



STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:00 P.M.
MAY 3, 2018
MARY ANN JENNINGS HOVIS MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
MARTIN HALL, THIRD FLOOR, RADFORD, VA

DRAFT
MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Debra McMahon, Chair
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston, Vice Chair
Dr. Jay Brown
Ms. Karyn Moran
Mr. Steve Robinson
Ms. Jessica Wollmann, Student Representative (Non-voting Advisory Member)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Mark Lawrence, Rector
Mr. Randy Marcus, Vice Rector
Dr. Rachel Fowlkes
Ms. Karyn Moran
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham
Ms. Lisa Throckmorton
Dr. Jake Fox, Faculty Representative (Non-voting Advisory Member)

OTHERS PRESENT:

President Brian O. Hemphill
Mr. Richard Alvarez, Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Joe Carpenter, Vice President for University Relations and Chief Communications Officer
Ms. Karen Castele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Special Assistant to the President
Dr. Kenna Colley, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Lisa M. Ghidotti, Director of State Government Relations
Dr. Kate Hawkins, Dean of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences
Mr. Danny M. Kemp, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
Dr. Ann Marie Klotz, Vice President for Student Affairs
Ms. Wendy Lowery, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Kitty McCarthy, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs
Ms. Ashley Schumaker, Chief of Staff
Ms. Susan Trageser, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students
Mr. Allen Wilson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia

Radford University faculty and staff

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Debra McMahon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. in the Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room on Third Floor, Martin Hall at Radford University, Radford, Virginia.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. McMahon asked for a motion to approve the May 3, 2018 agenda, as published. Dr. Jay Brown so moved, Mr. Steve Robinson seconded the motion and the agenda was unanimously approved, as published.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. McMahon asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2018 meeting of the Student Affairs Committee, as published. Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston so moved, Dr. Brown seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved, as published

REPORTS

Ms. Julianna Stanley, Student Government Association (SGA) President, provided her final report of the year to the Committee. Her presentation outlined the initiatives completed by SGA for the remainder of the semester: such as, guests can now accompany students to the Student Recreation and Wellness Center; athletic tank tops can now be worn in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center; and the Radford University Police Department's phone number has been added to the back of all student ID cards. In collaboration with Student Counseling Services, SGA hosted Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness information sessions. SGA also hosted numerous events this semester including 2nd Annual Unity Fest, Earth Week Clean Up and the Spring Sports Tailgate. Mr. Mark Lawrence, Rector, commended Ms. Stanley and Ms. Jessica Wollmann, Student Representative to the Board of Visitors, for all of their work and accomplishments this academic year. A copy of Ms. Stanley's report is attached hereto as *Attachment A* and is made a part hereof.

Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick, Assistant Provost of Academic Programs, and Dr. James Penven, Director of Housing and Residence Life, updated the Committee on the growth and success of the Living-Learning Communities (LLC) for first-year freshman students established in fall 2016 as a retention initiative. The RU Makers and Eco Connections communities are the latest LLC additions. Each LLC is faculty led as part of the collaborative efforts between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs with various faculty participating at different levels. They shared that the GPA levels and retention rates of freshman students connected to a LLC are higher than students who are not, and that the ROI for this investment continues to improve as more students take part. The Schoolhouse in the College of Education and Human Development and the Entrepreneurial Living-Learning Community in the College of Business and Economics have been established and will be open for enrollment in the fall. The team will continue to examine data related to changes in GPA, participant experiences and overall impact going into the future. Sophomores taking part in the LLCs as freshmen will continue as mentors for incoming freshmen. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment B* and is made a part hereof.

Mr. Ryley Capps Harris, SCHEV Student Representative, updated the Committee on the focus of the SCHEV Student Advisory Committee this past year. The Committee focused on freedom of

speech issues and recommended standard operating procedures be established for all demonstrations on college campuses. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment C* and is made a part hereof.

Dr. Ann Marie Klotz, Vice President for Student Affairs, provided a report for the Division of Student Affairs. Dr. Klotz updated the Committee on the affinity building and retention initiatives implemented this semester. A Traditions and Affinity Building Taskforce has been created to propose school spirit ideas, such as a Radford Chant and student class spirit leaders. A Halfway There Celebration, which included the presentation of a scholarship by the President to one sophomore, was held for all sophomores as they prepare to enter their junior year. Two competitions were held for students to win a trip to the NCAA men's basketball tournament games. Several new retention initiatives are being implemented, such as a Brother 4 Brother male mentoring program and the Coffee Connection program where administrators take struggling students to lunch. The Student Recreation and Wellness Center staff hosted various new events and fitness classes, such as the bench press competition, Radford Fit Fest and the Holistic Health Fair. A copy of the report is attached hereto as *Attachment D* and is made a part hereof.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. McMahon asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Brown so moved, Mr. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Student Government Association

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Legislation

- Athletic muscle tank tops allowed at the Recreation and Wellness Center
- Student guests are allowed at the Recreation and Wellness Center
- Police Department phone number added to the back of student ID cards
- Information sessions to teach the signs of suicide/depression hosted by Student Counseling Services and the SGA

Appropriate Athletic Muscle Tank Tops



Appropriate Sleeveless Shirts



Events

- Cigarette Clean-up
- Sex Signals
- Unity Fest
- Ring Ceremony
- Spring Tailgate
- Earth Week



Additional Updates

- Student Finance Committee Budget Review
- Cabinet and Staff Interviews
- SGA Elections
- SGA Constitution Revisions


STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



Radford Students!
You have the power
to make a change on
campus.
You have a voice.
Use it!
Election season for
FALL 2018 and
SPRING 2019 is here!

VOTE FOR THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27th - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29th
ONLINE ON **MYRU** or IN THE **BONNIE** AT THE SGA TABLE

Have any questions? Contact us! We'd love to help you.
(540) 831 - 5418 | Bonnie 209 | sga@radford.edu

 @RUSGA  @RADFORDSGA 

Questions

Living-Learning Communities: Growth and Success of a Retention Effort

Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick

Assistant Provost for Academic Programs

Dr. Jamie Penven

Interim Director of Student Success and Retention, Director of Housing and Residence Life

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Living-Learning Community Development

LLC Definition

- First-year students
- Co-located residence
- One to two common classes
- Co-curricular programming

Our Approach

- Faculty-led teams driving the community development
- Collaborative support from several divisions
- Freshman retention initiative

Development History

- Fall 2014 - became joint Academic Affairs and Student Affairs team
- Alignment, coordination and infrastructure development
- Creation of two new LLCs (*RU Makers* & *ECO Connections*)



3D Printing • Programming • Design •
Prototyping • Electronics • Papercrafting •
Robotics • Innovation • Marketing
Entrepreneurship • WearableTechnology
App Development

Join RU MAKERS

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www.radford.edu/rumakers



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www.radford.edu/eco



Living-Learning Community Launch

Fall 2016

- Coordinated communication
- Joint application
- Launch of *RU Makers* and *ECO Connections*
- Assessment of impact



LEARNING COMMUNITIES

To learn more about Learning Communities including major requirements, course overrides, and residence hall assignments, please visit www.radford.edu/learningcommunities.

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

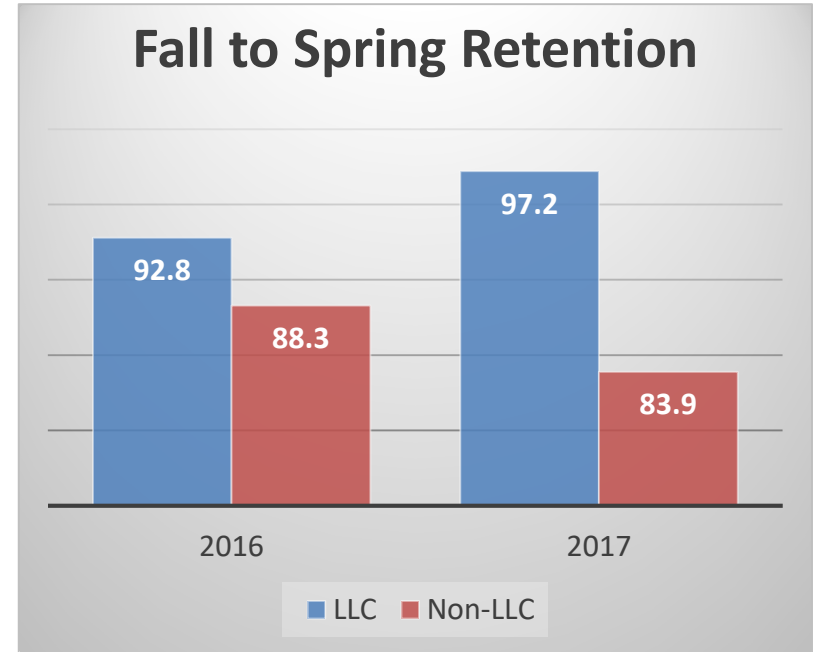
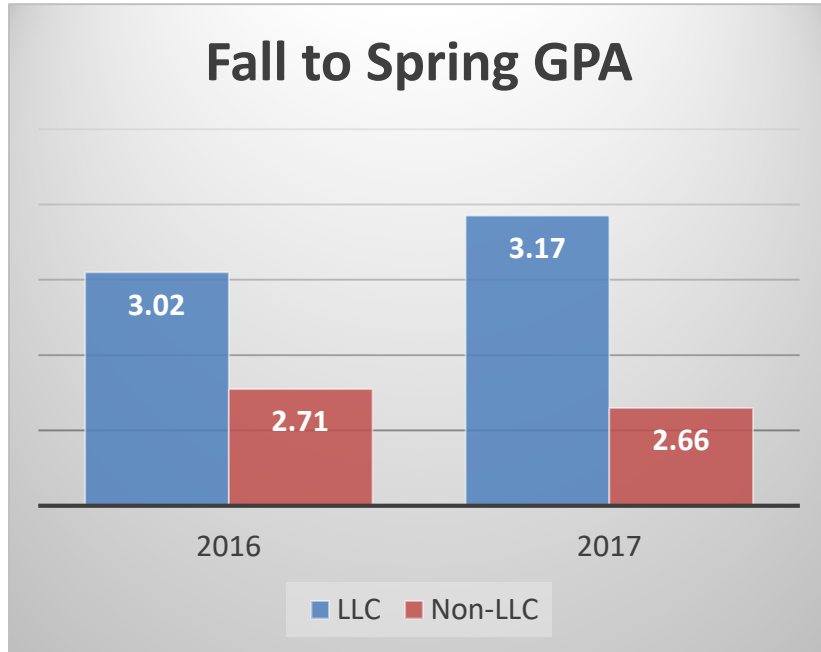
LET'S GET STARTED

What are your interests?
Once you identify your interests, follow the colored link to find the related Learning Community.

- 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.
- 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**
- ARO**
Accelerated Research Opportunities (ARO) is a Learning Community that assists 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 to conduct research their freshman year. Students and projects from all majors are welcome.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

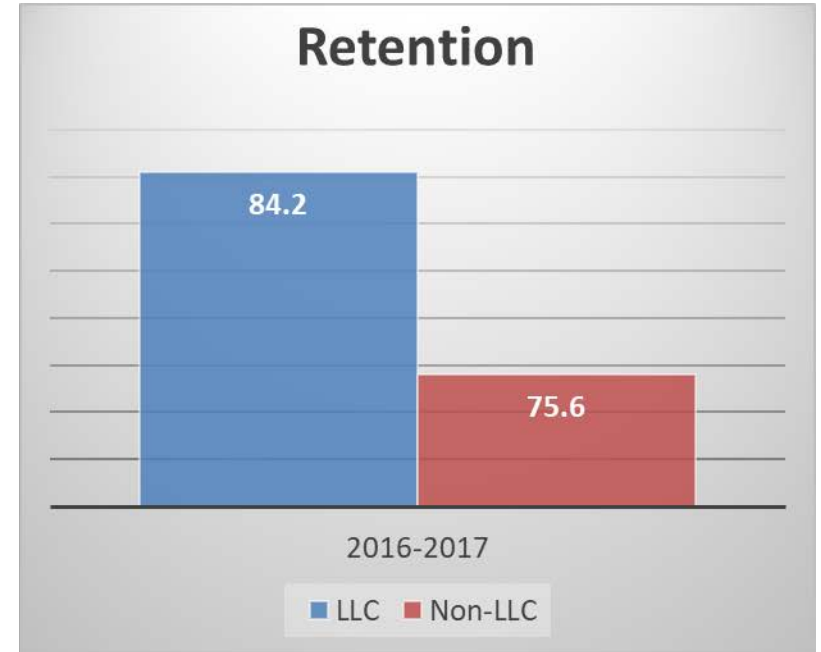
Faculty interaction • Small class sizes • Hands-on learning • Increased self-confidence

Impact Data: Semester Comparisons



Data does not include Honors Academy

Impact Data: Yearly Comparisons



Data does not include Honors Academy

Looking Forward

- Implement new LLCs
- Yearly assessments
- Review of offerings
- Strategic growth
 - Current communities
 - Student populations
 - Retention targets
 - Sophomore engagement

Interested In Becoming
A Teacher?



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www.radford.edu/learning-communities



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Learning Communities



Discussion

SCHEV Student Representative

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Introduction: Ryley Capps Harris



STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA

SCHEV Student Advisory Committee



Front Row: Richard Bland Community College, New River Community College, Longwood University (chair), Old Dominion University, Virginia Tech

Back Row: Eastern Shore Community College, University of Virginia, Radford University, Randolph-Macon College, James Madison University

SCHEV Student Advisory Council Meetings

- **Friday, October 6, 2017: First S.A.C. meeting of 2017-2018 school year**
 - Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth for Virginia
 - Michael Maul, Virginia Budget Process and its Impact on Higher Education
- **December 19, 2017: Election of Co-Chairs, Legislative Update, Student Rights**
 - Richard Cole, SCHEV, Compliance Specialist
 - Beverly Covington, J.D., Legislative Affairs
- **February 23, 2018: Development of Council Presentation, SCHEV Data Usage**
 - Tod Massa, SCHEV Director of Policy Analytics
 - Fran Bradford, Deputy Secretary of Education for Virginia
- **March 23, 2018: Leadership and Recap of Council Presentation**
 - Peter Blake, Executive Director of SCHEV
 - Ken Ampy, SCHEV Council Member

SCHEV Student Advisory Council Recommendations

Freedom of Speech on Virginia College Campuses

- Establish an inter-institutional committee comprised of students, faculty and administration from college campuses across Virginia
- Establish a state-wide Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) framework for demonstrations on college campuses

Discussion

Student Affairs

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Affinity Building & Retention Initiatives





HALF
WAY
---THERE!---

APRIL

17th, 2018

4PM - 7PM

FEATURING

1 Scholarship Presentation
(Must be presented to win)
Free T-shirts
DJ G-Wiz
Pizza & More

EXCITING



TRADITIONS

Beginning at the McConnell Library
&
Concluding at the Bonnie Plaza

#RadfordU17th

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Affinity Building and Retention Initiatives: Diversity & Inclusion

- New Initiatives
 - Brother 4 Brother (First Generation and Sophomore Male Mentoring Program)
- Celebrating Diversity
 - Multicultural Congratulatory Ceremony: Honoring Student Success and Diversity
 - Black History Month, Women's History Month, Autism Awareness Month
- Diversity Awareness Programming
 - Safe Zone Training, Dine on Diversity, Diversity2Go, LGBTQ+ education panel
 - Over 13 Culturally based groups advised by CDI focused on development of underrepresented marginalized groups

Affinity Building and Retention Initiatives: Student Recreation and Wellness Center

Outdoor Programs

- 46 program trips during Spring 2018 semester
- 309 participants (January 1 - March 30)
- 3 Adventures for Change community service events ~ 600 community service hours
- Sponsored 8 students attendance to the AORE National Conference
- Offered 4 nationally recognized instructional training courses on swift water rescue, climbing wall instructor and Leave No Trace®



Affinity Building and Retention Initiatives: Student Recreation and Wellness Center

Fitness & Wellness

- Group Fitness Classes - 5,656 participations, 1,439 unique users ~ 15.3% of the student body (Jan.-April)
- Special events: Radford Fit Fest, Dancing in Havana, Bench Press Competition, Ladies' Night in the Weight Room, Holistic Health Fair

Intramural Sports

- Total participation (Jan. 1 - March 30) - 1,657 students
- Co-programmed first milk crate stacking competition
- 25 program offerings for Spring 2018
- Try it Tuesday and Popup Rec programs



Affinity Building and Retention Initiatives: Spring 2018

- **Tyler Hall Coffee Connection Program**
 - Launched in late February
 - 38 students who are currently “flying below the radar”
 - Met 1-1 with a faculty or staff member for a meal or coffee
 - Program Goal: Help the student get connected on-campus and encourage class registration for the fall semester
- **“You Matter” Campaign**
 - Faculty and staff went door-to-door in each residence hall to meet students and update them on current services available on campus
 - Program Goal: Connect with students, provide them with resources and encourage registration for fall semester

• Affinity Building and Retention Initiatives: 2018-2019

- **Radford Chant/Cheer**
 - Hosting a student competition for a school chant
 - New chant will be taught at Quest
- **Sophomore/Junior Spirit Leaders**
 - Students will be nominated by faculty and selected by a committee to represent the spirit of the Radford University community
 - Chosen leaders will have roles throughout the year during major events (Highlanders Festival, Family Weekend, Midnight Madness, Unity Fest, Convocation, etc.)
- **Graduation Pinning Ceremony**
 - Create a lapel pin that represents Radford University
 - Pin would be given to every graduate at commencement (Winter and Spring)
 - A university administrator will speak to the components of the pin and the graduate's connection to the Radford Family

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End of Board of Visitors Materials

