

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

**GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 P.M.
DECEMBER 2, 2021
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
MARTIN HALL, SECOND FLOOR, RADFORD, VA**

**DRAFT
MINUTES**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. David A. Smith, Chair
Ms. Nancy Angland Rice, Vice Chair
Dr. Thomas Brewster
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Charlene A. Curtis

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jay Brown, Vice Rector

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Holly Cline, NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative
Mr. Cory Durand, Deputy Athletics Director
Ms. Lisa Greiner, Associate Director of Athletics and Auxiliary Services
Ms. Alix Guynn, Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Support Services
Dr. Angela Joyner, Interim Chief of Staff
Mr. Robert G. Lineburg, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Mr. Chad A. Reed, Vice President for Finance and Administration

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. David Smith, Chair, formally called the Governance, Administration and Athletics Committee meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room in Martin Hall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the December 2, 2021 agenda. Ms. Nancy Angland Rice so moved, Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2021 meeting of the Governance, Administration and Athletics Committee, as published. Ms. Rice so moved, Dr. Thomas Brewster seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

INNOVATION, PARTNERSHIPS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Interim Chief of Staff Angela Joyner, Ph.D. presented an overview of the evolution of career events and opportunities for students, employers and partners. A focus was on companies within 90 miles of Radford University, and included telework, talent acquisition, interviews, workforce development opportunities, site visits and internships. The work began an exploration of a hybrid model to meet the career development needs of students and position requirements for employers. Highlights were also shared from the first career fair at RUC this fall.

Dr. Joyner referenced the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Readiness Competencies and SkillSurvey pilot survey results, including the comparison of Radford students to students nationally. Competencies measured were: career and self-development; communication; critical thinking; equity and inclusion; leadership; professionalism; teamwork; and technology.

Dr. Joyner reported 52% of Radford students scored “proficient” or higher in all eight competencies with technology the lowest at 52% and equity and inclusion the highest at 74%. Additionally, the highest competency scores of “advanced” were in equity and inclusion, teamwork, and career and self-development. The lowest competency scores of “emerging” were in critical thinking and communication.

Dr. Joyner explained the coordination for virtual events, involvement of students, recruiters, career coaches, alumni and subject matter experts. She shared that students have multiple resources including: Handshake; Big Interview; SkillSurvey; virtual fairs; in-person fairs; and career coaches.

Dr. Joyner communicated steps that employers take to be involved, as well as services that are available for students. Committee members expressed their appreciation for Radford University’s intentional efforts in planning, training students and faculty, evaluation and engagement of all.

Addressing the area of economic development, Dr. Joyner stated that ACCESS Radford’s Partnerships function continues to represent the University at local and regional economic and workforce development meetings with a focus on projects and grants that affect Radford University’s near- and long-term interests. In addition, meetings are being held with academic leaders, IMPACT Lab and other campus departments, as well as regional and state leaders from the private, non-profit, university and public sectors exploring perspectives and opportunities that will inform a set of recommendations for the strategic direction and sustainable roles for ACCESS Radford, future partnerships and economic and workforce engagement activities. In closing, Dr. Joyner shared that students are part of our brand, they are ambassadors, and we as a University continue to move forward to collectively do a better job of promoting and positively reflecting excellence. She stated that leading a student on a career path, with competence to go and shine their talents are powerful, transformational educational experiences.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS REPORT

Director of Athletics Robert G. Lineburg began by offering a thank you to Mr. David Smith, RU Athletics alumni, and committee members for their support. He continued by sharing recent highlights and updates in Athletics.

Competitive Excellence

Mr. Lineburg shared that Women's Soccer wrapped up their competition season with an overall record of 13-5-1 while going 6-3-1 in the Big South Conference. Their season came to an end in the semifinals of the Big South Tournament to #1 Campbell. Kayla Thomas was selected as the Big South Defensive Player of the Year. Kayla becomes the first Big South Women's Soccer athlete to ever win the honor three years in a row.

Mr. Lineburg also informed Committee members that Men's Soccer finished the season with an overall record of 5-11 and 3-5 in the Big South Conference. The men's soccer program was led by Yoshiya Okawa, who earned Second-Team All-Conference honors, as well as being named to the All-Freshman Team.

Mr. Lineburg communicated that the fall season was highlighted by Women's Cross Country with the program finishing second overall and Hannah Moran being named the individual champion in the Women's 5K. Hannah is the first individual winner since 1990 for the Highlanders. She was also named First-Team All-Conference. Head Coach Sam Bradley was named Big South Women's Cross-Country Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

Mr. Lineburg also stated the Basketball season is underway and the men's program is currently sitting at 4-4 overall with big home wins against William & Mary and Eastern Kentucky. Head Coach Darris Nichols recorded his first win as a head coach on November 9 against Emory & Henry. Women's Basketball is currently at 3-3 overall.

Javonte Green

Mr. Lineburg shared that November 28 was a day of celebration as Radford basketball legend, Javonte "Woo" Green, had his jersey retired at halftime of the men's basketball game against Eastern Kentucky. A member of the Radford program from 2011-15, Green ranks first in program history for career games played (133) and career steals (243), while also ranking second for career points scored (1,911), career field goals made (701), and career rebounds (1,064). The Petersburg, Virginia native was an All-Big South Conference selection in each of his four years as a Highlander and was named Big South Defensive Player of the Year in 2014-15. After earning a bachelor's degree from Radford University, he went on to play professionally overseas with stops in Spain, Italy, and Germany.

In 2019, Green became the first player in program history to sign a contract with an NBA organization when he signed with the Boston Celtics. During the 2020-21 season, he was traded to the Chicago Bulls, re-signed with them in the summer of 2021, and has already become a fan favorite in the Windy City with his energy, defense and electric slam dunks. So far this season, Green has appeared in 19 games, including eight starts, for the Bulls.

Big South Conference Financial Comparison

At the last Committee meeting, Mr. Lineburg was asked if he could provide a financial and facility analysis comparing Radford University with other Big South Conference teams, including scholarships as well as arenas. He shared information based on 2019-20 Equity in Athletics Data Analysis (EADA) report submissions since the 2020-21 reports are still under review and will not likely be publicly posted until January. Out of the 12 Big South Conference members, Radford is: #2 based on total university enrollment; #4 based on number of student-athletes of schools without football; #4 based on total expense per participant; and #10 based on

scholarship expense per student-athlete. Additionally, based on high level NCAA Financial Report System Data, all schools receive a similar amount of support from the University, whether from student fees or a direct allocation.

Basketball Facility Comparison

Mr. Lineburg also shared the data providing a breakdown of basketball facility rankings within the Big South Conference and between all D1 schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Within the Big South, Radford ranks sixth out of 12 teams in regards to size, seating and amenities. High Point, Campbell, UNC Asheville, Winthrop and Hampton all rank above Radford. Longwood University currently sits at number nine but has already broken ground on a new \$40 million arena, set to open in 2022. In the Commonwealth, Radford ranks 11th out of 12 teams among D1 programs.

Resource Development

Mr. Lineburg communicated that as of November 10, the Athletics Department has secured just under \$300,000 in overall sponsorship revenue. He reported that they have already surpassed the overall revenue from 2020-21 by over \$10,000. Still negotiating another \$23,000 in pending agreements for new partners or existing renewals. As of November 10, the Highlander Club has secured over \$240,000 in new gifts and pledges with just under \$24,000 being unrestricted funds. The total number of donors so far in this giving year is 153.

Carilion Clinic Court at the Dedmon Center

Mr. Lineburg proudly reported that Radford University Athletics and Carilion Clinic announced a new five-year partnership to benefit the student-athlete experience through the 2024-25 academic year. The new collaboration is Carilion's most significant commitment to Radford University Athletics to date. The expanded athletics relationship comes with numerous highlights, beginning with the naming right and logo placement on the Dedmon Center basketball and volleyball court. The playing surface will be known as Carilion Clinic Court.

Highlander Basketball Shield Club

Mr. Lineburg reported the launch of the Highlander Basketball Shield Club, an opportunity for Radford supporters to make a lasting impact on the Radford Men's and Women's Basketball programs. He stated that with a combined 1,523 wins, 13 Big South Conference regular season titles, 13 Big South Conference tournament titles, and seven NCAA Tournament appearances, each Radford basketball program has established a rich tradition of excellence over the decades.

The Shield Club will build upon that legacy by securing gifts and pledges to support both the men's and women's programs. Additional funds will be utilized to enhance shared facilities and supplement existing program resources for nutrition, travel, recruiting and player development.

Through the Shield Club, Radford Athletics will seek recurring annual gifts – pledged over four years – that will assist the two programs in achieving their championship goals. Each Shield Club contributor will have access to unique annual experiences with our men's and women's basketball programs.

Important Dates and Initiatives

- Women's Sports Leadership Luncheon - February 4, 2022

- RAD48 – Athletics Giving Day - February 2022
- Red & White Scholarship Auction - Friday, April 29, 2022 (NEW DATE)
- Highlander 5K - Saturday, April 30, 2022
- Highlander Open Golf Tournament - Summer 2022

Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Support Services Alix Guynn shared an overview of planned events that will connect athletes, alumni, employers and partners, and network opportunities. Athletics will partner with the Radford University Center for Career and Talent Development for career readiness competency development.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith reminded Committee members that following the February meeting, there will be a call for nominations for Rector and Vice Rector. He asked the Committee members to be thinking about the process and possible nominations.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MaDonna Overstreet
Executive Administrative Assistant to the Interim Special Advisor Partnerships and Interim
Chief Innovation Officer