

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE
3:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 3, 2020
DAVIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS, ROOM 320

DRAFT
MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Debra K. McMahon, Chair
Mr. David A. Smith, Vice Rector
Ms. Lisa Throckmorton

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes
Ms. Karyn K. Moran
Ms. Samantha Powell, Non-Voting Advisory Member

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Robert Archer, Rector, second half of meeting
Dr. Jay A. Brown
Mr. Mark Lawrence

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, President, first half of meeting
Ms. Ashley Schumaker, Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Operations
Mr. Allen Wilson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Debra K. McMahon, Chair, formally called the Student Success Committee meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in the Davis College of Business and Economics, Room 320.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. McMahon asked for a motion to approve the December 3, 2020 meeting agenda, as published. Ms. Lisa Throckmorton so moved, Mr. David A. Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. McMahon asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting of the Student Success Committee, as published. Mr. Smith so moved, Ms. Throckmorton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Student Government Association

Student Government Association (SGA) President Chris Davis presented updates on SGA initiatives for the 2020-2021 academic year. Mr. Davis stated that the SGA Executive Board took a lead role in reminding students of the importance of the Daily COVID-19 Symptom Tracker. To gain participation, SGA hosted a contest and awarded prizes for daily completion. Mr. Davis shared that he will be serving on an advisory panel with the Radford City Police Chief to build relations between students and police officers.

Mr. Davis reported that SGA passed two resolutions: one supporting Black Lives Matter and one requesting that faculty be required to post mid-term grades for all students not just freshmen. He added that SGA continues collecting plastic bags to recycle for the Bags2Benches program and are working toward a second bench.

Mr. Davis also reported on cabinet and staff led SGA initiatives. A voter registration event was held to register students, with 55 students registering. SGA wrote thank you notes to the hard working Facilities Management, Dining Services and Student Health Services employees. A Wellness Week was hosted and therapeutic events held, such as potting plants, painting mugs and scavenger hunts. Mr. Davis concluded by sharing plans for the spring semester, such as, Unity Fest, School Spirit t-shirt drives and a Take Back the Night event. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment A* and is made a part hereof.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Angie Mitchell and Associate Vice President for Student Life Tricia Smith presented on diversity, equity and inclusion on campus. They shared that this generation of college students has an expectation of equality, cultural competence and diverse environments, and that Radford University students match the national data set. They outlined Fall 2020 programming meeting those needs and advancing learning goals. The programs included a presidential initiative called Courageous Conversations, which created opportunities for conversations about race and diversity working toward building a more inclusive campus community. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment B* and is made a part hereof.

Student Affairs Report

Vice President for Student Affairs Susan Trageser, Ed.D. provided the Division of Student Affairs report. Vice President Trageser shared that Housing and Residential Life continues to implement the Tartan Residential Education Kit (TREK) through intentional conversations, active programs, snack chat topics, social media outreach and bulletin boards in the residence halls. All of these programs give students a way to connect to the Resident Assistants or Directors and each other. Student Success facilitated events and initiatives to celebrate academic accomplishments and provide support at mid-terms.

Vice President Trageser stated that much of the focus in the Center for Diversity and Inclusion this semester has been on ally development and education. Sessions, titled “*Confronting Whiteness as an Ally*,” “*Policing and Race*” and “*Working for Racial Change*,” were held for students, faculty and staff. The Center for Accessibility Services offered tutorial Zoom sessions on accommodation procedures for faculty and students, revised the testing and notetaking procedures and held an outreach campaign to respond to students’ needs this semester.

In conclusion, Dr. Trageser reported on the events hosted by Student Involvement that focused on the social and emotional wellness of students. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment C* and is made a part hereof.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. McMahon adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jenni Tunstall
Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs

Student Government Association 2020-2021 Updates

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Executive Board Updates

- First Day Photos
- Symptom Tracking - Daily Reminder
- Student Finance Committee
- Chief Advisory Panel



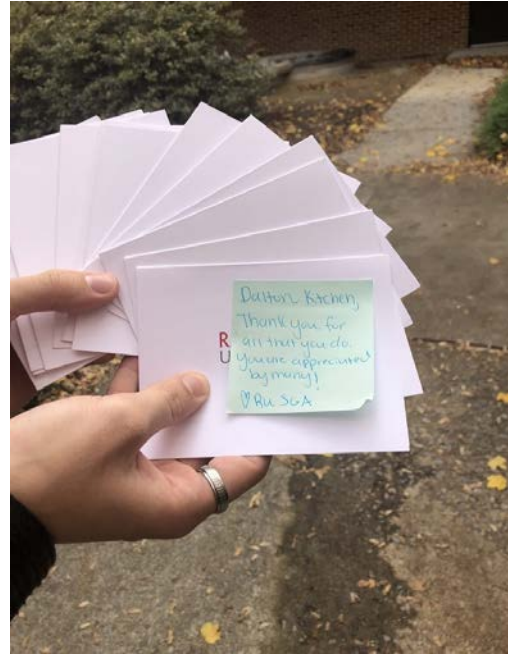
Senate Updates

- Midterm Grades Resolution
- Black Lives Matter Resolution
- Center Accessibility Services
- Constitution Revisions
- Inclusion with RUC



Cabinet and Staff Updates

- Voting Encouragement and Registration
- Support for Essential Workers
- Continued Bags2Benches Program
- Social Media Growth and Outreach
- Fall Fashion Challenge
- Highlander Pride
- Wellness Week



Events and Goals for Spring Semester



- Complete Bags2Benches Program
- Take Back the Night/Fear2Freedom
- Symptom Tracker - Daily Reminder
- Community Service Project
- T-Shirt Drive
- Unity Fest

Questions?

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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A Brief Review



iGen

- Expects equality
- Expects cultural competence
- Desires diverse environments
- Strong support for LGBT people and racial justice movements

Fall 2020 Programming

- Welcome Week and Family Groups
- Social Change Certificate
- Emotional Intelligence
- Ally Conversation Groups
- Leadership Series and Retreats
- Voter Education
- History and Heritage Months
- Demonstrations and Forums
- RUCMA Faith Dialogues
- Small Group Mentorship Circles
- Book Clubs
- Faculty Development Workshops
- Trauma-Informed Practices Sessions
- Student Experience Panels
- Counseling and Wellness
- Residence Hall Discussion Groups
- Myriad Social Media Educational Campaigns
- Presidential Panel
- Courageous Conversations
- Democracy Day

Courageous Conversations

Program Goals

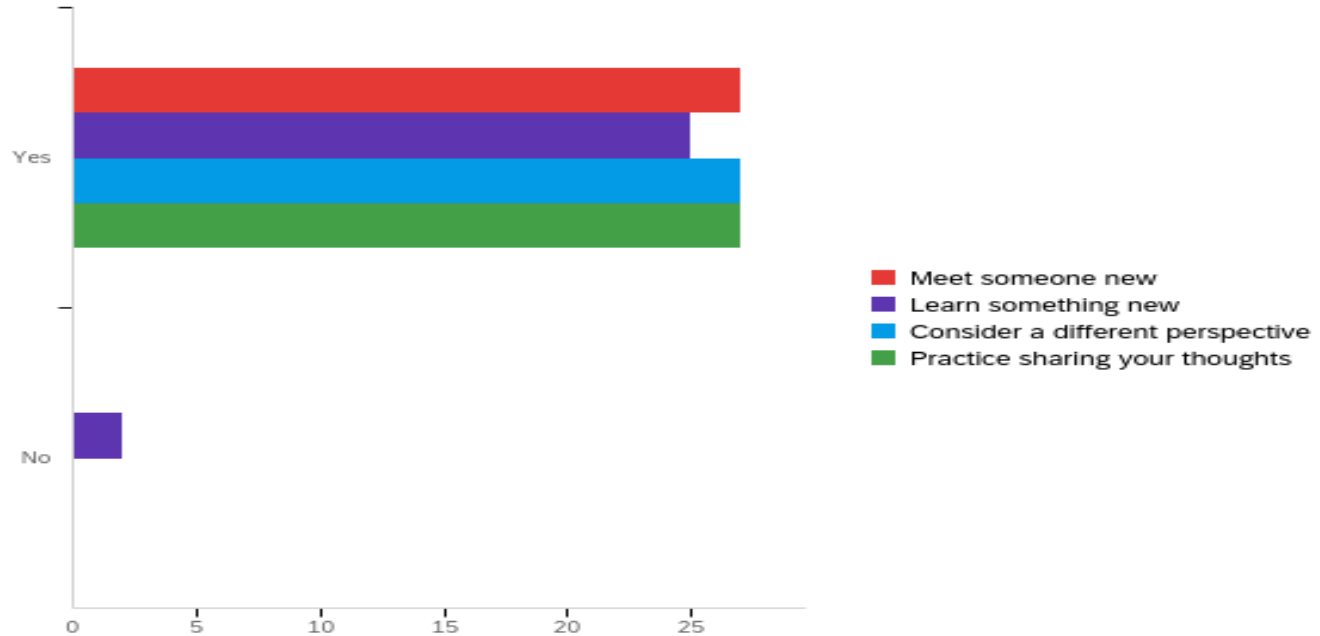
- To create a space for a conversation about race and diversity
- To deepen the level of authentic dialogue about differences
- To continue doing self-work for effective student leadership
- To work toward building an inclusive campus community

Program Format

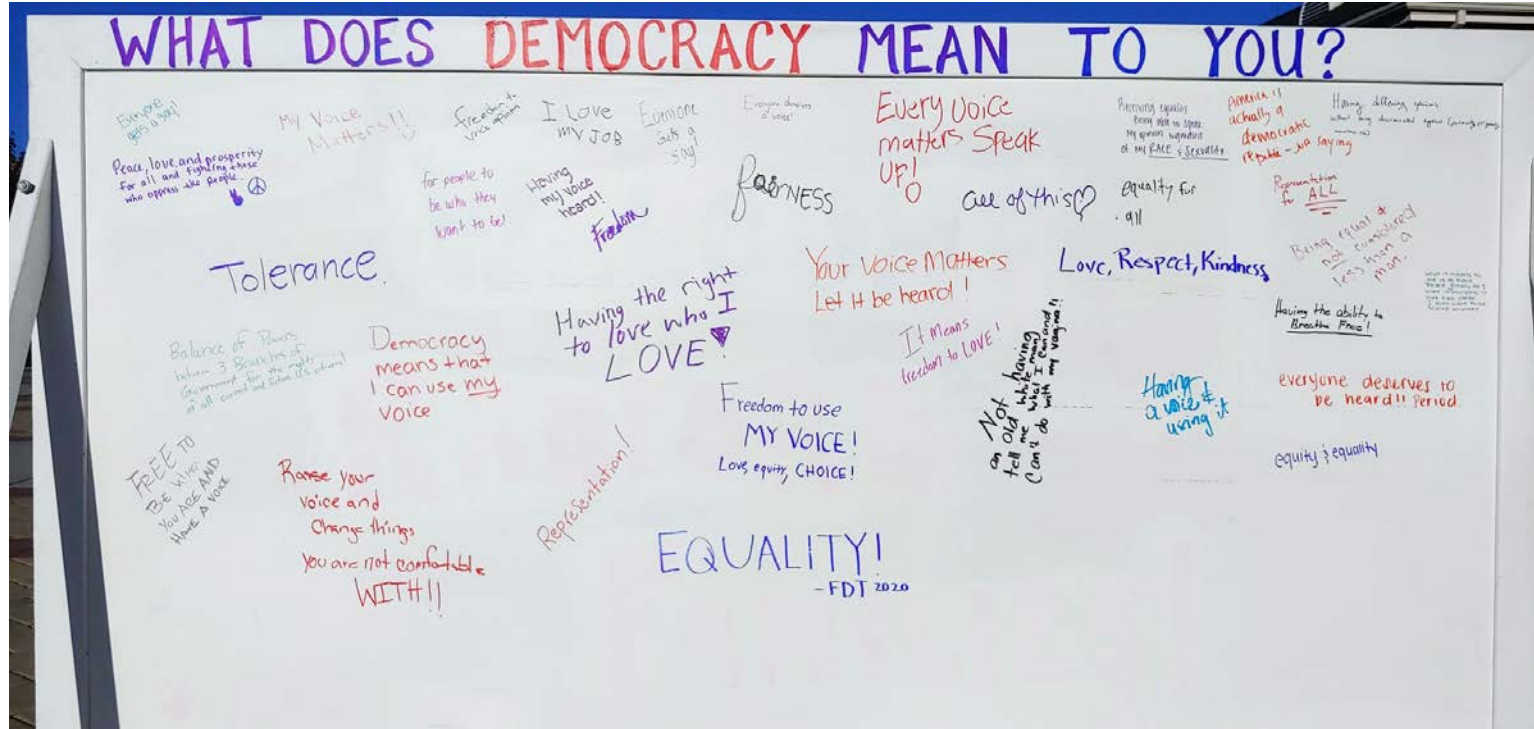
- Seven rooms of eight students and two facilitators
- Interactive dialogue sessions
- Grounded by Presidential charge

Courageous Conversations

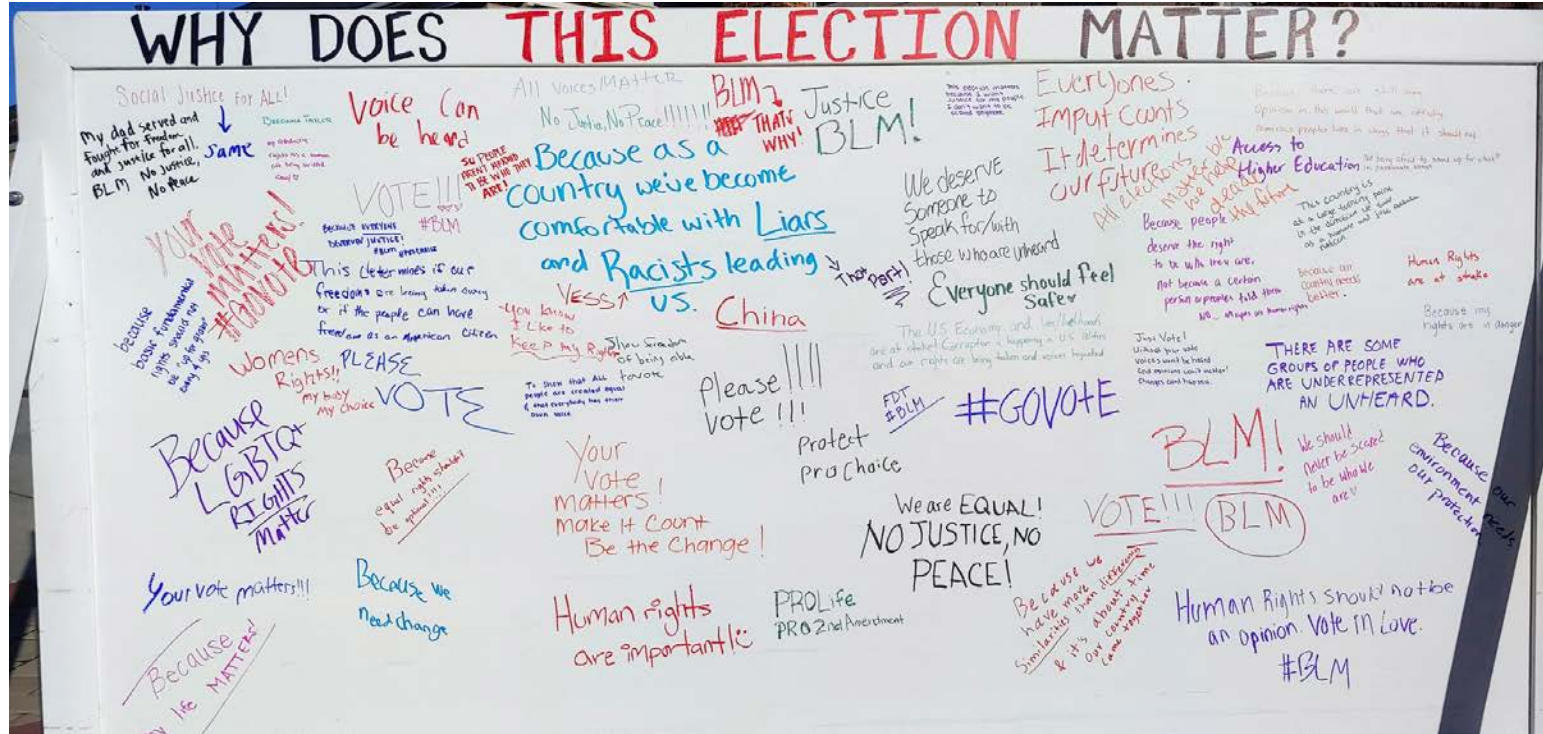
Program Outcomes



Democracy Day



Democracy Day



Discussion

Student Affairs Update

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Housing and Residential Life

Tartan Residential Education Kit (TREK) Events

- Intentional Conversations Topic: Cultural Differences and Identity
- Active Program Topic: Self Care
- Snack Chat Topic: Home Sickness
- Social Media Topics: Identity, Politics
and the Presidential Election
- Bulletin Boards: Healthy Relationships



Student Success: Programs and Interventions

Satisfactory Academic Progress Outreach

- A key fail-point for these students is if they have deviated from their plan.



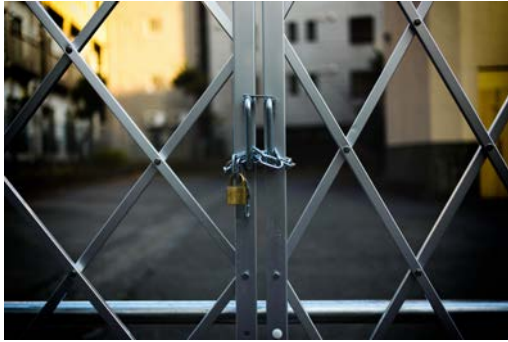
New Highlander High Achievers

MASH 2019-20

- Conditionally admitted program for new freshman pairing them with an upper classman mentor



Student Success



Hold Management

- Targeted and timely communication before registration



Midterm Grade Outreach

- Resource letters to students



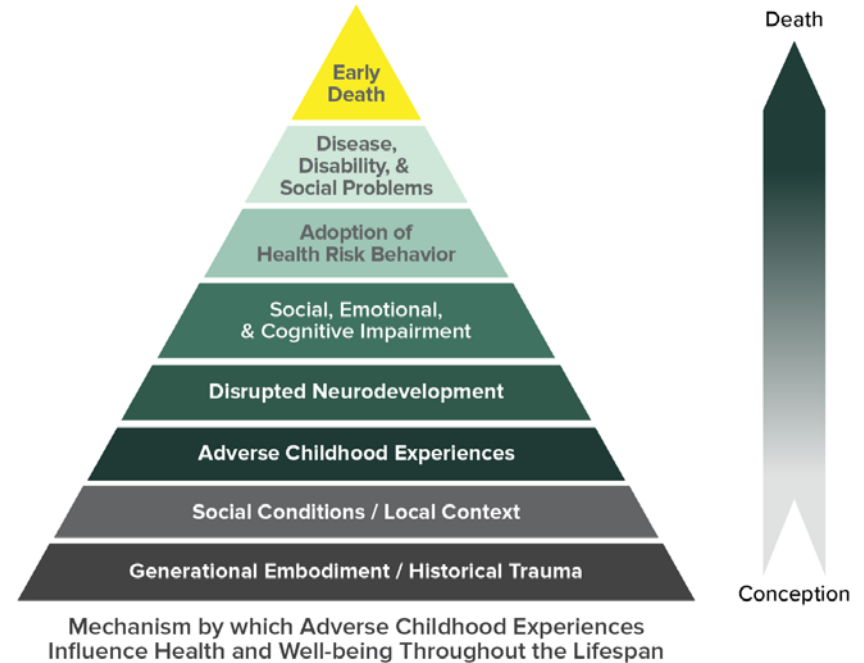
Expanding Starfish Use

- The Academic Success Center in Young Hall is using Starfish consistently to track student meetings, types of meetings and communications.

Substance Abuse and Violence Education Support Services (SAVES)

December 2020

- Radford Collegiate Recovery Community grant continuation for 2020-21
- Trauma Informed Care Initiative - Student Affairs



The Center for Diversity and Inclusion

The Gathering Space and A Space for Student Allyship Development

- Three scaffolding sessions on Racial Justice Ally Development



(Photo taken pre-COVID)

Center for Accessibility Services

Adjusted “day to day” approach with students

- Tutorial and drop-in Zoom sessions offered
- Revised procedures
- Provided disability-related accommodations to 413 students during the fall semester
- Outreach campaign

Engagement and Leadership



- Social Wellness (sense of belonging and connection to others)
- Emotional Wellness (building coping strategies and managing stress)
- Emerging Leaders
- Advisor Meetings
- Community Table Talks

Discussion