

# RADFORD UNIVERSITY

## RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

10:30 A.M.

MAY 5, 2016

BOARD ROOM

THIRD FLOOR – MARTIN HALL

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

**APPROVED**

### MINUTES

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ms. Mary Waugh Campbell, Chair  
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham, Vice Chair  
Ms. Callie M. Dalton  
Ms. Alethea “A.J.” Robinson  
Ms. Ruby W. Rogers  
Ms. Hannah Gullickson, student representative (non-voting, advisory member)

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Anthony R. Bedell  
Dr. Kevin R. Dye  
Ms. Mary Ann Hovis  
Mr. Mark S. Lawrence

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

President Penelope W. Kyle  
Dr. Mark Shanley, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Dr. Irvin Clark, *Associate Vice President and Dean of Students*  
Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick, *Assistant Provost for Academic Programming*  
Radford University faculty and staff  
Ms. Michele N. Schumacher, *Secretary to the Board of Visitors*  
Mr. Allen T. Wilson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Mary Waugh Campbell, Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 10:41 a.m. in the Board Room, Third Floor – Martin Hall, on the campus of Radford University.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the May 5, 2016 meeting agenda, as published. Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham so moved and Ms. Alethea “A.J.” Robinson seconded and the agenda was unanimously approved.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2016 meeting of the Student Affairs Committee, as published. Ms. Alethea “A.J.” Robinson so moved and Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved. A copy of the approved minutes can be found at <http://www.radford.edu/content/bov/home/meetings/minutes.html>.

## **REPORT FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS**

Ms. Hannah Gullickson, student non-voting advisory representative to the Board of Visitors, provided a report that included her final update on key student activities and events on campus since the February 2016 meeting. A copy of Ms. Gullickson’s report is attached hereto as **Attachment A** and is made a part hereof.

Ms. Campbell thanked Ms. Gullickson for her report.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

### **Student Affairs Division Report**

Dr. Mark Shanley, Vice President for Student Affairs, stated that a detailed report was submitted and can be found in the Board Books, and he highlighted the key points in that report which included an overview of the restructuring of the Housing and Residential Life department, and a review of the new community service initiative for students that will now include an annual array of five events for students to do community service throughout the fall and spring semester. A copy of Dr. Shanley’s report is attached hereto as **Attachment B** and is made a part hereof.

Ms. Campbell thanked Dr. Shanley for his report.

### **Living Learning Community Program**

Dr. Irvin Clark, *Associate Vice President and Dean of Students* and Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick gave a presentation on the status of learning communities collaborative retention effort between the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs divisions. The presentation included the status of the collaborative living learning community initiative jointly implemented with Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. It was noted that two new living learning communities, RU Makers and ECO Communities, were added in the fall 2015. A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as **Attachment C** and is made a part hereof.

The Committee then discussed student retention.

Ms. Campbell thanked Dr. Clark and Dr. Mekolichick for their presentation.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee also received updates on the status of its three committee goals, an increase in Community Service by students, continual monitoring of Campus Safety, and the Student Organization Involvement Center (Club Hub). Ms. Campbell noted that as was reported by Dr. Shanley in 2016-2017 academic year there will be new community service opportunities for students; campus safety was monitored and will continue to be monitored going forward; and with the opening of the new College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences building several student organizations will be moving to new quarters on campus.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Ms. Campbell, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele N. Schumacher  
Secretary to the Board of Visitors

ATTACHMENT A

# Student Affairs Report to the Board of Visitors

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# Important Student Events

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- **Advocacy Day**
- **Highlander Polar Plunge**
- **Days of Service**
- **Radford University Wind Ensemble in Ireland**
- **Relay for Life**
- **Protocol Dinner**
- **25<sup>th</sup> Annual International Banquet**
- **SGA Election Results**
- **Athletics**

# Advocacy Day



# Advocacy Day



# Advocacy Day

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# Highlander Polar Plunge for Special Olympics



# Highlander Polar Plunge for Special Olympics



# Highlander Polar Plunge for Special Olympics

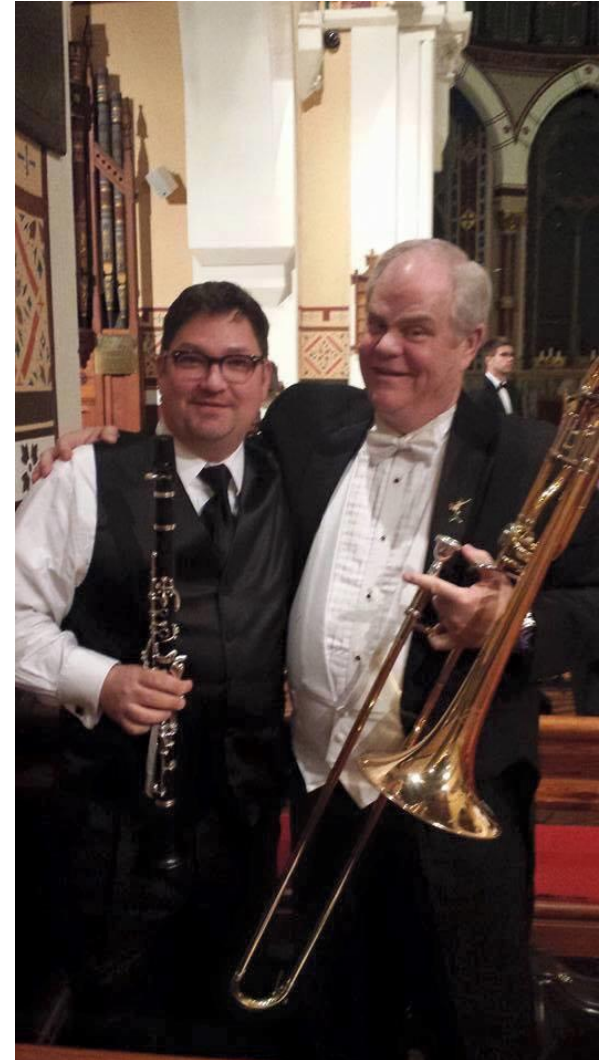


# Days of Service



# Radford University Wind Ensemble Performs in Ireland

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# Radford University Wind Ensemble



# Relay for Life



# Protocol Dinner





# 25<sup>th</sup> Annual International Banquet



# 25th Annual International Banquet



# SGA Election Results

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- President: Jacinda Jones
- Vice President: Julianna Stanley
- Chief Activities Officer: Sofia Rosales
- Chief Financial Officer: Alan Ward
- At-Large Senators: Brock Barnes and Kendall Mallory
- Off-Campus Senator: Danielle Edmonds
- COBE Senator: Kylie Knudsen
- CHBS Senator: Tatayana Marshall
- CSAT Senator: Amanuel Dereb
- CEHD Senator: Jared Haga



# Athletics



# Athletics



# Questions?

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**BOARD OF VISITORS REPORT****Division of Student Affairs****May 5, 2016****Vice President of Student Affairs Highlights****Housing Restructuring**

- Implementation of a comprehensive restructuring of Housing and Residential Life has begun and will occur over a two year period.
  - The first phase includes a change in the leadership structure from a two director approach (Director of Residential Life and Director of Housing Operations) to a single Director of Housing and Residential Life. The first phase will also establish associate director positions: Associate Director of Residential Life, and Associate Director for Assignments and Technology.
  - Final elements of the restructuring will involve consolidating the current 19 Graduate Resident Director positions into 11 fulltime professional Resident Directors (bachelor/master's level), and moving from four (4) fulltime professional Area Directors to two (2).

**Living Learning Communities**

- Radford University has begun to position itself as an exemplar in higher education for its work on Living Learning Communities (LLCs). Current LLCs include Honors Housing, Advanced Research Opportunities (ARO), Biology Connections, and the Community of Artists, and all provided increased opportunities for student leadership and an enhanced development of the residential curriculum for participants.
  - For instance, 20+ residents from ARO and Biology Connections participated in faculty and student led retreats off campus at the RU Selu Conversancy where 90% of the students who attended the retreat indicated that they were *“likely to return to Radford University next year because of the connectedness I felt from the Living Learning Community.”*
  - Biology Connections hosted study sessions, Community of Arts had an Open Stage Night and Biology Connections and Honors Housing held Mindfulness sessions to demonstrate other ways the LLCs enhanced offerings this year.
- Recruiting for two new Living Learning Communities has begun and includes the ECO Connections and RU Makers. In total, the seven Living Learning Communities offered next year can provide an opportunity for up to approximately 250 students to participate in a unique educational opportunity.

**Community Service**

- The Radford Day of Service was held on April 6<sup>th</sup> with over 100 students and staff participating. While the weather displayed cold, wind and snow squalls, the number of agencies benefiting from the volunteerism and the number of volunteers increased from the 2015 fall service day project. A few of the sites included:
  - Boy Scouts of America Claytor Lake Camping Facility
  - Bisset Park - City of Radford
  - “Dark-Side” Street Clean-Up
  - “Light-Side” Street Clean-Up
  - A couple of elderly neighbors self-identified in the area
  - His Provision Food House
  - Boy Scouts of America - Camp Powhatan
  - Radford University campus



- An annual program of community service events is anticipated in the future that will include the following recurring events:
  - Freshman Week Day of Service for new freshmen and transfer students
  - Fall Radford Day of Service to coincide with the Service and Sustainability Week
  - Holiday Canned Food Drive for local food banks
  - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
  - Spring Radford Day of Service

## Dean of Students Report

### Dean of Students Office

- The rebranding of the Dean of Students Office and implementation of the new tagline – *Awareness.Advocacy.Accountability* – continues to be successful. Since July 1, 2015, approximately 400 students have sought support and assistance through the Dean of Students Office advocacy processes.

### Office of Housing and Residential Life

#### Selection/Staffing Updates

- For the upcoming academic year 2016-2017, there will be 92 RA positions. There were 134 new applicants and 45 returning staff applications, affording Residential Life the ability to be highly selective in candidate selection.
- A comprehensive restructuring program has begun and is addressed elsewhere in this report.

#### Housing Selection

- 1,203 returning students submitted applications and deposits for the 2016-2017 room selection process, with 1,051 currently enrolled students completing the process for fall 2016.
  - Rooms in Pocahontas, Bolling, Draper and Washington, our halls most recently renovated, were the first to fill.
- There were 527 applications for 139 apartment, super suites, and deluxe super suite spaces.
  - The majority of the 388 students not securing apartment spaces have chosen to live off campus



- As halls have been renovated and updated, living on campus has become more popular and student interest in more independent living apartment style housing on campus continues to remain high, especially among our growing population of underrepresented students.

### Renovations and Improvements

- Work continues on Draper Hall renovations and the Office of Planning and Construction indicates that the project is on schedule to reopen on time.
- Renovations and furniture replacement will continue over the summer on selected Muse Hall floor lounges.

## **Center for Diversity and Inclusion**

The Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) has had 4,088 individual visitors to the Center since August 2015.

- CDI students and staff are excited about their pending move to Heth Hall over the summer months. This more central location and upgraded space should only serve to increase the number of students served by CDI.

### Cultural Highlights

- Umdabu Dance Company performed Zulu tradition dance for audience members and provided a historical context and interactive dance for students, staff, and faculty and community members.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Month Dinner
- Tunnel of Oppression – Was in interactive event experience that highlighted contemporary issues of oppression. It is a program done on college campuses throughout the nation that introduces participants to the concepts of oppression, privilege and power.

### Campus Initiatives

- Activity Hours – Social opportunity for students to meet twice a month, and showcase organizations. Student groups have also been able to demonstrate talent in having dance performances, student-led work outs and more!
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Reception – Celebrated with the campus diversity and inclusion initiatives across campus. Students, staff and faculty were involved in sharing out the collective campus commitment to creating a more inclusive environment.

### Leadership Development

- President's Breakfast – is the annual preparation meeting that congratulates and supports all newly elected student Presidents and Vice Presidents of groups that are under the CDI umbrella. Students have the opportunity to network across organizations, develop leadership skills and prepare to have a successful 2016-2017 academic year.
- All student groups have elected their executive boards for the 2016-2017 academic year.

### Upcoming Events of Interest

- Asian American and Pacific Islander Month Keynote speaker – Cathy Bao Bean April 12, 2016
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Recognizing Excellence in Diversity Awards (RED Awards), April 21, 2016
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Multicultural Congratulatory Ceremony, May 6, 2016 in the Covington Performing Arts Hall.

## Disability Resource Office

- DRO currently serving 652 students, a 4.1 % increase when compared to April 2015 (626) and a 5.5% increase when compared to April 2014.
- Kelly Woodward, from VA Tech, joined the Disability Resource Office (DRO) in March as the Coordinator of Accessible Materials and Adaptive Technology and Disability Services Specialist.
- Emily Stringer, a volunteer for Radford University’s Eye to Eye Chapter, joined the ranks of Diplomat for the National Eye to Eye organization.



[https://youtu.be/\\_PJZePDYtYc](https://youtu.be/_PJZePDYtYc)

- DRO hosted webinars by legal expert and Disability Management Consultant Salome Hayward open to appropriate campus constituencies:
  - The Unique Landscape for Medical and Allied Health Programs
  - Designing Effective Emerging Technology Procedures
- Disability Awareness Week, March 21-24, 2016  
Over 45 visitors interacted with awareness tables/events each day in the Bonnie. Theme of the week was “The Elephant in the Room” to encourage members of the Radford community to address thoughts and feelings regarding disabilities. The “Elephant in the Room” was a popular feature. The pink Elephant, **Jerome Thomas**, engaged passers-by and got them involved at the information tables or with other awareness events taking place.

Monday, March 21, 2016.

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Center from Roanoke,

Virginia. Presenters: Betti Thompson & Drema Bagley.



Tuesday, March 22, 2016  
Garrett Brumfield, Radford Alum and Delta Chi brother, “OvercomeYours” Movement with students. (Picture community supporter, Billie attended **all** DAW events).

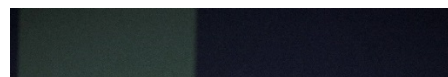


University created the and engaged includes Huskey who

Wednesday, March 23, 2016  
DRO hosted Justin Graves,

HESONWHEELS.COM. Justin involved 20 participants in an “Elephant in the Room” discussion during a brown bag lunch session. That evening, formally presented on *Using Inclusion to Foster Campus Community*. The presentation was well attended.

founder of



Thursday, March 24, 2016

DRO co-hosted Diversity Dialogue: *Dispelling Myths, Raising Awareness, and Building Bridges*. Three male veteran panelists, all living with disabilities, (pictured above in civilian clothing with Director, Angela DeVore-Greene) shared personal experiences. The veteran panelists also shared thoughts around the impact(s) of leaving the military and assimilating back into the community. Amanda Wilmoth, MSW Intern, acted as Moderator.

- DRO staff attended the AHEAD Virginia (Association on Higher Education and Disability) Spring Conference in Richmond, VA which covered Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Student Veterans living with disabilities, Foreign Language accommodations/substitutions, Role of Academic Coaches and updates from the Office of Civil Rights (OCR).

- April is Autism Awareness month and the DRO is encouraging those on campus and in the community to “Put on the Puzzle!” Students, faculty and staff can show their support for people living with autism by getting and/or wearing an autism awareness puzzle piece. DRO is offering free puzzle piece pins, charms and awareness information for the month.

## Office of Student Standards and Conduct

- Compared to similar dates last year, there has been a 5% drop in student charged with a violation. During that same period of time, there was a 33% drop in suspensions and a 100% increase in deferred suspensions.
- The Office of Student Standards and Conduct has continued to develop the educational sanctions they offer to ensure better educational outcomes for the students that are served. OSSC has partnered with the Library to create a more effective plagiarism sanction, as well as redesigned their Decision Making Seminar to improve student outcomes.

## Student Support Services

- Students had the opportunity to complete their Individual Service Plans throughout the semester, identifying their goals for the semester and any referrals needed.
- Workshops conducted on the following topics; Goal Setting and developing a vision board, Graduate School Application process and FAFSA and Financial Literacy.
- The annual banquet to celebrate 32 graduating students and an additional 100 students in the program will be held on April 18, 2016.
- Staff are working towards identifying student’s individual needs and facilitating connections to resources on and off campus to provide continued support as the end of the academic year approaches
- The SSS program will be closing due to loss of continued federal grant funding.

## Substance Abuse and Violence Education Support services

Substance Abuse and Violence Education Support services (SAVES) continue to support campus awareness of sexual violence issues in collaboration with the Peer Health Educators, the Women’s Resource Center of the New River Valley, and the Consent Campaign. Other activities included:

- Attended Virginia Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum
- Trained 3 new Step Up Bystander Intervention program presenters
- LiveWell social norming campaign information has been distributed via 20 Tartan ads, 23 online ads, 23 TV ads, 3 Tartan stand ads, and 400 posters
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April) is offering an array of programs and utilizing nationally known campaigns such as the Teal Ribbon Campaign, Start By Believing, and The Clothesline Project

## Student Government Association

The Student Government Association held elections this spring with 1,145 students voting in total. The table below contains the new Executive Board members and current academic profile.

Position	Name	Year	Major
President	Jacinda Jones	Junior	Media Studies
Vice President	Julianna Stanley	Freshman	Communication
Chief Activities Officer	Sofia Rosales	Freshman	Political Science
Chief Financial Officer	Alan Ward	Senior	Economics

Chief of Staff	Nick Thayer	Senior	Social Work
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The table below contains information on the election results.

Position	Contested/Uncontested	Total Votes	% Won By
President	Contested	1,008	78.77%
Vice President	Contested	1,045	66.89%
Chief Activities Officer	Uncontested	931	100%
Chief Financial Officer	Uncontested	897	100%
Chief of Staff	Appointed		

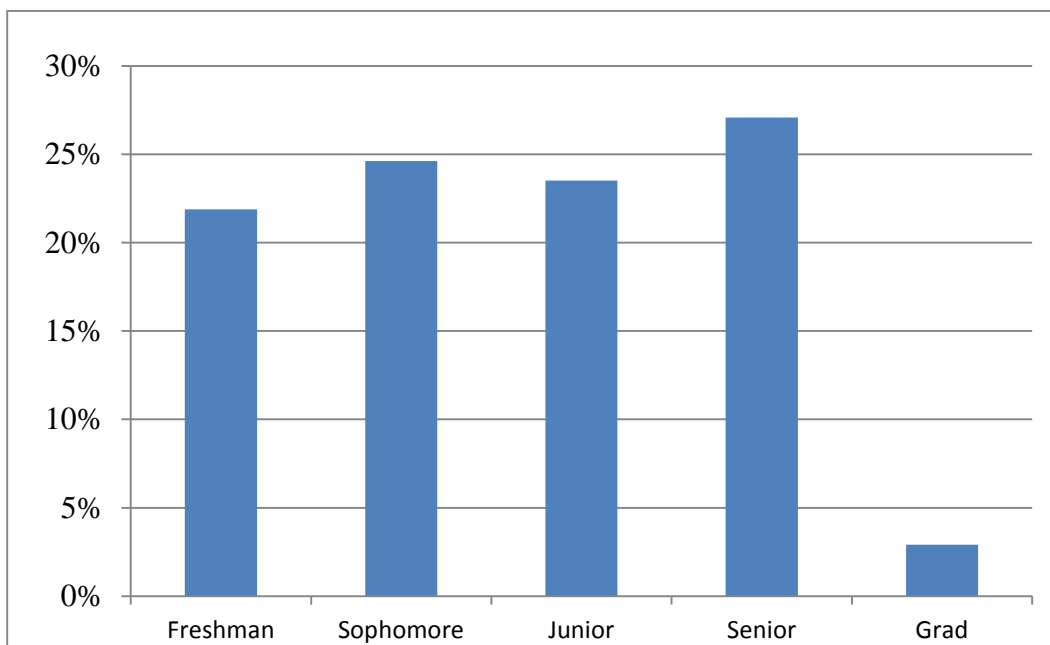
## DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT LIFE

### Student Recreation and Wellness

#### Facility Operations

- The Recreation Center has hosted over 205 events from January 19th - March 30, 2016 and another 82 scheduled in April.
  - Total Volume for the SRWC (January 18-March 30) = 75,804
  - Gender Breakdown: 48% Female, 52% Male

**SRWC Participation Data January 19-March 30, 2016**



- The Outdoor Recreation Center has hosted over 130 practices, games, and events despite the challenging weather and is looking forward to a very busy April with 58 events currently scheduled.
- Christiansburg Aquatic Center is averaging ~30 participants/week along with the Club Swimming members using it Monday-Thursday nights.

## Wellness/Fitness Program

- Group X offering 58 classes per week in 11 formats (Yoga, BodyPump, Zumba, etc.)
- Classes served 5,244 participants as of March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- New class BODYPUMP has been very popular!
- Personal Training Services ready to launch.
- Weekly "Thirsty Thursday" in the SRWC - free water for students with health information regarding hydration and nutrition
  - Average 24 students reached/week
- Weekly "Wellness Wednesdays" - SRWC 6-8pm; over 250 students
  - Topics included: Sexual Health/Healthy Relationships, Winter Blues/Stress Management, Positive Body Image, Eating Disorder Awareness, Safe Spring Break (alcohol awareness, Zika information, sun safety and skincare), Marijuana use, and Nutrition
- The Peer Health Educators (PHEs) became an Advocates for Youth "Safe Site"
- PHEs and Coordinator facilitated 9 programs to residence halls, UNIV 100, and Greek Life on tattoo safety, women's health, sexual health, sexual assault/consent, sleep health, and stress management.
- PHEs hosted 5 "Awareness Tables" in the Bonnie on sexual health, healthy relationships, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, and Spring Break Safety.
- Upcoming events: Sexual Assault Awareness tables, attendance at the NASPA BACCHUS Region 3 conference, and Wellness Wednesday topics on drug use, ear health, and HIV/AIDS.

## Intramural Program

- Spring Sports to date have served 1,647 participants in 7 Leagues and 16 Tournaments.
- Female participation accounts for 34.30% of the IM participants.
- Bubble Soccer, Sand Volleyball, 3vs3 Outdoor Basketball, and Pickleball are new offerings this semester
- A full-time Intramural Coordinator was added to the professional staff this semester and assisting with robust schedule below.

### Spring 2016 Intramural Offerings

Spring Events	Registration Begins	Registration Closes	Season/Tournament Begins	Playoffs Begin
<b>Preseason Basketball Tournament</b>	January 19	January 26	January 30	
<b>Basketball League</b>	January 19	January 26	February 1	February 29
<b>Indoor Soccer League</b> (Mon/Wed)	January 19	January 26	February 1	February 29
<b>Dodgeball League</b> (Tues/Thurs)	January 19	January 26	February 1	February 22
<b>Kickball Tournament</b>	January 25	February 9	February 13	
<b>Tennis Tournament</b>	January 25	February 9	February 13	
<b>8 Ball Tournament</b>	February 8	February 23	February 27	
<b>Team Handball Tournament</b>	February 8	February 23	February 27	
<b>Weightlifting Competition</b>	February 8	March 1	March 1	

<b>Bubble Soccer Tournament</b>	February 22	March 15	March 19	
<b>Soccer League (Tues/Thurs)</b>	February 22	March 15	March 22	April 18
<b>Volleyball League</b>	February 22	March 15	March 21	April 18
<b>Flag Football League (Mon/Wed)</b>	February 22	March 15	March 21	April 18
<b>Co-Ed Softball League</b>	February 22	March 15	March 21	April 11
<b>Spikeball Tournament</b>	February 29	March 22	March 26	
<b>Ultimate Frisbee Tournament</b>	February 29	March 22	March 26	
<b>Outdoor 3 vs 3 Soccer Tournament</b>	March 14	March 29	April 2	
<b>3 vs 3 Outdoor Basketball Tournament</b>	March 14	March 29	April 2	
<b>Pickleball Tournament (Doubles)</b>	March 14	April 5	April 9	
<b>Ping Pong Tournament</b>	March 14	April 5	April 9	
<b>Sundae Funday 5K</b>	April 10	April 10	April 10	
<b>3 vs 3 Sand Volleyball Tournament</b>	March 28	April 19	April 23	
<b>Corn Hole Tournament (2vs2)</b>	March 28	April 19	April 23	

## Club Sport Program

- There are 20 active Sports Clubs with 561 officially “rostered” participants.
- The sport clubs continue with various community service events (4H clean ups & Color Run).
- New turf complex is regularly scheduled for home games each weekend for remaining semester.
- Zach Pettit – Men’s Hockey – selected to regional All-Star team

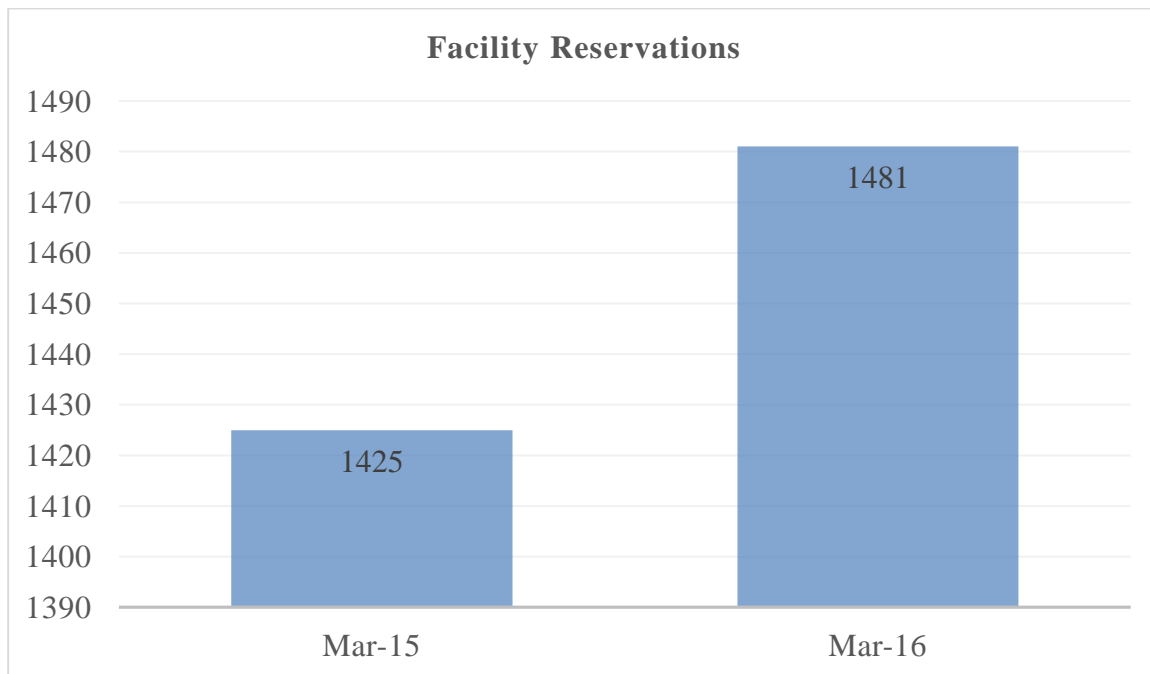
## RU Outdoors

- RU Outdoors 2nd May in the Rockies trip (a 14 day mountaineering and climbing trip to Central Colorado) is sold out.
- All 5 ski trips sold out first two weeks of the semester
- Several new programs were piloted this semester including: midweek caving trips, sunrise day hikes, rock climbing, backpacking, and mountain biking clinics, sunrise yoga hikes, and women’s only trips.
- Community Involvement: Student staff volunteers work with the “Poverty Creek” trail maintenance crew to improve the mountain bike and hiking trails in the Pandapas Pond area as well as the City of Radford’s “Adopt a Spot”.
- Professional staff members attending the American Canoe Association Swift Water Rescue Instructor Training. This training will give Radford University yet another opportunity to host internationally recognized certification programs at the school.
- The spring semester schedule has 51 trip offerings; a 91% increase in trip offerings from last spring semester.

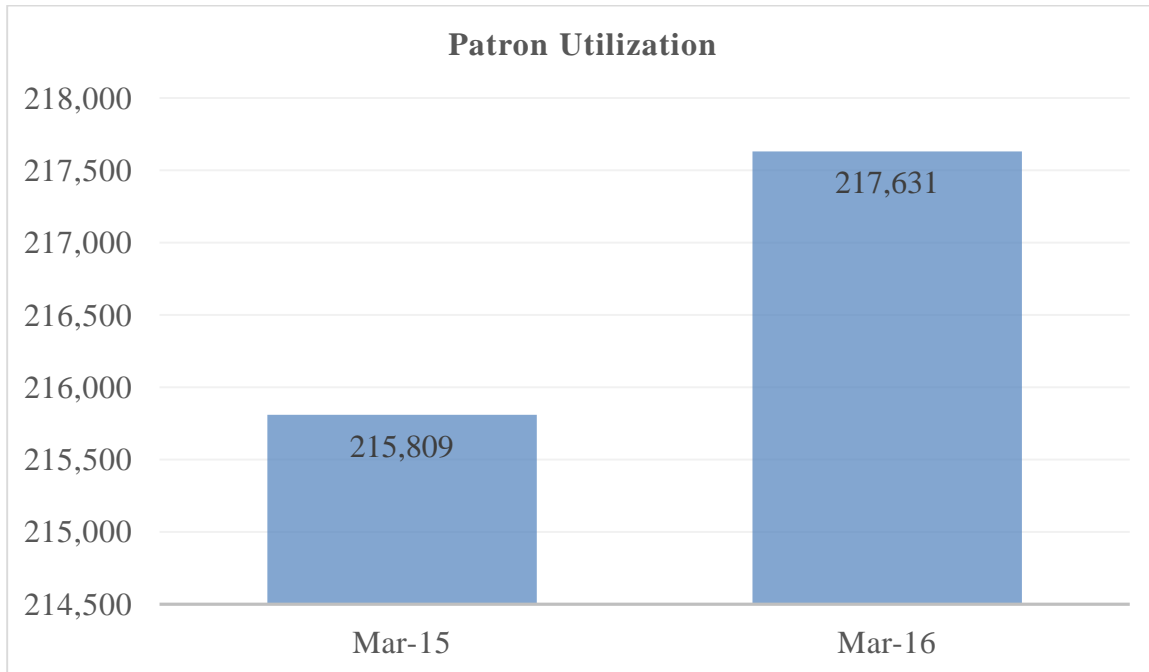
## Student Activities

### Facilities and Operations (Hurlburt, Heth, Bondurant, Non-Academic Space)

- The operations staff supported eight students academically in the following capacities:
  - Three internships – College of Human and Behavioral Sciences/Communication
  - Four students doing field experience – College of Education and Human Development/Parks, Recreation and Tourism
  - One student shadowing professional staff – College of Visual and Performing Arts/Music Business
- Approximately 40 students attended the Department of Student Activities job fair on March 16<sup>th</sup>
- The following trainings/activities were offered to our student employees during spring 2016. These trainings/activities are in addition to their regular job duties and are tools used in an effort to increase the student’s employability and success upon graduation.
  - Identity Theft Prevention
  - Protocol Dinner
  - Angela Davis (MLK speaker)
  - Career Services Mock Interviews
  - Ignite Leadership Conference
  - Volunteer opportunities (i.e. serving on the board of our Student Activities Student Employment Association)
- The Department of Student Activities facilities usage increased both in the number of space reservations and patron utilization; during the same time period as last year.







### **R-SPaCE (Radford Student Programming and Campus Events)**

- Sponsored 135 movie showings with 1,121 students, faculty/staff and community in attendance.
- Sponsored 22 events with over 5,550 students, faculty, and staff in attendance.
- Co-sponsored 6 events from November 2015-April 2016:

- MLK commemorative speaker: Angela Davis (Center for Diversity and Inclusion)
- Cultural Movie Series: Black or White (Center for Diversity and Inclusion)
- Square Dance (Appalachian Events Committee)
- Cultural Movie Series: Coming to America (Center for Diversity and Inclusion)
- Nation Cuisine Station (Sigma Sigma Sigma)
- Speaking of Sex (VP of Student Affairs, Student Life Office, Student Government Association, Greek Life)

### **Lead Scholar Program**

- 3 graduating seniors
  - Aisha Foy - Exercise Sports and Health Education: Sports Administration concentration
  - Jessica Hale - Elementary Education
  - Lizzie Harrison - Public Relations
- 37 new students and 70 total students are enrolled in the program

### **LEAD 110: Emerging Leadership Class**

- While this three credit hour course is a requirement for those students enrolled in the LEAD Scholar Program, many students have found the LEAD 110 course to be an excellent elective. A total of 97 students enrolled in the four classes offered in both semesters
- As a continuing partnership with academics, LEAD 110 has been identified as the prerequisite class for the new leadership minor supported through the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences
- LEAD 110 continues to be recognized as a SCI course through Academic Affairs and is one avenue for students to pursue to be recognized as a SCI scholar citizen



### **Ignite Student Leadership Conference**

- 110 students registered to attend the conference
- Dr. John Igwebuike, the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs at Alcorn State University, was the keynote speaker
- There were four workshop blocks, each with two workshops for students to choose from for a total of eight workshops, including the following titles presented in part by Radford University staff:
  - Ethical Leadership
  - Time Management

- The Miracle of Motivation
- Leading a Team!
- A panel discussion on “Living Lives of Commitment in a Complex World” was held at the end of the conference and was moderated by Dr. Mark Shanley
- Student feedback about the conference was overwhelmingly positive. We received surveys from over 95% of the participants, with almost everyone being very satisfied and about 5% participants satisfied

## **Student Recognition Award Ceremony**

- Outstanding Student Awards
  - Received 198 nominations and 64 applications
  - Award Recipients:
    - Outstanding Freshmen
      - Jonathan Charnock
      - Madeline Murchie-Beyma
    - Outstanding Sophomores
      - Devin Jones
      - Benjamin Marshall
    - Outstanding Juniors
      - Joya Garris
      - Chloe Hughes
    - Outstanding Seniors
      - Helen Currant
      - Hannah Gullickson
    - Outstanding Graduate Students
      - Holly Thomas
      - Chris Wilson
  - Advisory Excellence
    - Kemberly Campbell- Radford University Student Nursing Association
  - Community Service Award
    - Selu Garden and Service Club - Community Garden
  - Outstanding Student Organization Award
    - National Student Speech Language Hearing Association
  - Program Excellence
    - Global Love Program- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
  - Unsung Hero
    - Aubrey Hicks- Alpha Sigma Alpha
- Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities Award
  - 160 nominations
  - 33 applications

## **Student Involvement**

- The Committee on Clubs and Organizations (COCO)
  - The committee has approved 18 new and 8 reactivated student organizations so far this academic year, bringing the total number of registered student organizations to a record-high 277
  - New Organizations:
    - Global Health Education
    - Triathlon Club

- Wandering at Radford University
- COBE Ambassadors
- Graduate Art Student Association
- Phi Alpha (Social Work honorary)
- LEAD Scholar Student Organization
- Highlander Cheer Club
- Phi Beta Lambda
- Athletic Training Student Association
- IWAGE –Independent Women Achieving Goals in Education
- FitWell Club
- College Mentors for Kids
- Highlander Lutherans
- Highlander Step Team
- ALLY-nment
- Students for Humanity
- Radford Climbing Club
- Reactivated organizations:
  - Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists
  - Photography Club
  - Tae Kwon Do Club (formerly Self Defense Club)
  - Selu Garden and Service Club
  - Women’s Ultimate
  - Wrestling Club
  - Young Democrats
  - Pre-Med Association
- Club Fair
  - Due to inclement weather, Winter Club Fair was cancelled. There were no spaces available large enough to accommodate rescheduling the event for another day within an appropriate time period.
  - Fall Club Fair will be held on September 2nd. Due to upcoming renovations of Whitt Hall, this year’s Club Fair will be moved from Heth Lawn to Moffett Lawn. Reservations have been open for just three days and 61 student organizations have already signed up.
- Radford After Dark (RAD)
  - The alternative programming series provided funding for student organizations to host 20 late night weekend events this year, including multicultural celebrations, dances, concerts, games nights, and more:
    - RU Ready Bash – Student Activities and R-SPaCE
    - Bonnie Birthday Bash – Student Activities Student Employee Association
    - RU Up All Night – Student Recreation & Wellness
    - Faith and Investing in Lifelong Learning – Cru
    - Sixth Annual Zombie Prom – Highlander Student Media
    - International Student Affairs Council and Latino Student Alliance – Dia de los Muertos Celebration
    - All Black Wear Affair - PRETII Women and Men of Standards
    - Mighty Joshua and the Zion 5 in concert – SM@C (Social Media at COBE)
    - Winter Art Show – AIGA and Kappa Pi Art Fraternity
    - Asian Pop Showcase – Asian Pop Culture Club
    - Beats and Sweets, Holiday Edition – Chi Alpha

- Girls Night In – Alpha Sigma Tau
  - Purim Masquerade Ball – Hillel
  - International Guitar Festival – Southwest Virginia Classical Guitar Society and Mu Phi Epsilon
  - Upright Citizens Brigade – Yes & Improv Club
  - Spring Communications Carnival – Lambda Pi Eta
  - Relay for Life Carnival – Relay for Life Planning Organization
  - Lifelong Perspectives – Cru
  - Gospel Explosion featuring Drew Chambers, Fresh Anointing, and Cameron Hughes – Deliverance Gospel Choir
  - Laser Tag and Archery Tag – Student Activities Student Employee Association
- Club Programming Committee (CPC)
    - As of April 4<sup>th</sup>, the committee has approved 106 requests and awarded \$94,000 in funding this year:
    - 56 applications for guest speakers/artists and other on-campus events
    - 50 applications for students to travel to conferences and other out of town functions
  - SOAR
    - The Office of Student Organization Assistance & Resources has seen a significant increase in traffic since moving to its new location on the first floor of the Bonnie. Last year, the office was visited 2,089 times; this year to date, the office has been visited 2,967 times – an increase of more than 42%.
  - RUInvolved
    - The newly upgraded online student organization platform is now tracking students' attendance at events, especially programs funded by the Club Programming Committee and Radford After Dark.
    - Since August 2015, 3,415 unique individuals have been tagged as having attended the 199 events at which attendance was tracked.
    - A total of 8,135 involvement entries have been added to the individual online Student Involvement Record for each of these students.
    - Overall the site has seen a 20% increase in the number of log-ins into the system compared to last spring.

## **Student Media**

- Highlander Student Media is investigating the possibility of adding a sound recording and production division
- Beehive just unveiled a new website and will release the Spring Edition on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at their premier, Radio Free Radford will be broadcasting live
- Exit 109 will premiere the 2016 edition of the magazine on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Radio Free Radford will be broadcasting live
- Radio Free Radford just changed broadcasting systems, which has resulted in a more efficient and better-sounding broadcast. RFR is also working with local businesses to broadcast in their establishments during the day
- ROC-TV (Radford on Camera) has produced 64 videos so far for this academic year
- As part of another connection with academic affairs, ROC-TV, participated in the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning Film Challenge
- The Tartan will participate in the School of Communications' "COMS Week"

- Tartan just produced a full-color issue with very positive feedback
- Whim's Editor-in-Chief, Becca Lynch, just interviewed Kiera Cass for an article in the Beehive. Kiera Cass is an alumna of Radford University. She is the author of "The Selection" series, a New York Times Bestseller.

## **Greek Life**

- Interfraternity Council
  - This spring, the fraternities (12 organizations) invited 113 men to join their ranks with 76 accepting bids
  - At the end of the 2015 fall, the IFC GPA was above the All Men's GPA for the third consecutive semester in a row
- Panhellenic Council
  - Total is currently set at 80 and will be reviewed and revised after next fall's recruitment process. Currently the smallest chapter is at 79 members and the largest is at 89 for this semester
- National Pan-Hellenic Council
  - Work continues with the NPHC officers to improve their leadership skills and council operations. The council has adjusted the timeline for their officer elections so that they will have an entire month (April) to transition and train the newly elected officers
- Additional Updates
  - This spring acknowledged the celebration of the 40th anniversary of Phi Sigma Kappa and the 10th anniversary of the recolonization of Pi Kappa Phi
  - The search process for the new Coordinator for Greek Life Programs continues with the anticipation of hiring to be completed by May and will be on hand for the summer orientation programs. The coordinator will be a welcome addition to the Greek Life Office team.
  - Approximately 50 students participated in the IMPACT Retreat. IMPACT helps students to recognize the potential opportunities for them to make positive change within their Greek Community.
  - The Greek leadership class enrolled ten Greeks during the 2016 spring semester and, in collaboration with academics, it is recognized as a class fulfillment for the LEAD Scholar Program and leadership minor
  - RU's Greek Community is wrapping up the year with our annual Greek Week taking place from April 3<sup>rd</sup>- April 10<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Greek Awards Celebration scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>

ATTACHMENT C

# Learning Communities Collaborative Retention Effort

Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick, Assistant Provost for Academic Programs  
Dr. Irvin Clark, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

**RADFORD**  
UNIVERSITY

# Ruffalo Noel-Levitz: Retention Strategic Plan

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Goal and Strategy VI - Learning Communities: Expand, create residential learning communities, train residential directors, connect some learning communities to autobiographical writing class, tailor learning community to selected cohorts



# Learning Community Development

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Fall 2014 joint Academic Affairs and Student Affairs team convened

Student Affairs created and received approval for a new position specifically for learning communities

February 2015 concept papers were solicited from faculty

Seven multidisciplinary proposals from faculty teams on a variety of areas were received.

A collaborative Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Business Affairs team reviewed and ranked proposals on four criteria

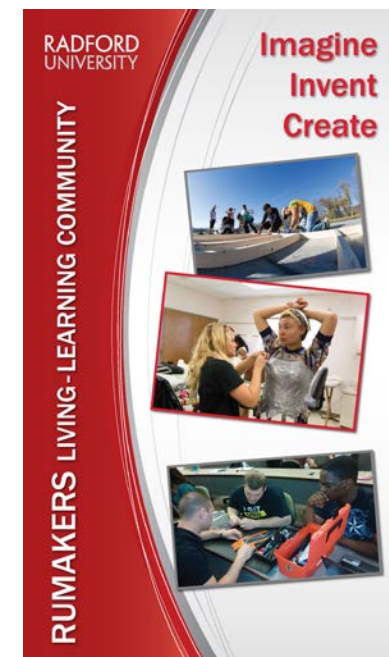
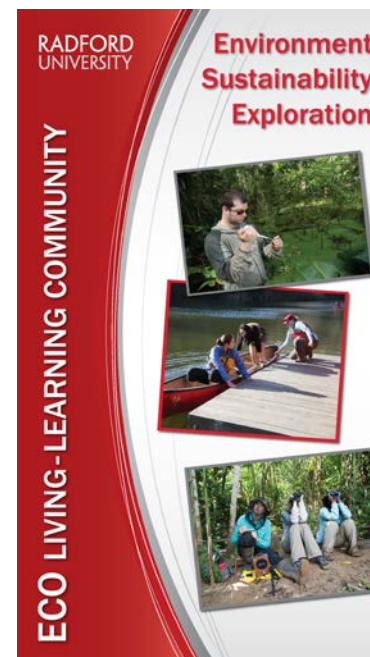
- potential retention impact
- perceived marketability
- budget viability
- feasibility of implementation.



Summer 2015 *RU Makers* and *ECO Connections* selected to move forward for implementation in Fall 2016

These learning communities address students **in several retention risk categories** as identified in the Noel-Levitz data. These include

- Modest GPA
- Out-of-state
- Majors in CSAT, COBE, and pre-major
- Residential component
- Common courses
- Peer mentors
- Co-curricular programming



Coordinated communication with prospective and committed students

Combined online application portal



## LEARNING COMMUNITIES

To learn more about Learning Communities including major requirements, course curricula, and residence hall assignments, please visit [www.radford.edu/learning-communities](http://www.radford.edu/learning-communities)

An email will be sent to your Radford University email address containing a link to the Learning Communities application.

### environment sustainability ecosystems STEM fields

### reading writing public speaking dual enrollment

### CORE CONNECTIONS

A Learning Community for freshmen with dual enrollment credit for ENGL 111 & 112. Students take courses together and faculty provide additional help to assist students in transitioning from high school to college.

### LET'S GET STARTED

What are your interests?

Once you identify your interests, follow the dotted line to find the related Learning Communities.

### BIOLOGY CONNECTIONS

A Learning Community for freshmen majoring in biology. Students live and take classes together. Upper-class peer mentors serve as tutors to assist freshmen with their first semester of coursework.

### scholarship research networking working with faculty

### ECO

A Learning Community for freshmen interested in sustainability, the environment, and the rapidly changing relationship between societies and the physical world we live in. Students live and take classes together, and are given opportunities for hands-on learning outside the classroom.

### MAKERS

A Learning Community for new students interested in using their talents and skills to make something... anything! Students live together and are encouraged to embrace teamwork and utilize one another's skills to create a tangible product. Any and all majors are welcome.

### ARO

Accelerated Research Opportunities (ARO) is a Learning Community that exposes freshmen to the current research, scholarly work, and creative projects across campus. Students live and take courses together. The program emphasizes mentorship and places students with an individual faculty mentor to conduct research their freshman year. Students and projects from all majors are welcome.

### NEXTGEN

A monetary scholarship opportunity for meritorious students with financial need interested in STEM fields and leadership. Students in the NextGen Learning Community live and take courses together, receive personalized attention from faculty advisors, and work closely with peer mentors.

### COMMUNITY of ARTISTS

A Learning Community for freshmen majoring in visual and performing arts. Students live together in a hall that provides rehearsal studios, practice rooms, and lounges. Additional programming focused on the arts helps students engage in meaningful experiences.

### HONORS ACADEMY

A Learning Community for intellectually mature students interested in making the most of their college education. The Honors Academy experience lasts 4 years. Those who complete the Honors Academy requirements and graduate receive a different distinction on their diploma and transcripts. Students live and take courses together. They are also provided opportunities to collaborate with faculty and participate in experiential learning outside of the classroom.

Faculty Interaction • Small class sizes • Hands-on learning • Increased self-confidence

# Learning Community Assessment Plan

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Learning outcomes were **reviewed jointly** by existing learning communities and a set of **shared learning outcomes** were developed and approved by the Office of Academic Assessment in spring 2015.

# Shared Learning Outcomes

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- Students will demonstrate **knowledge of content material** related to the learning community experience
- Students will be able to **critically analyze** material related to the content area of the learning community experience
- Students will be able to **communicate** content from their learning community experience to an audience

# Learning Community Programmatic Outcomes

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- Increase **academic integration**
- Increase **social integration**
- Increase **retention** to Radford University



# Looking Forward

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Submission of **yearly reports** from each learning community

**Every two years** learning communities will be **reviewed** for renewal and a recommendation.

We propose a **faculty call for new** learning communities be held in early spring semester every two years coinciding with the review year.

**Develop and maintain the ideal number** of learning communities to engage and retain our freshman.

# Questions and Discussion