

RADFORD

The Magazine of Radford University

Winter 2017



Embracing the Tradition,
Envisioning the Future

INSIDE Follow Your Daydreams | Science Behind Caring

AD FORD



FORD HIGHLAND

RADE



Pin the
bow tie
on



President
Hemphill!!



HE'S GAME

Pin the Bow Tie on the President was a popular feature at Homecoming.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

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GREETINGS, FELLOW HIGHLANDERS! I am pleased to share the latest edition of The Magazine of Radford University, which features some of the many ways in which the Radford family is working each and every day to bring to life our collective vision of transforming Radford into an innovative, premier university in the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond with a keen focus on teaching, research and service. In this edition, many voices tell the Radford story — a powerful story of progress and promise through a cross-section of Highlander students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends, who boldly and proudly share what the Radford experience has meant and continues to mean to each of them, their families and their communities.

Since I became president of Radford University on July 1, 2016, I have witnessed first-hand the passion and dedication of the Radford family. As I traveled the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond for alumni events, hosted forums for students, faculty and staff and attended my first Highlanders Festival, Homecoming and Family Weekend, the Radford family has shared its memories of the past and hopes for the future. As a campus and a community, we have reflected on our rich and storied history and began to set the course for our bold and promising future. In doing so, we have outlined the fundamental principles of excellence, transparency, accountability and student-centeredness, which will guide the University as we seek to fulfill our mission. Furthermore, brand identity, academic excellence and research, student success, strategic enrollment growth, economic development and community outreach and philanthropic giving and alumni engagement will serve as our strategic areas of focus as we move forward in this exciting journey.

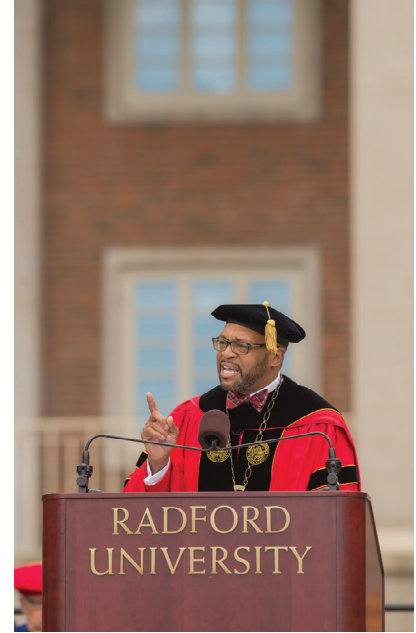
With the dedication of the new College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences Building and the Center for the Sciences, the campus footprint reflects the growth and aspirations of Radford University and the dedicated members of our campus community. These new buildings enhance our beautiful campus with its century-long heritage of teaching and learning and are symbols of the many developments that are yet to come through our year-long strategic planning efforts, which began this Fall. To stay up-to-date on such campus developments, follow me on Twitter at [@BrianOHemphill](https://twitter.com/BrianOHemphill). For an in-depth look into the Radford family, subscribe to RU Connected, our biweekly Enewsletter, at www.radford.edu/ru-connected/subscribe.

Please know that I am honored and humbled to serve as your president and eager to lead the Radford family now and well into the future. I look forward to working with each of you, as we share the Radford family. Please enjoy this edition of The Magazine of Radford University. Go Highlanders!

With Highlander Pride,



Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.
President



President Hemphill at his Inauguration ceremony on Oct. 13



Radford University does not discriminate in the administration of its educational programs, activities, admission or employment practices.

We want to hear from you!

Let us know what you think of the stories and photos you find in The Magazine of Radford University. The magazine staff welcomes readers' comments, but reserves the right to edit letters or to refuse publication of letters considered libelous or distasteful. Space availability may prevent publication of all letters in the magazine. Please send your letters to editor@radford.edu.

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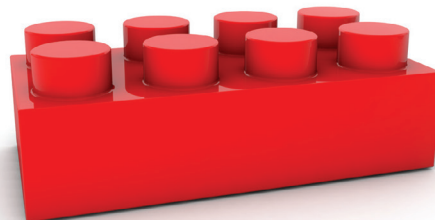
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Cover: Upon his installation as Radford University President, Brian O. Hemphill (center) is flanked by Rector of the Board of Visitors Christopher Wade (left) and Interim Provost Joseph Scartelli (right).

Radford University's D.P.T.

Five Years of Worthy Accomplishment

By Don Bowman

WITH A GLANCE back, Radford University's Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program celebrated its five-year anniversary last spring with corporate partners, friends, alumni and guiding lights.

Delegate Joseph P. Yost '06, M.S. '08 joined the celebration that featured presentations and demonstrations by D.P.T. students. Founding D.P.T. Chair Ed Swanson and retiring Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders Raymond Linville were singled out for their pioneering contributions, as was Heywood Fralin, chairman of Medical Facilities of America (MFA), a key early proponent of the program. Fralin and MFA made a substantial first financial contribution along with vital D.P.T. corporate partners — Carilion Clinic, Genesis Rehab Services and Friendship Retirement Communities — to launch Radford's effort to address the region's need for physical therapists.

The program, located on the eighth floor of the Carilion Roanoke Community Hospital in Roanoke, graduated its first cohort in May 2014 and is chaired by Associate Professor of Physical Therapy Kristen Jagger.



The fifth anniversary celebration of Radford University's Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy featured an applied cardiopulmonary demonstration by first-year students Chris Buschmann, Jonathan Childress and Kevin Steinberger.

Not Asking for **"SUPER HERO"** Status

School of Communication's comic-loving director and his modest leadership approach

By Chad Osborne

FOR SCHOOL OF Communication (SOC) director and comics fan Matthew Smith, 2016 featured an epic crossover event.

Smith took leadership of the SOC this year as the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) was consolidated in a single building for the first time, creating new opportunities for collaboration and hands-on learning among its departments.

But first, he made his 10th consecutive visit to San Diego's Comic-Con International. Each year, Smith leads a field study at the

convention, a project he began in his previous post at Wittenberg College in Springfield, Ohio, where he also taught such courses as media literacy, television criticism, media law and graphic storytelling.

"Comics, and all the media surrounding them, have incredible power to articulate the human condition," Smith said. "They speak to our inner aspirations."

For Smith, the SOC directorship isn't about becoming Dr. Doom, but rather leading his team of Avengers. He spent the spring and summer reaching out to faculty and asking them about their visions for the School of Communication.

It's important for a new leader to spend time listening, he said. "I believe in working with people to realize a mission going forward."

Smith holds Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Ohio University and a B.A. degree from West Liberty State College.

Design Thinking Program Graduates First Student

By Leslie King



Heather Murdock '16 is the first graduate of Radford University's MFA in Design Thinking program.

THE FIRST Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Design Thinking student graduated during the 2016 Spring Commencement. Holly Murdock holds this distinction.

The newest terminal degree in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, this entirely online program provides students with in-depth experiences using the design process to solve complex international problems and issues through teamwork.

Murdock, who lives in Utah, started in fall 2013, after finding the program through an online search. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in interior design from Utah State University, she wanted a graduate degree from another part of the country without having to move.

"When I found Radford, I knew it was the right program and the right school for me," she said.

Her thesis used design thinking to generate new ideas to help Syrian refugee children.

"To do that, I developed a series of workshops to bring together people from different backgrounds, from interior designers and architects, to people who work with relocated refugees and even a former refugee from the Congo," Murdock said.

Together they brainstormed, prototyped ideas and developed an ongoing coloring book exchange between U.S. children and refugee children.

Murdock plans to teach in a university interior design program and bring design thinking into its curriculum.

Professional Development for the Practical

Online graduate degree programs for working math teachers

By Chad Osborne

TEACHING CLASSES during the day and grading papers and spending time with family at night add up to long hours and a busy life for a secondary math teacher.

Taking time out to attend professional development classes can seem like a daunting task. Who has the time?

Radford University's Math Education Content Area Studies program offers licensed Virginia mathematics teachers an opportunity to enroll in courses in which they can earn a master's degree or a mathematics certificate. And it's all online.

In-service teachers seeking a master's degree complete 36 hours, 18 in math and 18 in education, technology and research. The mathematics certificate program consists of 18 course hours.

"One of the strengths of this program is that it is all online, and that draws a lot of teachers to it," said Darryl Corey, the program's director. "The last thing teachers want to do is leave work and go sit in a classroom. Through this program, they can go home, be with their families, still attend classes and still get a master's degree and the professional development they seek."

Another pillar of the program, Corey said, is that its cohorts have teachers from all over Virginia, from such large geographic regions as Hampton Roads and Richmond to the smaller rural areas of Southwest Virginia. "We have teachers from all over the state who collaborate, learn together and offer a variety of perspectives," he said.

Teachers enrolled in the program also have an opportunity to learn for two weeks onsite at the NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton. "There, they learn how to take real-world mathematics applications and turn them into lessons for the students," Corey said. "So, when they leave there, they have lesson plans that are not theoretical, but based on real data and experiences at NASA."

To learn more about the program, contact Corey at 540-831-7622 or dcorey3@radford.edu.



The Business of Opportunity

By Chad Osborne



RADFORD UNIVERSITY'S College of Business and Economics (COBE) has introduced a new program that will push its students “to a higher level of achievement and learning,” said the college’s dean, George Low.

The COBE Fellows program is a cohort of 15 business students who have an opportunity to work with a select group of Radford University faculty to develop a unique perspective of the global business environment and gain cross-cultural competencies to enhance their university experiences and careers.

The four-year program includes selected courses with other COBE Fellows, faculty-student mentoring, networking with global business executives, job-shadowing opportunities and internships. Fellows have opportunities for immersion learning excursions during and between semesters, and short-term or semester-long study-abroad programs. COBE Fellows will be encouraged to apply for Radford University Foundation scholarships.

Management Associate Professor Tal Zarankin and MBA Director Stacey Turmel will serve as co-directors of the program.

Sienna Kellum said she chose to apply for COBE Fellows because “it seemed like a program that would put you ahead, particularly with the internships and shadowing, the one-on-one mentoring with faculty and working with people who have been in this line of work.” Kellum, a management major from Crozet, said “I feel like this will put me on the right track and get me there.”

“The COBE Fellows program has what I want to do.”

Karissa Tobin of Forest

Mauricio Rosales chose Radford University because of the COBE Fellows program. “I decided really early that business is what I love, and I have a real passion for it,” said Rosales, whose family moved to the United States from Bolivia when he was 3 years old. “I think if you’re going to do something, you should do it in the best way possible, and I really think this program is an opportunity to do it in the best way possible.”

For the first two years, participating students will be enrolled in pre-business courses.

“They will enroll in general university courses plus economics, statistics, calculus and accounting,” Low said. “Students will declare a business major after their sophomore year and move into finance, accounting, economics, marketing or management.”

The COBE Fellows program is more than a classroom experience. It includes professional development activities, such as interacting with the college’s executives-in-residence and trips to Washington, D.C. and New York City to interact with business professionals. When students reach the spring semester of their junior year, “they will be strongly encouraged to study a full semester abroad” at an institution with similar academic tracks as COBE, Low said.

Karissa Tobin of Forest plans to study management, marketing and “something in art,” she said. Tobin also aspires to be a welder, and someday, operate her own welding business. “The COBE Fellows program has what I want to do,” she said.

Low said the program’s professional development enhancements and experiences “will equip students to be more prepared for business internships and careers. Employers are looking for the best students, and the COBE Fellows program will identify the best students and then challenge them by giving them advanced tools that will help them be successful following graduation.”

To be eligible for the program, applicants must be incoming pre-business freshmen and meet at least two of the following qualifications: achieve at least a 1,100 SAT or 24 ACT; have a 3.5 or higher high school GPA; and be in the top 20 percent of their graduating class.

“Everybody in each cohort is going to be good academically, so the faculty can push them harder, further and go deeper into an advanced level of business discussions,” Low said. “Everyone will benefit from this competitive program.”

Sarah Kelleher is double majoring in business and dance. The Upton, Massachusetts native said she sees the group growing together quickly. “There are only 15 of us, and I feel like we’re going to be a family after four years,” she said.

To learn more about the COBE Fellows program, visit www.radford.edu/cobe-fellows.

Art of Feng

A showcase of art and generosity

By Dan Waidelich

AT THE FIFTH annual Give Your Heart to Art event, supporters gathered to celebrate artistic life on campus.

In addition to fine dining and even finer company, art lovers received a sneak peak at “Art of Feng No. 3,” an exhibition in the Radford University Art Museum, before it opened for the spring.

In the exhibition, internationally renowned artist and Radford University Professor of Art Z. L. Feng showcased watercolor, pastel and oil landscapes and portraits he created during a 2015 fall sabbatical in China and other places.

“I am so honored,” Feng said, before announcing that he would give something back: Half the proceeds from art sold during the exhibition were donated to the Z.L. Feng International Scholarship Endowment in Art.

The 2015 recipient of that scholarship, Keturie Hehn, joined Feng at the event to thank him for his tutelage and scholarship support.



Z.L. Feng, *River Morning*

International Community Celebrates Milestone

By Mary Hardbarger



RADFORD UNIVERSITY'S international community burst to life on April 16 at the 25th annual International Banquet.

Hundreds of students and alumni enjoyed an evening of colorful performances and an enormous spread of food representative of dozens of different countries and cultures.

The elaborate event is coordinated each year by the International Student Affairs Council (ISAC). The group formed in the early 1990s to promote diversity and enrich the campus.

“That year forward, it just grew and grew,” recalled Teresa King, assistant director of International Education. “Every year, they set the bar higher than the year before.”

Students began preparing food for the banquet early in the morning. By the time dinner was served, the smell of curries, flavorful soups and sauces, and decadent desserts filled the entire Muse Banquet Hall.

The guest speaker at this year’s event was Rookmin Maharaj ’96, a former ISAC student.

“Being a member of such a unique group on campus instilled in me the awareness and appreciation for the world, not through travel brochures, videos and books, but through friends and their life stories,” she told the audience. “As our intricate web of experiences, goals, dreams and friendships got even more interwoven, the bond of belonging to this group strengthened.”

Throughout the evening, there were several special song, dance and fashion performances, and numerous trips to the food line for seconds and thirds.

“The banquet was extraordinary,” said co-president Bismark Amofah, a junior chemistry major. “The food was absolutely fantastic. The diversity of our chefs perfectly reflected the food that was made. With each bite that was taken, I felt a connection with each culture that influenced the food.”



Radford University’s international community burst to life during the 25th annual International Banquet, featuring a wide array of cultural cuisine and entertainment.



Music in Nepal

Jennifer McDonel's mission to spread the importance of music education abroad

By Dan Waidelich

DEBATE ABOUT the value of arts education in the U.S. has raged for years. In some districts, music and arts have been long-shuttered to save costs.

What's undeniable is that Americans are at least familiar with the concept of an arts education. Halfway around the world, in Kathmandu, Nepal, Sumit Pokhrel is fighting to even introduce that idea to his homeland.

Jennifer McDonel, assistant professor of music education at Radford University, has followed Pokhrel's work for several years. When she got the chance earlier this year to join him in Nepal, she took it.

"Sumit has been trying to get people to support his mission to bring better music education for the children of Nepal," McDonel said, "and he's been looking for people to support him outside of Nepal. That's something I was fortunate to be able to do."

So McDonel flew to Kathmandu and received a joyous welcome from Pokhrel's family.

"They really took me in while I was there," McDonel said.

While there were opportunities for McDonel to act as a tourist — she was particularly taken with the Himalayan views seen from Kathmandu — the trip was about learning the musical landscape of a new country and helping augment it.

"In Nepal, and many countries in that part of the world, music isn't offered as part of an overall curriculum," she said. "It is taught in a master-apprentice model. If you want to learn, you need to find someone to teach you."

Pokhrel's MusicArt Society hopes to change that. Pokhrel and other teachers maintain a space where children can take lessons after school or during their free time. There are instruments they can borrow during their lessons, and Pokhrel and staff make sure as many get the chance to study as possible.

"He's interested in bringing music education to students who can't afford to pay for lessons," McDonel said. "He works with orphans. That struck a note in my heart to help him with that mission."

In addition to teaching some children herself, McDonel gifted the society with a number of recorders — a simple instrument, but one from which children can learn the fundamentals of music.

McDonel also ran workshops for music educators, teaching some of the basics of western music pedagogy and allowing these teachers to then use those lessons with their students.

McDonel's trip was made possible with a McGlothlin Faculty Travel Grant. These grants, for up to \$2,500, are awarded to supplement international travel with the hope that faculty can bring back new ideas for a more globalized curriculum.

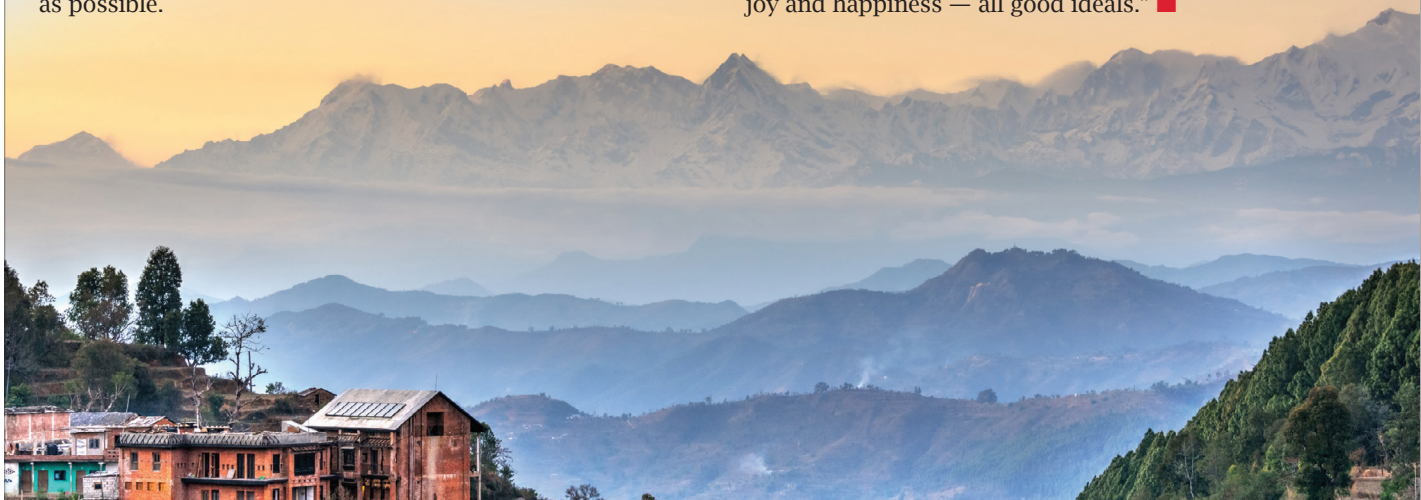
Faculty members often use these grants to enhance international dimensions of their classes or to investigate sites and do preliminary planning for potential study abroad or exchange programs.

Indeed, McDonel hopes to continue her relationship with MusicArt Society and hopes to rally others to the cause.

"I learned as much as I taught over there," she said. "Hopefully, we can continue this and make this a bigger experience. I want to continue to support the mission of bringing music education to Nepal, which in turn brings joy and happiness — all good ideals." ■



Jennifer McDonel, assistant professor of music education



Economics is boring, you say?

Put a stake in it!

By Chad Osborne

VAMPIRES want to eat you. They want to bite your neck and suck out your blood.

We know all about these monsters; this is how they work. Just like you, they need your blood to thrive.

But we humans can fight back. We have the technology to defend ourselves.

The question is: how much of our resources should we devote to manufacturing stakes, producing garlic and other means necessary to hold off the vampires when those resources could be used for other things that keep us alive? We need food. Shelter. Clothing. Education.

We have to make wise decisions about deploying our resources to put up a good defense.

Vampires have their own choices to make. They need to eat, but they can't eat us all. That would cause food shortages. They also need to choose their dinner wisely. A meal that puts up a fight might end in disaster.

Decisions, decisions!

Let's back up. Yes, we all know vampires are fictional and their characteristics vary from story to story, from *Dracula* to "True Blood" and "Twilight." However, studying such scenarios, even though they are derived from fantasy books and movies, can teach us a lot about how to approach economic decision-making.

That's what Dan Farhat does. Yes, the Radford University assistant economics professor studies vampires. And he uses sophisticated computer simulations to do it.

"I create hundreds, sometimes millions, of artificial people and vampires inside a virtual landscape. Each one is unique," Farhat said. "I give them reasonable rules to follow, usually based on assumptions about how they respond to their environment."

He then sets loose the vampires and humans to "see what happens," he explained. "I look at the population

demographics and spending patterns in the artificial economic ecosystem and see if it reflects the real economy we see around us." This is a research method called "agent-based modeling," and it is growing in popularity among social scientists.

Farhat is often asked about the real-world applications of his vampire research. There are many. His research creates avenues to study such topics as social revolution, crime and government corruption, and even free-loader roommates.

"It can be used for any application or any situation where one person or group feeds off others," Farhat said.

Those studies are beneficial, but Farhat has another purpose: inspiring more students to study economics.

"We economists are trying to help people, students included, get past the math and data normally associated with economics and to work on interesting research," Farhat said. "I'm trying to pass on the passion of economics through what I like to call scien-tainment, or entertaining science."

That's where the vampires come into play.

In conducting research, individuals "should express themselves," Farhat said. "I'm dark and twisty, so vampire research was good for me."

And, sure, Farhat knows vampires are so 2010, and zombies are all the rage now. So, he plans to work with interested students on economics research projects that will involve those. Or super heroes and super villains. Or werewolves. Or space aliens. Or soldiers. Or rap stars. Or dance moms.

"I want to leave it up to the students," Farhat said. "I want to help them understand what it's like to do actual economics research and produce an output, such as a paper in an undergraduate journal or a poster

at a conference. I want students to know that culture, even pop culture, is important to economics. I want students to explore their own interests and how they tie into economics; they'll find that they have more to contribute to economic research than they might think."

Most of all, he said, "I want students to know that, unlike vampires, economics doesn't bite." ■

C\$MM\$N CENTS

COBE provides personal financial decision-making training for high school educators.

By Chad Osborne

MAKING THE right personal finance decisions can be difficult for people of all ages — and it can be extremely tough for young individuals just starting out, including high school and college graduates.

To address these challenges, the Commonwealth of Virginia requires all future high school graduates to complete at least one standard of credit in economics and/or personal finance in order to graduate with a standard or advanced-degree diploma.

To assist high school educators who are or will be expected to teach personal finance to high school students, Clarence Rose, a finance professor at Radford University and the director of the newly developed Center for Financial Education, began offering online financial education courses and workshops.



Clarence Rose, finance professor and director of the Center for Financial Education

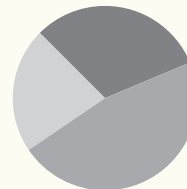


“Introduction to the Financial Planning Process for Educators” was introduced as an online course by Rose in the summer of 2015. “This introductory course addresses personal financial decision-making that high school students are going to be faced with right out of high school, during and after their college years and throughout their entire lifetimes,” the professor said.

This continuing education course examines the financial planning process and personal financial statements, including personal financial ratio analysis and basic time value of money applications used in financial decisions.

“The course gives teachers hands-on tools, PowerPoint presentations and examples they can use in the classroom when teaching their high school students,” Rose said.

Each of the sections can be completed in about one hour, and there are separate downloadable PowerPoint presentations for each session. Review questions accompany each session, and participants receive a certificate upon completion.



The course can be finished at each individual’s pace. “The course takes about two to four weeks to finish, but we’re flexible with educators,” Rose said.

Teachers gain 20 contact hours and continuing education credits for completing the course.

“Since the course was introduced, we have had approximately 90 high school educators and administrators from across Virginia enroll and complete the course,” Rose said.

A second online course, “Helping Young Individuals Become Financially Responsible Adults,” became available to Virginia educators in late October. ■



To register for the online course “Introduction to the Financial Planning Process for Educators,” contact the Radford University Center for Financial Education at 540-831-6595.

"The enormity of the trust you have instilled in me is my constant companion."

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.



Optimism

Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D. is inaugurated as Radford University's seventh president

Renewal



To commemorate the inauguration of President Brian O. Hemphill on Oct. 13, the Radford University community and guests from across the nation gathered on Moffett Lawn.

Nearly 3,000 students, faculty, staff and representatives from sister educational institutions and community leaders were on hand for the ceremony at which Hemphill officially became Radford's seventh president.

Hemphill was ceremonially installed as Radford University President by Christopher J. Wade, rector of the Board of Visitors, who bestowed the presidential medallion, and Interim Provost Joseph J. Scartelli, who conveyed to him the academic mace.

"The enormity of the trust you have instilled in me is my constant companion. It is present in every action and every decision that I have made and will make on behalf of the University," said President Hemphill in his remarks, titled "Embracing the Tradition, Envisioning the Future."

Of his goals, President Hemphill said, "We must engage the Radford family in its totality in planning and executing

a bold and innovative agenda, which positions us for the future."

President Hemphill reiterated his commitment to the fundamental principles of excellence, transparency, accountability and student-centeredness. He also reminded the Radford family of the areas upon which he will focus: brand identity, academic excellence and research, student success, strategic enrollment growth, economic development and community partnerships and philanthropic giving and alumni engagement.

According to the president, Radford University will fulfill its role as a result of four steps. The first step will



be to “continue the journey of being student-centered.” Step two is to engage faculty as “active partners in the governance of this great institution.” Hemphill said the third step is to “become a data-driven university with clear measures of success and accountability at our core.”

“Finally, we must adjust to the speed at which society is moving,” Hemphill said. “For this to occur, we must focus on innovation and being responsive to societal needs.”

Hemphill also shared a historical perspective, saying, “Today is a day to reflect on and celebrate the rich academic traditions and proud history of Radford University.”

Among the challenges facing Radford University, and other universities, that Hemphill identified was the need to move away from “the industrial model” toward one that is “nimble and committed to working with all students, regardless of academic profile.”

Hemphill challenged the Radford family to “move beyond our single focus and look for new opportunities and niche markets.”

Hemphill talked of how Radford University can be distinctive.

“We should not try to be like any other institution in the Commonwealth,” Hemphill said. “With students at the very heart of every decision, we will serve the Commonwealth as a model for innovation and creativity.”

West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee gave the ceremony’s keynote address.

“These are challenging times to lead a university,” said Gee, a colleague of Hemphill’s in West Virginia and former president of Brown University, the University of Colorado, Vanderbilt University and The Ohio State University.

“The reason we are here is the idea that we will make the world a better place with the products of the mind.”



West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee

“President Hemphill has the knowledge, skill and tenacity to lead Radford in these challenging times.”

Gee described the leadership role of university president as “engaging the whole campus in answering the question ‘What are we doing here?’”

Gee added: “The reason we are here is the idea that we will make the world a better place with the products of the mind.”

Among the many dignitaries in attendance at the ceremony were Virginia Secretary of Education Dietra Y. Trent and Peter A. Blake, director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

Student Government Association President Jacinda Jones, Administrative/Professional Senate President Sandra Bond, Staff Senate President Marie Testerman and Faculty Senate President Carter Turner brought greetings from the shared governance bodies.





“President Hemphill’s leadership will continue Radford’s tradition of academic excellence and position us to face the challenges ahead,” said Turner.

Almost 40 delegates from across the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States assembled on the platform to witness the investiture ceremony. Colleagues from 20 of Virginia’s public, private and community colleges were

on hand, and colleges from West Virginia, Iowa, Arkansas, Illinois, Georgia and North Carolina were represented.

Jason Osborne '97 was representing Southwest Virginia Community College in Tazewell.

“As a colleague in higher education and an alumnus, I am honored to be here as Radford moves its tradition of serving students forward,” Osborne said.

The delegates were joined by almost 100 faculty members who donned academic regalia to march in the processional that opened the event. At the head of the procession was senior faculty member and mace bearer Jonathan Tso, geology professor and department chair.

“Since 1977, Radford has been my home and I love it,” he said. “Today’s ceremony marks a renewal of the University as well as the change in leadership.”

Donna Boyd, professor of anthropology and director of the Radford University Forensic Science Institute, said, “Radford has an opportunity to move confidently forward toward greatness with a new president, new buildings and the collegial spirit we see today.”

Felicia Freeman, a graduate student pursuing a master’s degree in special education, shared the optimism of the day.

“This was a fabulous event,” Freeman said. “I already feel a stronger connection to the University. I’m motivated and inspired to do great things here. I’m very proud to be a Highlander, and I know I made the right decision to continue my education at Radford University.”

Hemphill reflected on his 21 years in higher education and acknowledged several mentors and friends in attendance who had helped prepare him for taking the helm of Radford, its seven colleges and 9,400 graduate and undergraduate students.

“I thank you all for all of your support, the sink-or-swim opportunities and the occasional swift kick,” he said. “I also thank each of you for teaching me about accountability, expectations and true leadership.”



“With students at the very heart of every decision, we will serve the Commonwealth as a model for innovation and creativity.”

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.

Enjoy the video recap of President Hemphill’s inauguration online at www.radford.edu/magazine.

A Passion for Higher Education

President Hemphill takes a selfie with high school Governor School students.

Fall is a time of change on every college campus. New faces appear, new buildings may open and new connections wait to be forged.

For Radford University, this fall meant the beginning of a new era of leadership under Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, who assumed the mantle of the University's seventh president on July 1.

President Hemphill comes to the University following a decade of breakneck academic success, program development and construction. His plan? To keep the momentum going in attaining excellence while also identifying new opportunities for Radford University going forward in a rapidly changing higher education landscape.

"My vision is to transform Radford University into an innovative, premier university within the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond, with focuses on teaching, research and service," Dr. Hemphill said.

Courting such bold success is a daunting challenge for any leader, but President Hemphill has spent his career preparing to do just that.

"I'm looking forward to it," he said.

SPRING HOPE

SPRING HOPE is a farming community on the western edge of North Carolina's coastal plain — a low, flat region where the soil is good and tobacco is king.

(he was the first in his family to be afforded that life-changing opportunity) and returning to use his skills to better his home.

That plan took an unexpected turn when he fell in love with academia and set off on a career in higher education that has taken him around the country.

Growing up in Spring Hope may sound familiar to those growing up in Radford, as well as the other communities of the New River Valley. Both towns prospered thanks to railroads, both are in the heart of farm country, both retain their small-town charm and both embrace hard work and perseverance.

These connections are not lost on the new president, who is happy to be a part of a community that feels so close to his roots.

"This feels like home," President Hemphill said.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

RADFORD UNIVERSITY is more diverse than ever. Students from around the Commonwealth, country and world live and learn on campus together.

Many, however, have backgrounds similar to President Hemphill: whether they are from a small town or an urban neighborhood, 37 percent of Highlanders are first-generation students. And, according to the president, that changes the way the University needs to engage with many of our students.

"I can say that you experience college very differently, and we need to ensure that each and every one of our students can be successful here on campus," President Hemphill said.

He will work hard for other students as well. Two key focal areas of his administration are student success, including retention and graduation rates, and strategic enrollment growth.

President Hemphill's vision for Radford University is to be an institution that supports students making their first steps into higher education, whether they are poring over recruitment materials or attending Summer Bridge programs. After students first arrive,

A Calling to Service

"It was a great place to grow up," said President Hemphill, who learned as much about the world from his farming days as his college days. "That hard work was an opportunity to meet really great people and learn the work ethic that defines who I am today."

Growing up, Dr. Hemphill aspired to be a good citizen of his community. That involved getting a college degree

“This feels like home.”

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.

that support must continue. It will be imperative to look for new ways to ensure students succeed from orientation to graduation.

“When students come to a college or university campus, they have hopes and dreams. They want to be successful,” President Hemphill said. “We will be doing everything possible to ensure that they stay on track toward graduation.”

President Hemphill’s administration will also work hard to manage the cost of education moving forward. Mindful of increases in costs and the high expectations for programs and facilities, the president will work to ensure all who earn their place have access to a Radford education.

“I don’t think anyone wants the pendulum to swing to the point of the ‘haves’ and the ‘have-nots,’” he said. “It’s so important for us to ensure we’re being intentional about keeping a Radford education as affordable as possible, going out to raise private dollars, while ensuring students are able to attend Radford University.”

AN ACADEMIC LIFE

WHEN PRESIDENT HEMPHILL left Spring Hope, he didn’t have to go far for a first-rate undergraduate experience. He found his initial passion for journalism and communication fulfilled at St. Augustine’s University, a historically black college in Raleigh. He also found inspiration as a brother of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

“It continues to be an important part of me, the mission of our organization of scholarship, leadership and service,” President Hemphill said of his Greek Life background.

That drive toward service surfaced again while he pursued a master’s degree at Iowa State University, where he was offered an opportunity to move into an



administrative position. He seized the opportunity and, now, more than 20 years later, he has an impressive list of titles and degrees:

President of West Virginia State University; Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Northern Illinois University; Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville; Ph.D. in Higher Education, University of Iowa; Master of Science in Journalism and Mass Communication, Iowa State; and Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Communication, St. Augustine’s University.

But as all true educators will tell you, it is not the pursuit of honors and accolades that keeps him going.

“This is my passion,” President Hemphill said. “When I think about the importance of the work we do every single day in the lives of young men and young women, it’s critical. This is my love.”

RADFORD UNIVERSITY TODAY

OVER THE PAST decade, Radford University has experienced many changes to its academic offerings. From doctoral programs to the Scholar-Citizen Initiative, from international education to online learning, the University is positioned to serve a broad variety of communities.

And that is one reason the new president wanted the job.

“Radford is a university that has amazing faculty, strong academic programs, a great service orientation and a reputation as being one of the best in the South,” he said.

According to President Hemphill, the foundation for future success has already been laid. Now that he has arrived, he will task his administration to listen to students, faculty, staff, alumni and others to discover what niches should be explored and mined for opportunity. The University has begun work on a new strategic plan, which will identify these niches.

One opportunity already on the table is in the expansion of online learning at Radford, as well as an expansion of research. While face-to-face interaction will always be the cornerstone of the institution, President Hemphill sees a future where Radford University can provide students in a wide selection of digital programs with the same high-caliber education they would receive on campus.

For the president, however, it is as important to honor tradition as it is to grow and change, and the Radford University tradition is one of strong academic programs and a reputation for outstanding faculty-student relationships and research opportunities.

“We have to help the entire Commonwealth of Virginia understand all of the attributes that make this campus very special and unique,” he said.



President Hemphill posted this image on Twitter with wife Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill, twin 4-year-olds, Cruz and Catalina, and mother-in-law Maria Rosas. Follow President Hemphill on Twitter: @BrianOHemphill

ALL ABOUT FAMILY

THE ONE THING most special to President Hemphill, the one greater passion than higher education, is family.

When the president took up residence in the Governor Tyler House this summer, he was joined by his wife Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill, or, as he says, “the glue that holds everything together”; their twin 4-year-olds, Catalina and Cruz; and mother-in-law Maria Rosas.

In addition to his family in Radford, President Hemphill has a daughter, Jada, who is a senior at the University of Central Arkansas majoring in communication sciences and disorders, and a son, Jordan, who is a rising senior at Bentonville High School in Arkansas.

“We like to spend time together,” said President Hemphill, when asked about his idea of a perfect day. “That’s very special because there is not a lot of time off in this profession.”

And, the Radford University community can expect the Hemphill family to be a large part of the president’s administration.

“We try to integrate the family into everything that we do with the University,” he said. “And we’re looking forward to Catalina and Cruz growing up on the Radford campus where they will be able to have such great experiences.”

BUILDING A COMMUNITY

IT SHOULD BE no surprise that one of Dr. Hemphill’s goals for the early days of his presidency is to truly become a part of the Radford University family.

One of the opportunities that excites him the most is getting away from his desk and out on the campus.

“I like to get out and engage with people one on one,” he said. “It’s important for me to have that face-to-face interaction and for people to feel like they know me as a person.”

He began reaching out after his appointment as president last December, calling and emailing faculty, staff, students and alumni to find out what they love about Radford University. That engagement will continue, whether through campus dialogues, alumni events or friendly social media updates from his Twitter account @BrianOHemphill.

Community is at the center of several of Dr. Hemphill’s key focuses, especially in university branding, philanthropy, alumni engagement, and economic development and community partnership.

“One thing I do know for certain is that if we don’t define ourselves — who we are and what we’re about as an

“ We try to integrate the family into everything that we do with the University.”

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.

“Radford University is well positioned to promote the social needs of Southwest Virginia, serve as an economic driver in the region and partner with business and industry.”

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.

institution — others will define us,” he said, challenging all past, present and future Highlanders to recognize their outstanding experiences and share them. “We need everyone to engage and speak about the greatness of our university!”

President Hemphill hopes those conversations will not only encourage prospective students to look to Radford for their education, but bring alumni back into an active relationship with the University.

“Inspiring alumni and friends to engage is simply finding something that taps into the things they are passionate about,” he said. “We will be able to do that successfully. I’m quite confident in that. When you look at the strengths of the institution and what we are able to provide, it will align with our alumni base and our donors.

“Since Radford University’s founding in 1910, the University has made service to the Commonwealth a cornerstone of its mission, and through our focus on economic development and community partnerships,” said President Hemphill. “Radford University is well positioned to promote the social needs of Southwest Virginia, serve as an economic driver in the region and partner with business and industry.”

Part of building a community is weathering the darker challenges that arise. President Hemphill, a published author with a special research interest in gun violence on college campuses, has one idea to help prevent storms from brewing.

“A part of what we have to do is to make sure we create a caring community,” he said. “We have to create a culture in which people are more apt to check on one another. A safe community is a community that fundamentally cares about one another.”

One way in which the president will help build such a community is through supporting the rise of service as a pillar of the Radford experience. Going back to his days as an undergraduate, President Hemphill has engaged in community and university service initiatives and will continue to do so.

Radford already offers many community service activities, and students frequently volunteer in community businesses and organizations. Dr. Hemphill will work to strengthen and increase service opportunities, and will join faculty, staff and students in lending a hand in the community.

“When we encourage service, we create strong citizen leaders that are prepared to go and provide strong direction and leadership in the Commonwealth and beyond,” he said.



President Hemphill and Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill flank the Highlander.

“This is my passion...
This is my love.”

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.

Welcome to
Transfer Quest

TRANSFER QUEST 2016

RADFORD UNIVERSITY



President Hemphill speaks at Transfer Quest.

THE FUTURE

AFTER PRESIDENT HEMPHILL assumed his post in July, he joined the faculty, staff and administration in preparations for a new school year. His outreach has also included hosting several receptions with alumni across Virginia and engaging with local and regional business leaders.

“This is an amazing university that has great people very much committed to providing opportunities to students,” President Hemphill said. “I’m excited about our journey moving forward as a Radford family!” ■



Engagement with Radford’s many constituencies is a primary goal of President Hemphill.

a Life of Giving

**For three decades,
Bill Carroll '86 has given to
his community and alma mater.**

By Jeremy Norman

THIS PAST DECEMBER, Bill Carroll '86 made a gift to Radford University, just as he had the year before. And the year before that. And the year before that.

In fact, Carroll has made a gift to Radford University every year since 1986, joining a group of fewer than 40 donors who have given with such consistency.

"I want to lead by example," explains Carroll. "Giving is a habit. So I make a point to give when I can.

"Also, I like knowing that someone from the Class of 1986 is still thinking about Radford University."

Giving apparently comes naturally to Carroll, who has spent the last 20 years working for DePaul Community Resources in Lynchburg, a nonprofit organization that is a "touchstone provider of services to individuals with unique challenges." Carroll provides case management with the Child and Family Services division at DePaul.

"I've always liked being around people — you never know what you are going to get," Carroll says about his choice of career. "I've always been interested in the social and psychological aspect of people, and I've always wanted to be able to help those in need."

His time at Radford University only strengthened his interest in — and ability to — help people.

"After graduating from Radford University with a degree in psychology, I wanted to go into police work," Carroll explains. "I applied for a job, and was one of the final five candidates after a yearlong hiring process. Ultimately, though, I was not chosen.

"I did some substitute teaching for a bit while I decided whether or not to attempt to give law enforcement another go. Instead, I decided to utilize my psychology degree in another way, and I began working at an acute psychiatric unit at a hospital. I've been working with children and parents ever since."

However, it wasn't an easy path for Carroll. Coming into Radford University after graduating from community college, Carroll's first semester at Radford was almost his last. The transition from a community college to a new environment with new expectations was a challenge.

"A friend of mine was attending Radford University while I was at community college," Carroll says. "I came on a visit and felt like I belonged. Once beginning classes, the teachers were engaging and I liked the size of the community.

"But I became a little discouraged during my first semester," Carroll explains. "I was so comfortable and I didn't want to leave, though. So I didn't give up — I met the responsibility and put in the work."

It was that hard work and perseverance that ultimately helped fuel Carroll's habit of giving back to Radford University.

"I'm proud of what I did by graduating," Carroll says. "I wasn't always sure I was going to make it. So I make it a point to give every year. The people at Radford University were good to me so I want to be good to them."

Carroll also illustrates why giving back to the University doesn't necessarily need to be a wholly altruistic endeavor.

"I like being connected with something with a good reputation," Carroll says. "And Radford University's reputation enhances my reputation."

Additionally, Carroll says, "I like getting my little sticker in the mail as an Alumni Contributor. It shows that I am committed to Radford University.

"When you work in the nonprofit sector, you are not going to get rich. But I know that with every little bit that I give back, it adds up to make a big difference."

And the big difference between Radford University and other schools is, as illustrated by Carroll, the people.

"The connections with different people is the beauty of Radford University," Carroll says. "I met many good people and developed relationships with some that continue to this day.

"I'm proud of the school, and I am happy to be connected to it." ■



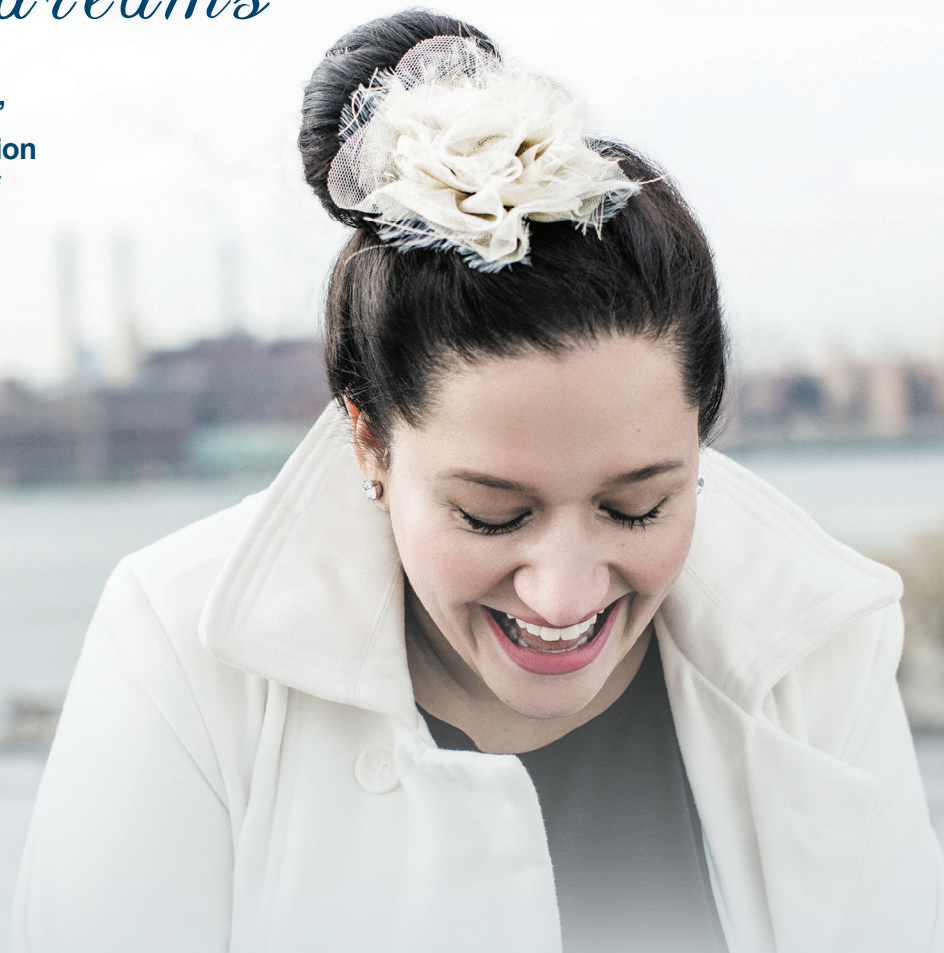
Bill Carroll '86

RADFORD
UNIVERSITY
Contributor

Follow Your Daydreams

The “accidental”
young-adult-fiction
writing career of
Kiera Cass '03

By Jeremy Norman



“I LOVE MY WORK — I love writing for young adults. My characters are precious to me, as are my readers,” says Kiera Cass '03, four-time #1 New York Times and international bestselling author. Last May Cass, best known for her young adult romance series “The Selection,” celebrated the release of her fifth and final novel in the series, “The Crown.”

The novels, published by HarperCollins imprint HarperTeen, are “like a cross between ‘The Bachelor’ television series and ‘The Hunger Games’ book series,” according to Cass.

First published in 2012, “The Selection” follows the story of protagonist America Singer, a 17-year-old girl living in a dystopian society whose citizens are broken into eight different castes. Singer is chosen to participate in the Selection, a competition where 35 girls attempt to win the affections — and ultimately the hand — of a prince.

Publisher’s Weekly called the book “fun,” saying that Cass “deftly builds chemistry” between the two leads, while also creating “an easy heroine to root for.” The Roanoke Times says that novel is “real in a way that some [Young Adult] authors never touch. The series is a great read, and once you pick it up, it’s very hard to put down.”

“The Selection” reportedly sold over 3.5 million copies worldwide and spawned four sequels and five companion novellas; its rights were also optioned by the CW television network. The CW filmed consecutive pilots in 2012 and 2013, but ultimately neither was picked up for a full-series run. Warner Bros. announced that it had purchased the film rights to the novel in April of 2015.

Born and raised in South Carolina, Cass never aspired to become an author. She never even planned to attend Radford University.

“This is an accidental career,” Cass says.

Originally a musical theater major at Coastal Carolina University, Cass ended up at Radford University purely by chance. “I met a group of people from Radford University while I was at a camp,” Cass explains.



“And I loved them so much. So I decided to transfer.”

Cass changed plans again during her first semester at Radford University.

“I originally majored in communications after my transfer, but it wasn’t for me,” Cass says. “So I changed my major to history, which ultimately ended up influencing my writing today. My work as a history major allowed me to gain experience in research, which I now utilize when creating characters and stories.”

As a history major, Cass was introduced to a variety of different personalities. “One of my professors, Dr. Gingrich, insisted that we call him ‘Lord Gingrich,’” Cass says with a laugh. “The staff as a whole was very eclectic — I was never bored.

“And it was great because everyone was so passionate about what they were doing.”

As Cass would show during her time as a resident assistant, the professors were not the only ones passionate about their jobs.

“I loved it,” Cass says. “It gave me great practice in meeting different people’s needs. I enjoyed being a helper and a guide for other students.”

After graduation, Cass married and started life as a stay-at-home mom. It was during this time that she started reading heavily.

“What was popular at the time were the ‘Twilight’ books,” Cass explains. “So that’s what I began reading.”

Ultimately, though, a national tragedy ended up changing Cass’ life forever.

“I started writing as a form of therapy in order to help deal with the April 16 shootings at Virginia Tech,” explains

Cass. “My husband worked on campus when the incident occurred. We both ended up losing people we knew.

“After the shooting, I didn’t quite know what to do with myself. Around the time of the one-year anniversary of the event, I decided to give all of my issues to a character in a story. Once I did that, I then began to write as a habit. It was shortly after that I came up with the idea for ‘The Selection’ novel,” Cass says.

“All that I have done has sprung from one of the worst days in my life,” she continues. “I believe that good things have to spring from the bad.”

After completing the novel, Cass began the painstaking process of shopping it around to different publishers. “I sent out over 80 query letters to potential publishers,” Cass says. “But none were interested, so I self-published my first book. Thankfully, the readers found it and enjoyed it.

“In fact, the readers enjoyed it so much that, by the time my second book came about, I was able to choose who my publisher would be.”

Navigating a career she never planned on having has not always been easy for Cass. Because of this, she is quick to offer advice to prospective writers.

“Develop thick skin and get it quickly,” Cass says. “Rejection is part of the deal.”

Her best advice, however, is advice that she makes sure to follow every day.

“Daydream often,” Cass says. “I even schedule it into my day.” ■

For more information about Kiera Cass, please visit www.kieracass.com or follow her on Twitter @kieracass.

“I believe that good things have to spring from the bad.”

Kiera Cass '03



Homecoming

festivities a hit

By Chad Osborne

SOPHIE MONICA stopped at the campus fountain to pose for pictures with family members.

The freshman from Manassas was in the middle of giving a tour of the Radford University campus to her parents and grandparents on the sunny and warm October morning.

"I wanted to show them where I'm staying, what's going on and what I do on a daily basis," Monica said. "I think that's important for my family to know since I'm living so far away."

Monica's grandparents traveled a long way to see their granddaughter's new college home.

"We've been looking forward to seeing where Sophie is, and it's a beautiful, beautiful place," said Monica's grandmother Marilyn McWhorter, who lives in Missouri. "It's so impressive. I've never seen a campus like this, and we've been on a lot of campuses. Sophie fell in love with Radford right away, and you can see why. Who would not want to go here?"

Many from the university community shared those same sentiments as they gathered for Homecoming and Family Weekend Oct. 14-16, 2016.

There were numerous events available to engage former and current students and their families with the Radford University community. This year, visitors experienced the vast changes around campus and explored the new facilities and offerings while sharing in memories of the past.

Alumna Laura Geisen '86 walked around campus with her daughter, Bridget, a freshman, and marveled at how the campus has expanded. "It's grown, but Radford is still Radford," Laura Geisen said. "When

Bridget first came for a visit, she loved it. She said the vibe here is so nice.”

Earlier that morning, members of Radford’s class of 1966 met for breakfast in Peters Hall. Good friends Nancy Dyer Manning and Sandy Lindner Curtis, who came all the way from her home in Washington state, shared memories of their time at Radford, including the time they became “blood sisters” in biology class.

“We’ve always been good friends,” Manning said. “We went to high school together and we came to Radford together. It’s nice to see each other and so many good friends.”

Pals Ed Zimmerman ’85 and Mike Mathes ’86 sat outside on the patio of the new College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences building. The two had a full day of plans that included seeing “old” friends — “very old,” Mathes joked — and going to the lacrosse alumni game that afternoon. Both were impressed with the direction Radford University is taking toward its future.

“Radford has come a long way and it looks like it’s going to continue to grow and become a great institution,” said Zimmerman, who serves on the College of Business and Economics Advisory Council. “It always has been. It’s just getting better.”

Saturday’s festivities began early in the morning, when President Brian O. Hemphill hosted parents and families for Conversation with the President. Hemphill provided updates about the university, which was followed by a question-and-answer session.

The president then dashed off to compete in the 5K Fun Run by the New River at Bisset Park.

Other activities over the three days included a ribbon-cutting for the new Center for the Sciences, the 31st Annual Appalachian Folk Arts Festival on the Heth Lawn, Women of Radford luncheon, the National Pan-Hellenic Council StompFest Step Show and planetarium shows. There were lectures and various open houses and building tours, too.

Sarah Sosa, a senior anthropology major from Norfolk, took her mother, Heidi Wilson, around the new Center for the Sciences building. “I wanted her to see the new CSAT (College of Science and Technology) building. I wanted her to see where we spend most of our time,” Sosa said.

“Hours and hours and hours,” joked Sosa’s friend and fellow anthropology major, Dakota Townsend of Richmond.

“Yeah, we live here,” Sosa said. “And I wanted my mom to see the labs and see what I do and get a better understanding of what I do.”

Wilson was impressed.

“Sarah is passionate about anthropology,” said Wilson, standing outside the newly opened Museum of the Earth Sciences. “I’ve seen her grow in the past two and half years, and the depth of knowledge these students are learning and the experiences they are having, really has impressed me.

I’m really blown away by this program.”



Later in the day on Saturday, alumni, students and friends gathered at Moffett Lawn. On one end of the large field was a spirited lacrosse game being played by alumni and the Radford University club team. Fraternity and sorority members put on a spectacular halftime show as they raced homemade chariots across the playing field.

On the other end of the lawn were groups of red and white tents where music blared and people gathered for conversations, to play corn hole and learn more about the happenings at Radford University.

As Duran Duran blasted over the speakers, Allison Marentette ’84, of Herndon, and Angela Underhill ’86, of Virginia Beach, walked by the tents on their way to “watch the guys” play lacrosse, Marentette said. “It’s such a beautiful day to be back here,” Marentette added.

The two look forward to coming back to campus for Homecoming every year because “It’s always great to be back home,” Underhill said. “Radford always feels like home to me.” ■

Enjoy a video and photo gallery featuring highlights of Radford University’s Fall Homecoming 2016 at www.radford.edu/magazine.



The Class of 1966

celebrates a

By Jeremy Norman

Golden Reunion

'66

"WE ARE honored to have you in our home tonight, to hear your amazing stories and find out just what Radford University means to you," said President Brian O. Hemphill as he welcomed 30 alumnae from the Class of 1966 to the Governor Tyler House to celebrate their Golden Reunion. The dinner, which was hosted by President Hemphill and his wife, Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill, on Saturday, Oct. 15, featured over 60 guests, including alumnae who have previously celebrated the 50-year milestone, as well as alumnae who have not been back to campus since their graduation.

"There have certainly been some big changes," said Sandra Curtis '66 about the campus she was seeing for the first time in 50 years. "The changes are good to see, except they did build over our 'passion pit.'"

The 'passion pit,' as it was known to the students of the then all-female institution, was a stretch of lawn that featured benches and shade trees that served as a favorite romantic rendezvous point for the ladies and their male suitors.

Dating — or more specifically, the rules surrounding — was a hot topic of discussion during the dinner, as Nancy Dyer Manning '66 was able to find some of the 'yellow slips,' or date cards, that students were required to fill out if they wished for some time with members of the opposite sex.

"I even had to fill one out for my now husband," Manning says. "It is funny to think that there is probably a box full of these slips somewhere on campus right now."

Some of the questions the women were required to answer about their prospective beaux included where they met, how long they've known each other, and whether or not he has "called" at their home. There was also a references section, just in case there were further questions regarding the qualifications of a potential suitor.

Manning was also able to find her 1963-64 rulebook, which spelled out to students their required classroom and social attire, pet restrictions and — most notoriously — where they were allowed to walk.

"No student was ever allowed to walk on the grass," said Manning, reciting the much-maligned decree. "In fact, at least one member of our class was 'campused' because she was caught walking on the grass between classes."

To be 'campused' meant that a student was not allowed to leave the campus for a set amount of days.

While much of the evening's discussion centered on their days attending the former Radford College, the alumnae were very complimentary of today's campus and its students.

"I am so impressed with how polite and friendly the students are," said Carol Sealock '66. "My husband and I were attempting to find the new Center for the Sciences building and a few students noticed we were a bit turned around and came right over and led us to the building."

Sealock and her former roommate, Alda Draper '66, also managed to find their old room in Moffett Hall.

"It has changed so much, but it was still good to see," said Draper. "It is just so nice to be here."

Following dinner, President Hemphill joined Laura Turk '87, M.S. '90, executive director of Alumni Relations, and Melissa Wohlstein, vice president of University Advancement, in officially inducting the Class of 1966. Each alumna was awarded a medal in honor of her alma mater.

"I now give you permission to wear pants, walk on the grass and speak your mind," Turk said after officially inducting the class. "But please, stay out of the 'passion pit.'" ■



Women of Radford

By Ann Brown, M.S. '03

DR. MARISELA ROSAS HEMPHILL stressed importance of education and community service during Homecoming's Women of Radford Luncheon

Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill, wife of Radford University President Brian O. Hemphill, served as keynote speaker during the Women of Radford Luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016. Her remarks expressed her passion for education and making a difference in the local community.

"I am proud to have discovered that Radford University has a rich tradition of service and engagement with the community," said Hemphill. She said that those in higher education have a responsibility to provide opportunities for students to become involved in the community.

"Our goal here at Radford should be for us to continue to challenge our students to be informed and actively engaged citizens. In looking around, our students here have a multitude of opportunities to make meaning of their actions and their motivations while connected to local/national/global community issues," said Hemphill.

Many Radford University alumni carry their passion for civic engagement throughout their lives. Ten years ago, Gail Henshaw '82 and her husband Ken Henshaw '82 founded the Richmond chapter of the "I Have A Dream" Foundation. The foundation encourages and supports Richmond inner-city students to complete high school and attend college.

During the luncheon, Henshaw and her friends Patricia DeLoatche '82 and Denise White '83 reminisced about their service and leadership roles while at Radford. "I was super, super shy," said White. "Pattie came along and talked me into getting involved. She said 'You should do this!,'" said White about the time DeLoatche encouraged her to be the representative



Above: Bonnie Hurlburt '58, Kathy Grimes '75 and Cindy Pickering '82 reminisce during the Women of Radford Luncheon.



Left: Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill served as keynote speaker for the event.

for Pocahontas Hall in the Inter-residence Hall Council. The next year, White became a Resident Assistant (RA) and served in that capacity for two years.

All three friends were members of the Student Government Association while Radford students. "Gail's husband Kenny was very persuasive in recruiting us to be involved. He was the president of SGA," said DeLoatche.

The passion for community service begins at Radford University and alumni continue to make a difference across Virginia and beyond. ■



Alumni Volunteers

Luncheon honors alumni who have made an impact in their professions, community and their alma mater.

By Jeremy Norman

“THANK YOU all for volunteering to help Radford University,” said Kevin Rogers ’87, president of the Radford University Alumni Association, in his introduction to the Alumni Volunteer Leadership Business Lunch and Awards Ceremony. “I’ve never been so motivated to volunteer as I am today with President Hemphill at the helm,” Rogers continued.

The luncheon, which was held Friday, Oct. 14, 2016 in Kyle Hall, honored those alumni who have made an impact in their professions, community and their alma mater. The event — which hosted over 80 alumni, family and friends of Radford University — also helped to kick off Radford University’s Homecoming Weekend 2016.

Shirley Williams Walton ’60 received the day’s first honor, the Outstanding Service Award, for her contributions to furthering the mission of the University, as well as her support to her community and to Radford University.

“Radford means the world to me, and I will always give back to her,” said Walton, who has dedicated her life and career to teaching and cooperative extension efforts throughout Southwest and Southside Virginia.

Walton, who has referred numerous students to Radford University, was also able to encourage her granddaughter, Hannah Gullickson ’16, to follow her example.

“I was able to relive my dreams when Hannah came to Radford,” Walton added.

“Philanthropy to my husband and I is simply paying it forward,” said Nancy Artis ’73, who was the recipient of the inaugural Outstanding Philanthropist Award. The award, which recognizes generosity and civic responsibility as demonstrated by significant financial contributions to charitable organizations, was given to Artis because of her support of Radford University as well as other institutions and community projects throughout Virginia and Colorado.

“Without the generous support of donors like all of you,” Artis continued, “I would not have been able to attend Radford University. That is what inspired me to become what I call an ‘active donor.’ I find a need and I fill it. I challenge every person in this room to do the same.”

Stephan Cassaday ’76 received the Outstanding Alumnus Award, which recognizes a graduate who has made remarkable contributions to society through their profession. Cassaday, who entered Radford University with the first class of men admitted to the University, founded Cassaday and Company, an independent wealth management firm that manages \$1.8 billion in assets. Cassaday and Company has been recognized as one of the “Best Places to Work” by Washington Business Journal, Washingtonian Magazine, Pensions and Investments, and Virginia Business Magazine.

This past year, Barron’s Magazine recognized Cassaday as the “No. 1 Advisor in Virginia” and as one of the top 100 financial advisors in the nation.

“Everything you do at Radford matters — from the first day to the last day.”

Angela Joyner
Executive Director of Career Services



(L–R) College of Science and Technology Dean Orion Rogers, Mary W. Campbell ’71, M.S. ’71, Nancy Artis ’73, Mark Hanna ’84 and Cindy Hanna attend the Alumni Volunteer Leadership Business Lunch and Awards Ceremony during Homecoming 2016.

“Life is what you choose to make of it, and I learned that lesson here,” said Matt Crisp ’04 via his brother-in-law, Radford University student and Marine veteran Brandon Snead, who was accepting the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award on his behalf. The award is given to an alumnus 35-or-under who has made significant career achievements and has been actively involved in Radford University programs or civic and volunteer activities.

Crisp, as a finance student, left his mark as the founder of the Student Managed Investment Portfolio Organization, which today manages more than \$1 million in investments. Today, Crisp serves as co-founder of Benson Hill Biosystems, an agricultural technology company focused on improving photosynthesis in crops. Crisp was a member of both the Radford University Board of Visitors and the Radford University Foundation Board of Directors, and he served on the Presidential Search Committee that selected President Brian O. Hemphill.

“I believe the possibilities are endless to the students and alumni of Radford University,” said Angela Joyner, executive director of Career Services at Radford University, who served as the luncheon’s keynote speaker.

“Everything you do at Radford matters — from the first day to the last day,” Joyner said while laying out her vision of what Career Services can help achieve. “My ambition is to create a center that fosters career and talent development. I want to begin that process as early as when students begin their application process — and the journey will not end when they graduate.

“It is a bold plan, but our students deserve nothing less. And the world deserves nothing less.” ■



I Am Here

A HEAD-TURNING CAMPUS DISPLAY OF DONOR SUPPORT

By Mary Hardbarger

ALONG WITH A dusting of shoe-imprinted snow, rows of empty chairs blanketed Heth Lawn for a brief spell this past winter.

For weeks, the installation sparked the curiosity of students as they journeyed back and forth across campus. After all, chairs belong in warm classrooms, not exposed to the blustery Southwest Virginia winds.

The artistic display, titled “I Am Here,” was created by staff of the Student Organization of Radford Alumni Development (SoRAD) to show the impact scholarships make in the lives of thousands of Radford University students.

Last year, generous supporters donated close to \$950,000 toward Radford University Foundation scholarships. Each empty chair in the temporary installation, which was dismantled in March, represented a student who may not have had the opportunity to receive a Radford University education without one of those scholarships.

Crystal Hubbard '00, MBA '08, assistant director of University Advancement, helped envision and eventually set up the powerful display.

“The initiative is meant to jar the consciousness of students and visitors to campus about the importance of philanthropy and why and how some of Radford’s students are still ‘here,’” Hubbard explained.

Although not “still here” at Radford University, alumna Giancarla Rojas Mendoza '16 is benefiting from the scholarships that will allow her to travel back to her birthplace with newfound knowledge and skills.

Mendoza, a native of Bolivia, graduated this spring with a degree in international economics. The first in her family to attend college, she aspires to return home to make a difference in her country’s economic stabilization. She is also considering a career in politics.

Mendoza shared her moving story with SoRAD, which was highlighted in the “I Am Here” installation. Her testimony was attached to one of the empty chairs.

It read, “My scholarships allowed me to continue my education and follow my dreams.” ■

“My scholarships allowed me to continue my education and follow my dreams.”

Giancarla Rojas Mendoza '16



By Jeremy Norman



In his book “Outliers,” Malcolm Gladwell famously writes that “10,000 hours is the magic number of greatness.”

If the work of Brian Korte '00 is any indication, Gladwell may need to replace the word “hours” with “bricks.”

As in, Lego bricks.

Korte is an artist. His medium is Lego. The owner of Brickworkz, Korte creates greatness for his clientele one brick at a time.

“It all started with one piece,” Korte explains. “My friend at Radford University, Jeff Pollard '00, and his girlfriend, Olivia '00, were getting married, and I wanted to give them something unique and personal for their wedding.

“While on vacation in Orlando, Florida, I began to peruse the Lego website and stumbled across a [now-defunct] program called LEGO Mosaic. Basically, the program took an uploaded image, converted it to pixelated ‘brick-by-brick’ details, and Lego would then mail you the directions for the design along with 2,000 bricks.”

Korte realized that this was what he wanted to give to his friends. But he also knew that what he wanted to do had to be bigger than 2,000 pieces.

“If you don’t see what you want, make it,” Korte says with a laugh. “Just like that, Brickworkz was born — on vacation, in a hotel room, in Florida.”

For someone with an advertising and media studies degree, a career as a brick artist seems a little odd — that is, until you dig a little deeper into Korte’s background.

“I started as an art major and wanted to focus on digital design. But back then, media studies had better equipment and programs, so I changed majors,” Korte says.

While at Radford University, Korte served as executive director of Whim, Radford University’s student-run online

magazine. He was able to parlay his experience at Whim, as well as his media studies background, into a job as a webmaster after graduation.

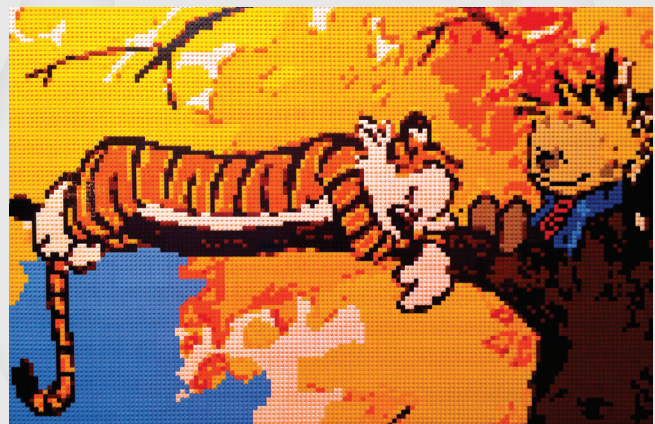
“That’s how I learned how to do business from the web,” Korte explains. “I certainly didn’t see my career as a brick artist happening. But looking back, I can definitely see how I was on this path.

“The most important thing to do is get involved,” Korte says. “What you do and the people you meet are what spark ideas. If I didn’t get involved while at Radford University, I would be a completely different person.”

The tedium of a project that takes around 35-40 hours to design and another 15-40 hours to build is of natural interest to Korte.

“I used to cross-stitch to relax,” he recalls. “Cross-stitch requires a larger picture to be broken down into smaller squares. That’s essentially what I’m doing with my Lego mosaics.”

For each mosaic, Korte takes a picture and digitizes it, breaking it down into individual pixels, with each



A mosaic of the comic strip Calvin and Hobbes is a personal favorite of brick artist Brian Korte '00.

“What you do and the people you meet are what spark ideas. If I didn’t get involved while at Radford University, I would be a completely different person.”

Brian Korte '00

pixel representing a Lego brick. From there, he creates “instructions” for how to literally piece together the mosaic. He begins to collate the bricks needed to complete the mosaic.

“I find my pieces through third party vendors,” Korte explains. “It’s strange, but every color and shape of Lego brick has its own market value. Some discontinued bricks can be quite rare — and expensive.”

The number of bricks in each mosaic varies, but usually falls in a range from 6,000 bricks for smaller pieces to over 10,000 for larger ones. “Sometimes,” Korte says “I’ll flip the mosaic upside down to literally come at it from a different angle. That way it keeps things from getting too tedious.”

Because the spirit of Korte’s work lies in the subject of each piece, it is only natural that he is sometimes asked to create a memorial piece. One piece, and the story behind it, recently captured national attention.

“I met Kevin Kirk and his two children, Connor, 13, and Brittany, 14, at a Lego convention,” Korte explains. “Connor was especially excited about my artwork being a Lego fan himself. Several months after meeting the Kirks, I received a package in the mail. In the package was a handwritten letter from Kevin as well as Connor’s entire Lego collection.

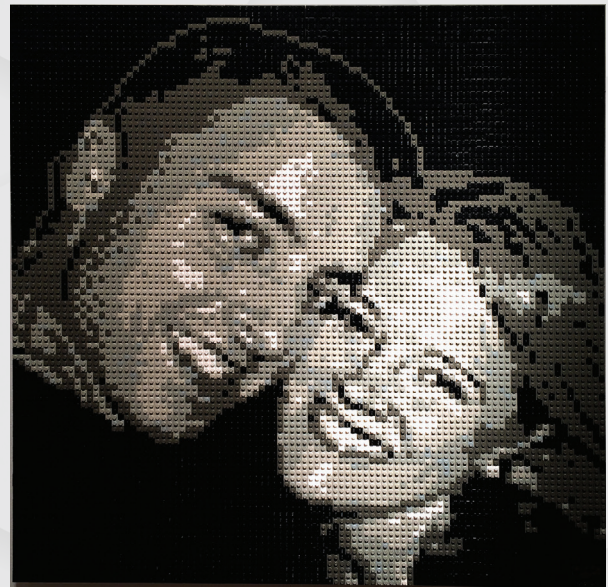
“In the letter, Kevin explained that his two children were tragically murdered in their home. He entrusted his late son’s Lego pieces to my care. I told him that I would find a good use for the parts as well as find a way to honor the children.”

Utilizing the pieces from Connor’s collection, Korte created a vibrant mosaic of the children, allowing their spirit to live on through his art.

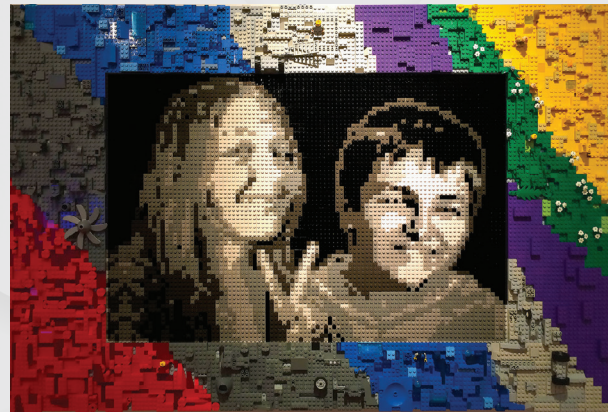
“Everyone we know is in some sort of pain,” Korte explains. “People get this and are moved by it. To know that a little plastic toy can help someone heal is an amazing thing to think about.

“We may have tapped into something here.” ■

For more information on Brian Korte and his work, please visit Brickworkz.com.



Titled “Molly and Brian,” this mosaic of Korte and his wife, Molly, was a labor of love.



Korte’s portrait of Brittany and Connor Kirk, two teenagers who were murdered in 2009, utilizes pieces from Connor’s Lego collection.



Korte revisits the piece that started it all, a portrait of friends Jeff Pollard '00 and Olivia Pollard '00.



Celebrating Life, Promoting Creativity

By Jeremy Norman

Photographer and video producer Sherrie Austin '98.

The Cynthia Rose Foundation was formed in honor of Austin's late sister, Cynthia Rose Austin Goad, and her late nephew, Tyler Darin Goad.

"I FOUND MY HOME AT RADFORD UNIVERSITY," says Sherrie Austin '98. "It gave me the space I needed to be who I was while also giving me the structure to become better than what I was."

Austin is owner-operator of Austin ImageWorks, a still photography and video production company based out of Maui, Hawaii.

"I began this career as a child with a camera from a cereal box and a borrowed camcorder from a neighbor," Austin says. "I found something I liked and it ultimately became my passion."

Finding that passion was not always easy for Austin.

"I was a bit of a wild child growing up," Austin explains. "It wasn't until I stumbled upon a video production class at Pulaski County High School and met the teacher, Jesse Shelton, that I was able to bring things into focus. Working with Jesse and his video production company changed my life."

Austin's work has provided her the opportunity to travel the world perfecting her craft, whether it be photographing the people of Nepal, filming a concert for bands like Maroon 5 and Santana, producing imagery for corporate events, or even producing a documentary on Saint Damien of Molokai. But, according to Austin, none of that can hold a candle to what she accomplished during her time at Radford University.

"Helping found ROC-TV was one of the coolest things I've ever done," Austin says. "It almost trumps everything else I've done professionally."

Radford On Camera — or ROC-TV — is a weekly, hourlong, student-produced broadcast that currently airs on the Res Life channel. Its content ranges from traditional sketch comedy to talk shows, variety shows, news programming and short documentaries.

"When I first got to Radford University, the only student programming available was news-based," Austin explains. "So myself and [fellow student] Kim Gallante filled out the necessary paperwork, convinced the professors and staff we were serious and dedicated, and in short order we formed the first student-produced television at Radford University!"

"We started with \$100 out of my bank account, a borrowed camcorder and a microphone purchased from Radio Shack," Austin muses. "By the time I graduated, we had offices, a budget and a show that was available nationwide."

"Radford University gave us the space to create and be creative. We were allowed to go against the grain. Not many universities would have been able to see the potential in their students like Radford did. The spirit of creativity is alive and well at Radford University!"

Reflecting on the freedom that her time at Radford University provided, Austin recounts a dream she had during her time with ROC-TV.

"I dreamt about spelling the words ROC-TV out with people on the ground and filming it from the air. Two weeks later I was flying in a plane, videotaping people spelling out ROC-TV for the show's new opening ... My dreams literally became reality."

"I'm still close to the people I met at Radford University," Austin says. "We created something together that we may never be able to replicate."

"But I sure hope we do."

While her career accolades are quite impressive, what Austin is most proud of is the impact her charity, the Cynthia Rose Foundation, has made on the world. The foundation, named after Austin's late sister, was "born out of a true desire to give back to the world both in honor of



Austin's photography and production work has taken her across the globe, from Nepal to Prague and points in between.

my sister Cindy and her son [Austin's late nephew] Tyler, and to outwardly express gratitude for all I have been given."

The Cynthia Rose Foundation was created after the sudden death of Austin's sister. "It rocked my world. I didn't even know if I wanted to go on," Austin explains. "I decided I wanted to give back to the world. So I began setting aside 10 percent of my funds every month to seed the foundation.

"In April 2015, we became an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization."

Austin wants to make sure that the Cynthia Rose Foundation is different than other nonprofits in that it "has the ability to fulfill its mission of celebrating kindness and promoting joy in any way possible and on our terms," adding, "I have come to believe that small things are the big things."

According to Austin, "It doesn't have to cost a lot of money to have an impact on someone's life. We have the freedom, with the Cynthia Rose Foundation, to do both the large and small acts and make an immeasurable impact no matter the financial cost."

One example of the foundation's impact is the Lei of the Day program, where leis are handmade by elders at Hale Makua health center on Maui and given to those who perform any act of kindness — no matter how large or small. After the terrorist attacks in Paris, the foundation made national news when a mile-long lei, hand-woven out of ti leaves by the people of Maui and Hawaii, was presented to the city of Paris.

"It's about spreading joy throughout the world," Austin says. "I feel like I'm doing [my sister's] work in the same spirit of kindness that she embodied."

While Austin and the Cynthia Rose Foundation are half a world away in Hawaii, it does not prevent her kindness from reaching back to the area she once called home.

"We will be building an inclusive playground at Dublin Elementary School with the help of local businesses and the community," Austin beams. "It will be the first

playground in the area geared toward children of all abilities." Inclusive playgrounds are designed to provide children with disabilities the same play opportunities as children without disabilities.

"I feel like I am only now beginning to serve my true purpose and providing the platform for other people to begin serving theirs as well."

Although Austin has moved on from her days at Radford University and ROC-TV, the lessons she learned from both are never too far from her mind.

"Through my experiences with ROC-TV and seeing the commitment and dedication of the crew, I was taught that the drive of a person's passion and creative expression is

stronger than the allure of money,"

Austin says.

"Passion and the belief in what we were doing kept ROC-TV alive and fuels the core of happiness in a person's life as a whole.

"I am convinced that any person is happier and more fulfilled when they connect with their

passion, no matter their vocation or circumstance," she says. "That happiness is not found through money, though, interestingly, it tends to produce more money in a person's life just by virtue of living in alignment with one's purpose."

When asked what advice she would give to today's students, Austin referenced a fellow "wild child" and artist.

"There's a quote from Janis Joplin, 'Get it while you can.' I believe that. You need to go out there and grab a hold of your dreams — whatever that dream may be — and hold onto it and convince yourself with every certainty that your dream is out there waiting for you.

"It's not going to be easy," she says with a laugh. "Heck, I haven't even accomplished all I have in mind yet. But with the help of my friends, I am convinced I will." ■

“I am convinced that any person is happier and more fulfilled when they connect with their passion, no matter their vocation or circumstance.”

Sherrie Austin '98

For more information on Austin ImageWorks, please visit austinimageworks.com. For more information on the Cynthia Rose Foundation, please visit cynthiarosefoundation.com.



Sig Eps and friends gather every November to help Carolyn Signorello with farm work.

ALWAYS RADFORD

By Haley Frazier '15

ON APRIL 2, 2016, Radford University Sigma Phi Epsilon alumni and current brothers converged on the Signorello farm in Leesburg to participate in a day of service in memory of John Signorello '89.

“Only one guy from the current Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter at Radford University knew John, but that doesn’t matter. He was a brother,” said Devin Jones, current president of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Four years ago, Signorello passed away from a heart attack. In his professional life, he is known for having been a technological innovator. In his personal life, he was a family man — a father of four who married the love of his life, Carolyn Weisskopf Signorello '89, in 2001.

Signorello also had a passion for lacrosse. He came to Radford University on a full scholarship to

play. Before he passed, he served as the assistant lacrosse coach at Tuscarora High School.

In 2009, Signorello and his wife Carolyn purchased 280 acres of land for which they shared a vision. The couple saw it as their little slice of heaven and were excited for the opportunity to make it their own. Today, John’s four children, who share his passion for lacrosse, often play the sport in a small field on the family’s farm.

“He got to telling me about this place,” said Mark Angelus '91 of the land Signorello had purchased.

“He had just gotten it and he was so excited about it. I couldn’t wait to come out here and see it.



Sigma Phi Epsilon alumni Rod Irwin '89 (left) and Steve Judd '90 pitch in.

Unfortunately, though, he passed away and I never got my chance. That’s why I am out here today — doing my part to help make his dream come true.”

Every November since his passing, a group of alumni and John’s friends have cut wood for Carolyn to ensure

that the family has enough to last them through the winter months.

This year, that fall tradition of helping the Signorello family has transformed into a full-on springtime day of service in an effort to make Signorello's vision for the farm a reality.

"It was always their dream to establish this beautiful farm where he could run lacrosse camps and grow his family," said Scott Arthur '91. "The unfortunate thing was that he passed before he could really see it come to life."

The overall goal of the 2016 day of service was to address some of the immediate needs on the farm. "We basically had Carolyn make a 'honey do' list. A bunch of us came out and looked around to figure out what was possible to get done in a day," said Arthur.

A few of the jobs were to gravel the driveway, repaint the barns, clean out the pool and repair the fences. "I was blown away that no one felt discouraged at the magnitude of the tasks before them," said Carolyn. "They all worked tirelessly into the night."

Radford University Sigma Phi Epsilon raised \$7,000 to provide food for the volunteers, fund the project supplies and support the Radford University Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter and alumni in the Brother by the Wayside account. This account was created to come to people's rescue whenever brothers are in need.

"We look out for our own," said Arthur.

The commitment, love and brotherhood on the Signorello farm that Saturday was unforgettable.

"These current [Radford University] Sig Eps all uniting together around a singular set of life-directing commitments were able to witness firsthand how the brothers before them stay true to each other and have a bond that goes beyond their letters," said Carolyn.

"It is beyond whatever letters you are wearing or when you graduated from Radford University," said Chris Ducey '95. "We all come back and it is exactly what you think. Just a group of guys that love each other and want to do well for one another."

Throughout the day, many could say that they felt the presence of their dear brother and friend, John Signorello.

"Who knew that the Sig Ep heart symbol would come to life at our farm," said Carolyn. "The weekend was a true testament to how much he was loved."

A part of the beauty on that day was watching not only Radford University Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers coming together, but also other alumni uniting to honor John's legacy.

"A big theme that is prominent at Radford University was present



Nick Altman '16 works on repairs.

on the Signorello farm today. The Reason is Radford," said Kent Warren '90. "That is the reason we are all out working hard to help this family."

No matter the generation and no matter the organization, the Highlander family is strong. We are always Radford. ■



The projects tackled at the Signorello farm included repainting barns, graveling the driveway, cleaning out the pool and repairing fences.



Seeing a Need, *Creating Solutions*

By Jeremy Norman

An alumna creates a teaching tool to help educate thousands of nurses nationwide.

“I KNEW before finishing my bachelor’s degree that I wanted to pursue my Ph.D. and teach,” said Tami Wyatt, assistant dean and professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. “But I could never have imagined that I would one day help create a multimillion dollar education tool.”

Wyatt co-founded DocuCare, an educational electronic health record (EHR) program that is currently being utilized by more than 40,000 students at more than 500 collegiate programs, including Wyatt’s alma mater.

“While in graduate school, I needed to find a niche for my career trajectory,” Wyatt says. “Since I was interested in education and I knew that computers would continue to change the information age, I pursued a degree in instructional technology. That has become the foundation of my research and contributions to nursing education.”

DocuCare, according to its publisher Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, integrates more than 150 patient scenarios with web-based academic EHR simulation software, allowing students to learn how to use an EHR in a safe, true-to-life setting, while enabling instructors to measure their progress.

“It is used on a daily basis for student education,” according to Jackie Muir, administrative specialist with the Clinical Simulation Center in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services. “It teaches the students to think critically about the proper documentation per each patient and condition. This software is very similar to what the student would be using in ‘real time’ at any hospital or medical facility.”

Regarding where the idea came from, Wyatt explains, “I saw a need in the students enrolled at the University of Tennessee. Nursing students were to gain informatics skills through EHRs, yet they had minimal opportunity to access the EHRs during clinical learning due to time constraints, required training by hospitals and HIPAA regulations.



““ I knew before finishing my bachelor’s degree that I wanted to pursue my Ph.D. and teach. But I could never have imagined that I would one day help create a multimillion dollar education tool. ””

Tami Wyatt '88

“So in 2007, I partnered with a graduate student, Matt Bell, my research partner, Dr. Xueping Li, and his graduate student, Yo Indranoi, to develop an ‘in-house’ solution HER for our students at the University of Tennessee.”

It soon became apparent to Wyatt that the need for the program, then known as iCare, went far beyond her campus in Knoxville. “We developed our prototype and while presenting our findings at various research conferences, it became clear that other nursing programs across the country needed access to a learning EHR.

“My partners and I then developed a start-up company to sell the product,” Wyatt says. “Within six months of being on the market, we were approached by three publishing companies who wanted to purchase the product. By December 2010, the publisher Lippincott Williams & Wilkins had purchased the product, rights to the product and its name.” The name was then changed to DocuCare.

While Wyatt and her partners may have sold the product, the four founding inventors continue to work with Lippincott Williams & Wilkins to refine and develop new versions as the product continues to evolve.

Wyatt recognizes two Radford University professors, Dr. Marcella Griggs and Dr. Karma Castleberry, for having a profound impact on both her education and career.

“They saw something in me that I didn’t see in myself,” Wyatt explains. “It was their influence that helped me gain confidence to become an educator.

“As an educator, you don’t realize the kind of influence you have on students. I think of them [Griggs and Castleberry] often. They were a strong force in the nursing program. My time at Radford University has led me to a lifetime of teaching.”

Wyatt’s own students may very well say the same regarding her own teaching and the innovative nursing education tool she helped develop. ■

The Alumni Tour

President Hemphill meets alumni across the Commonwealth and beyond.

By Ann Brown, M.S. '03

THROUGHOUT July, August and September, President Brian O. Hemphill traveled across the state and region discussing his key initiatives for the university's future. He made stops in Northern Virginia, Richmond, Virginia Beach, Roanoke, New River Valley and Southwest Virginia, as well as Chapel Hill and Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta to meet as many alumni as possible and outline his goals for Radford University's future.

"I'm very impressed. As soon as I walked in the room I felt a good vibe," said Demetree Wiley '15, who attended the Northern Virginia President Hemphill Alumni Tour event in Reston, Virginia. "He's only been in the office a short time, and I'm so impressed in the amount of studying he has done about Radford University."

Close to 200 alumni from the Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. area spent the evening at the Hyatt Regency in Reston, Va., on July 13, 2016.

Kim Taylor-Wilson '88, M.S. '92 is a member of the Radford University Alumni Association Board, and her son Brandon is attending Radford. "President Hemphill has an awesome vision for the University and how he is going to take it to the next level. Hands down, it is the best university in the state of Virginia," said Wilson.

President Hemphill said he will be engaging alumni, students, faculty and staff in transforming Radford University into an innovative, premier university. "We are always going to focus on excellence in everything we do," said President Hemphill.

He discussed telling the Radford University story with our many voices. He challenged alumni in attendance to tell others about their

experiences at Radford University. "We have to engage alumni, your foundation boards, the businesses you're connected to. We desperately need you to reconnect. We want to touch base with as many people as possible to excite them about Radford University," said President Hemphill.

Glenwood Morgan '02, M.S. '06 said that President Hemphill's ideas on increasing student success hit home. "I liked his ideas about increasing the retention rate. I struggled at Radford and almost got caught up in the statistic. I was lucky and connected with the right people. But I've been there and know what it's like," said Morgan, who earned two degrees from Radford University's College of Education and Human Development.

President Hemphill discussed other topics, such as academic excellence and research, philanthropic support, strategic enrollment growth and economic development and community partnerships. After his presentation, he opened the floor to questions from alumni.

When President Hemphill took questions in Virginia Beach, alumna Kaitlin Haddock '11, a former Radford University Student Government Association member and resident assistant, asked President Hemphill about the affordability of a Radford

University degree. "I promise you," said President Hemphill, "that we are going to be very intentional about costs." He said that Radford University is rated one of the most efficient institutions in the Commonwealth and will continue to be as it moves forward.

"I'm excited that he's facing the issue head-on and working to find solutions to continue to make the University affordable for students. I want to be able to send my kids to Radford and to be able to afford to do it," said Haddock.

President Hemphill said that the 72,000 strong Highlander family all across the Commonwealth and beyond has a key role in moving the institution forward. He said alumni will be important in providing students with internship and employment opportunities, offering financial support and telling their stories about the opportunities and success at Radford University to their colleagues, friends and family.

"He can't do it himself," says Mike Wilkerson '87 of Richmond. "He has to rely on us — the alumni and his team to make it happen. Let's put it in action." ■

Enjoy photos and stories from the events in President Hemphill's alumni tour www.radford.edu/alumnitour



President Hemphill speaks to Richmond area alumni.



An enormous upgrade

Radford University celebrates the opening of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences Building.

By Max Esterhuizen, M.S. '15

THE COLLEGE of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) at Radford University officially ushered in a new era with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 16, 2016 that unveiled the building to the public.

Radford University President Brian O. Hemphill's vision is to transform the University "into an innovative, premier university in the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond with a keen

focus on teaching, research and service." The academic learning spaces housed in the new building will help guide Radford University toward that vision.

"Innovation will become the new normal as this university moves forward," said President Hemphill. "In this building, you can see how Radford University is already innovating to achieve its teaching and learning missions."

The 143,600 square-foot building is home to unique learning spaces, including a broadcasting studio, a courtroom, an emergency operations center and a social media watch center. These learning spaces give students professional experience prior to entering the job market.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony, which officially unveiled the largest academic building on Radford University's campus, was a culmination of the efforts of all involved in the planning, construction and move-in processes.

"The CHBS building ribbon-cutting ceremony was an important milestone for the entire college," said CHBS Dean Katherine Hawkins. "Our faculty, staff and students are uniformly thrilled with our new home and are actively exploring the full potential of the building."

"This is a great day," said Faculty Senate President and Chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Carter Turner. "For our college, this building is an



enormous upgrade in the quality of office space we were in for a very long time. It's hard to describe how a change like this affects you, but it definitely puts pep in your step. We're better able to serve our students.

"It's inevitable that the faculty in this college will interact more often and share ideas with more frequency," Turner said. "This space — in both small ways and large — will add fuel to our intellectual lives and professional pursuits."

SGA President Jacinda

Jones, a media studies major, is eager to use the state-of-the-art facilities.

"I encourage each of my fellow Radford students to take advantage of everything it has to offer," Jones said.

"I encourage students in different colleges to take electives from departments within CHBS. The building now matches the faculty — top notch!"

Krishna Chachra of Radford University's Board of Visitors attended the ceremony and offered remarks on behalf of the Board.

"By experiencing integrated inquiry environments that accommodate faculty, student and community interaction, Radford students will graduate with the capacity and openness to contribute," Chachra said. "They will be anchored in their disciplines, ready to understand, explore and create solutions to complex problems. They will be ready to make a difference in the world."

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, CHBS hosted a reception in and tours of the new building.

"The ceremony provided the university community with a strong signal that the college has begun an exciting new chapter in its history," Hawkins said. "Our future is definitely bright." ■

Enjoy video highlights of the CHBS ribbon cutting ceremony at www.radford.edu/magazine.

A scientific spectacle

The Center for the Sciences grand opening

By Mary Hardbarger

RADFORD UNIVERSITY formally celebrated the opening of the new Center for the Sciences on Oct. 14, 2016, and humans weren't the only participants.

Drones had a role in the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony for the \$49 million, 114,000-square-foot facility, which officially opened in spring 2016. In addition to state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories and office spaces for the departments of biology, chemistry and anthropological sciences, the building also houses:

- the Artis Computing Laboratory for the Biological Sciences
- the Forensic Science Institute
- a Novozymes Bioinnovation and Teaching Laboratory
- the Museum of the Earth Sciences
- a fully digital planetarium featuring 55 theater-style seats, an enhanced projector system and new dome.

"This building is a gateway to the wonder and power of science and technology for our campus community and the New River Valley and Southwest Virginia communities," said Radford University President Brian O. Hemphill at the ceremony. "Inside, our students and faculty will embark on challenging projects that will enable students to be immersed in collaborative learning."

Special guests acknowledged at the event included Board of Visitors member Mary Ann Hovis '65; benefactors and donors Nancy '73 and Pat Artis and Mark '84 and Cindy Hanna; Del. Joseph Yost; representatives on behalf of Sen. Mark Warner and Rep. Morgan Griffith; and Jonathan Leder of Novozymes Biologicals, Inc., as well as Radford city officials, including Mayor Bruce Brown, Vice Mayor Dick Harshberger and City Manager David Ridpath.



On behalf of the student body, mathematics and biology major Hanna Mitchell shared how the new facility has already transformed her educational experience and become a "second home."

"This building is a dream come true, and I know others feel the same," Mitchell said. "The ability to literally hide in a corner of the building and study genetics is something I dreamed about in high school."

Radford City Public Schools Superintendent Robert Graham, also in attendance, spoke of the exciting partnerships the center will spark between the city and the University.

"Thank you all for helping us make a difference in the lives of our children," Graham said. "We look forward to sharing this wonderful resource with you all. Is Monday too soon?"

College of Science and Technology (CSAT) Dean Orion Rogers joined President Hemphill and university colleagues to cut the commemorative ribbon as drones captured the action from above.

"The Center for the Sciences will allow our faculty and students to take advantage of new opportunities, to create new knowledge, to go places they never imagined they could go scientifically and intellectually and to achieve academic and professional success they never dreamed was possible," Rogers said.

The spectacle was capped by a colorful chemical display that produced billowing clouds of smoke. ■

View the video recap of the Center for the Sciences ribbon cutting ceremony at www.radford.edu/magazine.



Spring Commencement 2016

RADFORD UNIVERSITY conferred degrees on 2,011 undergraduate and graduate students at its spring commencement ceremonies in May.

One of those was Mikala Reedy, a social science major from Saltville, who said her graduation day felt “surreal.”

“I can’t believe it. I’ve loved Radford because it’s beautiful, and I’ve had a lot of fun here, especially with these guys,” she said, pointing to friends before the ceremony began. “I’m going to miss them the most. We’ve spent a lot of time together. We’ve learned together, and today we’ll graduate together.”

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner delivered the keynote address, saying “Congratulations. You made it,” and offering three pieces of advice to the graduates. The senator implored the graduates to not fear failure — “In this country you can always pick up and try again,” he said — to participate in democracy, and to “never ever, ever forget to call your mother.”

Following the main ceremony, each of Radford University’s colleges held individual ceremonies across campus, continuing celebrations throughout the day.

“It was a privilege to be a student at Radford University, and I never took a single moment for granted.”

SGA President Colby Bender '16

Student Government Association President Colby Bender '16 reflected on his time at the University, saying “It was a privilege to be a student at Radford University, and I never took a single moment for granted.”

Bender, a political science major from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, said “it’s hard to believe this journey is finally coming to an end, but with an end comes a new beginning.”

Graduating from Radford University “feels a little scary, but really uplifting and exciting,” said Deanna Meckel, a theater major from Chantilly. “I’m going to miss the big family we had as theater majors. It was nice to have people support you, both faculty and friends.”

Trevor Baker echoed those thoughts.

“I am looking forward to making the transition from student to teacher. The education department has always been there for me, and I’m excited about the future,” the interdisciplinary studies major from Harrisonburg said as he joined family members for an impromptu photo before the main ceremony.

Baker’s grandmother, Brenda Pickens, chimed in, “He has made our day. Seeing him graduate is such a thrill.”



The day before the main ceremony, the University held its 29th annual Graduation and Hooding Ceremony for students of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies.

“I’m overwhelmed. It’s exciting,” said Kathleen Degnon, who earned a master’s degree in corporate and professional communication. “I feel like a totally different person than two years ago. I look at the work I’ve done, and I’ve definitely gained a lot. I also got a lot of opportunities and real-world experience.”

Other commencement ceremonies that day included the ROTC commissioning of 14 ROTC cadets into the United States Army and one student into the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. The School of Nursing and Doctor of Physical Therapy program held afternoon pinning ceremonies for graduates, and a Multicultural Congratulatory Ceremony was held that night in the Bondurant Auditorium.

The majority of May’s graduates, 94 percent, were Virginia residents. Graduates came to Radford from 112 Virginia localities, which accounted for 84 percent of the Commonwealth. The remaining U.S. graduates came to Radford University from 26 other states.

Graduates represented 26 countries, including Bolivia, Canada, China, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Iran, Netherlands, Russia, United Kingdom and Vietnam.

There were 516 undergraduates who received degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and health (STEM-H) disciplines. The most popular major was interdisciplinary studies with 168 graduates. Criminal justice was the second most popular with 141.

The number of first-generation graduates totaled 609.

Graduates ages ranged from 20 to 60, and four graduates were celebrating birthdays on commencement day. In addition, four sets of twins graduated during the spring 2016 ceremony. ■



“ I am looking forward to making the transition from student to teacher. The education department has always been there for me, and I’m excited about the future. ”

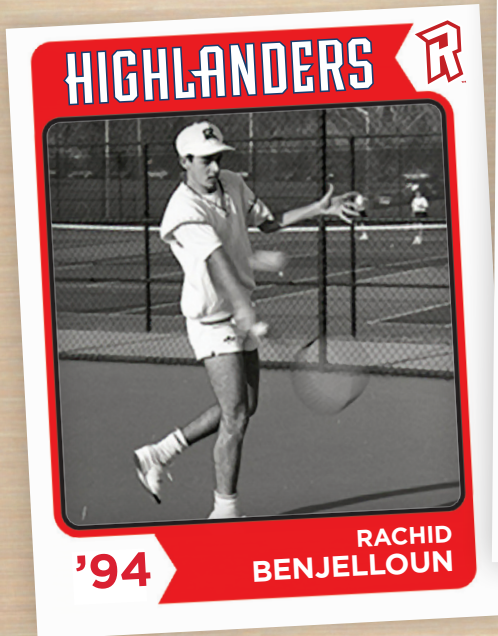
Trevor Baker '16



Hall of Fame

Radford University Athletics celebrates its 15th class

Radford University Athletics inducted five new members into the Radford Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming on Oct. 14, 2016 inside Kyle Hall. The Class of 2016 includes Rachid Benjelloun '94 (men's tennis), Kelly Dampeer '97 (baseball), Stephanie George '01 (women's golf), Steve Govett '93 (men's lacrosse) and Katie Sherwood Roof '01 (volleyball).



MEN'S TENNIS | 1991-94

Radford's first-ever Big South Player of the Year in men's tennis, Benjelloun garnered all-conference recognition in singles and doubles as a senior in 1994. His 96 career singles victories rank third in program history and held up as the mark to beat for 15 seasons. Over his last three years, Benjelloun was a mainstay in the NCAA Region II rankings. He ranked 16th in the region following his junior campaign (30-5), defeating seven players ranked higher than him. In addition to his on-court success, Benjelloun was selected as a 1994 Academic All-America® honoree.



BASEBALL | 1994-97

A local product from Northside High School in Roanoke, Va., Dampeer was a four-time all-conference honoree for the Highlanders. He was the Division I Player of the Year in 1995 and Mizuno Freshman of the Year in 1994, in addition to being a Freshman All-America selection. Known for his power, Dampeer is tied for the most home runs in a single season (16) and for a career (38). Dampeer is also the career leader in doubles (64) and total bases (456). The Cleveland Indians drafted Dampeer in 1997.



WOMEN'S GOLF | 1997-01

George earned the program's only individual title when she hoisted the 2001 Big South Championship on her way to Golfer of the Year and all-conference honors. As the first-ever Radford golfer to advance to regionals, George tied for 21st on the individual leaderboard at the 2001 NCAA East Region Championship. She currently owns the program's third-best career scoring average (78.23). George remains the only Highlander to have qualified for the U.S. Women's Amateur Championship.

A new look



RADFORD ATHLETICS has introduced a new branding system that sets the visual direction of the department for the future. This innovative athletic identity pays tribute to Radford's past, while keeping a consistent look through logos, colors and lettering.

"We're thrilled with the look of the new mark and know our fans will be excited as well," said Director of Athletics Robert Lineburg. "We are focused on building a brand that is representative of our university, our student-athletes and our alumni."

The creation of the new logos has been over a yearlong process involving many segments of the Radford community. Pennsylvania-based Joe Bosack & Co., a national brand identity firm, created the new Highlanders' visual identity.

The logo development process included focus groups consisting of the administration, coaches, current and former student-athletes and alumni, as well as community members of Radford. The logo reflects recommendations made by these groups for the direction of the new marks.

"It was vital for us that this process was a collaborative effort and involved the input of our coaches, student-athletes and alumni," Lineburg noted. "I would personally like to thank our focus groups that worked directly with the athletics department and the design firm to create these marks."

In addition to the release of the new logos, Radford Athletics has also launched a new online team shop. Fans are encouraged to visit www.RadfordTeamShop.com or stop by the Radford University bookstore for their new logo apparel.

HIGHLANDERS 

'93

STEVE
GOVETT

MEN'S LACROSSE | 1990-93

Govett was the Highlanders' all-time leading scorer, tallying 118 goals during his RU career. After his collegiate career, Govett played professionally for the Philadelphia Wings from 1994-1998, collecting 26 goals and 23 assists in 36 regular-season games. During his five-year pro career, the Wings won three league championships. In 1999, Govett took the next step in his career by becoming the Wings' new general manager. His talents eventually led him to Denver where he is the president and general manager of the Colorado Mammoth. Under Govett's leadership, Colorado has won three division titles, made 11 playoff appearances and captured the 2006 NLL championship. In addition, the Mammoth has led the league in attendance six times—including the 2014 season. Govett was named the NLL's Executive of the Year in 2004 after guiding the Mammoth to a league-best 13-3 record.

HIGHLANDERS 

'01

KATIE SHERWOOD
ROOF

VOLLEYBALL | 1998-01

The program's only two-time Big South Player of the Year, Roof led the Highlanders to the 2000 NCAA Tournament and earned BSC Tournament MVP honors in the process. She burst onto the scene in 1998, garnering Big South Freshman of the Year and went on to earn first-team all-conference recognition in her final three seasons—the first-ever Highlander to do so in program history. Roof still owns the single-season rally-scoring record for kills per set (4.86) and points (592)—all obtained in 2001. A crossover player (side-out and rally scoring), she finished her career with 1,568 kills, 1,158 digs, a .307 attack percentage, 530 total blocks, 144 aces and 2,032 points.

★ An ★ HONORARY HIGHLANDER

By Jordan Childress

One Tuesday afternoon last December, the Radford University baseball team and Head Coach Joe Raccuia announced that Sutton Smith had signed a National Letter of Intent.

Smith, who is 7 years old, began battling leukemia in August 2013; he has been a Highlander since.

“We consider the Smith family to be a part of the Radford baseball family,” Raccuia said. “We thought it was important to be around Sutton, while serving as role models and giving him the support that he needed.”

In addition to signing his National Letter of Intent, Smith received his own locker in the baseball locker room, complete with Radford baseball gear.

In January 2014, the RU baseball team and members of the community came together for “Shave for Sutton.” During the cancer awareness event, more than 100 people shaved their heads in Smith’s honor.

During the 2014 season, the baseball team created the nickname “Sutton’s Squad.” A banner representing Sutton can be found on the right field wall at Radford Baseball Stadium.

“I’m glad we have an opportunity to be there for him,” Raccuia said. “That is more important than anything.”

Over the past two years, Smith has become an integral part of the baseball team. During baseball season, Smith can be spotted in the dugout or the stands cheering on his beloved Highlanders.

“He really enjoys being around the team,” said Sutton’s mother, Mary Smith. “It is just so nice to have these guys, who make him feel special and accept him as one of their own.”

In attendance for the signing were his future teammates, Radford Athletics coaches and staff, and local members of the media. Smith was welcomed to a round of applause as he inked his letter of intent, becoming an official member of the Radford baseball team.

“This is just amazing that they continue to give back to him and support him,” Mary Smith added. ■

Editors Note:

Since this story was written, Sutton has completed chemotherapy and is doing well.



Mom (Mary Smith), Dad (Anthony Smith) and Sutton Smith.



Global Diversity BRINGS Mutual Benefits

International student athletes add to campus community on and off the court.

By Asyia Mitchell '16



College is an adjustment for everyone. This statement rings especially true for a certain population of students at Radford University — namely, international student-athletes.

After all, in the words of Khushboo Thiagaraj, a member of Radford University's women's golf team who is from India, "the culture is very different here than back home. India is more conservative compared to American culture."

And sophomore soccer player Jakob Strandsäter noted that it can be challenging to talk and study in English instead of Swedish — his first language.

Totaling 31-23 on men's teams and eight on women's teams (in addition to two international head coaches) — each international student-athlete at Radford University has a different story to tell about what landed her or him at Radford.

"The perfect size of the campus and the student population" is the main reason why women's tennis player Claire Nguyen — from Melbourne, Australia — enrolled, while other student-athletes cite the university's commitment to their respective sports, Radford's beautiful campus or strong coaching as the reason for their commitment. Men's tennis player Alexandros Caldwell, from Athens, Greece, said that the reputation of the team and the coach's passion for the sport attracted him.

Junior Lidija Mamic, from Split, Croatia, said her family is very supportive, even far away. "They

push me and are still there for me even miles away," said Mamic.

But how — you might wonder — has the domestic Radford University community helped these student-athletes from across the globe adjust and address the unique challenges they face as international student-athletes?

For women's basketball player Claudia Quevedo, from Spain's Canary Islands, "... thankfully, I have my coaches, teammates and host family to help me transition."

Furthermore, many international athletes have been surprised that domestic Radford University students are so friendly. "The biggest surprise was how interested Americans are in meeting new people," said Strandsäter.

And, according to Nguyen, the most pleasant surprise was the welcome and help she received from all of her professors.

Radford University coaches are passionate about the benefits that international student-athletes bring to their sports and the campus community, and are always looking for new ways to recruit and bring them to campus.

According to men's tennis coach Mike Anderson and men's soccer coach Mike Reeves, many factors contribute to international student-athletes adjusting and thriving at Radford. Among the factors they cite are the tight-knit community, emphasis on dedication to excellence on and off the field, and campus-wide support and respect for international student-athletes as valuable members of the Radford family. ■

Top left: Originally from India, women's golfer Khushboo Thiagaraj now calls Virginia her home.

Bottom left: Sophomore Alexandros Caldwell is one of six international student-athletes on the men's tennis roster.

Center: The men's soccer team carries the most international student-athletes of any roster at RU with 14.

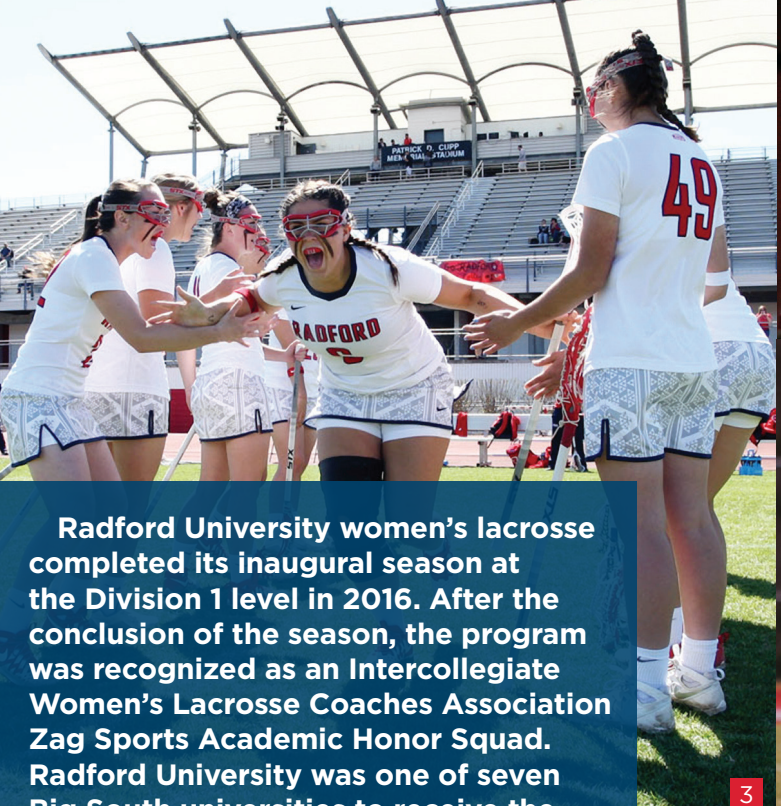
Top right: Sophomore Claire Nguyen came to Radford University from Melbourne, Australia.

Bottom right: Marc Reeves, head coach of the Radford men's soccer team and a native of England, is one of two international head coaches at Radford University.



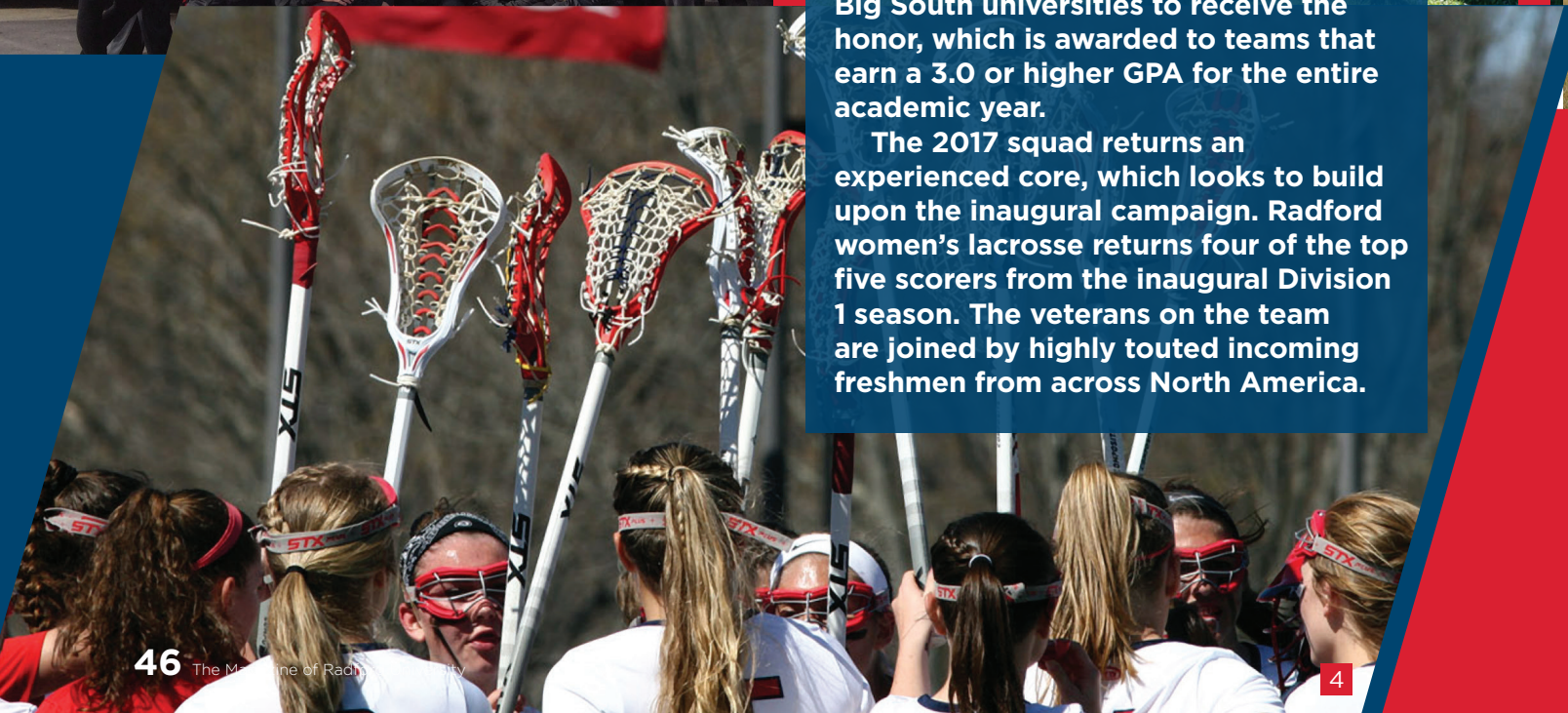
WOMEN'S

LACROSSE



Radford University women's lacrosse completed its inaugural season at the Division 1 level in 2016. After the conclusion of the season, the program was recognized as an Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association Zag Sports Academic Honor Squad. Radford University was one of seven Big South universities to receive the honor, which is awarded to teams that earn a 3.0 or higher GPA for the entire academic year.

The 2017 squad returns an experienced core, which looks to build upon the inaugural campaign. Radford women's lacrosse returns four of the top five scorers from the inaugural Division 1 season. The veterans on the team are joined by highly touted incoming freshmen from across North America.





5



6



7

1. No. 11 Shelby Merchant squares up to her attacker while teammate Hannah Rosen guards the goal.
2. Players and coaches pose for a group photo before boarding the bus for their inaugural game.
3. No. 6 Katie Edmonds runs through the team tunnel during player introductions in a home game against Detroit on March 18.
4. Radford players and coaches gather during a timeout in the March 18 home game against Detroit.
5. Radford players come together at the conclusion of their last preseason practice.
6. The Radford women's lacrosse team celebrates after earning the program's first-ever win, 19-8, over Howard University on March 5.
7. No. 15 Adrian Rius goes up for a draw control during a non-conference game at Virginia Tech on Feb. 24. Women's lacrosse became the latest sport in the New River rivalry.

PROGRAM CHANGER

Indoor facility makes debut.

By Jordan Childress

SNOW? RAIN? NO PROBLEM. The Radford baseball and softball teams are reaping the benefits of their state-of-the-art indoor practice space.

Both programs officially opened the facility, located just beyond the Radford Softball Stadium outfield fence, on Jan. 19, as they began practice for the 2016 season.

At 8,200 square feet, the indoor facility rivals those of several top schools and conferences throughout the southeast region and across college baseball and softball.

The dimensions of the facility will allow both programs to have up to six cages open for hitting with the necessary equipment and amenities for live pitching, machine pitching, pitchers' bullpens and defensive drills.

The facility comes with four fully-furnished offices for each program, as well as their own coaches' locker room, complete with a shower area.

With the spacious dimensions, the softball program can have a full infield practice, which previously was impossible to achieve during the winter months.

"It's beautiful compared to what we had before. We can come in here and use the facility whenever we want,"

said Radford University softball player Kayla Bishton. "It is really great to have something we can call our own. We can do so much now, such as ground-ball and fly-ball work. We are able to take as many reps in the cage as we want."

This new facility allows both programs to be well prepared as they open the season against teams in warmer climates, something that was an issue in the past.

"Just seeing everyone work hard to get to this point has been amazing. We as players want to come in and work hard every day to put this building to use," said Radford baseball player Danny Hrbek. "Every player can get their work in at the same time. Pitchers and hitters can practice at the same time. This will be a huge recruiting tool. There isn't a reason not to say no to Radford University after stepping foot in this facility."

Of course, this program-changing facility could not have been possible without financial support.

"It's been neat to see the alumni, friends of baseball and parents wanting to give back and support the project to make sure our student-athletes get the best equipment and resources around to put us in position to get ready for the



“ I know there are many alumni who put a lot of effort into making this project happen. Now, we are reaping the benefits. ”

Aileen Morales, Softball head coach

season and improve player development,” said baseball head coach and Radford alumnus Joe Raccuia '95.

The softball program, which has qualified for NCAA regionals twice in its history, looks to use the state-of-the-art facility as a key recruiting tool.

“To finally see this building come to fruition is huge for our program,” softball head coach Aileen Morales said. “I know there are many alumni who put a lot of effort into making this project happen. Now, we are reaping the benefits. This facility is going to give us a huge competitive advantage within the Big South Conference, especially in recruiting.” ■



Head coach Joe Raccuia '95 provides hitting instruction to Chandler Davis, Jordan Taylor and Zach Duff.



Nia Charles, Devyn Trifari, Hannah Medlam and Marrissa Gagliano take advantage of the facility on a cold January day.



48 Hours

A senior
fashion design
challenge



By Leslie King

FOUR FASHION design seniors sat at a long table in 211 McGuffey Hall.

For 48 hours beginning on Feb. 26, they worked in this space completing the department of design's annual charrette.

Dictionary.com describes the term charrette as an intensive final effort to finish a design project before a deadline. The challenge was for each to create a finished design in 48 hours for the Senior Exhibition at the Radford University Art Museum.

"Over the years, the charrette has evolved more toward a creative expression using the body as a 'prop' for an artistic creation and away from using an assigned inspiration to design traditionally wearable garments," said Associate Professor of Design John Jacob about the fifth year of these projects.

To start the challenge, he presented the students with palm fronds. Then the students drew numbers from a hat to see who would get first choice.

Breege Addo-Collins, EmilyAnne Charest, Destiny Howard and Dakota Wells selected their numbers without hesitation. Wells received first pick.

Jacob said the fronds were Professor of Design Kathy Mitchell's contribution. Last summer during a professional meeting, she found the fronds falling onto the sidewalk around her hotel. She thought they provided interesting shapes. She carefully collected them and brought them back to Radford.

Before heading into the official charrette, Mitchell showed her finds to the seniors.

"They can work out their inspiration and gather other items that they may want to use, but they don't start working on it until the established time," she said.

In preparation with this information, Howard put together an inspiration board with pictures of whimsical forests and other images.



Destiny Howard made measurements before beginning.

"My goal was to create something that exemplified the beauty of nature and represented a queen or goddess of nature," she said.

Charest also incorporated the theme of a goddess into her work. An island deity was her inspiration.

Wells' vision integrated her inspiration of armor into an island warrior theme.

When Jacob announced the project was underway, the four immediately started on their projects. They pulled out sketches, fabric and pizza (for sustenance, of course). They bantered, laughed and supported each other throughout the entirety of the challenge.

Charest said the four seniors are no strangers to long hours spent on projects and working side by side. They have bonded and are close friends. During the charrette, however, they did go home to sleep.

The end results of their 48 hours were on display during the Department of Design's Senior Exhibition. This year the show started in mid-March at the Radford University Art Museum in the Covington Center, where their reception also took place. Then, the work was moved to the museum's downtown gallery space for two more weeks.

And though they had much to do during their final semester at the university, this project provided a change of pace.

"I think it helps to get assignments like this to help us expand our mind outside the normal assignments of designing for a customer range and being able to explore our creativity," Charest said. ■



A NEW SCENE

By Leslie King

It was springtime at Radford University, but visions of sugarplum fairies danced in the minds of the School of Dance and Theatre faculty. They had come together to discuss the previous holiday season's performance of "The Nutcracker."

At the time of the production, they discovered issues with the 20-year-old, traditional American ballet-style scenery. Previously destroyed or dry-rotted, it was in need of replacement.

But this provided a unique opportunity for the school. At the meeting, the faculty decided it was time to design new scenic elements for the entire production.

"It was important for Inessa Plekhanova, our director and choreographer, that we create a visual that reflected old-style Russian ballet more than contemporary American-style productions," said Jimmy Ray Ward, assistant professor of theatre. He is the new scenery designer.

Esthetics of traditional Russian ballet storytelling, reflecting Alexandre Dumas, pere's original "The Story of a Hazelnut-cracker" is the new design theme. The goal was to make the university's production have the essence of a spectacular fairy tale, full of magical transformations of simple objects such as a growing Christmas tree.

Under Ward's guidance, this collaborative process included student participation with scenery painting. Chosen for their demonstrated skills during a recent scene painting class, they included senior theatre majors Morgan Hardy and Chelsea Wood, along with double theatre and art major Yaritza Pacheco. They worked on the scenery's first phase during the 2015-16 winter break.

“However, it is very exciting, and a little nerve-racking, to know that this set will be seen by audiences not just for a couple of weekends or a month, but instead for quite a few years.”

Yaritza Pacheco
Double theatre and art major

"The process of painting the set is like any other production," Pacheco said. "However, it is very exciting, and a little nerve-racking, to know that this set will be seen by audiences not just for a couple of weekends or a month, but instead for quite a few years."

Whereas most of the school's sets last for one production, "The Nutcracker" scenery is archival. It is produced at a quality level allowing it to last multiple seasons or for up to a decade.

The scenery comprises several sections. There are three scenes, which include four elements. Each has a backdrop; a portal that is an archway made by combining wings/legs and border; a set of legs, and a border. Legs are drapes used to hide the wings (stage entry points for the actors) on both sides of the stage. Borders are short draperies that span the width of the stage used to hide lights and any scenery that is kept above the stage.

In addition, a false proscenium drop was created, which serves as a frame around the overall stage. And one cannot exclude the grand Christmas tree or a large grandfather clock and other assorted scenic elements.

Audiences to the 2016 production of the university's "The Nutcracker" in November experienced the unveiling of this reconceptualized production. ■



The Horror of it All



By Leslie King

HE KEEPS wigs in plastic bags. Some are fit for demons, bearded ladies and showgirls. What others view with horror, theatre alumnus Monte Haught '91 sees for potential reuse.

The wigs are his personal collection from “CSI: NY,” “Glee” and the “American Horror Story” television series. For the latter, he won three Emmys and two Make-up Artists and Hair Stylists Guild Awards.

He shared these with Radford University theatre majors during a hair masterclass he taught in February. Using one of Kathy Bates “American Horror Story: Freak Show” wigs as a demonstration for how to fit a wig on an actor for stage or television, he shared his Emmy-winning techniques.

He also talked about his road to winning Emmys starting with his years at Radford University.

“I graduated with a very well-rounded degree,” he said. “I worked in the box office and the costume shop. I acted. I built sets. I made costumes. I did a little bit of everything, and that’s kind of confusing at the end because I didn’t specialize in one thing. I didn’t know what to do afterward, so I tried a little bit of everything.”

Having trouble finding his niche, he remembered advice from Monica Weinzapfel, professor of theatre.

“Maybe you should think about doing hair,” she said.

It resonated. He attended the Graham Webb International Academy of Hair in Washington, D.C. Through one of his school peers, he landed a job at Arena Stage, working with John Aitchison, wig master.

This led to employment at the Kennedy Center with the “Lion King.”

“Around 75 people interviewed and didn’t get the gig,” he said, but because he learned how to sew at Radford University, he landed the position.

Then he spent nine years on Broadway until he met Melina Kanakaredes during “Cabaret.” She helped him land a long-term gig in Los Angeles, where he did her hair for six seasons of “CSI: NY.”

Then he did hair for a season of “Glee” and worked with Radford alumna Jayma Mays '00, during which time he received his first Emmy nomination.

“I graduated with a very well-rounded degree. I did a little bit of everything and that’s kind of confusing at the end because I didn’t specialize in one thing. I didn’t know what to do afterward, so I tried a little bit of everything.”

Monte Haught '91



Monte Haught '91 installs one of Kathy Bates' wigs onto alumna Molly Roan '15, while alumna Raphael Regan '14 and Professor Weinzapfel watch.

The following year, he began hair design for “American Horror Story.” This is the show that landed him his Emmys.

He works with celebrities such as Jessica Lange, whom he remembers when he thinks about the awards.

Before his first win, she noticed he was preoccupied and he mentioned he had jitters about the upcoming award ceremony.

He told her it was an honor just to receive a nomination, but she cut him off.

“But it is wonderful to win,” she told him. “Be proud of that. Don’t be ashamed if you win.” Both won that year.

In addition to working in the hair industry, he also represents it on the Board of Governors at the Television Academy of Arts and Science in a peer-elected position.

Now Haught is an inspiration to current Radford University students, but the wigs are back in their bags, waiting for the next moment to terrify and thrill. ■

Wind Ensemble Tours Internationally

By Leslie King

THEY PLAYED at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney, Trinity College in Dublin and the Dublin Airport. These were concert stops for the Radford University Wind Ensemble's March 2016 trip to Ireland.

This unprecedented tour for the Department of Music was the largest performance ensemble the University has sent overseas. It included 42 students and four faculty members. And 20 years have passed since the ensemble last traveled.

Director of Bands and Instrumental Music Education Wayne Gallops led this effort. The planning for this trip began three years ago when he polled band members about what country interested them most and was affordable. Ireland topped the list.

"Because our university had such little experience touring large, intact ensembles overseas, I felt such an extended endeavor/process would reap lasting benefit for our students, college and university," he said.

For the students who auditioned for their seats in the Wind Ensemble, there are many benefits to touring overseas with the group. They received Scholar-Citizen Initiative course credits and global life lessons.

"The opportunity to perform internationally opens up one's perspective on how universal music is," said Jeremy Marks, a senior percussion student. "Playing with other students in Dublin was especially rewarding. Growing up thousands of miles apart, we were still able to just sit down and make music together."

Their largest audience was in Dublin at the airport. Gallops said thousands witnessed this two-hour charity concert, which raised funds for cancer survivors. A local concert band that regularly performs there hosted them. Ireland's SKY Network Television interviewed members of the Wind Ensemble and played clips of the performance.

Gallops said this was a great networking opportunity for the University, and they may have recruited a new oboist

from Virginia who was also visiting at the same time.

During their day at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Radford faculty held master classes and several of the ensemble's principal musicians played side by side with Irish students. Later, the groups switched and the academy's conductor, Fergus O'Carroll, worked with the Radford students.

O'Carroll is the head of the Wind, Brass and Percussion faculty and is the principal horn player with the National Symphony Orchestra of

Ireland. He is also a composer. Upon the Wind Ensemble's first concert back in the U.S., they played the American premier of O'Carroll's "Song Without Words."

A McGlothlin travel grant, the Scholar-Citizen Initiative, the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA), the Department of Music, patrons and students provided funding for this trip.

"This tour represents a larger CVPA initiative for the coming years," said Margaret Devaney, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts. "In representing the college internationally for the first time with such a large ensemble, we hope to increase the number of international travel performance opportunities for each department represented by the college. This tour paves the way for our global interactions at international venues for the foreseeable future." ■



Two faculty members, David Allen and Dayl Burnette, participated in the tour.



The Radford University Wind Ensemble performs in Ireland.

AMBASSADOR OF CHANGE

A RECENT ALUMNA CAPITALIZES ON HER ECONOMICS EDUCATION TO PURSUE INTERNATIONAL ASPIRATIONS.

By Chad Osborne

SINCE ARRIVING in the United States at age 13 from Bolivia, Giancarla Rojas-Mendoza '16 has envisioned herself earning a college education and someday returning to her home country to play a role in its economic stabilization.

It's one reason the graduate chose to study at Radford University's College of Business and Economics. "My parents moved to the United States to seek better job opportunities and escape the political and economic instability," Rojas-Mendoza said. "I always wondered how I can help."

Her parents, Rodrigo and Judith, came to the United States in the early 2000s to pursue the American dream. She and her sister, Milenia, followed their parents a few years later. Living in Northern Virginia, Rojas-Mendoza attended community college after high school. She engaged herself in her community's civic issues, which provided her with a starting point to influence local politics. There, she gained a valuable mentorship with a Radford University alumna, Emma Violand-Sanchez.

Violand-Sanchez, who immigrated to the United States from Bolivia, made her start at Radford University, and it laid the groundwork for her professional career.

Rojas-Mendoza's mentor helped her through the application process and she received a scholarship from the Radford University Foundation, sponsored by an alumna from the Northern Virginia area. "Radford gave me a scholarship, and I was exposed to opportunities that I would have never been exposed to in Bolivia," she said.

At Radford, Rojas-Mendoza continued to be mindful of the economic situation in Bolivia, and she wanted to learn more about how she may someday help ease those problems and how she could become a contributing member in her new home in the United States.

"I took economics classes at Radford University and it explained and answered a lot of my questions," Rojas-Mendoza said. "It made me think about how countries create economic solutions. This influenced my desire to study international economics, concentrating on trade and development."

As her knowledge of economics and international trade expanded, so did her confidence. Becoming involved on campus and joining the Student Managed Investment Portfolio Organization — SMIPO for short — boosted her belief in herself. "SMIPO is one organization that helped me develop professionally," Rojas-Mendoza said. "I learned how to manage a stock portfolio, and I met professionals in my field."

One-on-one talks with her professors helped, too. She interviewed each of them, asking what possibilities would lie ahead once she was equipped with a bachelor's degree in economics from Radford University.

"She has a lot of civic responsibilities. She wants to make the world a better place for everyone," said

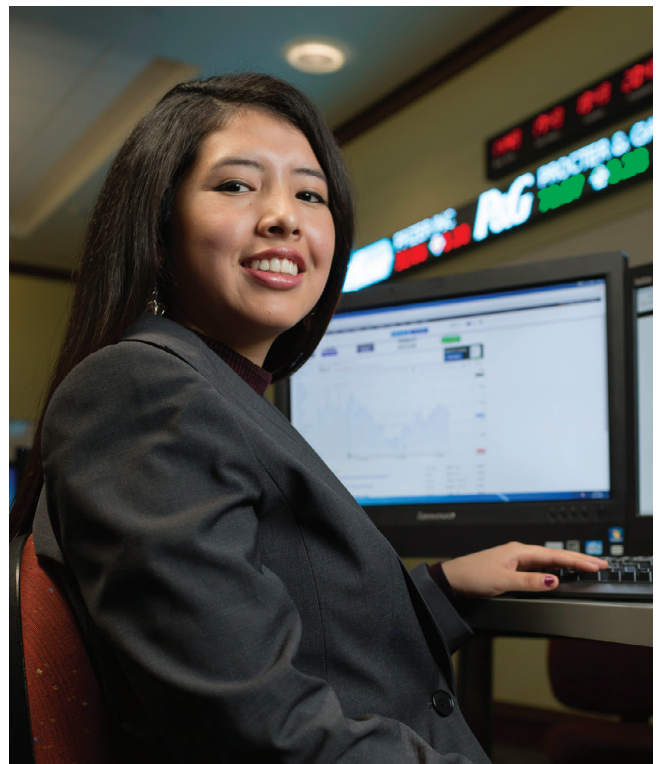
Department of Economics faculty member Kiertisak Toh. "She has a drive to do something good for others."

For her final semester, Rojas-Mendoza interned at the Washington International Trade Association in Washington, D.C. While there, she met an ambassador from Honduras who, after discussing economic matters in Bolivia and the fact that Bolivia has no ambassador to the United States, encouraged Rojas-Mendoza to become an ambassador.

"I was like, 'Me, an ambassador?'" she recalled with excitement. "I had never really thought about it until she brought it up. Now, I want to learn more about economics and get more experience and someday help my country."

Before she graduated from Radford University in May 2016, Rojas-Mendoza was looking forward to realizing her dream of earning a degree. She also had plans to attend graduate school. However, much of her focus was on her parents and how much they had sacrificed.

"They are very, very happy and very proud. I feel like a lot of times they have put aside their American dream so they could help my sister and me," said Rojas-Mendoza, who became the first in her family to graduate from college. "For me, graduating from Radford University was a way to pay them back for all their hard work and sacrifice. I want them to believe that it was all worth it." ■



Giancarla Rojas-Mendoza '16 as a student in the Kyle Hall Trading Room



THE Limitless SCI



Caterpillar
Apples



Professor Richard Bay works with children at a local elementary school.

Scholar-Citizens use scholarship in the community.

By Mike Roche

At Radford University, public service is paramount. But, then again, so is academic inquiry. So, which comes first: civic engagement or academic/theoretical learning?

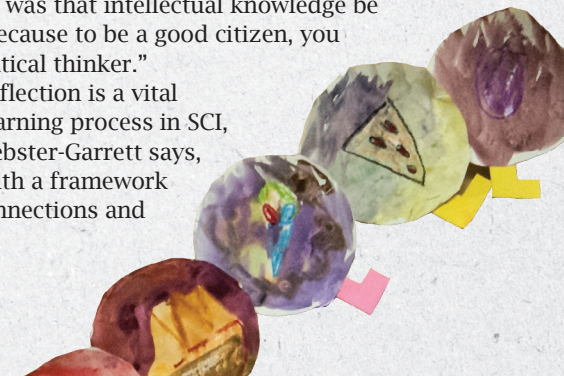
The answer for the Scholar-Citizen Initiative, one of five premier High Impact Practices programs that the University offers — and one that has grown 1,000 percent since its implementation in fall 2012 — lies in its name.

First called “Citizen-Scholar,” the program was soon renamed the “Scholar-Citizen Initiative” — or SCI — to better align its focus with the university’s emphasis on academic scholarship and student research. Not to mention, the new acronym — which, by the way, is

pronounced like the blue and sometimes cloudy thing above us — sounded more like something the students might be inclined to “reach” for.

According to program director Erin Webster Garrett, who is also a professor in the Department of English, “About halfway through the process of developing the implementation plan for SCI, we realized that, for us, what was really important was that intellectual knowledge be at the front end — because to be a good citizen, you have to be a good critical thinker.”

Naturally, then, reflection is a vital component of the learning process in SCI, and the program, Webster-Garrett says, provides students with a framework in which to make connections and





Lekia Thorpe, Art Education major, making crafts with children.



Amanda Sierra, Art Education major, making crafts and talking with children.

“Learning is about enjoyment, noise, conversation, interaction!”

Professor Richard Bay

integrate knowledge they've gained across a variety of disciplines.

Taylor Brock '16, who will graduate with distinction as a Scholar-Citizen Fellow in December, is one of the many students who can attest to the program's strong framework for facilitating cross-curricular learning.

“Being involved in the SCI program ... has helped me make connections between what I am learning in one class to what I am learning in others, and between what I'm doing as a student to the experiences I have in other parts of my life,” she said.

“In my SCI-designated Peace Studies class, we discussed colonization and the conditioning that takes place in a society in order to take over an already-established society ... In my British Literary History class, we read Orwell's ‘Shooting an Elephant,’ an essay about British colonization. My peace studies introduction to the issues deepened my understanding of the literature and thus my engagement with the texts in my Brit Lit class. And my Scholar-Citizen ePortfolio is helping me see how these two classes relate to one another.”

This is a vital part of high-impact learning, Webster-Garrett says, and its effectiveness is on full display in Professor Richard Bay's art education classes, which have been a part of SCI since its inception.

This past spring, Bay's art education students made weekly visits to McHarg Elementary School to work with youngsters who range from preschool to second grade. In addition to fostering self-esteem, social skills, problem-solving and collaboration abilities, the art education students' teaching plans were strategically engineered to develop the youngsters' gross

and fine motor skills — but only after rigorous pedagogical and theoretical training in the classrooms of Radford University.

Bay says his SCI-designated art education program, much like SCI itself, has grown significantly from year to year, and it's not difficult to understand why.

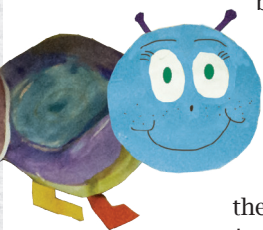
“Learning is about enjoyment, noise, conversation, interaction!” he said — and, incidentally, community involvement is a vital part of SCI.

According to Michael Brown, principal of McHarg Elementary School, part of the success of Bay's SCI-designated art education program is attributable to the diversity of personalities — and teaching methods — the student teachers bring to the art table.

“The youngsters aren't just working with one teacher; they're working with multiple teachers — future teachers,” he said, acknowledging that just as no two students learn the same, no two teachers teach the same.

In addition to filling a critical need as an extracurricular at the school, Bay and his student teachers also play a part in beautifying the school's corridors alongside the McHarg Elementary youngsters.

Walking down the main hallway, past the handcrafted construction-paper flowers hanging in the brightly-painted cardboard window boxes (also handcrafted), one can't help noticing how well-positioned the flowers are to get sun — and — of course — SCI. ■



HEALTH OUTREACH

Jyotsna Sharman and her nutrition students spread dietary knowledge throughout local communities.

By Chad Osborne

CHOOSING FOODS to eat for a healthy lifestyle can be a daunting task.

There can be so many questions. Which organic fruits and vegetables are best? What does all the information on nutrition labels mean? Which healthy foods are the yummiest? Do I have to eat so many green veggies?

Proper nutrition takes work and knowledge.

Jyotsna Sharman's nutrition students eagerly embrace the role of providing answers and educating community and school groups about how to make choices concerning their health.

"If you have some knowledge, it's no good keeping it to yourself. It's good to share and let people who don't have the knowledge benefit from it," said Sharman, an associate professor and director of the Nutrition and Dietetics program at Radford University.

Sharman challenges students enrolled in her Community and Cultural Nutrition course to plan and publicly present lessons targeting the specific needs of various communities. It's a process that has many benefits for her students, many of whom plan to become registered dietitians or work in the public health sector.

"On a personal level, the service-learning experience gives them an opportunity to apply their classroom learning in a community setting, helps them build communication skills as well as confidence in their abilities, and also boosts their application for dietetic internships," said Sharman, a registered dietitian.

As for the professional level, Sharman said her "students" learn how to assess the specific needs of the local and regional communities, and then meet the identified needs by offering nutritional advice consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Such an education helps individuals make healthy food choices, adopt healthy nutrition-related practices, change their eating behavior and thus enhance their nutritional well-being.

When students venture out into the community, they often discuss ways to prevent chronic conditions such as hypertension, heart disease, diabetes and obesity.



Jyotsna Sharman,
assistant professor
of nutrition and dietetics

“If you have some knowledge, it’s no good keeping it to yourself. It’s good to share and let people who don’t have the knowledge benefit from it.”

Jyotsna Sharman, assistant professor of nutrition and dietetics

Debra Super was in Sharman’s class in fall 2015 and gave a presentation at the Community Health Center of the New River Valley in Christiansburg about the DASH Diet, which can be helpful for weight loss and controlling blood pressure and cholesterol.

“There are so many issues now, not just in the United States, but in the western world. We have chronic diseases we are bringing on ourselves,” said Super, who is retired from the Air Force.

“People are used to fast foods these days. They’re used to going to restaurants. The portions are getting bigger. We have a lot of sick people, and they don’t know why they’re sick. That’s really what draws me and makes me want to help people.”

Last fall, Bert Herald shared information about the barriers to losing weight and the significance of online and community support for weight loss with his audience at the health center. Herald talked about trigger foods, those foods that can cause people to overeat, and about tracking software such as MyFitnessPal, designed for smartphones.

The presentations were perfect practice to prepare him for an internship after graduation, said Herald, a former electrical engineer from Tempe, Arizona, who is embarking on a second career as a registered dietitian.

“Delivering this content helped me refine my techniques and made me feel more comfortable in front of different types of audiences,” Herald said.

Campbell Carter’s presentation offered facts and tips about foods that are good for the ticker. “This included heart health promoting foods that should be eaten often to help prevent atherosclerotic effects in the arteries,” Campbell said.

Carter provided handouts full of information and guidance about nutrient values.

“The audiences love handouts; they find them very beneficial,” said Sharman, who has her students ask for feedback regarding the presentations. In the spring, some respondents said they would like more coupons and more free food samples. They also enjoyed the free body mass index test and hand-grip strength test, Sharman said.

Megan Osborne reached out to a different demographic for her presentations and engaged her group well beyond the required 30 minutes. The then-senior from Luray gave two 90-minute talks to students at her alma mater, Luray High School.

“The main purpose of my presentations was to explain the benefits of vegetables,” Osborne said. “I tried to present on vegetables that I knew people aren’t as familiar with in hopes that they may try something new.”

She created a PowerPoint presentation to help her explain the numerous types of vegetables, taught a lesson through a Bingo-style game and made healthy fruit and vegetable smoothies for the school children.

“I really enjoy interacting with people and explaining to them how nutrition is fun,” Osborne said. “Teaching people that eating well doesn’t have to be boring, nasty or expensive is very rewarding.”

Osborne said she chose to give her presentation at her former high school “because it’s in a rural area which tends to have a higher prevalence of nutrition-related diseases. I feel if I can reach out to one person at a time, eventually I’ll make a bigger difference.”

Osborne has a passion for providing proper nutrition information to children. Her future plans include working in a neonatal intensive care unit administering nutrition support to premature infants.

While the project provides numerous benefits to Sharman’s students, it also is a terrific service to communities, too, she said.

“It’s a win-win situation,” Sharman said. “I want people to recognize that Radford University is interested in bettering the local community. It makes me happy that people think nicely about Radford University when we volunteer our time and effort.” ■





Science *behind* Caring

**UNCONVENTIONAL UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH PREPARES RADFORD
NURSING STUDENTS.**

By Don Bowman



TO LAUNCH their nursing studies, Mandeep Kaur and Caitlin Linville set out to build a solid scientific foundation.

As sophomores, an exercise in Associate Professor of Biology Jason Davis' physiology and anatomy class for nurses required students to prepare a grant proposal for a project. Kaur and Linville, as is their wont, went further. After working in support of other lab projects, the twosome designed and executed their proposed project, thus launching careers as scientists before their nursing studies had begun.

Their undergraduate research in the lab involved a range of experiences — from building treadmills for hissing cockroaches to testing the health benefit of an oriental folk medicine on houseflies to traveling to Portland, Oregon, and Palm Beach, Florida, for presentations. In the process, they developed as scientists and learned the art and science of nursing — not to mention gaining hard-earned time and stress management experience.

"I feel like nursing is a quiet science. Nursing is not one of those things people think of when you say 'science.' They think of biology, chemistry, physics and disciplines like that. Nursing is a science with an added focus on the holistic, or the entirety of the human experience," said Linville, the daughter of Raymond Linville, former dean of the Waldron College of Health and Human Services, chair of the communication sciences and disorders department, and a founding faculty member of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Kaur considers her two years as a biological researcher a key investment in career success as a health care provider.

"We mostly got into it to strengthen our scientific research base," said Kaur. "I wanted to look into research protocols and to analyze and apply them to what I am doing," Kaur said. "I wanted to get comfortable with evidence-based practice. These are opportunities peripheral to daily nursing work that I know will be valuable."

Kaur, a double major in nursing and Spanish, also considered the research opportunity a way to engage her curiosity and diverse interests.

"I just wanted to do what I found interesting. I like biology, I like Spanish and my goal is to be a nurse," she said. "I like pushing myself to see what I can do and what I can achieve. Radford was a place to do them all."

Kaur and Linville wrapped up the nursing student stages of their careers with practicums that entail 168 hours of 12-hour-a-day shifts at Roanoke Memorial Hospital — Kaur on the progressive care unit and Linville on the med/surg unit.

Both will also complete independent study projects — Kaur in Spanish, Linville in biology — to wind up their undergraduate careers at Radford.

“I like pushing myself to see what I can do and what I can achieve. Radford was a place to do them all.”

Mandeep Kaur

To say they are motivated is an understatement. They both knew the reputation of Radford's nursing program and saw the research opportunity as a way to prepare for the rigors of the highly regarded program. The two-year research project into the effects of a Vespa Amino Acids Mixture (VAAM) on houseflies' cellular health proved to be a rewarding and challenging way to ramp up.

"I know now that the work day doesn't end until I go to sleep. The effort prepared me more to be productive, to get things done in a timely fashion and still account for things that might change," said Linville, who worked part-time while going to school and doing the original research project — which, among other unique aspects, involved swimming houseflies, as it is hard to recapture an airborne housefly for post-exercise study.

The pair has presented professionally at two national Society for Integrative Biology meetings and at Radford University's annual research symposium. They are also preparing a paper on their examination of the claims about how VAAM, the key ingredient in a Japanese alternative health drink, boosts energy. The project's findings indicate a potentially severe trade-off. Kaur and Linville's thesis is that VAAM does boost energy in houseflies, but it also appears to damage mitochondria, the source of cellular energy.

Both Kaur and Linville treasure their Radford experiences.

"I definitely found great mentors who helped me grow as an individual — in biology, nursing and foreign language," Kaur said. "Plus, I have made great friends in all three areas."

Both were recipients of Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships from the Office of Undergraduate Research to support their project. Their faculty advisor was Davis.

The pair has had a unique view of the transition through which the sciences are going at Radford University. Their original lab was a closet-sized space in Reed-Curie. They are now in the process of passing the project off to successors who will work in the new Center for the Sciences.

"The new lab has so much bench space and upgraded equipment," Linville said. "But we spent so much time in our Curie lab, we are attached to it."

Linville, to whom Radford was obviously no stranger, described Radford University's core strength.

"There is more here than meets the eye. Radford helps students succeed, whether you want to be a nurse, a scientist or whatever." ■

“Nursing is a science with an added focus on the holistic, or the entirety of the human experience.”

Caitlin Linville



MISSION

Undergraduate
Research.

DESTINATION

Far Reaches.

OUTCOME

Successful.



By Don Bowman



Biology professor and chair Christine Small gives students an opportunity to learn in the Virgin Islands.



TO STRENGTHEN resumé and broaden horizons, Radford University students earned valuable field research experience over the 2016 spring break.

In arctic conditions, nine Radford University students, led by Professor of Physics Rhett Herman, studied polar ice cap properties. In tropical conditions, 16 students, led by Professor of Biology Jeremy Wojdak, teamed up on five projects to acquire critical field experience.

“We are young scientists. There are so many questions yet to be answered, and we are part of a new generation that has to get the answers,” said Katie Mankowski, a freshman biology and mathematics major from Fairfax.

Mankowski was part of the sixth Radford University team in the last 12 years to investigate the thermal balance and properties of the Arctic sea ice while developing a methodology to study its critical thickness. They were based at the National Science Foundation’s Naval Arctic Research Laboratory in Barrow, Alaska. Members of the team will present their work at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union, the world’s largest meeting of earth and space scientists, in San Francisco. While Mankowski and the Barrow team layered on clothing and consumed almost 5000 calories a day to protect themselves from the arctic elements and wind chill, Monika Mattson, an environmental sciences major from Floyd, and her teammates lathered on layers of sunscreen and consumed gallons of water against the tropical sun, the humidity and the salt water at their research site at the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station near Cruz Bay on St. John Island in the U.S Virgin Islands.

“The experience inspired me to explore more — more environments and more ecosystems. There are so many and they are so diverse in every sense,” said Mattson, who learned to snorkel as part of her team’s project to make a

comparison of species richness and composition among fish at different marine substrates along the coast.

The Virgin Island team joined their Alaska colleagues as presenters at Radford University’s 26th Annual Student Engagement Forum, a festival of research that caps the school year.

“This kind of field experience asks students to practice being scientists,” said Wojdak. “They can identify gaps in both their own knowledge and our general scientific understanding, then start working at filling in those gaps.”

For Abdullah Zulfiqar, a junior geology and physics major from Reston, the Barrow trip was a valued first field experience.

“I was tested in many ways. Science in the field is different every day,” Zulfiqar said. “It pushed my endurance to keep aware of the many situations and keep chugging toward our goal. Every part was an ‘ah-ha’ moment.”

Logan Fisher, a physics major from Centerville, saw three auroras during his weeklong stay in Alaska, including an “insanely rare” purple display. He helped fix the sleds, gathered data and arranged the dipole trials for the OhmMapper resistivity apparatus while dressed in thermal underwear, thick socks, a turtleneck, Russian waders or snow pants, a parka, arctic boots, face mask, goggles, earmuffs, a wool hat, gloves, hand warmers and glove liners.

“I want to get into a science field, so it is important for me to get research experience,” said Fisher. “This opportunity was a big part of why I chose Radford University. There is an impressive selection of undergraduate research opportunities. I need that grounding.”

Fisher and Mankowski are both products of the Accelerated Research Opportunities (ARO) program, an initiative of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (OURS) geared toward helping incoming

“Science in the field is different every day ...
Every part was an ‘ah-ha’ moment.”

Abdullah Zulficar, geology and physics major



Students research Arctic sea ice in Alaska.

students make connections with faculty, conduct original research and challenge themselves.

“Undergraduate research and scholarship is strongly associated with students earning higher grades, finishing their degree, going to graduate school and having better retention and application of information,” said OURS director Joe Wirgau.

According to Wirgau, ARO students can potentially have more than three years of research experience upon graduation, potentially resulting in publications, presentations and recognition. Among the components of the ARO are common housing; OURS 100, a course designed to prepare freshmen to participate in research projects; and a seminar series on active research in which students can participate.

“As a teacher, the most gratifying aspect of our trip is to see students struggle to design meaningful research projects, wrestle with the inevitable difficulties of field research in a remote location and then persevere to produce some new, valuable piece of knowledge ... all in the course of three or four days,” said Wojdak.

Kayla McNeilly, a senior from Chester, capped off her preparation for graduate school in marine biology with the Virgin Islands research opportunity under Wojdak’s guidance.

“All ecosystems are different — with different plants, animals, insects,” McNeilly said. “As a biologist, I want to see, explore and learn as many as I can.”

During her time at Radford University, McNeilly worked with Assistant Professor of Biology Matt Close on a herpetological survey of Selu Conservancy for two years and branched off on her own project — assessing the size of mice upon which Selu snakes feed. Last summer, she landed a four-month internship at the Dolphin Research Center in Grassy Key, Florida.

“At Radford, many [of my] classes have included a research aspect. It is a big deal,” said McNeilly. “It has been similar to what I expect to find in the real world. We have been encouraged to ask our own questions, use our own ideas to find answers and ... gather data. I have been taught by Ph.D. faculty, not graduate students, and the faculty have given me so much support and encouragement.”

To round out her college experience, she minored in dance and served as an admissions tour guide, introducing prospective students to the Radford University experience.

“I put in the extra effort and time because I want to get the most out of my undergraduate experience,” she said confidently. “I think I will get where I want to go.” ■



Leo Totten (right) reviews weightlifting techniques with strength, fitness and conditioning major Amanda Cherry.

MUSCLING through Spring Break

By Chad Osborne

Amanda Cherry lives an intensely active lifestyle. In addition to her studies at Radford University, the Poquoson native teaches CrossFit and is part of the university's ROTC program. Upon graduating with a degree in strength, fitness and conditioning, Cherry wants to train soldiers once she's commissioned into the Army.

Participating in Leo Totten's three-day Olympic lifting certification class at Radford University in the spring helped. Totten, a former weightlifter who has been coaching the sport for more than 20 years, brought his course to Radford University to provide hands-on training to students striving to be better lifters and teachers of the sport.

"I feel like this class will help me be a better trainer for other athletes, and it is helping me learn more about training myself," Cherry said on the course's last day. "I've learned a lot about myself as an athlete."

“We wanted to bring Leo to campus and bring that hands-on experience into their lives.”

Associate Professor David Sallee, Health and Human Performance

Cody Kelly participated in the class, too. He wants to be a powerlifter. He's not yet ready for competitions on the big stage, but he's working on it. He, too, found benefits from participating in Totten's class.

"It's been a great class," Kelly said. "He takes a good amount of time with each individual person. He started us off with a generalization of a form we all should know, and then he slowly tweaked our technique individually, which is nice. It's a small class, and that works to our advantage."

Kelly and Cherry were among the seven Radford University strength, fitness and conditioning majors to participate in some heavy lifting in Totten's dual certification course during spring break. Those who completed the course were awarded with basic and advanced Olympic lifting certifications.

"Getting two certifications is valuable," said Kelly, a junior from Fredericksburg.

Totten developed the 16-hour certification program based on his experiences as a lifter and Olympic weightlifting coach. It is about 90 percent hands-on training and 10 percent classroom discussion, he said.

Totten also uses video technology to record and analyze sessions with his students.

The course offers technique training for snatch, clean and jerk lifting; explores basic biomechanics and flexibility issues; and provides safety recommendations.

"I teach the most effective and safest ways to lift," Totten said. He also talks with his students about strategies for designing their own training courses.

Alex Robbins is working toward a career in which he can provide strength and conditioning training to collegiate, and maybe, professional athletes. "I'm taking this class because I think it will be to my advantage later on to have this knowledge in my tool belt," said the sophomore from Richmond.

Giving students fresh ideas and perspectives about proper techniques is one of the many reasons health and human performance Associate Professor David Sallee invited Totten to Radford University.

"Students are trying to work as professional strength and conditioning coaches, so the key piece here is that they have hands-on experience that will allow them to work with athletes," Sallee said. "We wanted to bring Leo to campus and bring that hands-on experience into their lives."

In designing the course, Totten aims to give his students "another avenue to get better when they get out there teaching," he said. "This will maybe help them have more background than someone else would not have. Hopefully, this class will give them a leg up on the competition. This is just another step in their learning process." ■

SERVICE OVER SELF

A DAY ON NOT A DAY OFF

Radford University students are giving back to the community, and this fall, they had more opportunities than ever before to continue the tradition of service.

By Mary Hardbarger



Barry Miller and his son Cody go through a box of food donations as they work with other Radford University volunteers.



Darla Denham checks the size on newborn and infant clothing for the Stork Exchange at The Radford Clothing Bank.

YEARS BEFORE Meron and Melat Habtemichael '16 were sorting and packing food for distribution in Southwest Virginia, they were tutoring and counseling children infected with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

The Ethiopian-born twins both carry a deep desire to help others.

"We feel it is very important to pay it forward," Melat said.

"Because when we leave this Earth, what are we going to leave behind?"

Meron added.

At Radford University, the Habtemichaels and thousands of other students are leaving behind a legacy of service.

Volunteerism is an integral part of the Radford University experience. Students have many opportunities and are encouraged to give back to the community during their four-year academic journey.

When the Habtemichaels, both information systems majors, enrolled in Radford University in spring 2015, they didn't waste any time jumping into service.

They helped build houses with Habitat for Humanity and knitted blankets and collected books for children. More recently, they participated in Radford's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on which more than 250 students, faculty and staff volunteered throughout the community.

Since 2014, the MLK Jr. Day of Service has sent student-volunteers throughout the New River and Roanoke valleys to perform a variety of tasks. This year, they volunteered at thrift stores and clothing banks, collected food items at local supermarkets, prepared and served meals, performed maintenance at local churches and mentored schoolchildren at a low-income apartment complex.

3,000
pounds of
canned goods

More than
250
students, faculty
and staff participated in
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The Habtemichaels traveled with a group to Salem, Virginia, where they sorted through donated food items at Feeding America Southwest Virginia.

“It was a very rewarding experience,” Meron said.

“We want to give back to our community because this community has done so much for us,” Melot explained.

The sisters’ sentiments are echoed across campus.

Philanthropic efforts are a collaboration of the entire Radford University community. Student clubs and organizations, athletic teams, colleges and departments all chip in when it comes to helping others.

The university’s Scholar-Citizen Initiative partners students with faculty who are regularly engaged with the community through class-embedded service projects and alternative spring break programs, among other impactful efforts.

Every fall semester since 2009, the Greek Life community has sponsored a Holiday Food Drive. On average, about 3,000 pounds of canned goods is collected for distribution to local food pantries. Last fall, enough food was collected to feed 500 families for three months.

Assistant Director of Student Activities/Greek Life Robert Marias sees firsthand the transformation students experience as a result of giving back.

“They are engaging beyond the campus and the classroom and learning what the world is really like,” Marias said. “They are gaining life skills and building community



Courtney Wilson (from left), Tori Brown, Anne Alexander and Asa McKee volunteer at Feeding America Southwest Virginia.

partnerships that can raise awareness of issues or needs within our local communities as well as at the state, national and worldwide stage. These experiences broaden students’ perspectives on what it means to be a citizen of the world.”

In addition to the MLK Jr. Day of Service, a new service project sprung this spring.

More than 100 students participated in the university’s first-ever Spring Community Service Day in April. Volunteers cleaned up local Boy Scout camps, planted flowers at Bisset Park, picked up trash across campus and sorted goods at a local food ministry.

Among the many volunteers was senior Christian Walker ’16 of

More than
100
students participated
in Spring Community
Service Day



Lyric Roberts (left) and Ezell Johnson pour drinks at Pulaski Daily Bread.

Kappa Alpha Psi, an information systems major from Hampton.

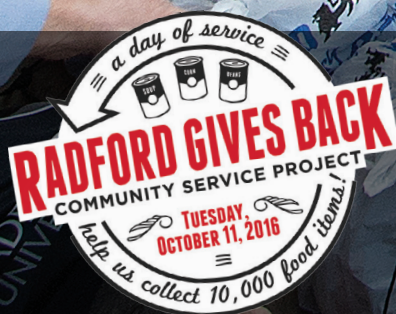
“Giving back to the community is important to not only my fraternity as a whole, but to me personally,” Walker said. “I have engaged in numerous service projects, and with each one, I gain a sense of accomplishment as I put others before myself.”

This fall, students had even more opportunities to give back as university administrators worked to expand service efforts. The goal, Marias said, is to offer at least five signature service projects per academic year.

“We, as a campus, are trying to do more,” Marias said. “We’re trying to pool everybody together so that all the students, faculty and staff are engaging at some level in helping the community around us.” ■

“When we leave this Earth,
what are we going to
leave behind?”

Meron Habtemichael '16



Radford Gives Back

Campus collects more than 14,000 items for food drive

By Mary Hardbarger

Radford University gave back to the community in a big way.

A campuswide service project called Radford Gives Back resulted in the collection of more than 14,000 nonperishable food items to benefit local food assistance programs.

University and community volunteers gathered in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center on Oct. 11 to organize the thousands of food items. In assembly-line style, more than 250 sets of helping hands stuffed plastic bags full of food and loaded them onto a truck.

Granola bars, soup, macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables and applesauce were just a few of the requested items on the kid-friendly list.

The amount collected was estimated to feed 100 Radford City Public School (RCPS) pre-K-12 students for 14 weeks. Food was distributed through the Bobcat Backpacks Program, a 501(c)3 community-sponsored organization, with support from the Highlander Helpers Backpack Program, a Radford University club. Both programs provide weekly bags of food for children to take home on the weekends.

Students, faculty and staff donated the items during the weeks leading up to the food drive, which was held in conjunction with President Brian O. Hemphill's inauguration celebration.

President Hemphill and his wife, Dr. Marisela Rosas Hemphill, have been champions of service throughout their professional careers.

Marisela Rosas Hemphill addressed participants during a short program held prior to the Oct. 11 event.

"Community service is so important to me and my family," she said. "My husband and I are always looking for ways to connect with the local community. Therefore, when we were planning the inauguration activities, we knew an event at Radford University could be used as a special occasion to give back to the place that we all live, work and learn. This evening it is very clear that the Radford family cares deeply for one another. My family and I could not be more proud to be part of the Highlander family."

Senior Katherine Kammer, president of Highlander Helpers, said she was overwhelmed by the support.

"I don't think I can even put in words how proud



First Lady Marisela Rosas Hemphill and President Brian O. Hemphill help their 4-year-old twins, Cruz and Catalina, collect food for the Radford Gives Back food drive.

and thankful I am of the Radford University community," Kammer said.

"It's amazing what you can accomplish when you work together. These children we serve are our future and even future Highlanders, so to be able to support them and provide food for them is awesome."

Highlander Helpers began as a class project in 2007. It grew into an organized university club in 2010 — its members serving about 10-15 McHarg Elementary School students each week. An increased need for weekend food was identified, and the club soon started serving more than 60 students throughout the entire school system. As the numbers

continued to grow, the Highlander Helpers looked to the community for support.

In January 2016, Bobcat Backpacks was created as an autonomous program run by community members working under the Belle Heth Elementary School Parent School Association. Highlander Helpers now support Bobcat Backpacks through fundraising efforts and food drives.

Bobcat Backpacks founders Daniela Brunner '96, Jenny Riffe '03 and Jane Fisher '94, M.S. '00 are mothers of RCPS students and proud Radford University alumnae.

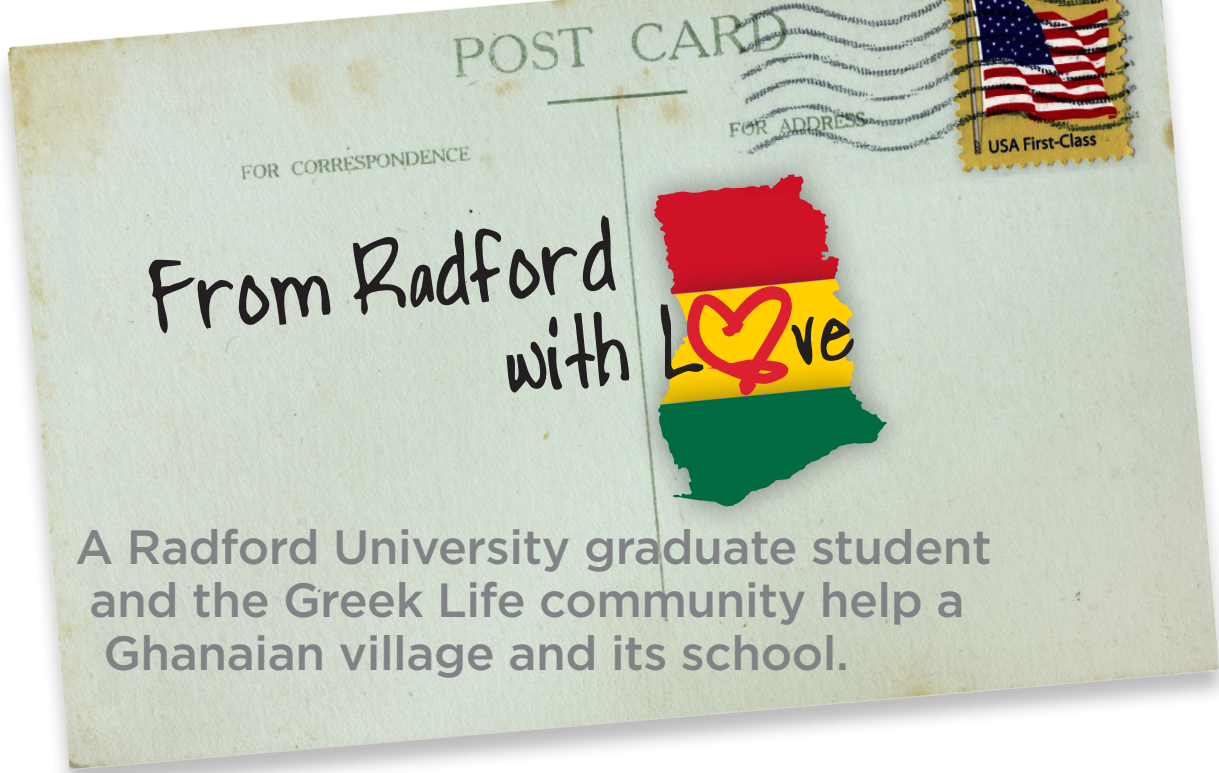
"This has been a wonderful town-gown relationship," said Riffe. "The outreach has been amazing. The linkage between Radford University and the surrounding community is so important, and that's what tonight's event is all about."

Highlander Helpers volunteer with Bobcat Backpacks each week to pack the weekend food bags at a local church.

"My kids get to see college students giving back," said Fisher. "They're our role models."

The women agreed they are excited to see the Hemphill family already involved with the local community.

"We love the fact that they care so much," Riffe said. "Since they've arrived, it's like they've said 'Radford is our home, and this is how we treat it.'" ■



By Mary Hardbarger

IN 2010, Heather Bowden, M.S.W. '16 established a primary school in a remote village of West Africa, giving children access to an education they never had before.

Since then, the 28-year-old has created a nonprofit to sustain the school, and most recently, earned a master's degree in social work from Radford University.

Bowden, a Southwest Virginia native, was pursuing an undergraduate degree in studio art from Hollins

University when she first visited Nsumensa (pronounced in-soo-mensa), a small village in the Volta Region of Ghana. Located four miles by a rugged foot path into the rainforest, the community's lush surroundings sustain its inhabitant's way of life.

Upon arrival, Bowden soon learned the children did not have a school to attend. So, she hired two teachers to instruct 33 students in a small, rundown building.

Two years later, she returned to build a larger and more permanent building, one conducive to the region's heavy rains and hot temperatures. When completed, the new Nsumensa Village Primary School consisted of two buildings and three classrooms. Today, about 60 students are enrolled.

Bowden has maintained the school's expenses through a nonprofit she founded called The Pocket Project Inc. In the past year, she learned the school was to become part of Ghana's public school system, a huge step toward sustainability and the ultimate goal of the school.

Understanding the Ghanaian government would provide its own set of trained teachers, Bowden had to let go those she had hired.

In an effort to provide the teachers a stipend and make the "process run as smoothly as possible," Bowden began to fundraise.

This time, she didn't have to look far from her alma mater for help.

Bowden's friend and fellow RU social work classmate Kaitlyn Ayares was a member of Radford's chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha while an undergraduate. Each year, the Greek Life community supports numerous causes. Perhaps they might contribute to Bowden's endeavor, Ayares thought.

"It is such an amazing project," Ayares said. "Heather has helped me see that these things really are attainable.



We really can help others in a big way."

Ayares encouraged Bowden to present her cause to a group of Greek Life leaders. They were so moved by her efforts that they decided to donate in full the \$3,000 Bowden sought.

"Heather and the Pocket Project were such an inspiration to us," said Alpha Sigma Alpha member Alice Wren, former president of RU's Panhellenic Council. "As Greeks, it gave us a sense of pride to support the school because we knew we were helping our community. We were giving beyond ourselves. That's what we are here for — we are here to make a difference."

To Bowden, the movement has come full circle.

"This has been a truly meaningful collaboration of Radford University's social work program, its Greek Life community and The Pocket Project," Bowden said. "We have reached across these different spectrums and ended up with a common interest of giving back. Without their involvement, my involvement doesn't exist."

Bowden graduated this spring and plans to continue her support of the school but doesn't know if she'll return.

"It's time for me to let go and let the community take ownership of their school," she explained.

Reflecting on the people she met and the impact she made, Bowden remains humble.

"I am so grateful to have lived in such a magical forest with welcoming and kind people," Bowden said. "Although the process has been a complicated and challenging one, I hope that the school has been and will continue to be a place of empowerment for the students. While my role in the school is fading, I dream of the children being able to pursue the lives they wish to lead and be able to defend themselves and their village as a result of their education." ■

“That’s what we are here for — we are here to make a difference.”

Alice Wren, member of Alpha, Sigma, Alpha

To learn more about The Pocket Project, visit www.nvproject.org.

Above: Heather Bowden, M.S.W. '16 with Ghanaian schoolchildren.

Below: Members of the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils present a check to be used for Nsumensa Village Primary School.





MARCH FUND MADNESS

A student fundraiser played off the popular college basketball bracket challenge to educate on the importance of philanthropy.

By Mary Hardbarger

Crystal Hubbard (left), assistant director for University Advancement (Campus Philanthropy and Special Programs), collects donations to the March Madness Fund with Cherie Durbin, foundation/institutional scholarship coordinator.

For college basketball fans, the month of March means “madness.” “March Madness,” that is.

Each March, the top men’s and women’s basketball teams vie for the National Championship title.

That competitive spirit spread to Radford University this spring as students participated in the first-ever March Fund Madness philanthropy challenge.

The fundraising effort was created by the Student Organization of Radford Alumni Development (SoRAD) as an opportunity to educate students on ways they could financially contribute to their university.

Crystal Hubbard ‘00, M.B.A. ‘08, assistant director of Annual Giving, said the competition was a creative way to get students involved while also educating them on the importance of philanthropy.

“One of the main drivers of philanthropy is pride, and we know our students have a lot of pride in their university,” Hubbard said. “This sense of competition drummed up that pride and got students excited to give to a great cause that will impact their everyday lives.”

As the top teams battled it out on national television, the university’s six colleges competed against one another in a bracket-style competition. To participate, students had to make a donation to a cause of their choice within their respective college.

“Between faculty support and the great organizations here, I have been able to do all the things I wanted. This was just one fun, small way for me to give back.”

Kenzie Vanderwerker '15

Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate student Kenzie Vanderwerker ‘15 gathered a group of her peers to participate.

“One of the reasons I stayed at Radford for graduate school is because of how much it has given me,” she said. “Between faculty support and the great organizations here, I have been able to do all the things I wanted. This was just one fun, small way for me to give back.”

At the end of every week, colleges either advanced or were eliminated from the bracket until only one victor remained. This year’s winner was the Waldron College of Health and Human Services.

The college’s dean, Kenneth Cox, said the majority of the funds raised during the competition will go toward the college’s general fund.

“By nature, our students are caring and compassionate,” Cox said. “This is what they do. Their success in this campaign reflects on the college’s culture of giving. The students give unselfishly to the University in the same way they do to their communities.” ■

Weddings, Births & More

1940s

Jim and **Vivian Bowman Prillaman '41** celebrated their 70th anniversary on July 6, 2016. They have four children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren and reside in Franklin County.

1970s

Dr. A. Dale King '76 has been named the Region 3 recipient of the 2016 Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) Teaching Excellence Award. Dr. King is a professor of business at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina.

Stephen Cassaday '76, President and CEO of Cassaday & Company, has been recognized by Barron's, one of the world's premier investing publications, as the No. 1 Financial Advisor in the state of Virginia for 2016 on its annual list of America's Top 1,200 Financial Advisors State-by-State. Cassaday founded Cassaday & Company in 1993 as an independent investment advisory and financial planning firm located in McLean, Virginia.

Dr. Mary Ruth Stone M.S. '77, adjunct faculty instructor for Lee University's Division of Adult Learning, is the recipient of that university's 2016 Faculty Award.

1980s

Lisa Lucas Swope '80 recently retired from Radford City Schools, where she taught critical thinking and coordinated the gifted program. She previously taught history at Pulaski County High School.

Don Carlson '81, M.S. '87 was recently inducted into the Greenfield, Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Hall of Fame.

Matt Donlon '82, co-founder and CEO of Uzurv, announced the application has expanded into 30 markets across the country. Uzurv is a Richmond-based startup company with a smartphone app that gives people a way to make reservations for the ride-sharing services Uber and Lyft.

Daniel Thoms '83 has been hired as Chief Revenue Officer of ACES Risk

We want to hear from you!

Let us know what you think of the stories and photos you find in The Magazine of Radford University. The magazine staff welcomes readers' comments, but reserves the right to edit letters or to refuse publication of letters considered libelous or distasteful. Space availability may prevent publication of all letters in the magazine. Send us your letters to the editor at editor@radford.edu.

Management, a provider of financial quality control and compliance software based in Pompano Beach, Florida.

Suzanne M. Rice '84 is the assistant superintendent of student services for Suffolk Public Schools.

Gina Gallagher '85 has been named president of Chantilly, Virginia-based proposal development consulting company AOC Key Solutions. Gallagher is a 20-year federal market veteran, previously serving as vice president of sales and marketing at Systems Made Simple.



Michael Marsden '89 has been named Director of Marketing & Partner with

Federal Contractor Solutions, LLC. Marsden has been with the Fairfax, Virginia company for two years.

1990s

Alan Vierling '90 has been named executive vice president and administrator of Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital, a 328-licensed bed facility located in Houston.

Lynne Geisz '90 has been named by the Virginia Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society as a 2016 candidate for Woman of the Year.

Pamela Feick '90 has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing at Langham Place, New York, Fifth Avenue. In this role, Feick will direct and oversee the hotel's sales, marketing, public relations and social media teams and be responsible for the continued promotion of the hotel.

Scott Prillaman '90 has been named to the Patrick Henry Community College Foundation board of directors. The Patrick Henry Community College Foundation, a not-for-profit organization fiscally and organizationally separate from the college, promotes awareness of PHCC and secures and manages monies contributed to the Foundation.

Gina Foster '91 has joined Dunes Properties as an agent based in the Isle of Palms office.

Jennifer Ebert '92 has been named vice president of design strategy and innovation for aruliden, a New York City-based agency focused on brand creation and product innovation. Ebert previously

To submit a class note, please visit www.radford.edu/alumniupdate or call 1-888-4RU-GRAD. Photographs may be submitted as .jpg files 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.



Cory McCann-Tam '08 and **Danielle Reynolds '10** married August 6, 2016 in Grand Isle, Vermont. Many of their Radford University alumni friends traveled to Vermont for the wedding. "We felt very blessed with the love and support that was shown for us that day. I'm very thankful for attending Radford University and everything the institution has given me. I feel that RU is a very special place for individuals looking to start their lives and careers. There is truly a special connection that students carry with each other throughout the years. This picture is proof of that," said McCann-Tam.

served as director of The Impact Lab at What If Innovation Partners.

Michael Tursi '92 has been appointed interim superintendent for the Shaker Regional School District in Belmont, New Hampshire.

Ben Tickle '93 has been named the new Director of Special Education for Pulaski County Public Schools.

Jason Rigoli '93 has been hired as a partner by Enlightenment Capital, an aerospace, defense and government focused investment firm. Rigoli most recently worked as a principal at LLR Partners, where he led the Washington, D.C. office.



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is on your side

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Alumni Association
welcomes Nationwide
as an affinity partner!**

Greg Franklin '94 was named director of fleet and facilities for Ruppert Landscape. Franklin most recently served as senior distribution center manager for the Kellogg Co. in Hagerstown, Md.

Everett Painter '95 has been chosen as one of ten Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) Leadership Fellows and one of only two CSI interns. Painter is currently a Ph.D. student in Counselor Education at the University of Tennessee.

Kevin Donahue '95 has released a new book, "Concussion Transformation, Overcoming the #1 Silent Secret Killer of Relationships, Careers and Lives." The book is currently free to download.

Timothy S. Jones '97, M.S. '04 has been appointed chief of the Roanoke Police Department. Jones had served as acting chief of the department for four months before his appointment.

2000s

Dominick McKee '00, M.S. '02 has been named by the Roanoke County School Board as the principal of Northside High School. McKee previously served as the assistant principal of Northside High School from 2009-2014.

Nina Kruziak Ulrich '00 has been named Marketing Coordinator with PBMares LLP, located in Newport News, Virginia.



Amanda Cox '01 has been named partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Adam Justice '02 has accepted the position of assistant curator of modern and contemporary art at the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte, N.C. Justice previously served as the curator of the Polk Museum of Art in Lakeland, Florida.

Kimberly Sink '02 has been named principal of Riverlawn Elementary School in Fairlawn. Sink was recognized as Walmart Teacher of the Year during her teaching career in Pulaski County.

Donita C. Brady '03 has been recognized by The Pew Charitable Trusts as one of its 22 Pew Scholars in Biomedical Sciences. Brady currently serves as the Presidential Assistant Professor of Cancer Biology in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Sheila Hommema '04 was recently named Carroll County Teacher of the Year 2016. Hommema is a kindergarten teacher at Oakland Elementary School in Galax, Virginia.

Daniel Millsback '04 serves as an integrated marketing specialist who studies the marketing field for emerging trends and develops effective marketing strategies for a variety of businesses.

Wyatt Taylor '05 was sworn in as a member of the Chesterfield Bar Association's Executive Committee. Wyatt is an attorney at the Friedman Law Firm in Chesterfield.

Shai Cullop '06, M.S. '08 married Meredith Oldham at Rockwood Manor in Dublin, Virginia.

Kara Royall '06 has opened a dance studio, Etudes Ballet School, in Kilmarnock. Her performing credits include that of a soloist role in Bayside Youth ballet's "Paquita," Marzipan in Radford University Ballet Theatre's "The Nutcracker" and Zaneeta Shinn in Court House Players' "The Music Man."

ESPN reporter Marty Smith '98 spoke at the annual Farm Bureau Insurance sales conference at The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center on March 4, 2016. After his speech, he was joined in a picture with all Farm Bureau sales agents, employees and family members who are Radford University graduates.



Pictured from left to right: Lance Reynolds, **Steve Chafin '86**, Trey Humphrey, Jake Shelburne, **Bob Burnette '85**, Marcus Christian M.S. '99, Kevin Wiseman '91, Amy Hopkins Burnette '92, Jeff Feagans '88, Wade Stimpson '96, Jake Mintz, Kevin Morris '88, **Marty Smith '98**, Chris Adams '90, Amanda Harris Compton, John Drewry '87, Robbie Sanders '98, Jon Dean '98, Jason Seward '04, Ron Shelburne '91, Joey Johnson '04, Reid Laughlin '86, Shannon Donnelley, David Ashwell '98, Diana Chappell '80, Randal Perkins '96 and Jason Rexrode '00



Erica Bernstein '08 has been appointed Director of Outreach at the Chlorine Institute. Bernstein will assist in planning and executing the Chlorine Institute's emergency preparedness training activities and will also provide staff support to the institute's Product Stewardship Issue Team.



Ryan Lilly '08 and **Holly Hinte '08** were married on June 25, 2016 in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Gary Skeen '09 was one of eight nominees to win the Virginia Lottery's 2016 Super Teacher Award. Skeen is currently band director at Virginia High School in Bristol.



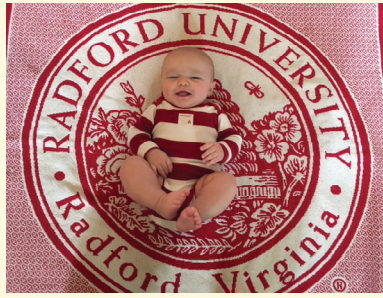
Zachary Hawkins '05 welcomed a daughter, Hollis Ellen, on May 25, 2015.

2010s



Sarah Chapman '10 welcomed a daughter, Rose Lynn, on Jan. 17, 2016.

Terrance Evans '10 has been hired as director of business development for MetroGistics, an industry leader specializing in creating vehicle-shipping solutions for customers of all sizes.



Richard Balas '10 and **Mandy Balas '10** welcomed a son, John Emory, on May 26, 2016.

Megan R. Oley '11 is organ center operations coordinator with the United Network for Organ Sharing, based in Richmond.

Kelsey Rayburn '12 was promoted to District Resident Services Coordinator for Community Housing Partners, a New River Valley based nonprofit organization whose mission is "to create homes and communities that are healthy, sustainable, and affordable."



Cyntra Lewsader '12 and **Ryan Evans '12** were married on August 8, 2015 in White Post, Virginia. The couple resides in the San Francisco Bay area.

Jason Patten '12 is now a senior accountant at Lanigan, Ryan, Malcolm & Doyle, P.C., a Gaithersburg, Maryland-based accounting firm.

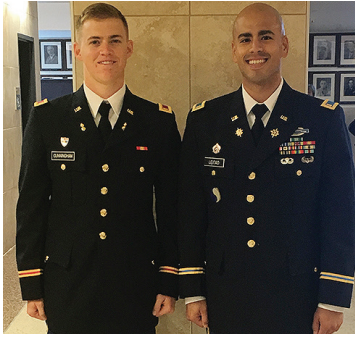


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Cory Leitao '11, right, graduated U.S. Army Officer Candidate School and has been commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Brock Cunningham '15, left, graduated U.S. Army Officer Candidate School and has been commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.



Haley Metcalfe '14 has been named senior account executive at E. Boineau & Company. Metcalfe previously served as an assistant account executive for Charleston, South Carolina public relations firm.

Alexandra Judge '14 works as a marketing professional with the Association of Corporate Travel Executives in Alexandria.

Aila Boyd '15 has joined the staff of The Pilot Mountain News as a reporter. In addition to her work at the Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, newspaper, Boyd will also work with The Stokes News, a sister newspaper.

Katherine Panther '15 and **James Lawrence '13** were married on October 10, 2015.

Beth Keibel '15 has joined RevBuilders, a full service digital marketing agency, as a Digital Account Manager. Keibel most recently served as an intern with the agency.

Obituaries

1930s

Mary Edwards Hundley '36 of Hillsville, Virginia, March 20, 2016.

1940s

Margaret Virginia Smith '43 of Fairlawn, March 17, 2016.

Mary Virginia Morris Stevenson '43 of Roanoke, July 2, 2016.

Doris Elizabeth Hoy Kinzie '45 of Salem, June 1, 2016.

Edna Alley Loftus '47 of Pulaski, April 18, 2016.

Anna Tilson Hayes '47 of Collierville, Tennessee, Sept. 1, 2015.

Louise Mildred Long '47 of Radford, Dec. 9, 2015.

1950s

Martha "Mott" Rider Martin '53, M.S. '75 of Stuart, Virginia, Sept. 24, 2015.

Mary June Wall '53 of Tazewell, August 23, 2016.

Sallie Downard Branscom '57 of Portsmouth, Ohio, August 12, 2016.

Suzanne David '57, M.S. '72 of Radford, June 16, 2016.

Linda Wade Jeffries '58 of Hillsville, June 29, 2016.

Barbara Baines Keever '58 of Midlothian, August 13, 2016.

Virginia "Toots" Rideout Obenshain '58 of Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 10, 2016.

1960s

Ruth Ann Beck '63 of Barhamsville, May 7, 2015.

Betty Owen Hatrick '65 of Leesburg, May 19, 2016.

Doris Esteppe Norris '66 of Roanoke, March 30, 2016.

Sylvia Renick Suiter '66 of Virginia Beach, August 5, 2016.

Dr. Eddie L. Kolb Jr. M.S. '68 of Salem, April 28, 2016.

1970s

Edna Bonham Love M.S. '70 of Pulaski, August 3, 2016.

Deborah Anne Manning '71 of Fresno, California, September 6, 2016.

Ann Faye Pearson '72 of Emporia, September 16, 2016.

Barbara Crites '72, M.S. '73 of Kill Devil Hills, N.C., June 11, 2016.

Ginger Lee Rogers Henney '76 of Centreville, April 23, 2016.

Thomas Graham Baker Jr. '79 of Dublin, April 15, 2016.

1980s

Audrey Clay M.S. '81 of Florence, Kentucky, Dec. 31, 2015.

Don Alan Whitesell '82 of Salem, July 11, 2016.

1990s

Jerry Randolph "Randy" Nicely, Jr. '90 of Staunton, April 19, 2016.

Robert "Rob" Allen Harris '92 of Ft. Collins, Colorado, March 24, 2016.

Scott Nichols Bundy '93 of Bend, Oregon, March 30, 2016.

Mark Allen Overstreet '93 of Roanoke, August 9, 2016.

Christopher Michael Gillespie '98 of Abingdon, July 30, 2016.

2010s

Drew Dietrich '12 of Radford, June 12, 2016.

Faculty/Staff

Ethel Maxine Howell of Radford, Feb. 5, 2016.

Kathryn Susan (Kate) Harshberger '91 of Radford, March 5, 2016.

Dr. Robert "Bob" Michael Hendrickson of Radford, March 11, 2016.

Dr. Gale Lynn Gordon of Radford, May 3, 2016.

James Larry Powers of Radford, May 21, 2016.

Arnold David Duncan of Christiansburg, May 28, 2016.

Suzanne David '57 of Radford, June 16, 2016.

Charlene Lytton Harris of Prices Fork, August 6, 2016.

Non-Degreed

Pearl Hughes Myers Drewry of Roanoke, Feb. 2, 2016.

Gwendolyn Anne Holt of Rustburg, August 19, 2016.

Kathleen Virginia Hill Henderson of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, August 20, 2016.

Students

Wilson Ivan Herrarte of Fairfax, April 23, 2016.

Kevin Lincoln of Lorton, May 7, 2016.

Christopher Alexander Beer of Fredericksburg, May 13, 2016.

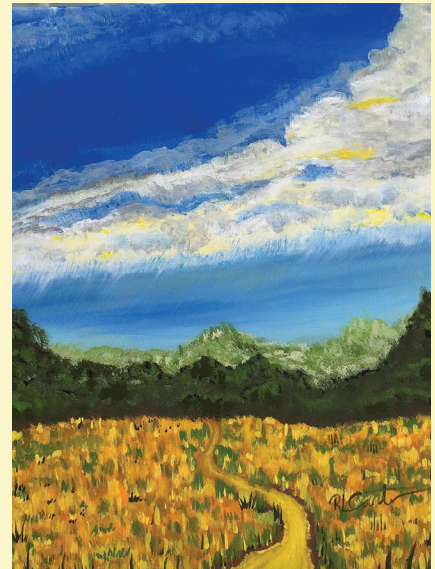
Friend

James David Shrewsbury of Dublin, August 29, 2016.

Alumni Artistry



"Like Mother Like Daughter" by **Debra Hunley '90** won first place in the "People" category in the 20th Annual John Faber Memorial Photography Contest and Show by the Smith Mountain Arts Council in Bedford, Va.



Rachael Carter '11 created her "Morning Glory" series using acrylic, her imagination and creativity.

"Freedom," by **Maria Washington-Cox '74**, is part of an African-American Women-themed series of dress cutouts made from illustrations repurposed from the Washington Post. Maria took up the hobby upon retirement and said she frames the artwork to give to her elders.





"Ethereal Azaleas," a photograph by **Jane Brown Montgomery '61**, won Best of Show at the Okaloosa Public Arts Juried Courthouse Exhibition in 2012. The exhibit was held in conjunction with the opening of a new courthouse building in Okaloosa County, Florida.



Susan Lockwood, M.S. '97 created this photograph of a sunny street in Honfleur, France using professional slide film.

Old English Romance

By **Curtis Wiseley '09**

The gales of alteration refuse to subside
 Like an unrelenting tempest with no decree to abide
 Forgotten, lustful summers no longer direct my stride
 And the phantoms of yesteryear loll dormant and denied

I made her acquaintance on a chilly, autumn day
 An ensnared, restless soul filled with darkness and dismay
 She was a kindred spirit, sweet perfection led astray
 A deceptively delicate beauty that I desired, come what may

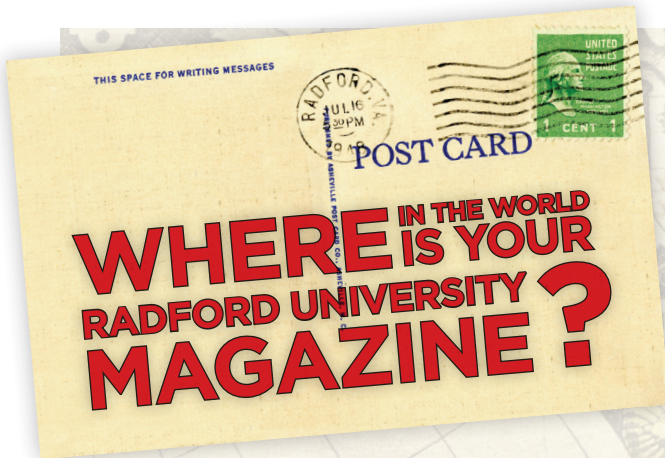
I confessed my adoration on a frigid, winter night
 Aware of the danger and prepared for a fight
 My vanity was boundless while declaring what was right
 Promising forever, as if the future was in sight

When the zephyr grew warm, twilight was for creeping
 Silhouettes bathed in moonlight while all the meek were sleeping
 Comprehending the verity that I had sewn what I was reaping
 Trudging forever onward as I watched the others weeping

Lurid accusations may arise throughout our fable
 Accompanied by malice or a fabricated label
 But we will meet them with pride that is perpetually stable
 For with a sea of fortitude, one can always turn the table

Calling all Creativity!

We invite alumni to send us original creative works! Express your creativity with words, paintbrushes and any other medium that lends to presentation in the magazine. Send submissions to editor@radford.edu or The Magazine of Radford University, P.O. Box 6916, Radford University, Radford, VA, 24142. The magazine staff reserves the right to not publish works considered distasteful. Space availability may prevent publication of all submissions to the magazine.



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 On a train during your commute
 to work? In your car on a family
 vacation? Where do you read The
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Radford University sends more
 than 80,000 magazines to alumni,
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Earlier this year, we asked you to submit
 pictures of you reading your Radford
 University Magazine. If you missed your
 chance, there's still time to impress us
 with your dazzling smile.

If you have submitted a photo and it
 does not appear in this issue, please look
 for it in the next one.

So, pick up your camera, grab your
 magazine, take a selfie, send us a
 picture and share your story at
editor@radford.edu.



Professor of Physics Rhett Herman puts the
 sunlight in Barrow, Alaska to good use.



Florida Rep. MaryLynn Magar '85 has plenty to read, but there's
 always time for the Radford University Magazine!



Jeannie Cole Gracy '80, Jeanne Libera Kidwell '80, Carmen
 Gallion Taylor '80, Grace Byrne McGovern '80, Barbara
 Krizay Barlow '80, Sandra Wilkerson Sloan '80 and Margaret
 Logue Carpenter all arrived at Radford in fall 1976 and lived in
 Tyler, then an all-freshman dorm.



Vincent Flango '92 submitted a picture of Sandhill Cranes outside of his
 office at General Dynamics near downtown Orlando, Florida. He says
 one of the office perks "is the wildlife that walks around and shares
 space with the human worker bees."

**Another Inauguration,
Another Time**

Scene from the 1938 inauguration
of Radford University's second
president, Dr. David Wilbur Peters.



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