, Pa. She found her way to Radford after she and a high school guidance counselor discussed her criteria for a university.

"I was always a writer. I had worked on junior high and high school papers, so I just knew I was going to a college for writing and journalism. It would also have to have an English program with an emphasis in writing. It had to have volleyball. Radford came up."

In addition to earning her B.A. in English, Price was one credit shy of majors in both journalism and German. Although she didn't get involved in volleyball in her school days, she did contribute to campus as the editor of RU's



Price with one of her projects: a bus stop billboard

student newspaper, *The Tartan*.

One of Price's connections from *The Tartan* days is Virginia Sowers '85, communications manager for the Virginia Retirement System. Sowers worked as the editor of the paper when Price joined the team.

"She was determined, motivated, and I think that's really what helped her a lot," Sowers said of her friend. "I knew she was a goal setter. She wanted to work on *The Tartan*; she eventually became the editor."

The pair reconnected several times in their post-collegiate careers, and Sowers eventually went to work

for Price at ChildFund, where they enjoyed a positive, collaborative relationship.

"And in some ways we learned that at school," Sowers said. "Some of my most formative experiences were at Radford. It was just a really great environment. If you had motivation and interest, you could do just about anything. Some of my best friends are the people I met there."

Price also credits RU with really kicking off her career and putting her in touch with professionals and mentors who have provided guidance. Because of her belief in giving back,

she has taken on many projects and titles in service of the communities to which she belongs. She recently took on a new volunteer role as a member of the RU College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) Advisory Board. The board is made up of alumni and friends of the college who wish to act as liaisons between the professional world and students and faculty.

Members of the board commit their time to bringing valuable professional

“For me it was about finding the passion—communication—and giving back.”





Price with KISS band member Gene Simmons in Africa



experience back to campus to share and improve the quality of the college's offerings. Additionally, advisory board members have taken on alumni teaching roles, coordinated internships and encouraged networking opportunities.

"They're our connection to the outside world," said CHBS Dean Kate Hawkins. "They tell us what's going on in the professions."

Hawkins and Price first met in 2013 at a lunch for Radford alumni in Richmond. Hawkins struck a chord with Price when they began discussing the CHBS outlook for educating students.

"I was talking about the four competencies, which I mention to students all the time," Hawkins said. "Our students have to know how to communicate, collaborate in teams, use critical thinking and be creative. I remember Cynthia taking notes. She chose to write about that in her blog, and we first connected over that."

When Price asked Hawkins how she could get involved again with RU, the advisory board came up as a likely avenue for her efforts. After joining the board, Price made it clear that she was on a mission to help CHBS students' transition from college to their careers by mentoring and cultivating internship possibilities.

In her own career, Price has placed a high value on helping the next generation of professionals get on the right track. In one instance, a Radford student contacted Price about an internship. The student eventually did

such great work that Price hired her for a full-time position.

According to Price, joining the advisory board wasn't about focusing on the past, but it was about seizing opportunities to make a positive impact on the students and the college.

"She's just amazing because she does all things and she's totally bold," Hawkins said. "She decides to go do things and picks up and goes. That's who we want on the CHBS Advisory

Board. People who get interested in something and then make it happen."

There's never a dull moment for Price, who always looks forward to the next challenge and making new opportunities happen. Going forward, her revitalized connection to her alma mater is poised to benefit the campus in incredible ways. At the beginning of her advisory board tenure, she had advice for students based on her years of professional experience.

"There's another motto I really like," she said. "If you aren't standing on the edge, you're taking up too much space.' Try something new you haven't done before. Always be open to new experiences."

Cynthia Price left ChildFund International in April 2014 to become Director of Media and Public Relations at the University of Richmond.

"My first job was in university relations at Radford University," Price said. "Because of that experience, I knew that someday I would return to a university campus." ■

"She decides to go do things and picks up and goes."

Dean Kate Hawkins  
College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences



# POLAR TECH

## Polar ice research team returns richer in data and experience

By Don Bowman

**AGLOW FROM A** potential 'Eureka' moment and tired, RU's polar ice expedition returned from the Arctic's harsh, demanding environment richer in data and hard-won field experience.

The 18-person team, led by Physics Professor Rhett Herman, measured ice depth and surface ice temperature on the Chukchi Sea near Barrow, Alaska, for almost three weeks in the quest for a potential correlation and a protocol to accumulate data that could be used to assess the relative health of the polar ice cap. Carrying out the research was part of Physics 450—Arctic Geophysics—a physics class in the College of Science and Technology.

Herman described the 'Eureka' moment in the expedition's crowded quarters on March 12.

"We were all working at the time. I just happened to notice what Andrew had done and everything clicked. That's when I got the others to gather a bit and take a look."

He and the team were processing part of the day's data from the ice floes a quarter mile from their base in the former Naval Arctic Research Laboratory. Andrew Cohen, a sophomore physics major from Newport News, Va., asked Herman to look at the results of his particular analysis.

"It was late and my eyes were tired, but there it was—a picture showing a trend line of thermal data that corresponded to ice depth we had measured. It was a picture of ice surface temperature that showed that thick ice was cold and thin ice was warm," said Herman.

Cohen, who called the trip his introduction to scientific fieldwork, said, "It was pretty awesome. We went there to find a correlation and we saw it."

The members of the team, who worked on the ice for week-long stints in temperatures as low as 20 below with even colder wind chill temperatures, included RU undergraduate physics, geology and computer science students and faculty and students and faculty from the Southwest Virginia Governor's School of Math, Science and Technology (SWVGS). The team also included two student teachers from RU's School of Teacher Education and Leadership, led by Instructor of Science Education Mythianne Shelton from the physics department. The student teachers used video conferencing technology to provide live science lessons to K-12 classrooms in Southwest Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland on the research and the challenge of science. They also shared their unique experiential learning opportunity in the Arctic with two physical science classes, populated by future teachers;

the Roanoke and New River Valleys through live interviews on news broadcasts by WDBJ and WSLs and a briefing with President Penelope W. Kyle.

"One of the things you always hope is that a class like this will go smoothly," said Herman. "Well, it didn't. The team faced problems with equipment, ice depth and the cold. They had a lot to overcome and they did it in the best type of learning environment possible, the real world—where things don't go smoothly—not a lab setting where things can be controlled."

While the brutal temperatures wreaked havoc on the team's gear, Whistler, a thermal sensor unit developed by RU graduate and SWVGS science teacher Dan Blake, passed its baptism-by-ice with flying colors.

"Whistler was one of the few things that didn't fail," said Herman, who said the thermal sensor unit caught the attention of other academic and professional researchers who were working in the area.

Blake, a veteran of several preceding expeditions from RU to Barrow, and his SWVGS students created the second-generation infrared temperature sensor that was walked along the surface acquiring ice temperature data after commercial sensors proved unequal to the harsh arctic conditions.

"It is a beautiful thing, a piece of engineering genius that made a critical contribution," said Herman.

Cohen talked about the challenge of working in the environment where the team's arsenal of geophysical equipment—Ohm Mapper resistivity arrays, GPS units, infrared thermal sensors and ice drills - was lugged and toted across the bumpy ice while the polar winds whipped wind chill factors to below 40 degrees. "It is hard to work in that environment," he said. "The equipment had issues with the cold and everything we carried felt heavier. Up there it felt like you had been out four or five hours, when we were out only two."

Members of the class detailed both the experience and its scientific aspects at the 2014 Student Engagement Forum April 22–24, the 23rd annual convocation of RU student/faculty research collaboration. Seven geophysics teams and two education leadership teams presented various aspects of the class' research into the basic characteristics, structure and dynamics of polar sea ice. Herman added that team members will also collaborate to prepare a presentation for the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, December 15-19, in San Francisco. ■



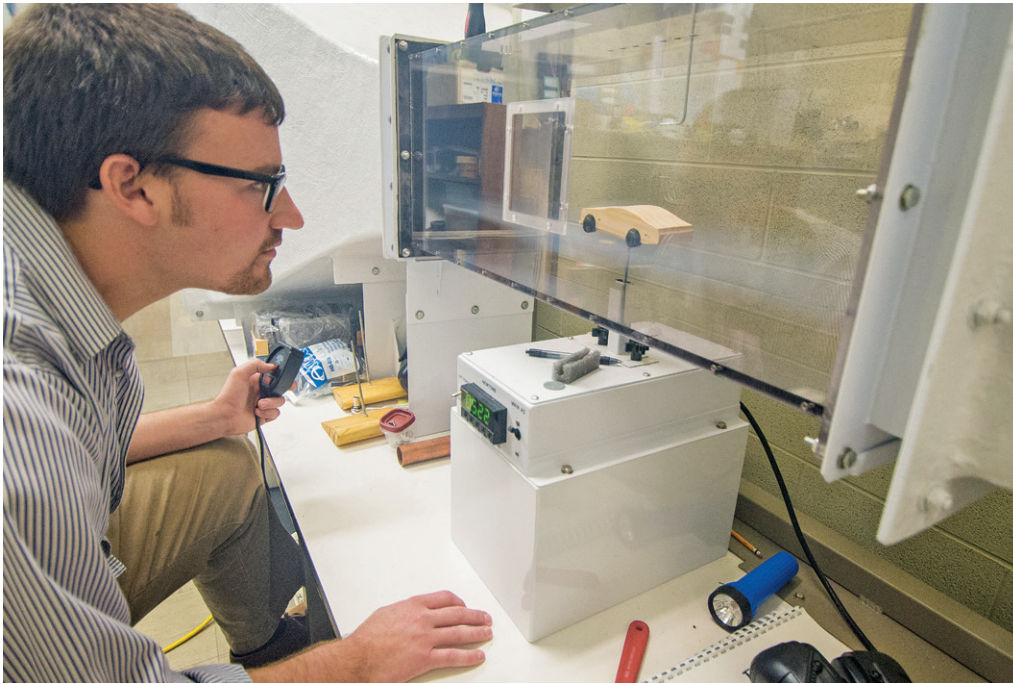


# Aero drive

Physics major Brian Uthe  
researches vehicle wind  
drag solutions

By Don Bowman

“It is always changing and evolving. That is what is so cool about science.”



**Brian Uthe, a physics major, watches as a trail of smoke flows over a model car in the wind tunnel he will be using to test some of his prototypes. He is trying to determine if surface dimpling indeed reduces drag force on vehicles.**

**FROM THE FIELD** to the physics faculty research lab, Brian Uthe is translating his drive for personal bests.

The senior physics major from Frederick, Md., has channeled his competitive drive from one venue to the other and is now embarked on an applied physics project investigating a way to make vehicles more fuel efficient.

Sidelined by an injury after two years as a member RU's track and field team, Uthe is developing his physics research portfolio with the same drive and determination that enabled him to become Maryland's 4A indoor shot put champion and a top-three Highlander hammer thrower.

"With both sports and research, you have a high level of expectations for yourself and need to do the work to make them real," he said. "In science, you have your hypothesis that deep down you hope will work."

The hypothesis that Uthe is testing under the mentorship of physics Professor Rhett Herman is that dimples in a vehicle's body—like a golf ball—will cut drag and make it more aerodynamic and fuel efficient. Testing that hypothesis with the physics department's wind tunnel in Curie Hall has been part of a consuming semester for Uthe.

About the "ah-ha" moment when he sensed that his hypothesis—dimpling helps a vehicle flow through the air more efficiently—might stand up, he said, "I was in the lab at 1 a.m. on a Friday when I saw the significant readings between 45 mph and 90 mph on the two different surfaces and thought 'Well, it worked out. Who would have thought it?'"

Uthe did and, with Herman's patient encouragement, he is now crafting wooden cars with dimpling to see how placement and depth variations on a model car body will affect its flow through the air at different speeds. Uthe's sometimes lonesome quest to build a body of work in physics research has been of great value to him. He said he has not only developed an important resume builder for his effort to get into a top-flight graduate school, but he has answered the question about whether he would like the life of a physics researcher.

"Oh, yeah," he said. "I am not done learning either, and there are so many new and interesting things out there in physics. It is always changing and evolving. That is what is so cool about science."



Uthe rattled off the aspects of research to which he has been introduced as an undergraduate: exploring, planning, presenting, preparing, building, learning, checking, pondering, venting and looking for the missing bolt to hold the wind tunnel shield in place after it fell under the bench in the lab.

His companion during the process has been Herman. "I feel like more of an equal, and we talk about results and what can be done. He has so much more knowledge than I do, but it is nice to see him get as excited as I do when the results come in. I really appreciate his support."

Uthe's fall semester was challenging, with the research project and a pair of independent study classes with other physics professors Walter Jaronski and Brett Taylor.

"They have high expectations and have made me grow. I would stay up all night if I could," said Uthe, who will earn his physics degree in May after only three years. "I have been able to compete at high levels athletically and academically, and opportunities have opened up for me. The supportive atmosphere in both those areas is something that I feel is unique to RU." ■



# Taking a stab at a cure

By Don Bowman

Collaborative  
research  
aims to mitigate  
mosquito-  
borne viruses

COLLABORATION is the way science is done now, and two Radford University professors are teaming up to explore how chemistry and biology can work together to take on viruses, a persistent health hazard.

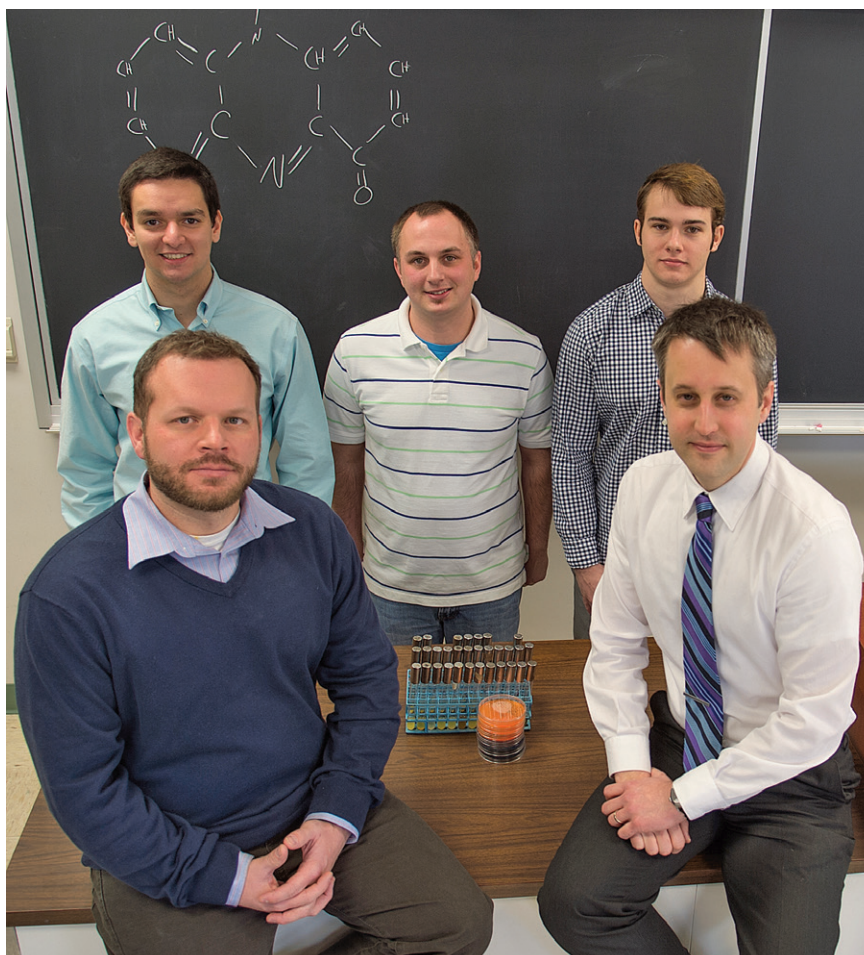
Christopher Monceaux '01, assistant professor of chemistry, said, "The future of chemistry is biology and working in teams."

Monceaux has teamed up with Justin Anderson, an associate professor of biology, to serve as principal investigators for a project called "Antiviral activity of phenazine pigments from *Pseudomonas* bacteria." The project is a recipient of a \$20,000 Multi-Disciplinary Faculty Research Program grant from RU.

The goal of the team's exploration now is finding an inhibitor, or something to stop or slow the spread of the La Crosse virus (LACV). Viruses are small infectious agents that replicate inside the living cells of other organisms. Viruses can infect humans, animals and plants as well as bacteria and single-cell microorganisms. LACV, which is transmitted by mosquitoes, can lead to the disease encephalitis in children under 16. The project's potential to improve public health is only part of the appeal to both Anderson and Monceaux, who are committed to helping their students immerse themselves in the excitement and technique of relevant scientific research.



**The research team of Christopher Monceaux '01, front left, Justin Andersen, front right, and Nima Hami, James Walker and Nathan Frisch, back row, left to right**



Last spring and summer, they engaged a pair of undergraduate biology majors—seniors Nathaniel Frisch and James Walker—and Nima Hami, a senior chemistry major, as part of a team to isolate and synthesize phenazine derivatives and test them for antiviral activity against LACV, one of myriad viruses that plague living things.

“In earlier research, we found some compelling data for how we might enhance public health by stopping the spread of viruses. A conversation with Chris has led to an exciting chance to do science that we think could make a contribution,” said Anderson. “Part of science is finding what hasn’t been done, and this team is excited to see what we can find and do together.”

Like most research, the project is based on the work of those who have gone before. Underpinning the project and fueling Anderson’s optimism are results from lab work, data collection and research by five previous undergraduate biology researchers over the last two years.

The goal of the team’s exploration now is finding an inhibitor.

The challenge facing scientists like Anderson, Monceaux and their student researchers is that each virus is unique and few antiviral drugs have been identified. Recent antiviral research has focused on the insidious HIV, herpes, hepatitis and influenza viruses. The RU team, like others in

the biochemistry field, are branching out and working to extend the range of antivirals to mosquito-borne pathogens such as LACV.

“This is antiviral research—applied science—being done right here at RU, and it shows our faculty pushing the bounds of what we know in science,” said Dean Orion Rogers of the College of Science and Technology (CSAT). “Together, this team can create and apply knowledge with potentially dramatic benefits.”

Anderson and Monceaux said

their team’s research would ideally lead to production of a drug that will protect individuals from the virus and improve public health. Both cautioned, though, there is much work—some exciting, some tedious—that must be done by the team this year and in the future toward that goal.

The current work in the biology lab is aimed at identifying and isolating strains of *Pseudomonas* bacteria that exhibit antiviral activity from cultures. The chemists will then attempt to

“This is antiviral research—  
applied science—being done  
right here at RU...”

Dean Orion Rogers  
College of Science and Technology

synthesize purified compounds, or pigments, and modify their antiviral activity to make it less toxic to cells and more lethal to the virus. The biology team will then expose the viruses in a cell-culture system to the chemists' synthetic antiviral compound and assess them for reduced infectivity.

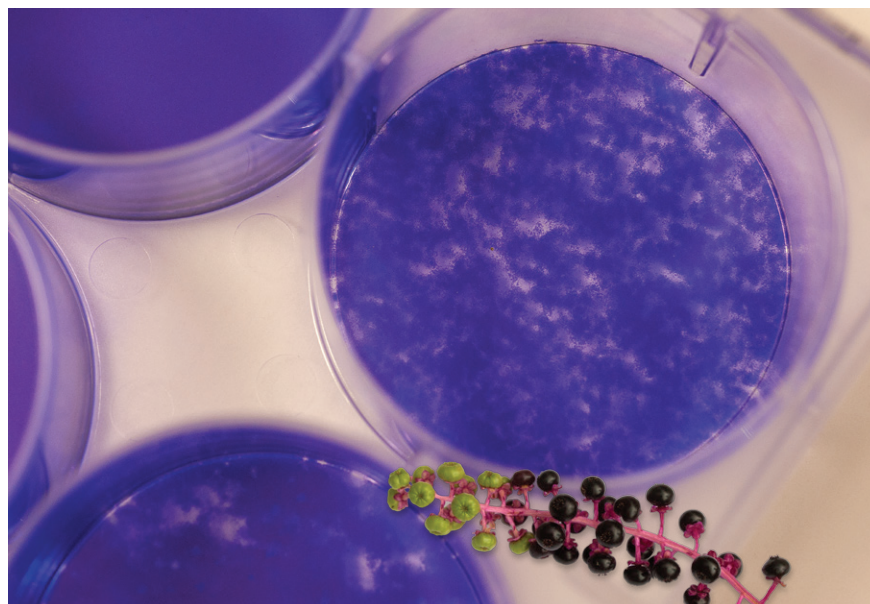
"In projects like this, students get valuable professional preparation as scientists and an understanding of the synergy of multidisciplinary work," said Monceaux. "They get vested, then they get addicted."

Anderson noted that RU CSAT undergraduates are increasingly earning double majors and lab experience as a complement to their classroom work.

"The best way to learn and practice science is in the laboratory," he said. "At Radford, students drive the research by performing the experiments, analyzing the results and determining the next steps."

The collaboration is a confluence of Anderson and Monceaux's research interests.

Anderson, a mosquito geneticist, runs the Radford Arbovirus and Medical Entomology laboratory on mosquito-borne diseases and



their ubiquitous carrier. The new initiative complements three other projects Anderson and his biology students have undertaken: identification of mosquito-borne virus receptors in mosquito tissues, identification of plant-derived compounds with antiviral and larvicidal activity and a study of bacteria-arbovirus-mosquito interactions.

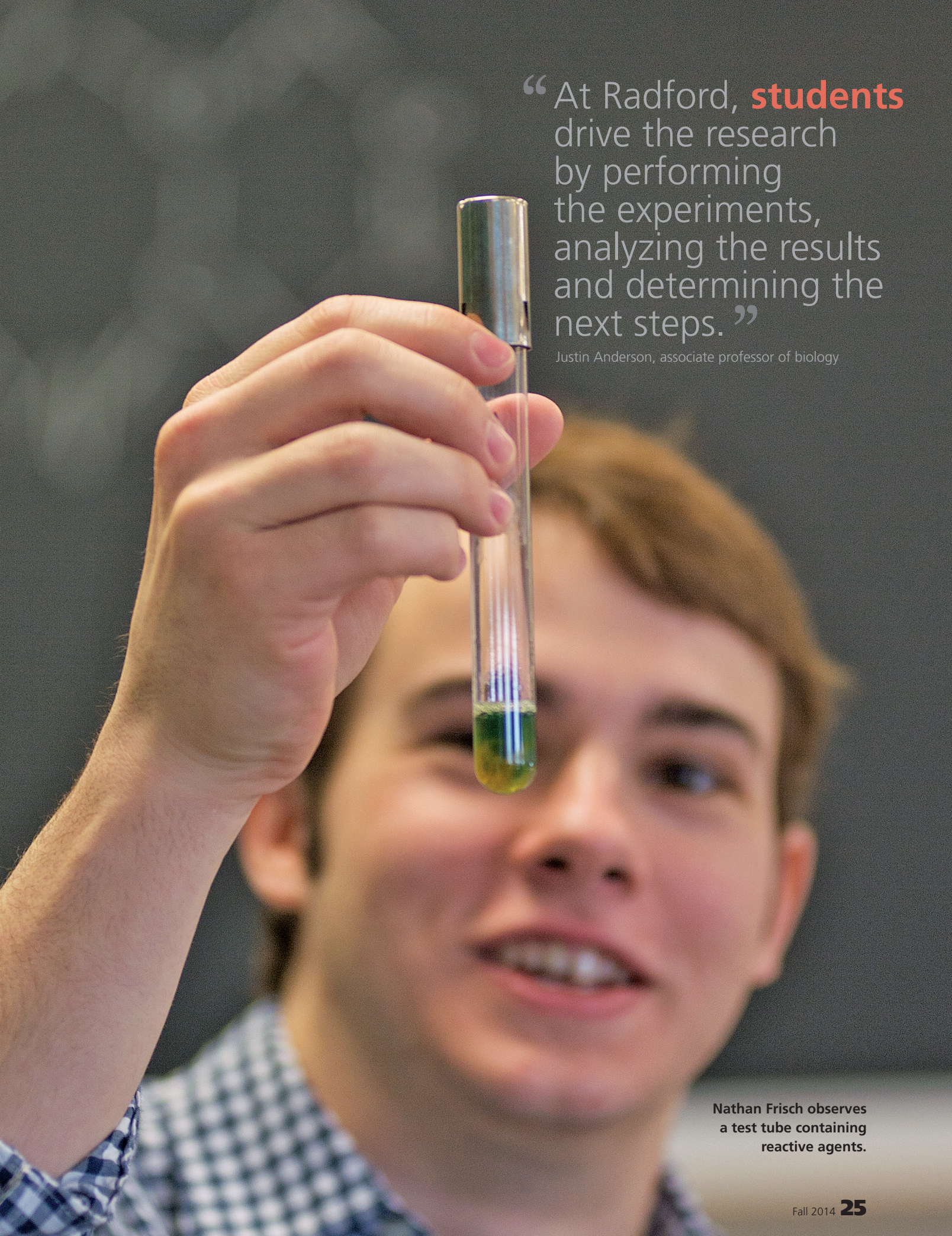
**RU researchers tested pokeweed, right, to determine if it can interfere with mosquitoes' ability to be infected with viruses.**

Frontiers in Physiology, an open-access scholarly publisher, recently published Anderson's findings from a two-year research project that determined coffee extracts can interfere with the replication of the LACV. Anderson and student researchers also tested pokeweed to determine if it can interfere with mosquitoes' ability to be infected with viruses.

Monceaux's research interests are in the fields of medicinal and synthetic chemistry. One of his research groups synthesized small molecule inhibitors of gamma-Amino butyric acid (GABA) reuptake. The regulation of GABA in the central nervous system has been shown to have therapeutic effects in persons suffering from epilepsy and neuropathic pain. Monceaux is also researching the inhibition of the reuptake of serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine, which have been shown to help persons suffering from anxiety and depression. ■



**Nima Hami, left, confers with Christopher Monceaux.**

A young man with brown hair, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt, is holding a glass test tube vertically. The test tube contains a small amount of bright green liquid. He is looking at the test tube with a slight smile. The background is a dark, out-of-focus wall.

“At Radford, **students** drive the research by performing the experiments, analyzing the results and determining the next steps.”

Justin Anderson, associate professor of biology

Nathan Frisch observes  
a test tube containing  
reactive agents.

# Radford inducts 5 into Athletics Hall of Fame



Left to right: Sheila Branch, Karen Bowles, Gretchen Foster, Rich Hogan and Don Burgess with Athletics Director Robert Lineburg

**IN FRONT** of family, friends and special guests, the Radford Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2013 was inducted at a sold-out event that consisted of a dinner and ceremony inside of the university's state-of-the-art College of Business and Economics' multi-purpose room. Karen Bowles (1986-90), Sheila Branch (1976-80), Don Burgess (1990-94), Gretchen Foster (1984-87) and Rich Hogan (1976-80) made up the year's class.

A brief listing of the 2013 class and their individual accomplishments:

**Karen Bowles** (1986-90), women's basketball. One of two women's basketball student-athletes and three Highlanders to accumulate 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds, Karen Bowles '90 helped lead Radford to three Big South Championships and the league's first postseason appearance (WNIT) in 1989. A three-time first-team all-conference selection, Bowles was named the Big South Tournament

MVP in 1990. She currently ranks second in career rebounds (1,012) and at the time of her graduation was fifth on the all-time scoring list (1,072). Bowles was instrumental in guiding the Highlanders to 84 wins over a four-year span, posting three straight 20-win seasons, including a school-record 25 in the 1988-89 season.

**Sheila Branch** (1976-80), women's basketball. Starting every game of her collegiate career, Sheila Branch '80 was the second Highlander women's basketball student-athlete to reach 1,000 points. Graduating as the program's all-time leader in points (1,197) and rebounds (679), Branch was the squad's leading scorer (16.9 ppg) and rebounder (8.2 rpg) during her junior campaign (1978-79), a season that also included a career-best 36 points against Wake Forest. A three-time all-state selection, Branch was an integral part of teams that won 61 contests and sported a .670

winning percentage during her four-year career, which culminated with a 1980 Division II State Championship.

**Don Burgess** (1990-94), men's basketball. A first-team All-Big South selection in 1994, Don Burgess '94 finished his career with 1,452 points, which at the time was second on the Radford scoring list. This total currently ranks sixth on the all-time list for the Highlanders. More than just a scoring threat, Burgess also ranked in the top 10 in career steals (5th-162), rebounds (5th-614) and assists (9th-231) at the conclusion of his career. These totals currently place him sixth on the all-time steals list and 10th in rebounds. Burgess owns the Radford record for career free throw percentage as well (.842). During his career, the Highlanders posted a 48-4 record inside the Dedmon Center, including the only undefeated home season since becoming a Division I program in 1984-85 (13-0 in 1993-94).

**Gretchen Foster** (1984-87), volleyball. A Big South all-conference selection and the league's MVP runner-up in 1986 and 1987, Gretchen Foster '88 played an instrumental role in Radford's transition to Division I and helped RU to its first Big South Championship in 1987. She was also named to the Big South All-Tournament team in each of those seasons. Foster's stellar play during her four-year career earned her several in-season all-tournament honors and helped lead the Highlanders to 103 victories, including a school-record 31 wins in 1985. The Highlanders posted a .701 winning percentage during that span and enjoyed an 11-2 regular season mark in their first two Big South campaigns.

**Rich Hogan** (1976-80), men's lacrosse. Credited with helping establish men's lacrosse as a club sport while a student at Radford, Rich Hogan '80 emerged as one of the most prolific scorers in the program's history once it transitioned from a club to a varsity sport in 1979. Hogan scored 70 goals over a two-year span and stood, at that time, as the program's all-time leader in goals, assists and points. As a junior in the inaugural varsity season, he scored 43 goals in just eight games. He followed that with an MVP senior season in which he tallied 27 goals, 11 assists and 38 points.

President Kyle and Athletics Director Robert Lineburg presented each inductee with a plaque, which was followed by a video highlighting their careers and accomplishments. "We are thrilled to induct five of the finest student-athletes to ever participate in intercollegiate athletics at Radford University," said Lineburg. "I commend our Hall of Fame Committee for its research and diligence in nominating these incredibly deserving people who have represented Radford University so well." ■

## Highlanders boast strong performances in the classroom

**ALONG WITH** their many athletic achievements, Radford University student-athletes also performed at a high level in the classroom for the 2013 fall semester. With all the hard work put in, more than 60 percent of Radford University's student-athletes achieved a minimum of a 3.0 grade-point average, with 97 garnering Dean's List recognition (3.4 or higher) and 29 posting a perfect 4.0 GPA.

"I want to congratulate the job our student-athletes achieved in the classroom this semester," lauded Director of Athletics Robert Lineburg. "Our coaches and student-athletes are to be commended for the continued emphasis on academic achievement."

Along with the dedication and support provided by the Student-Athlete Support Services (SASS), Highlander student-athletes have consistently surpassed the 50 percent threshold when compared academically with other Big South student-athletes.

RU athletes continue to rank among the top schools in the Big South Conference. With both the men's and women's programs each achieving a term GPA above 3.0, the overall grade-point average for all student-athletes in the term was 3.10.

"We are proud of the continued academic achievement of our student-athletes," said Associate Athletics Director for SASS/SWA (Senior Women's Administrator) Stephanie Ballein. "Our continued success is the result of hard work by our student-athletes and an emphasis on academic excellence by our coaches and support



**Stephanie Ballein**  
Associate Athletics  
Director for SASS/  
SWA

staff. The continued support from our campus constituents has been an equally important part of our success."

In all, 14 of Radford's 19 sports obtained a 3.0 or better, and three student-

athletes were recognized at the highest level. Senior Rachel Conway of women's soccer and junior Emma Deininger of volleyball were named Capital One Academic All-Americans®, while senior Bernardo Ulmo of men's soccer earned NSCAA Scholar All-America honors.

"We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of people leading our Learning Enhancement Center—Stephanie Ballein, Leslie Anderson and Alix Guynn do a tremendous job, and they are to be commended as well," commented Lineburg. ■



**RU**  
*Highlanders*



Small Space  
**BIG  
IDEA**

By Dan Waidelich

“There is a general trend toward small-scale living that is sustainable economically, ecologically and socially.”

**Nathan Bicak, assistant professor of design**

**THE RISING COSTS** of buying and maintaining a typical American house—about 1,700 square feet—has created the small house movement that advocates living simply in small homes.

Radford University’s department of Interior Design and Fashion (ID&F) is currently underway on a three-semester long project that will result in the design and production of a fully sustainable, off-the-grid “tiny house” prototype.

Students in the course “Think Through Make: an Interdisciplinary Approach,” recently approved as a Scholar-Citizen Initiative program, have been recruited in a course designed to be “very interdisciplinary,” said ID&F Chair Holly Cline. Fifteen students from various majors will see the project through to completion.

“The course will capture the challenge of working

across disciplines towards a common goal,” said Nathan Bicak, assistant professor of design, who is teaching the class. “It will be an opportunity for students to demonstrate the depth of their knowledge in a specific discipline while working together and learning from one another to increase the breadth of their knowledge across disciplines.”

By Spring 2016, the class will actually produce a product based on the design that they develop. Bicak said the students will partner with community mentors to develop both the skills and design that will result in a fully functional, quality mobile home of between 100-400 square feet that is focused on simplified living.

“There is a general trend toward small-scale living that is sustainable economically, ecologically and socially,” said Bicak. “The excitement is what a student-managed project that incorporates their research will uncover and create.” ■

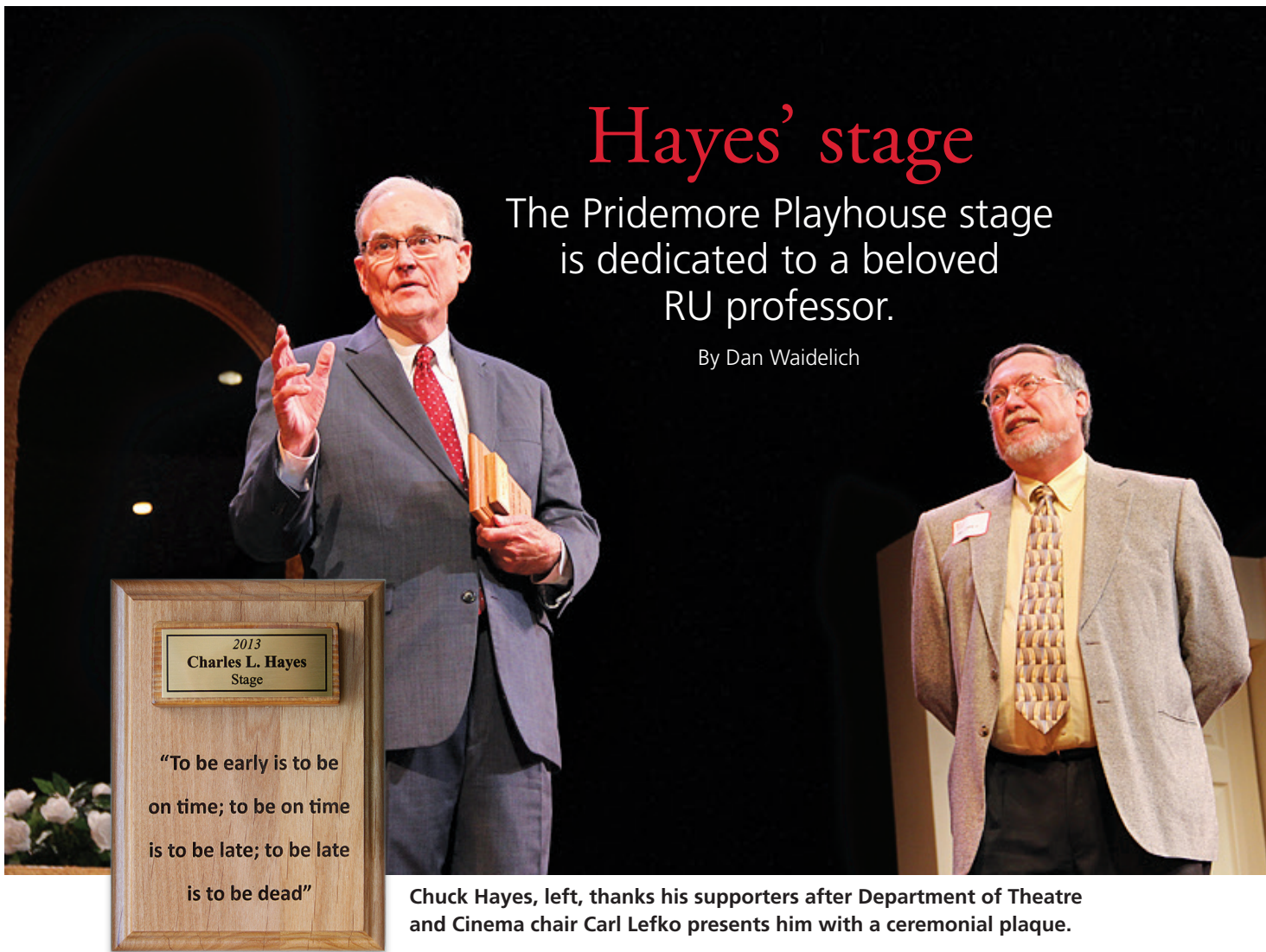


**Cozy. Green. Cool.**

# Hayes' stage

The Pridemore Playhouse stage is dedicated to a beloved RU professor.

By Dan Waidelich



Chuck Hayes, left, thanks his supporters after Department of Theatre and Cinema chair Carl Lefko presents him with a ceremonial plaque.

**CHARLES L. "CHUCK" HAYES**, one of the most influential professors in the history of Radford University's College of Visual and Performing Arts, was honored in the fall when the stage in Pridemore Playhouse was named for him.

After joining the faculty at what was then Radford College in 1968, Hayes spent the next four decades influencing, inspiring and affecting generations of students, receiving professor emeritus status in 2008.

The dedication of the Charles L. Hayes Stage was the result of an alumni campaign spearheaded by Mark Curran '82, a former student of Hayes. In addition to naming the stage, funds raised helped support the Department of Theatre and Cinema Guest Artist Program.

Curran, now president and chief executive officer for Lion's Share Federal Credit Union, was eager to help give back to his school and his teacher, as he believes his training with Hayes helped him in the business world. "It gave me self-confidence. It gave me the ability to speak in front of groups. It gave me the ability to lead."

Carl Lefko, chair of the Department of Theatre and Cinema, dedicated the stage before the Oct. 19 showing of

one of the fall's successful main stage productions, "The Dining Room" by A.R. Gurney. He spoke briefly of Hayes' influence on thousands of RU students and read from the commemorative plaque that will identify the stage.

"His students will never forget his many 'Chuck-isms,'" Lefko said, eliciting knowing smiles from the alumni in the audience. "The plaque reads 'To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late; to be late is to be dead.'"

Hayes took the stage to express thanks for the honor. "We're here to see a play, so I won't take much time," he said. "I'm the luckiest person in the world. I've worked in an outstanding theatre program with some of the best colleagues and best students anywhere. You've made an old man very happy." ■

**Make your donation to the Hayes Stage Naming/Theatre Department Visiting Artist Fund.**  
[giveto.radford.edu](http://giveto.radford.edu) | 540-831-5407



schoolers. At the end of the day, the visiting students were able to print out their work and take it home as portfolio items, O'Connor said.

The most advanced students in the workshop had a special opportunity. Professional digital illustrator Zach Bush, who graduated from Radford in 2008 with a B.F.A. in graphic design, joined the workshop as their expert advisor. Since leaving RU, Bush has worked in illustration, Web design and print. He brought these skills to bear in master classes with the advanced group.

O'Connor first became involved with the PCHS art program when art teacher Tanya Mullis brought her students to campus to tour the art department in fall 2012.

"I asked Tanya if they taught any digital art or graphic design at her school," O'Connor said. "It turns out they had tried to get computers to do it, but the county did not have the budget."

O'Connor knew that RU often sold or donated previously used items in the surrounding communities. Teaming up with RU management, O'Connor and the art department were able to find 12 surplus tablet computers to donate to PHCS as dedicated design machines.

"Working with John and other staff members, particularly those who are responsible for gaining the equipment for us, has given my students and me the hope that our visual art department will soon be able to include graphic art in our curriculum," Mullis said.

According to Mullis, many of the art students at PCHS are already aware of the nature of graphic design, and Radford is helping them take the next step.

"The workshop was a unique opportunity for PCHS students to explore the technology that is available to them," she said. "It is my hope that the exposure to a college-level graphic design course will encourage PCHS students to seek a higher education that includes this discipline." ■

Illustration by Tim Mullins

By Dan Waidelich

## Graphic design Professor John O'Connor helps local high school

**THE FIELD** of graphic design is flourishing as a strong professional and artistic pursuit, and the faculty of the Radford University Department of Art is hard at work training future leaders in the field.

John O'Connor, assistant professor of graphic design, is one of these faculty members. Through his efforts, the students at Patrick County High School (PCHS) in Stuart had a chance to explore digital art, work with new technology and learn the finer points of design.

In May 2013, the art department supported O'Connor when he invited PCHS students to campus to provide them with a top-notch opportunity to explore graphic design. The students, ranging in skill levels from novice designers to advanced graphic artists, got the chance to show their stuff at



RU AIGA members tutor Patrick County High School students.

this workshop, which eclipsed their available art opportunities at home.

"The students worked with the professional-level software programs and technology they would use in the field," O'Connor said. "These are tools that budding graphic designers need but weren't available for them."

Art students from Radford, including some from RU's American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) chapter, were on hand to supervise and work with the visiting high





Preliminary gown sketches by students from John Jacob's junior fashion design class were submitted anonymously as part of the scholarship competition.

### THE FASHION SKETCHES

were pinned to the presentation wall, bathed in spotlight. The rest of the "Lighting Lab" in McGuffey Hall was in shadows. Seven junior fashion design majors quietly entered the space, looking professionally serious, masking the internal churning and burning of electric-like nerves.

The room was silent with anticipation as these students waited to learn the winners of a new fashion design scholarship competition at Radford. In an instant it was over, with Thomy Owens of Belspring, Va., named as the top designer in the contest.

Last fall, Owens and his fellow students in Associate Professor John Jacob's junior fashion design class were given the unique opportunity to compete in the first Artis Junior Fashion Design Competition Scholarship, named for Nancy Artis '73, a former RU Board of Visitors member.

The stakes were high. First and second place winners received \$2,000 and \$1,000 respectively



**Nancy Artis '73 shows examples of her personal style to students in junior fashion design class.**

with the funds going toward tuition or to incidental expenses related to successfully completing their degrees. In addition, the winners would each produce a garment during the winter break and have their designs modeled at the 2014 Spring Fashion Show. The recipients would also receive independent study class credit for their effort.

Artis decided to sponsor the competition in the spring of 2013 after speaking with Holly Cline, chair of the Department of Interior Design

& Fashion (ID&F), about a potential scholarship to benefit the education of students in the fashion design department.

"The concept that Dr. Cline brought to me about a scholarship really was perfect because then I can give back to the students," Artis says.

The competition officially began in September. On Nov. 13, the winners were announced. Due to the quality of student work, the competition was expanded to include an honorable mention for a third student with an award of \$500.

Owens was joined as the winner by Ashleigh Wells in second place and Hannah Waldron receiving the honorable mention. The three winning designers were provided with fabric and funds for other supplies necessary to take their designs from drawings to finished garments.

After the garments hit the runway in the Spring Fashion Show, they will find a new home in the Department of Interior Design and Fashion permanent collection.

Because of a positive student response, preparations are underway for the next Artis Junior Fashion Design Competition Scholarship which will motivate rising juniors during the 2014-15 school year. ■

# Building minds and bodies

## Capital projects continue on campus

By Don Bowman

**MULTIPLE CAMPUS** construction and improvement projects continue to make the Radford University campus a busy place in 2014.

In February, RU received authorization from the Commonwealth for construction of a 143,600 square foot, \$52.8 million facility that will be the academic home to the students and faculty of the nine departments in the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS). The CHBS building will join two other projects — the Center for the Sciences and the Student Recreation and Wellness Center — swiftly moving toward completion.

“This building to house the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences is part of the master facilities plan that I have advocated on behalf of RU’s students and faculty—to provide consolidated and modern facilities in which to learn, study and teach,” said President Kyle. “This new building will be an ideal opportunity to consolidate the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences,



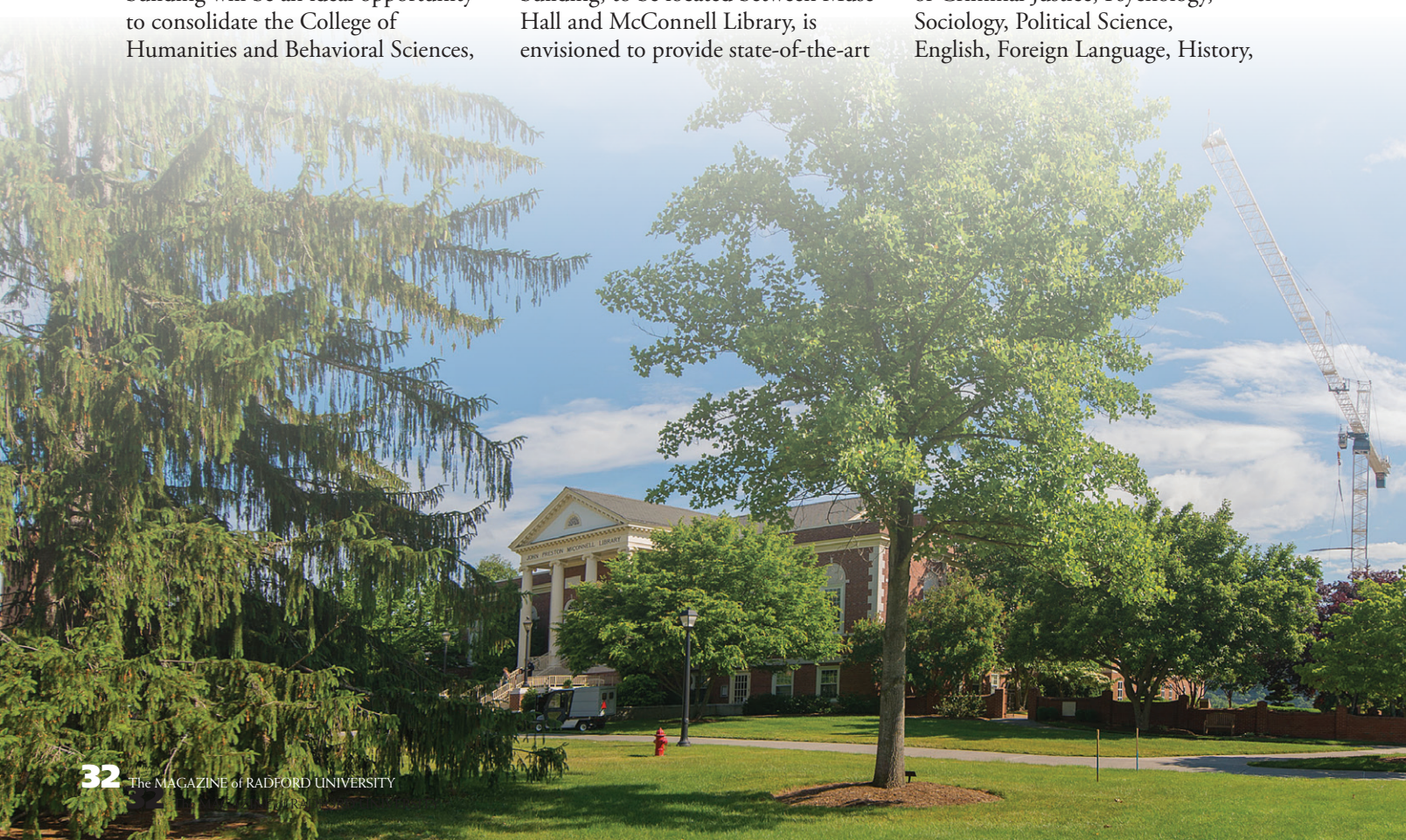
**Artist rendering of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) building, viewed from Muse Hall**

our largest college, into a single building and to get the college’s departments out of buildings not ideally suited for their purpose and in some cases temporary, inadequate or too widely dispersed.”

The new CHBS academic building, to be located between Muse Hall and McConnell Library, is envisioned to provide state-of-the-art

classrooms, offices, laboratories and student/faculty collaborative space. The CHBS project is expected to be completed in late 2016.

The new CHBS building will consolidate the School of Communication, departments of Criminal Justice, Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, English, Foreign Language, History,

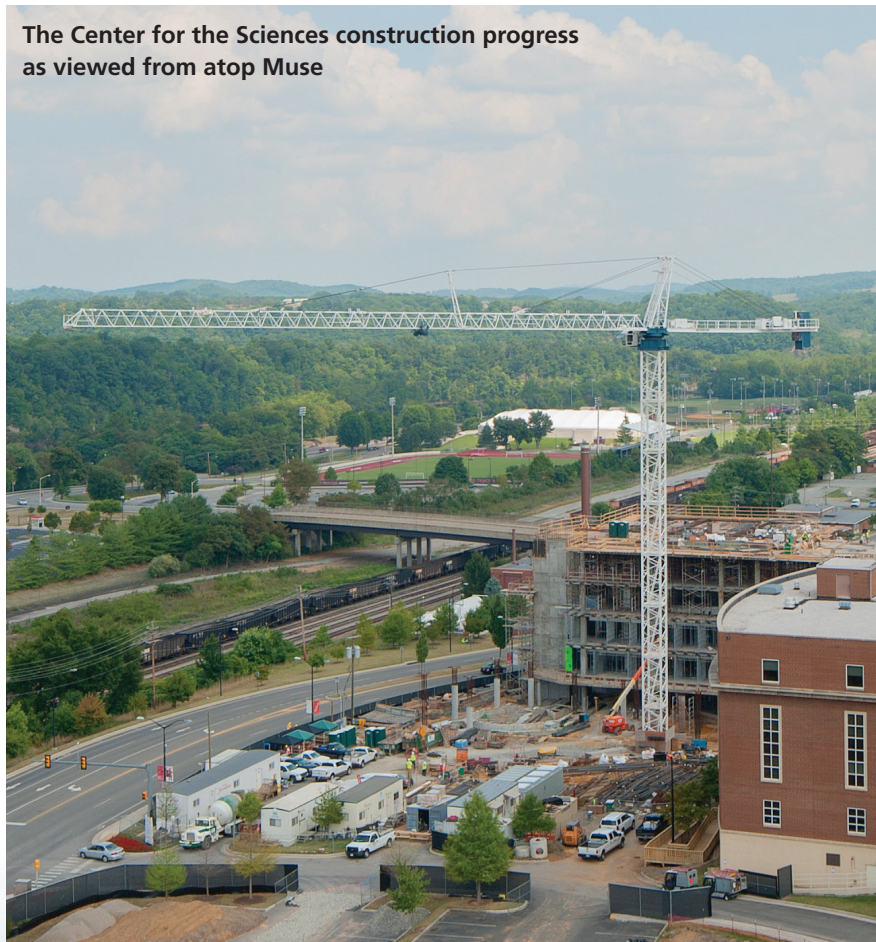


Philosophy and Religious Studies, and the Office of the Dean. A traditional Georgian face will look over the Muse Lawn and complement the iconic Radford campus architecture, while a contemporary face will look out on Main Street and complement the neighboring Center for the Sciences. The building will feature a landscaped courtyard, a 90-seat classroom, a moot courtroom with adjacent classroom, television studio, forensic laboratory and an emergency operations training center that will double as RU's actual emergency operations center, when necessary.

Next door to the proposed home for CHBS, construction of the 114,000 square foot Center for the Sciences building continues apace. Future home of the College of Science and Technology (CSAT) departments of Anthropological Sciences, Biology, Chemistry and the Forensic Sciences Institute, the \$49.5 million structure will connect with each level of Curie Hall. The Center for the Sciences will host teaching and research lab spaces, classrooms, faculty offices, the RU Planetarium, the RU Museum of Earth Sciences and a vivarium.

Orion Rogers, CSAT dean, is excited about the new building that he said is targeted for completion in 2015.

"The new building with space for lab-intensive sciences will provide



**The Center for the Sciences construction progress as viewed from atop Muse**

more opportunities for synergy between disciplines, space for collaborative learning opportunities and new equipment," said Rogers. "All of which will continue to make CSAT a premier destination for

motivated students and faculty like those here now who are helping RU grow and make important contributions to the sciences."

"RU's frontage along Jefferson Street is also dramatically changing as



construction on the Student Recreation and Wellness Center moves towards a November 2014 opening,” said President Kyle. The \$32.5 million center will provide approximately 110,000 square feet of wellness, fitness and recreation space in an open and expansive multiheight building. Located between Hurlburt Student Center and the Covington Center for Visual and Performing Arts, the center will include three hardwood court spaces that can be adapted for multiple game uses like badminton, basketball or volleyball and host other intramural, club, sport or social activities to enrich student life. There will be areas offering a variety of equipment and exercise options, including free weights, strength training and cardio workout areas. The building will have a two-level indoor track with three lanes for walking and running, two racquetball courts, a multipurpose gymnasium and four multipurpose rooms for aerobics, yoga, functional fitness, spinning and karate among other activities. RU Outdoors, which provides students with outdoor wilderness activities and equipment for hiking, caving, biking, horseback riding and skydiving, will be based in the center as well.

Ken Bonk, associate vice president of Student Affairs/Activities, is anticipating how the building will transform the quality of life that RU students will enjoy. “Health and fitness are vital elements to success. The Student Recreation and Wellness Center will make it that much more convenient and provide additional encouragement for our students to stay strong, healthy and fit while having fun as they work to achieve their degrees and succeed,” he said.

And a few blocks from the Student Recreation and Wellness Center, on the “dark side,” construction on new club and intramural fields will begin later this



**Recreation and Wellness Center construction progress, inside and out**





Main Street view of The Center for the Sciences construction, right

fall. The intramural fields will have artificial surfaces to accommodate increased demand by students for recreational opportunities. The fields will augment the services provided by the Student Recreation and Wellness Center. Planned for the nine-acre site of the former Burlington Industries facility on East Main Street, the complex of fields will provide convenient access and opportunity for students to participate in RU's popular intramural and club sports.

"The campus is evolving and changing, and we're excited about it,"

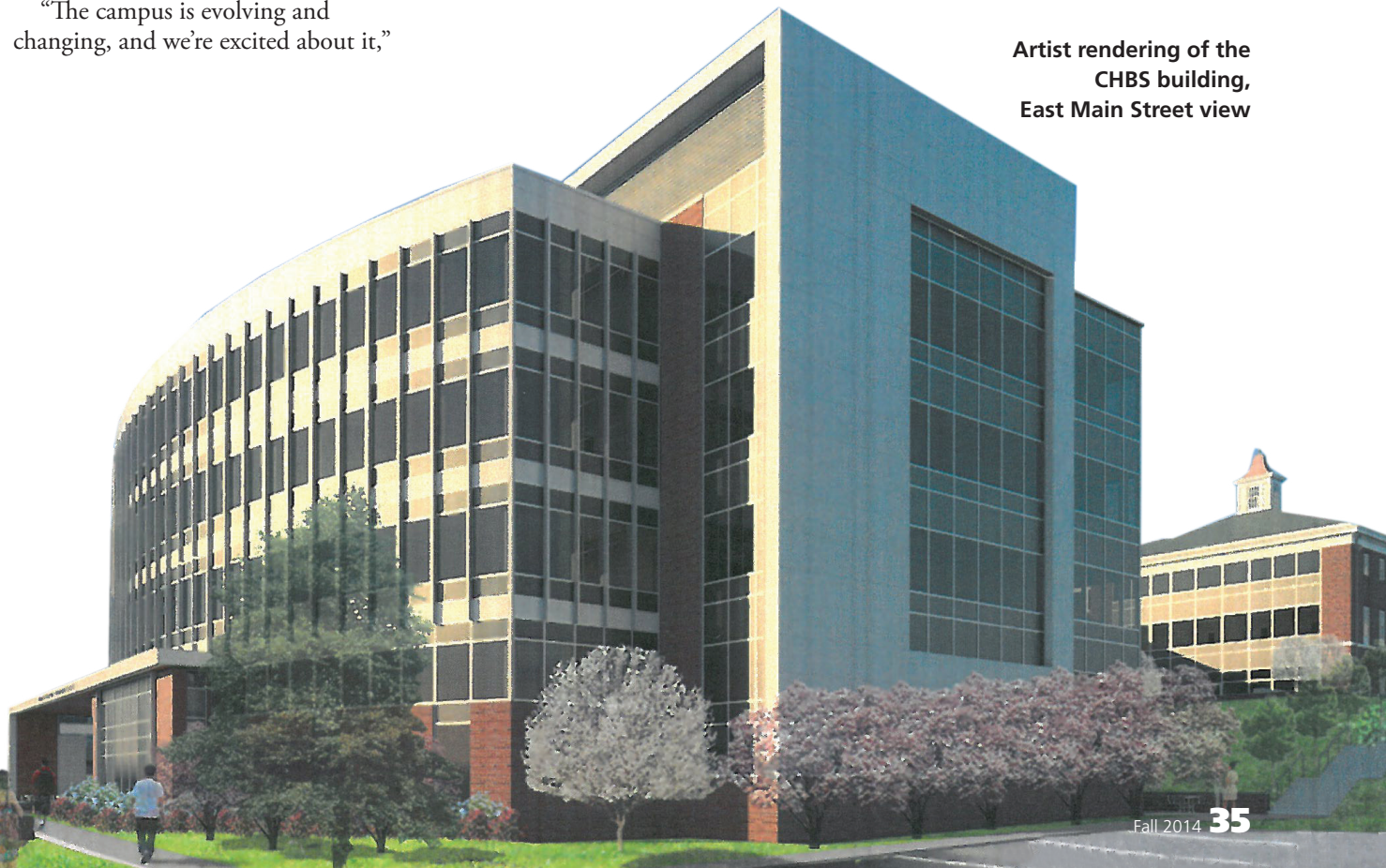
President Kyle said. "We're finally providing the appropriate academic space that we desperately need. We will have our students housed in residence halls that provide the amenities that today's students and their families expect. And finally, our students will have recreation space that can accommodate the needs of the entire student body!"

Since 2005, Radford University has secured approval and funding for more than \$330 million in

capital projects, including both new construction and renovation:

- Covington Center for Visual and Performing Arts
- 110,000 square foot, \$44 million building for the College of Business and Economics
- Five residence halls
- Dedmon Center
- Dalton Hall, the largest dining facility on campus
- Technologically advanced Young Hall
- Hurlburt Student Center ■

Artist rendering of the CHBS building, East Main Street view





Thirty RU students, members of the Board of Visitors and several RU administrators, including President Kyle, joined Gov. Terry McAuliffe at the annual RU Advocacy Day in Richmond on Feb. 5.

# Advocacy

Students participate in annual Advocacy Day

**THIRTY** Radford University students made a trip to the state capital to take part in the annual RU Advocacy Day on Feb. 5. The students met their respective delegates and senators and presented the issues most important to them and to the future of the university. They were joined by members of both the administration and the RU Board of Visitors.



**Above:** Vice President for Information Technology Danny W. Kemp, far right, and students meet with Delegate Riley Ingram, second from right. **Right:** Senator Richard Black, far right, poses with RU Board of Visitors member Mary W. Campbell '71, M.S. '71, second from right, and RU students.



A highlight of this year's trip was the opportunity to meet with Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, who posed for a photo with the students in the Patrick Henry Building.

"While diverse in their backgrounds and majors, the students all share a passion for our university," said Dean of Students Irvin Clark, who believes RU Advocacy Day is beneficial because it provides students the opportunity to connect with the legislators who represent interests from their home communities. "The learning experience for the students was exceptional, the networking phenomenal and the motivation for future leadership undeniable."

Management major Jacqueline Askew from Chantilly saw the connection between what society and local communities want and how it is expressed to the governmental officials. "This was a start to being more educated on what's

happening around me and becoming a better leader in my own community so I can help others," she said.

"I continue to be impressed with the students' interest in the legislative process and desire to articulate their RU story," said University Relations' Karen Castele '79, who helps organize the trip. "Every year gets better," she added, "from the first year in 2001 when we had three students to the dozens of young adults that we have today."

State Delegate Joseph Yost '06, M.S. '08, looks forward to meeting with the students every year. "As they share their concerns and desires for the betterment of their community and peers, the students representing RU are the voice of their university," he says. "They are at the forefront of the legislative process and exemplify democracy in action." ■



Delegate Joseph Yost '06, M.S. '08, center, meets with RU Board of Visitors member Michael Wray, right, Dean of Students Irvin Clark, second from left, and RU students.



*Investing in Lifetimes*  
**Century of leadership**  
SGA celebrates 100 years

Members of the 2013-14 Student Government Association. Inset: RU's first SGA, elected in March 1914 to serve during the 1914-15 academic year.

**THIS YEAR** marks the centennial of the Radford University Student Government Association (SGA), the advocacy organization that has allowed students to have their voices heard on campus.

Established on March 1, 1914, at what was then the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Radford, the SGA of then and now reflects the university's commitment to outstanding student leadership and scholarship.

Since those earliest days, the students of the SGA have worked to preserve student honor, promote college spirit and settle matters

concerning the best interest of the student body. After early successes in the initial years of its formation, the SGA drafted a constitution to better define its mission.

"With the adoption of the constitution in 1918, the student government association became one of the most important student organizations on the campus with an elaborate organization of far reaching effect," wrote M'Ledge Moffett, Radford's iconic first dean of women, in "A History of the State Teachers College at Radford, Virginia, 1910-1930."

While Radford University has grown and changed, Moffett's words

still ring true. Now more than ever, student leaders such as the SGA president are looked upon as valued members of the university community and are elected to serve as visionary advocates for their peers and the greater campus community.

The 35 members of the 2013-14 SGA are influential leaders on campus who act as a conduit of ideas between students and the university administration, said 2013-14 SGA President Zachary McCoy. They also organize and co-sponsor events around campus with a variety of clubs and organizations, serving to promote school spirit and collaboration. ■





At Fall 2013 Family Weekend and Alumni Homecoming, Jim Egbert '87 presents a check to President Kyle to further support the Greek Leadership Training Fund.

## Alumni empower future Greek leaders

**THE GREEK STUDENTS** of Radford University received a special gift of \$17,350 from Phi Kappa Sigma International Fraternity to bolster their community and further fund the Greek Leadership Training Fund.

Jim Egbert '87 presented the check to RU President Penelope W. Kyle following an alumni lacrosse game at the university's 2013 Family Weekend and Alumni Homecoming.

The donation boosted the Greek Leadership Training Fund which began with a similar donation by Phi Kappa Sigma in 2012. This new donation was also supported by the Highlander alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

One of the key results of the fund was the establishment of the Executive Seminar Series, a six-week long initiative to develop student leadership and enhance the Greek experience at RU. The 20 students chosen to participate in the series shared a dedication to their fraternities and sororities, a commitment to public service and a desire to take on future leadership responsibilities.

"RU's Greek community has been synonymous with a commitment to leadership and service. This initiative promises to further develop these talented student-leaders and positively contribute to RU and our communities," said Kyle.

Students who participated in the seminar series students had access to RU's senior administrators, senior faculty and Greek alumni. The seminar was hosted by Provost Sam

Minner and Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Shanley. Through building relationships on campus and beyond, the seminar helped lift the entire Greek community.

"We are tremendously grateful to the RU alumni of Phi Kappa Sigma for their generosity in supporting this program," Kyle said. "Their dedication is making this important initiative a reality and is helping RU prepare the next generation of leaders."



Provost Sam Minner and Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Shanley talking with students in the Greek Leadership Training Seminar Class

RU is home to more than 20 fraternities and sororities. Greeks are a crucial part of the community and their leadership drives many of the initiatives on campus. With an opportunity like the Executive Seminar Series, the Greeks and the rest of campus now have a new path for dialogue.

"We are very appreciative of the efforts of President Kyle, Provost Minner and Dr. Shanley, as they engage with students and mentor them in the development of leadership skills," said Dan Evans '84, the PKS alumnus who led the charge on organizing the fund. "The Greek Leadership Training Fund and the Executive Seminar Series are simply additional, tangible examples of why Radford University continues to grow and enrich the lives of its students, as well as the groups, organizations, employers, institutions and communities they serve."

Students who completed the seminar and a required retreat received leadership certificates and are eligible to compete for a \$500 scholarship from the Phi Kappa Sigma alumni fund. ■

# Four score+

...85 years of Greek leadership



The participants of the Greek Leadership and Training Program Executive Seminar Series gather at President Kyle's home for a dinner to celebrate their contributions to Greek life at RU.

**FOR MORE** than eight decades, the sororities and fraternities of Radford University have had important and lasting influences on campus life.

The Greek community is preparing to mark the 85th anniversary of Greek Life, which began in 1929 when a group of young women organized RU's chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma, the first sorority on campus.

Throughout the year, members of the community will commemorate the anniversary with events that connect Greek organizations with fellow students, faculty members and alumni.

"We want to make sure we mark this anniversary of the founding of the Greek community at Radford," said Robert Marias, assistant director for Student Activities for Greek Life. "Hopefully, alumni will be able to come back and connect with and support our organizations."

One of the first events to herald the anniversary occurred last fall when participants of the Greek Leadership and Training Program Executive Seminar Series gathered at President Kyle's home for a dinner to celebrate the launch of that project. The student leaders in attendance committed themselves to developing and enhancing the Greek experience at Radford University through partnerships with administration and ongoing seminars on the state of Greek life. The series is funded by a gift from the RU alumni of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Beta Omega Chapter.

The Radford University Greek community today comprises more than 20 fraternities and sororities. The organizations fall under the governance of three coordinating councils: the Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and the Panhellenic Council.

Greeks at RU organize around bonds of meaningful ideals, rituals and principles. Sororities and fraternities participate in scholastic pursuits, leadership initiatives and philanthropic activities. To be a recognized Greek organization, a sorority or fraternity must commit to ideals of scholastic achievement, service, leadership and friendship. ■

To submit a class note, please visit [www.radford.edu/alumniupdate](http://www.radford.edu/alumniupdate) or call 1-888-4RUGRAD. Photographs may be submitted as a .jpg with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. If you submitted a class note and it does not appear in this issue, please look for it in the next magazine.

## Weddings, births and announcements

**'55** **Carlene Wilson Lacy** and husband Clayton Rudolph Lacy, of Roanoke, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, 7/27/13.

**'56** **Jeanne Boyd Shannon**, of Albuquerque, N.M., published a poetry chapbook titled "At the Horizon Line" in 2013. Her 2011 chapbook, "In a Rose Wood Wandering," was a finalist for a 2012 New Mexico/Arizona Book Award.

**'61** **Anita Pugh**, author of "A pathway to profit: Culture impacts performance, a business book, published in 2013.

**'63** **Beverly B. (Abbott) Getzen** retired 11/05 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Joanne Melton Barbour** and husband Julian "Sandy" Barbour celebrated their 50th anniversary, 8/10/13.



She reminisces, "In the winter of my freshman year I have a vivid memory

of taking a Sunday evening walk around campus while it was snowing very large, fluffy flakes of snow. These were enormous magical flakes against a background of darkness amid the sparkling campus lights! I was with a VPI cadet who was holding an umbrella over us. In that moment in time, how was I to know that he would become the most special man in my life forever?"

**'69 Joyce Epperly Williams**, of Roanoke, and her husband, Dean, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, 6/22/13.

**'73 Linda Priest-Wallis**, graduate of the Radford nursing program, retired after 40 years of service to MCV & VCU nursing departments.

**'76 Stephan Cassaday**, tops Va. financial advisor list.

**'77 Charles Winn Surber** married Mark Lawrence Troen in Warwick, N.Y., 10/13/13.

**'79 Steve Ferguson**, has been appointed Vice President of Regulatory & Finance for Appalachian Power.

**Debbie Anne Jacobus**, of Sterling, retired after 31.5 years working for the Federal Government Central Intelligence Agency as a finance officer, 12/31/12.

**'81 Steve Robinson**, M.S. '85, Chapel Hill, N.C., was appointed to the Radford University Board of Visitors by Gov. Bob McDonnell and reappointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

**Charles Robert Wing Jr.** of Alexandria, retired from Arlington County government in 7/2012 as a management and budget analyst with 30.5 years of service.

**'82 Nancy Bell Dethlefsen**, of Rocky Mount, is writing a book about the community that once resided under Philpott and Fairy Stone lakes.

**'84 Rose Schultz Marshall**, M.S. '84, M.S. '88, of Aiken, S.C., was appointed district office Title One coordinator for Reading Recovery in Aiken County Public Schools.

**'85 Robert P. Chappell Jr.** was promoted from lieutenant to captain with the Virginia State Police and assigned as a division commander.

**Terry Whitley Curro**, married Dave Curron in Chapel Hill, NC on 1/5/13

**Lisa Vienna**, National Association of Chemical Distributors appointed as Director of Business Management.

**'86 Kimberly Ferren Carter**, of Moneta, was appointed senior director of Nursing and Evidence Based Practice at Carilion Memorial Hospital.

**'87 Timothy Lynch** serves as the payroll and production specialist at YOSA Corp.

**'88 James Jolly**, of Morgantown, W.Va., was recently hired as director of marketing and communications at West Virginia University College of Law.

**'90 Anthony Otis Hayes**, of Radford, married Korena Ann Anderson in Radford, 4/20/13.

**Brooks B. Gump**, of Oswego, N.Y., has been named the Falk Family Endowed Professor of Public Health in the Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics.

**'91 Ed W. Clark** was selected as the new superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site by the National Park Service.

**Lisa Courtade** received the 2013 R.R. Fordyce Award from the Pharmaceutical Marketing Research Group.

**Jim Harrison**, served as US Air Force security forces officer from 1992-1997. Currently, he is a special agent for the FBI.

**Mark Lineburg**, was named School Superintendent of the Year for Southwest Va.

**Jeff Majewski** was named in the 1990 decade team and earned Big South honors.

**Molly Prater**, of Blacksburg, was promoted to vice president and branch manager for First Bank of Virginia.

**'92 Amber Winkler** and **Robert Northern Jr.** ('93) were married in Richmond, 9/7/13.

**Virginia Gallup Larsen**, was named VA School Psychologist of the Year and was nominated to be the National School Psychologist of the Year.

**Bernard "Bernie" Schulz**, of Greenville, N.C., was appointed vice chancellor for student affairs at East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C., 7/8/13.

**Frederic Rondeau** was named in the 1990 decade team and two-time all conference selection at goalkeeper.

**'93 Buddhi Athauda**, Sri Lanka ambassador to the Netherlands, was unanimously elected to chair three world-renowned organizations based in The Hague—chairman for the Permanent Court of Arbitration, chairperson for the Common Fund for Commodities and vice chairman of the 18th session of the Conference of States Parties to Chemical Weapons Convention at the World Forum.

**'94 Heidi Field-Alvarez**, of Richmond, is a teacher with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and artist-in-residence at Arrowmont School of Craft.

**Kristyn Shepherd** was named principal at G.W. Carver Elementary School in Salem, Va.

**'95 Eric R. Lindquist** became the news editor for National Association for Amateur Radio.

**Rebecca Bibson Bolte** and husband Steven Bolte announce the birth of their son, Joshua Karl Bolte, 9/20/13.

**'96 Jennifer Dean**, was named Salem County's new Supervisor of Instructional Technology and Accountability.

**'97 Mark Aaron Lambert**, of Roanoke, married Dawn Marie Plantier in Roanoke, 11/1/13.

**Martha Richards Male**, of Wilmington, N.C., married Jeremy L. Male in Negril, Jamaica, 2/6/13.

**'99 Katharine Stevens McCann**, of Alta Vista, married Edward McCann Jr. at Lynchburg College's Claytor Nature Study Center in Bedford, 5/11/13.

**Rehana G. Burrani Hunter**, of Charlotte, N.C., and husband Mike Hunter announce the birth of their daughter, Carrin Elizabeth, 2/22/13.

**Stephanie Leigh Carroll**, of Salem, married Patrick Alezander Ruge, 12/13.

**Heather Evans**, named director of the Leadership Education Collaborative at Virginia Tech in Student Affairs.

**'00 Brian** and **Erike Moore**, announce the birth of their son, Tucker James Moore, 6/6/13.

**Mary McKinley Riley** married Julian Tancredi, 2/14/13.

**Jeff Sullivan**, married Marisol Arcila Navas on 6/1/13 at Calvary Baptist Church in Roanoke.

**'01 Jason Farris**, of Lynchburg, published a vampire novel, "Bring Forth the Night," in 4/13 on Amazon.com.

**Jennifer A. Overbay** received her certification from the National Center for Housing Management in 2013 as a tax credit specialist.

**Jennifer A. VanHook McDonald**, of Woodbridge, was promoted to vice president at BB&T, 8/19/13.

**Mark Brickey** married Jessica Cann in Richmond, 10/13/13

**Ed Kalista**, married Jessica Talbert in Richmond, Va., on 10/6/12

**Jared L. Schweitzer**, of Miller, Long & Associates, was as the 2014 Vice President of the Virginia Commonwealth chapter of the Appraisal Institution.

**Amanda Cox** named one of the "Rising Stars of the Profession 35 under 35."

**Holli Banks Brown**, named teacher of the year in 10/13 at Fairview Elementary School in Union County, N.C.

**Aimee Cocolin**, named Vice President of Operations of HCA Virginia's John Randolph Medical Center.

**'02 Chad Jefferson Conner**, of Roanoke, married **Julie Annette Akers** ('04) in Roanoke, 7/6/13.

**Christopher Timberlake**, of Brooklyn, N.Y., is the founding principal of Success Academy Charter School.

**James Hall** named assistant principal at Stuarts Draft High School and Beverly Manor Elementary in Augusta County.

**Jennifer Ricks** married Shane Batzer on 10/19/2013.

**'03 Cynthia Louise Money Scott**, M.S. '06, of Rocky Mount, announces the birth of her son, Shawn Kannon, 10/5/12.

**Kathleen** and **Brandon Draughon** announce the birth of their daughter, Sophie Elizabeth Draughon, 7/2/13.

**Sarah Ross Boswell**, M.S. '08, of Blacksburg, married William Thomas Boswell in Blacksburg, 5/25/13.

**Sherri Rickman**, of Roanoke, was hired as a teacher at the Burton Center for Arts & Technology.

**Tiffany Renee Shifflet** married Scott Jenkins in Richmond, 10/5/13.

**Brandon Goins** and wife Amanda

Goins welcomed the birth of their 2nd child, William Seth Goins, 11/15/12.

**'04 Jessica Johns** married Joshua Elmore 10/10/13 at CrossPointe in Christiansburg. **Jackie Roach** ('05) was the maid of honor.

**Nycole Kristine Riepma** and husband Derek Riepma, of Virginia Beach, announce the birth of their daughter, Avery Madisyn, 10/29/13.

**Samantha Bryant Steidle** and David Steidle, of Roanoke, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary, 8/9/13.

**'05 Christopher Abplanalp** was promoted to senior consultant of CGI Federal, 9/3/13. He married Mary Baylor in Orkney Springs, 9/1/13.

**Meghan Worrell** and **Adam Viet** ('13) were married at Rockwood Manor in Dublin, 5/25/13.

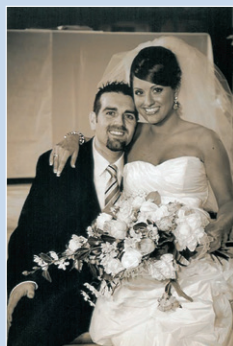
**Sue Steele Thomas**, M.S., of Roanoke, was selected by the Automotive Fine Arts Society as one of its guest artists for the exhibit 2013 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in Pebble Beach, Calif., 8/18/13.

**Kathleen Wiggins** married Martin Carr in Naples Fla. on 12/3/10. They welcomed Ellie Regina in La Jolla, Ca on 8/6/12.

**Erin Jones** serves as a community manager for N.N. Jaeschke, Inc.

**'06 Andrea Cole Clevenger**, of Saltville, was recently hired as assistant administrator of the Southeast Academy.

**Emily Wise** married Seaton VanderWoude in Dickerson, Md., 10/13/13. **Stephanie Jones** ('04) was a bridesmaid.



**Mandy DeBoy-Walsh**, of Baltimore, Md., married Keith Walsh, 4/30/11, above. She graduated with a Master of Science from the University of Baltimore's School of Public Affairs, 5/13, and is currently an assistant vice president and public relations specialist at Sandy Spring Bank.

**Todd Phillips** married Megan Coleman in Maryville, Tenn., 10/5/13.

**Emily Wise VanderWoude** was named Director of Individual Giving at the National Building Museum in Clarksburg, Md.

**'07 Wesley David Hatchett**, of Salem, married Crystal Anne DeWeese at the Silver Hearth Lodge on Bent Mountain, 5/4/13.

**'08 Nicholas Minter and Shannon Davis**, of Virginia Beach, married in Virginia Beach, 7/14/12.

**'09 Heather Joy Black**, of Hazlet, N.J., was recently hired as a critical care nurse at Jersey Shore University Medical Center.

**Kimberly Pizzi** and **Adam Hodges** married in Forest, 10/5/13.

**Rachael Lea Wingfield**, of Arlington, is project coordinator of research for STEM Initiative at GEARS Inc.

**Rex Allen Harrison Jr.**, of Waverly, is executive producer at Mason Insurance Brokers. He married Wendy Wakunik from Port Colborne, Ontario, in Niagara Falls, 12/31/11.

**Adam Hodges** and Kim Pizzi married in Forest, Va. on 10/5/13.

**Kyle Josef Heid** married Kerrie P. Huffman in Craig County, Va. on 10/5/13

**Daniel Brookman** of New York, N.Y. was named communications design and marketing manager for Dakota Jackson, Inc.

**Rachel K Blankenship-Tucker**, member of national touring band After Jack. Married to partner, Emily Balnkenship-Tucker 8/18/12.

**'10 Krista Nicole Hanks**, of Pilot, married Joseph C. Justice, 7/20/13.

**Pamela Wright** was recognized with a statewide award for her volunteer work with Patrick County's free medical clinic.

**Andrew Lloyd** is currently the contracting officer at US Department of State.

**Jessica Woolwine** married Jamie Woolwine in 2010. In 11/2011 they welcomed Dominic Woolwine and in 2013, they welcomed Ella Woolwine. Fall of 2012, Jessica took a job with Fairfax County at Whitman Middle.

**Lindsey Stafford Drum** married Kevin Drum at Chateau Morristte in Floyd, Va. on 7/27/13.

**'11 Caroline Hodnett** and **Josh Wittenburg** ('12) married in Bristow, 10/26/13.

**Gregory Myers** married **Emily Driver**, 10/20/12. They recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary.

**Laura Waller** married Christian Coyner in Upperville, 9/21/13.

**Terri Stacy**, of Grundy, was recently engaged to Adam Blomberg. They plan to be married in May 2014.

**Olivia Lynn Hart** married Justin Dillion at Lydia Mountain in Stanardsville, Va., on 5/4/13.

**Jessica Stosnicki** and Allen Patton ('09) married in September of 2013

**Erin Kasoff** married Britt Calloway in Richmond on 10/11/14. Bridesmaids include, Zoe Laskey, Lauren Mayes and Rebecca Epstein (2010).

**'12 Kaitlyn Michelle Hamilton** married Aaron Patrick Darby in Vinton, 8/10/13.

**'13 Allison Hinke** became engaged to Tome Deckart on 9/14/13 on the RU practice field. The wedding will be 7/2015.

**Arielle Rosmarino**, of Roanoke, was crowned Miss Virginia USA in 2013.

**Judith Chapman Jorgensen**, of National City, Calif., married Knut Jorgensen, 6/29/13.

**McKinzey Sayer**, Tazewell Va. is the Human Resource and Operations Administrator at the PBE Group.

## Obituaries

### Alumni

**'32 Edna Louise Ridpath Shelburne** of Snowville, 12/20/13

**'38 Anna Meade Elcan** of Lynchburg, 8/31/13

**'42 Edwina Grubb Keith** of Roanoke, 7/19/13

**Hilda Broyles Cassell** of Blackstone, 11/12/13

**'49 Hyler Newman Tramel** of Blackstone, 12/22/13

**'51 Dorothy Gay Durham** of Henrico, 11/11/13

**Martha Ann Dillon Lynch** of Fort Washington, Md., 10/30/13

**'54 Mary Evelyn Bruce** of New York, N.Y., 12/29/13

### **Dorothy (Dottie) Hornsby Martin** of Radford, 02/02/14

The Highlander family mourns the loss of a great supporter and friend of the university. Dottie was a much loved and respected member of the City of Radford and Radford University communities. She regularly attended numerous RU events, including men's basketball games. Dottie's husband, Frank Harrison "Buddy" Martin Jr., who passed away in 1991, was a charter member of the RU Athletic Association. His companies, New River Nissan, New River Pontiac-GMC Truck and New River Camping Center, were the first RU athletic corporate sponsors. Upon his death, his friends and family created the Frank H. "Buddy" Martin Memorial Athletic Scholarship to assist student athletes and the Frank H. "Buddy" Martin Jr. Memorial International Scholarship to assist international students. Dottie continued to support the scholarships, men's basketball, Selu Conservancy Endowment Fund, RU Athletics, the Covington Center for Visual and Performing Arts, RU



Hoop Group, the RU Presidential Scholarship Endowment, the School of Communication, the College of Education and Human Development, the George Harvey Sr. Center for Health Resources Initiative, the Dalton Eminent Scholars Program, the Theatre Guild and the Radford Fund.

Dottie enjoyed reading the scholarship recipients' thank-you letters and meeting them at the Partners in Excellence Celebration, which she rarely missed. She will be greatly missed by her Highlander family.

**'55 Gailya O. Herald** of Staunton, 7/16/13

**'56 Doris Ann Fugate Cullop** of Chilhowie, 10/17/13

**'57 Carolyn Hurst Quesenberry** of Hillsville, 12/24/13

**'58 Mildred Bolt Bemis** of Oakton, 2/14/13

**Nancy Peace** of Suffolk, Va., 1/14/14

**'59 Elizabeth DeLancey Cole**, New Castle, Del., 2/4/14

**Betty Jean Grayson** of Midlothian, 9/4/13

**'60 Anne Huesmann** of Corpus Christi, Texas, 1/19/14

**'62 Macie James Mullins Woods** of Ferrum, 11/7/13

**'64 Cecil Vance Bollinger** of Bedford, 10/1/13

**'65 Edith G. H. Barnhart** of Rocky Mount, Va., 1/11/14

**Julia Margaret Smith** of Radford, 7/11/13

**Margaret Campbell Turner**, 4/3/14

**'66 Billy Monroe Dove** of Bluefield, Va., 1/13/14

**'68 Carl Lewis Boothe** of Radford, 10/26/13

**'75 Ronald E. Harriman** of Dublin, 8/12/13

**Nicholas John Montgomery** of Rocky Mount, 7/19/13

**'80 Teresa L. McDonald** of Blacksburg, Va., 1/16/14

**'84 Steven D. Saunders** of Eureka Springs, Ark., 11/2/13

**'87 Col. Eric Kail** of Williamsburg, 8/13

**'88 D.W. Murphree** of Blacksburg, 7/9/13

**'92 Thomas Weeks III** of Blacksburg, '92, '11, 10/4/13

**'95 Carrie Monroe Roarty** of Midlothian, Va., 1/25/14

**'96 Daniel G. Bowman** of Salem, Va., 1/23/14

**'97 Brian Hess** of Bristol, Va., 3/2/2014

### Non-degreed alumni

**John Joseph Crockett Jr.**, 8/29/13

**Karen Elizabeth (Russell) English**, 2/11/14

**Elizabeth Margaret Wills Eubank**, 12/14/13

**Fay Bond Gillespie**, 3/4/2014

**Ryan Christopher Koon**, 11/28/13

### Faculty/Staff/Retired

**Jo Ann Aust (Jody) Asbury**, 12/9/13

**Carl Lewis Boothe**, 10/26/13

**Dr. Fletcher Fairwick Carter**, 2/22/14

**Mary Alice Coles**, 11/26/13

**Charlotte Fay Brooks Dishon,**  
4/19/14

**Nicky Lane Hall,** 1/04/14

**Edward Lee LeShock,** 9/1/13

**Janice Salamon Mooney,** 9/1/13

**Virle Crow Payne,** 1/22/14

**Dr. Frederick L. Phlegar,** 1/21/14

**Dr. Howard Schwartz,** 4/05/14

**Harvey Daniel (Danny) Shelburne,**  
Jr., 5/20/14

**Tyler (Eugene) West,** 10/5/13

## Former Radford University Board of Visitors member

**Wendy Sams Tepper** of Forest,  
11/07/13

During her professional career, Wendy held management positions in both the private and public sectors in the fields of manufacturing, transportation, personnel and government. At the time



of her death, Wendy was ESOP Chairman and Member of the Board of Delta Star in Lynchburg. From 1989-2000, Wendy served as District Representative for Congressman Philip M. Crane in

Illinois's 8th District. From 1980-2000, Wendy was President of Beau-Geste International, a company founded by her father in 1944. From 1978-1984, she was the Regional Affairs Officer for the Regional Transportation Authority of Chicago. During a re-organization of the authority, she was promoted to become the first woman Officer of the Northeast Illinois Railroad Corporation, formerly known as the Rock Island Line.

Wendy graduated from Bryant and Stratton College in Chicago in 1967.

Appointed to the Radford University Board of Visitors by the Governor of Virginia, Wendy provided exemplary service, leadership, insight and advice during her tenure from July 2010 to July 2013. While on the Board, she served on the Academic Affairs Committee, Business Affairs and Marketing Committee, Student Affairs Committee, University Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee and was vice chair of the Governance and Administration Committee from 2012 to 2013.

Wendy is survived by her husband, Ivan H. Tepper, three daughters, four grandchildren, four brothers, and many nieces and nephews.

# Welcome Aboard

Governor Terry McAuliffe has reappointed one member and appointed three new members to the Radford University Board of Visitors (BOV).

**IN AN** announcement June 2, Gov. McAuliffe reappointed RU alumnus Steve Robinson '81, M.S. '85, of Chapel Hill, N.C., assistant basketball coach at the University of North Carolina, who has been serving on the BOV since 2013.

The governor also announced the appointments of The Honorable Andrew Fogarty, Ph.D., of Chesterfield, Va., retired; Susan Whealler Johnston, Ph.D., of Berryville, Va., Executive Vice President and COO, Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB); and The Honorable Javid Siddiqi, Ph.D., of Chesterfield, Director Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows.

President Kyle welcomed the appointees to the BOV, saying, "I am delighted that our alumnus Steve Robinson is being reappointed so that he can serve a full term on our Board, and I am grateful for the willingness of the newest members of our Board of Visitors to join the Radford University family. I look forward to working together to build upon RU's legacy and the important work that is necessary to fulfill the higher education needs of the Commonwealth of Virginia and our students."

Robinson earned a B.S. in health and physical education in 1981 and an M.S. in guidance and counseling in 1985, both from Radford University. Inducted into the Radford Athletics Hall of Fame in 1997, Robinson was a two-year starter and co-captain for the RU men's basketball team from 1978-80 and then served three seasons as an assistant coach. He serves on the Governance, Administration and Athletics Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee of the BOV.

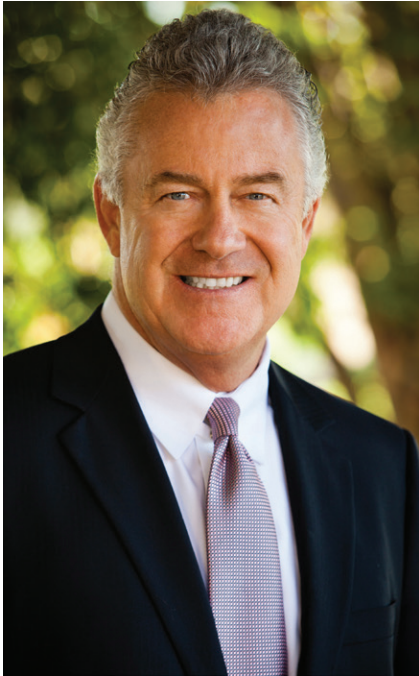
Fogarty has previously served as Secretary of Transportation, Secretary of Administration, Secretary of Transportation and Public Safety, Assistant Secretary for Financial Policy and Deputy Secretary of Finance for the Commonwealth of Virginia. He served as Chief of Staff to Governor Gerald L. Baliles from 1986-89. He also has served in various positions with CSX Corporation. Fogarty is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and is a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Compensation Committee at Danaos Corporation. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Hofstra University; a Master of Public Administration from the Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy at the University of Albany, State University of New York; and a Ph.D. from Florida State University.

Johnston currently serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. She has nearly 30 years of experience in higher education, including 18 years as a faculty member and administrator. She is currently on the advisory board of the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, and she chairs the board of trustees of the Southern Education Foundation. She is also on the board of trustees of Rollins College, chairing its committee on trustees. Johnston earned her Ph.D. and Master of Arts from Purdue University, and earned her undergraduate degree in English, summa cum laude, from Rollins College. She also received an honorary doctorate from Rockford College.

Siddiqi serves as Director of Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows. He most recently served as Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and previously as Deputy Secretary of Education. He began his professional career in education and policy as a teacher, administrator and principal in Chesterfield, Va. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Commonwealth University, his master's degree in educational administration and supervision from Virginia State University, and his doctorate in educational leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University. ■

Barron's names alumnus Stephan Q. Cassaday...

## VIRGINIA'S NO. 1 FINANCIAL ADVISER



“My psychology degree [from RU] has been huge in terms of my success and was the best training for what I do every day.”

**RADFORD UNIVERSITY** alumnus Stephan Q. Cassaday '76 has climbed to the top of Barron's annual state rankings.

Barron's states the rankings are based on data provided by more than 4,000 of the nation's most productive advisers. The list recognizes advisers who demonstrate remarkable professionalism, performance, outstanding client service and community involvement.

The McLean-based financial adviser is president and CEO of Cassaday & Company, Inc., an independent wealth management firm and is recognized as a leader in the financial planning industry. His firm also has won numerous “Best Place to Work” honors from the Washington Business Journal.

The honors are a source of pride for the Radford alumnus, who served two terms on the Board of Visitors (2000-2004 and 2010-2014) where he was vice rector from 2002 to 2004. He attributes much of his company's success to the people it employs, many

of whom studied and honed their skills at RU.

“Almost all of our employees I hired directly out of college,” he explained. “This is totally unorthodox and not taught in any business school, but our experience has been excellent. It is more difficult in some ways but on balance I think it is a superior policy. We find that ‘experienced’ people often have bad habits.”

Cassaday said his company hires “outstanding young people with innate abilities” and then the company builds work positions around the new employees and their talents.

“Obviously there has to be a benefit for the firm, but we have had great success allowing talented young people to find what they are really good at and enjoy doing,” Cassaday said. “This way, employees are ‘stickier,’ which means we have very low turnover. We know our employees are doing what they love since our firm has won multiple ‘Best Places to Work’ awards.”

Many Radford University graduates are finding their way to Cassaday & Company, Inc., and enjoying success there.

“It just turns out that RU grads often seem to be better employees,” Cassaday said, noting that Radford graduates “make tremendous employees” and are “motivated and hard working.”

Cassaday credits his RU education to the successes throughout his career.

“My psychology degree unquestionably has been huge in terms of my success and was the best training for what I do every day. A large part of our job is understanding behaviors and a social sciences degree gives you the tools you need to do this,” he said.

“Investors appreciate being listened to, being heard and being understood, sometimes at a deep personal level, and this allows them to move in the directions that are scary for them, but ultimately prove beneficial.”

Cassaday also believes in hard work. “Working hard doesn't kill you,” he said when reflecting back on his days as a college student managing his studies and numerous extracurricular activities. Cassaday also is a strong believer in sacrifice—“this means avoiding instant gratification in favor of more difficult choices,” he noted.

“Remember, the quality of your life will depend on the quality of the decisions you make,” Cassaday advised. “A good life is usually the result of a series of good decisions that span decades. Good decisions are easy to identify—they are usually more difficult, less fun and require more work and are often things you would rather not do. Regularly choosing to do what is least pleasant and more difficult has been a rule for me, and, I believe, an important component of my success.” ■

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**October 10-12  
2014**



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**Alumni Village • Women of Radford Lunch • Alumni Lacrosse Game • Class Reunions  
85th Greek Life Reunion • Athletic Hall of Fame • Class of 1964 Golden Reunion**

Details available on:

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