

PROPOSAL FOR ASSESSMENT OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

THE CONTEXT

In October 2018, Radford University Faculty Senate passed a motion creating an ad hoc committee to fulfill the following charges:

- > To define civic engagement for purposes of this SCHEV competency
- > To define criteria for the identification of appropriate curricular and/or non-curricular activities that should be considered part of students' civic engagement
- > To specify goals and objectives related to the competency of civic engagement
- > To identify an assessment strategy for measuring attainment of competency of civic engagement

The Civic Engagement team has been working to identify a definition of civic engagement that will help identify an assessment strategy for this SCHEV competency. Unlike other competencies, civic engagement is not required to be fulfilled within curriculum. The approach taken by the team has been to build an inclusive definition that will allow the alignment and identification of opportunities that contribute to building civic engagement competency among Radford University students. Goals will be developed for outcomes. Additional information will be provided to assist departments and units across campus to identify ways to contribute to the work related to civic engagement.

THE COMMITTEE

Dr. Roann Barris (CVPA representative)	Dr. Darren Minarik (CEHD representative)
Dr. Bruce Chase (DCOBE representative)	Dr. Jean Mistele (Citizen Leader Co-Director)
Ms. Melanie Fox (Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement)	Dr. Sara O'Brien (ACSAT representative)
Dr. Sarah Gilbert (Waldron representative)	Dr. Michele Ren (CHBS representative)
Dr. Nicole Hendrix, (Core Curriculum)	Ms. Tricia Smith (Student Affairs)
	Ms. Jessica Twiest (Citizen Leader Co-Director)

THE PROPOSAL

This image is a culmination of pedagogical frameworks, aspirational ideas, potential outcomes, and intended audiences. It is not intended to be measurable as written, rather to provide some insight into the mind-mapping that inspired the proposed definition below.

The Ladder of Engagement	Rolfe et al. Reflective Model	Cycle, not linear	Action/Values	Skills	Time
Civic Engagement	Now What	Partnership	Self-Realization	Sustainable, matching gifts and talents with a need in the world, immersive	Alumni
Community Engagement	So What		Commitment, Obligation	Multiple definitions across disciplines, informal & formal, collaborative, mobilizing, grassroots, scholarship	Senior
Service Learning			Leadership		Direction
Community Service	What		Compliance	Civil Discourse	Voice, express, communicate, understanding, listening, motivation, impact
			Contributing	Literacy, knowledge, research	Freshman
			Participating	Awareness, donating, hours, volunteerism	

The team requests campus input on the following working draft of a definition of civic engagement for Radford University:

Civic engagement is a sustainable university-wide commitment to serve the community. Highlanders will contribute time, knowledge, skills, and leadership to the civic life of their communities.

This is a campus-wide commitment to develop the competency of civic engagement but is not expected to be fulfilled by any one unit. Measures of this competency might include an array of campus and community entities, activities, behaviors, and are assessed institution-wide. Proposed definitions include:

- Time - how many students participated in civic engagement activities, coursework, etc., how many courses, events, etc. were held on our campus, how much time students spent in those activities defined as civic engagement
- Knowledge – learning within the discipline and learning that takes place related to civic engagement
- Skills – application of knowledge to real world problems and issues in and out of the classroom, activities with community and/or campus groups, clubs, and organizations
- Leadership – motivating others to achieve common goals



You can give input via an anonymous Qualtrics survey Link http://radford.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dbB6X36ovaSr46F or by contacting any member of the Civic Engagement team