ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING
1:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 2, 2018
MARY ANN JENNINGS HOVIS MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
MARTIN HALL, THIRD FLOOR, RADFORD, VA

DRAFT
MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes, Vice Chair
Ms. Krisha Chachra
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham
Dr. Jake Fox, Faculty Representative (Non-voting Advisory Member)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston, Chair
Mr. Randy J. Marcus

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
Mr. Mark S. Lawrence, Rector
Mr. Robert A. Archer, Vice Rector
Dr. Thomas Brewster
Dr. Jay A. Brown
Mr. Jim Kibler
Dr. Debra K. McMahon
Ms. Karyn K. Moran
Ms. Nancy A. Rice
Ms. Lisa Throckmorton
Ms. Myriah Brooks, Student Representative (Non-voting Advisory Member)

OTHERS PRESENT
Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, President
Ms. Karen Casteele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Special Assistant to the President
Dr. Kenna Colley, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Danny M. Kemp, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
Ms. Wendy Lowery, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Kitty McCarthy, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Mr. Chad Reed, Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Ashley Schumaker, Chief of Staff and Vice President for University Relations
Dr. Susan Trageser, Vice President for Student Affairs

Mr. Allen Wilson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia
Other Radford University faculty and staff

CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Rachel Fowlkes, Vice Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. in the Mary
Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room in Martin Hall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Dr. Fowlkes asked for a motion to approve the October 2, 2018 agenda, as published. Ms.
Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham so moved, Ms. Krisha Chachra seconded and the motion
carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Dr. Fowlkes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2018 meeting of the
Academic Affairs Committee, as published. Ms. Snyder-Falkinham so moved, Ms. Chachra
seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS
Dr. Kenna Colley, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented two
action items for consideration by the Committee.

Recommendation to Ratify Previously Approved Degree Proposal from B.S. in Computer and Cyber Science to B.S. in Cybersecurity
Dr. Colley stated that the Board of Visitors had previously approved the B.S. in Computer and
Cyber Science and, in order to better align with current market needs, presented a resolution to
change the name to B.S. in Cybersecurity. Dr. Fowlkes asked for a motion to recommend the
approval of the resolution to change the name from B.S. in Computer and Cyber Science to B.S.
in Cybersecurity. Ms. Chachra so moved, Ms. Snyder-Falkinham seconded, and the motion carried
unanimously. The resolution is hereto attached as *Attachment A* and is made a part hereof.

Recommendation of Resolution for Approval of Changes to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, Section 1.4.2 Evaluation of Department Chairs and School Directors
Dr. Colley proposed to the Committee a change to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook to
eliminate the quadrennial evaluation of chairs and directors and adding two questions to the annual
evaluation to maintain the faculty's voice concerning the continued leadership at the department level.
Dr. Fowlkes asked for a motion to recommend the approval of the resolution to change the
Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, Section 1.4.2. Ms. Chachra so moved, Ms. Snyder-
Falkinham seconded ,and the motion passed unanimously. The resolution and justification are
attached hereto as *Attachment B* and is made a part hereof.

REPORT FROM THE PROVOST
Dr. Colley provided general updates to the Committee including: the creation of the Venture Lab,
which will serve both faculty and students and the establishment of its Advisory Board; the Dalton
Eminent Scholars Awards call for nominations went out in August
and there will be five awards and one Rising Star award; the Harvey Knowledge Center opened

in the McConnell Library and a new Director has recently been hired; 41 new faculty joined Radford University in August, and the three-day New Faculty Orientation was extremely successful; a new seven-week course pilot is underway this semester, which allows students to participate in a compressed schedule for one class or rejoin a second seven-week class after withdrawing from a fall semester class; Radford University Transfer Agreements are on-going, and there will be more updates throughout the year; and the new Living-Learning Communities have been successful.

Dr. Colley introduced the new Dean in the College of Business and Economics, Dr. Joyendu "Joy" Bhadury, and the Interim Dean of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Matthew Smith. Current searches underway are the Assistant Provost of Global Education and Engagement, the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research and the Executive Director of Faculty Development.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT
Dr. Fox reported on recent events and motions from the Faculty Senate, including the Academic Affairs Governance Document. He thanked the Board of Visitors for the recent implementation of the rank of Senior Instructor.

Dr. Fox updated the Committee on the General Education initiative and provided a document with preliminary recommendations of the Radford Academic Values Exploration Team. He reported that the motion for the creation of the Radford University General Education Principle and Model Team passed the vote in Faculty Senate. A copy of Dr. Fox's report is attached hereto as *Attachment C* and is made a part hereof.

ADJOURNMENT
With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Fowlkes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Snyder-Falkinham made the motion, Ms. Chachra seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Vickie Stewart Taylor
Executive Assistant to the Provost
Secretary to the Committee
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Attachment A

**Resolution to Ratify Name Change of Previously Approved Degree Proposal
From B.S. in Computer and Cyber Science
to B.S. in Cyber Security**

October 2, 2018

WHEREAS, the Radford University Board of Visitors, on November 11, 2016, approved the proposal for a B.S. in Computer and Cyber Science in the Department of Information Technology (ITEC) in the Artis College of Science and Technology; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, the field of Cyber Science and Cybersecurity is ever-changing; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain relevance, the Department of Information Technology (ITEC) in the Artis College of Science and Technology proposes to change the name of the degree to B.S. in Cyber Security; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors approves the name change to the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, CIP 11.1003; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and/or his designee(s) are hereby authorized to continue to seek approval of approved Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity from the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Resolution to Amend the
Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook

October 2, 2018

WHEREAS, All proposed changes to the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* must be managed in accord with §5.0 of that handbook, and

WHEREAS, the authority to amend or revise the Faculty Handbook lies with the Board of Visitors. However, proposals for revising the Handbook may be initiated by faculty, administrators, the President, or members of the Board of Visitors. Revisions fall into two categories: (1) those required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and (2) those within the purview of the decision-making processes within the University, and

WHEREAS, revisions required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and that do not require a decision by University personnel, will be effected through an administrative update, with faculty being informed of the change and the reasons for it, and

WHEREAS, revisions within the purview of the decision-making processes in the University Internal Governance system will be considered by appropriate committees as defined by the Internal Governance system. Proposals for changes will be made in the form of text intended to replace a portion of the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, noting new language and striking out the old language, and

WHEREAS, it will be the Faculty Senate's responsibility to ensure that the general faculty is provided time and opportunity to review the proposed change so faculty can communicate with their senators prior to any action by the Faculty Senate.

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate's recommendations on proposed revisions to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook will be forwarded to and approved by the President. The Provost will forward the Faculty Senate's recommendations to the Academic Excellence and Research Committee who will in turn make recommendations to the member of the full Board of Visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Academic Excellence and Research Committee of the Board of Visitors of Radford University hereby approve in accordance with §5.0 of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook,* **Section 1.4.2: Evaluation of Department Chairs and School Directors** of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* is hereby amended to eliminate 1.4.2 regarding the quadrennial evaluation of Chairs and Directors in the Handbook. Said sections are to now read as follows (additions are in **red):**

1.4.2 Evaluation of Department Chairs and School Directors

A. Annual Evaluation

The Department/School Personnel Committee shall evaluate the Department Chair or School Director annually in two separate evaluations, one as a faculty member and one as chair or director. Both evaluations shall be conveyed to both the Department Chair or School Director and the College Dean. The College Dean shall review the Personnel Committee's evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a faculty member, and shall separately evaluate him or her as a chair or director, subject to review by the Provost.

Evaluations of Department Chairs or School Directors shall be prepared annually in writing before the end of the spring semester. The primary purpose of the evaluation will be to provide guidance for development and to provide assessment for decisions related to merit pay and continuation in the role. These annual evaluations will be available for consideration by the Dean during the detailed review that will be conducted during the third year of each Chair's or Director's four-year term.

The annual evaluation of Department Chairs and School Directors shall be conducted as follows:

1. Evaluation as Faculty: The criteria for evaluation as a faculty member shall be the same as those for all faculty members except that the minimal weights allowable for teaching and university service shall be commensurate with their reassigned time. The Department/School Personnel Committee shall administer and collect the same data for the Department Chair or School Director as for all department faculty.

2. Evaluation as Chair or Director: The criteria for evaluation as Chair or Director shall reflect the duties and responsibilities of the chair or director as listed in section 4.2.3.1 of this Handbook. Additionally, two questions must be added at the end of the survey: 1) Overall evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director and 2) Do you support the continued service of this person in the role of School Director or Chair? The Department/School Personnel Committee shall circulate to all currently employed faculty of the department who reported to the Chair or Director during all or part of the evaluation period a Department Chair/School Director evaluation form based upon these evaluation criteria and shall include an appropriate place for an overall evaluation of the Chair or Director. Faculty beginning their employment during the semester in which the evaluation is conducted would not evaluate the Chair or Director since they were not employed by the University during the evaluation period. The forms will be completed and returned to the Department/School Personnel Committee.

3. Data and comments from the faculty evaluations shall be summarized by the Department/School Personnel Committee. The Department/School Personnel Committee shall then evaluate the Department Chair or School Director as a faculty member and separately as a chair, in tentative evaluations to be sent to the Department Chair or School Director.

4. If the average rating of the question about the overall evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director falls below 3.00 on a 5.00 scale, the department personnel committee will recommend a plan of improvement by the Chair/Director and Dean.

5. The results of the annual evaluation will be presented to the chairs in a numerical fashion with the exception of the last item regarding support for continued service. For this question, the results will be presented as "the majority of faculty in the department (or school) support/do not support the continued service of _____ in the role of Chair/Director."

6. Each Chair or Director will be given the opportunity to respond to both of the Personnel Committee's tentative evaluations of the Chair or Director-- as a faculty member and as a Chair or Director-- before the finalized evaluations are forwarded to the Dean. The appeal procedures shall be the same as those described for faculty.

7. The Department/School Personnel Committee's summary and overall evaluations of the Department Chair or School Director as a faculty member and as a chair or director shall be forwarded to the College Dean. All data used by the Personnel Committee shall be made available to the College Dean.

8. A minority report signed by all concurring faculty may be written if either or both of the Personnel Committee's evaluations are unacceptable to a minority of the committee members. A minority report is seen as an exception rather than standard procedure and shall include a justification for its creation. The minority report shall be submitted to the Dean as a separate document and shall be included with the Personnel Committee's evaluations. A copy shall be sent to the Chair or Director.

9. If the Dean disagrees with the Department/School Personnel Committee's evaluation of the Chair or Director as a faculty member in his or her review thereof, he or she shall give the Department Chair or School Director and Personnel Committee Chair a written statement of the reason(s) for the disagreement. The Department Personnel Committee may seek clarification from the Dean on any points of perceived disagreement.

10. The Dean shall communicate his or her evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair or director to the Department Chair or School Director in writing. The Department Chair or School Director shall have the opportunity to respond in writing to his or her evaluation as chair prior to the Dean's communication of a final evaluation to the Personnel Committee and to the Provost.

11. The College Dean shall forward her or his evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair or director, together with the evaluation of that role by the Department/School Personnel Committee, to the Provost, with copies sent to the Department Chair or School Director and to the Department/School Personnel Committee. In a case of a departure by the Dean from the evaluation by the Personnel Committee, the Committee may seek clarification from the Dean on the reason(s) for the departure.

12. The College Dean's evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair or director, and all pertinent data including any written responses from the Chair or Director and/or the Personnel Committee, shall be reviewed by the Provost, who shall provide written justification for any disagreement with the Dean's evaluation. In the event of disagreement by the Department Chair or School Director with the Dean's evaluation of him or her as chair, the Provost shall render a decision in the matter.

13. If the Chair or Director wishes to appeal his or her evaluation(s) either as faculty member or as chair, or the review(s) thereof by the Dean or the Provost, respectively, the process followed shall be consistent with that for faculty appeals. The final evaluations of the Department Chair or School Director both as a faculty member and as a chair, following any possible appeals, become part of the Department Chair's/School Director's personnel file, and shall serve as the basis for merit pay increases, for any possible reappointment, tenure, or promotion, and for decisions on retention as Department Chair or School Director.

B. Quadrennial Evaluation

Every four years, in spring of the third year of the Department Chair's or School Director's four-year term, in lieu of the annual evaluation as chair or director described in section A, an in-depth formal evaluation as chair or director shall be conducted by the Dean in consultation with the faculty of the department or school. (The policies and procedures affecting the annual evaluation of the Chair or Director as faculty member will not change.)

1. Prior to the quadrennial evaluation of the Chair or Director, each Chair or Director shall prepare and distribute to all faculty within the department or school a quadrennial report summarizing his or her accomplishments related to responsibilities as Chair or Director, and with reference to the attainment of goals established for the previous four-year period.

2. The criteria for evaluation as Chair or Director shall reflect the duties and responsibilities of the chair or director as listed in section 4.2.3.1 of this Handbook. The Department/School Personnel Committee shall circulate to all faculty of the department a Department Chair/School Director evaluation form based upon these evaluation criteria and shall include an appropriate place for an overall evaluation of the Chair or Director during his/her current four-year term. The forms will be completed and returned to the Department/School Personnel Committee.

3. Data and comments from the faculty evaluations shall be summarized by the Department/School Personnel Committee. The Department/School Personnel Committee shall then evaluate the Department Chair/School Director as a faculty member (during the current year) and separately as a chair (over the past four years), in tentative evaluations to be sent to the Department Chair or School Director. In completing the quadrennial evaluation, the Department/School Personnel Committee should take into account the Chair or School Director's annual evaluations for the previous three years. The letter or memorandum prepared by the Department/School Personnel Committee for this evaluation should be addressed to the Dean and copied to the Chair/Director.

4. Each Chair or Director will be given the opportunity to respond to both of the Personnel Committee's tentative evaluations of the Chair or Director—as a faculty member and as a Chair or Director—before the finalized evaluations are forwarded to the Dean. The appeal procedures shall be the same as those described for faculty.

5. The Department/School Personnel Committee's summary and overall evaluations of the Department Chair or Director as a faculty member and as a chair or director shall be forwarded to the College Dean. All data used by the Personnel Committee shall be made available to the College Dean.

6. A minority report signed by all concurring faculty may be written if either or both of the Personnel Committee's evaluations are unacceptable to a minority of the committee members. A minority report is seen as an exception rather than standard procedure and shall include a justification for its creation. The minority report shall be submitted to the Dean as a separate document, and shall be included with the Personnel Committee's evaluations. A copy shall be sent to the Chair or Director.

7. If the Dean disagrees with the Department/School Personnel Committee's evaluation of the Chair or Director as a faculty member in his review thereof, she or he shall give the Department Chair or School Director and Personnel Committee Chair a written statement of the reason(s) for the disagreement. The Department Personnel Committee may seek clarification from the Dean on any points of perceived disagreement.

8. The Dean shall meet with the Chair or Director to discuss his/her accomplishments and goals as Chair or Director. At this time, the Dean and Chair or Director can initiate a preliminary discussion of the goals the Chair or Director anticipates setting for him/herself as Chair or Director and for the department or school for the next four years.

9. The Dean shall communicate his or her evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair or director to the Department Chair or School Director in writing. Included in this evaluation shall be a recommendation to the Provost regarding reappointment of the Chair or Director for another four-year term. The Department Chair or School Director shall have the opportunity to respond in writing to his or her evaluation as chair or director prior to the Dean's communication of a final evaluation to the Personnel Committee and to the Provost.

10. The College Dean shall forward her or his evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair or director, including the Dean's recommendation for reappointment of the chair or director for another term, together with the evaluation of that role by the Department/School Personnel Committee, to the Provost, with copies sent to the Department Chair and to the Department Personnel Committee. In a case of a departure by the Dean from the evaluation by the Personnel Committee, the Committee may seek clarification from the Dean on the reason(s) for the departure.

11. The College Dean's evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director as a chair, and all pertinent data including any written responses from the Chair or Director and/or the Personnel Committee, shall be reviewed by the Provost, who shall provide written justification for any disagreement with the Dean's evaluation. In the event of disagreement by the Department Chair or School Director with the Dean's evaluation of him or her as chair or director or with the Dean's recommendation regarding reappointment for another term, the Provost shall render a decision in the matter.

12. If the Chair or Director wishes to appeal either his or her annual evaluation as faculty member or his or her quadrennial evaluation as chair or director, or the review(s) thereof by the Dean or the Provost, respectively, the process followed shall be consistent with that for faculty appeals. The final evaluations of the Department Chair or School Director both as a faculty member and as a chair or director, following any possible appeals, become part of the Department Chair's or School Director's personnel file, and shall serve as the basis for merit pay increases, for any possible reappointment, tenure, or promotion, and for decisions on retention as Department Chair or School Director.

13. Chairs/Directors who are reappointed for subsequent four-year terms must submit for the review and approval of the Dean written copies of the of the goals they have established for themselves as chairs/deans and of their departments/schools during their next term. These goals must be submitted to the Dean by May 15 of the year of the quadrennial review. The degree to which these goals are fulfilled shall be assessed as part of the Chair's/Director's next quadrennial evaluation.

Motion from Faculty Senate with Justification

17-18.29-Motion Regarding the Elimination of the Quadrennial Review of Department Chairpersons

Referred by: Governance Committee

MOTION: Faculty Senate recommends the following with regard to the quadrennial review of

department chairpersons:

Eliminate 1.4.2.B regarding the quadrennial evaluation of Chairs and Directors in the

Handbook. Add language to 1.4.2.A.2
The criteria for evaluation as Chair or Director shall reflect the duties and responsibilities of the chair or director as listed in section 4.2.3.1 of this Handbook. Additionally, two questions must be added at the end of the survey: 1) Overall evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director and 2) Do you support the continued service of this person in the role of School Director or Chair?

Alter 1.4.2.A. to
insert: (After #3)
New#4:
"If the average rating of the question about the overall evaluation of the Department Chair or School Director falls below 3.00 on a 5.00 scale, the department personnel committee will recommend a plan of improvement be developed by Chair/Director and Dean."

New#5:
The results of the annual evaluation will be presented to the Chair in a numerical fashion with the exception of the last item regarding support for continued service. For this question, the results will be presented as "the majority of faculty in the department (or school) support/do not support the continued service of in the role of Chair/Director."

RATIONALE:

In practice, the Quadrennial Review of Chairs has not been consistently implemented. When it has been implemented, the "third year, in-depth formal evaluation as Chair or Director" has typically consisted of just the annual reports from the previous three years, making it a redundant process.

Many, but not all of the chair evaluations already have a question that asks about the overall evaluation of Chair or Director. This motion would make this question standard on all evaluations.

The proposed, new questions maintain the faculty's voice concerning the continued leadership at the departmental level while eliminating the need for the ineffective quadrennial review.

Faculty Senate President's Report to the

Academic Excellence and Research Committee

of the Board of Visitors

October 2, 2018

I. Recent Events and Motions from the Faculty Senate

A. Academic Affairs Governance Document

B. Recent Implementation of the Rank of Senior Instructor

II. Updates on General Education

A. Preliminary Recommendations of The Radford Academic Values Exploration Team (see document)

B. New Motion in the Senate for Next Phase (see document)

C. Website for Updates and Events in the General Education Effort:

https://www.radford.edu/content/academic-programs/home/general-education.html

General Education

Welcome to the Radford University Academic Values Exploration Team

General education serves as the foundation upon which all Radford University students build educational success. In Fall 2017, Faculty Senate established the General Education Task Force to gain compliance with newly ratified SCHEV guidelines and competencies. The Task Force aligned our current general education curriculum, the Core Curriculum, outcomes with those specified by SCHEV but also recommended consideration of a more in-depth and broader review of general education at Radford University.

To that end and after consultation with the Core Curriculum Advisory Committee and Interim Director of Core Curriculum, Faculty Senate Executive Council submitted a two-page motion to establish the Radford University Academic Values Exploration Team. The team consists of 2 full time Teaching and Research faculty representatives nominated and elected from each college (CHBS, ACSAT, COBE, CVPA, CHED, and Waldron) and two members elected from Jefferson College. These individuals will serve as voting members on the team. Although these voting members are elected at the college level, their mission is to represent views from across the Radford University faculty community.

Meet our Academic Exploration Team

T&R Faculty Members:
- Dr. Sandy French (CHBS)
- Dr. Paige Horst (CHBS)
- Dr. Jon Tso (Artis)
- Dr. Cassady Urista (Artis)
- Dr. Can Dogan (COBE)
- Dr. Daniel Farhat (COBE)
- Dr. Roann Barris (CVPA)
- Ms. Laura Kimball (CVPA)
- Dr. Tricia Easterling (CEHD)
- Dr. Anna Devito (CEHD)
- Dr. Kerry Vandergrift (Waldron)
- Dr. Katie Katz (Waldron)

- Dr. Paula Prince (Jefferson)
- Dr. Courtney Watson (Jefferson)

Appointed Members:
- Dr. Nicole Hendrix, Team Facilitator (Provost's Office, Core Curriculum)
- Ms. Jennifer Whicker (McConnell Library)
- Ms. Melanie Fox (Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement)
- Mr. David Stuart (Student Affairs)
- Dr. Angela Joyner (Center for Career and Talent Development)
- Ms. Rachel Hall (Advising)
- Ms. Julianna Stanley (President of SGA)
- Mr. Chris Nietzold (alumni)

During Summer 2018, fourteen Teaching and Research faculty from across campus and Roanoke locations and eight non-voting advisory members of the academic and student community came together to identify the academic values underlying general education. In the beginning, the team defined academic values.

"Academic values inspire and guide Radford University student experiences in general education."

The next stage of the team's work focused on reviewing potential academic values from many sources. In addition to examining academic institutions, these individuals sought information from many other arenas and now seek input from the campus and broader Radford community.

To that end, the Radford University Academic Values Exploration Team recommends the following academic values for general education:

Exploration: Going beyond one's limits to experience diverse subjects and disciplines for innovative learning and opportunities for self-discovery.
> **Tagline: "To boldly go where you haven't gone before."**

Evaluation: The ability to discern and use reasoning, critical thinking, and evidence based research to make informed decisions.
> **Tagline: "Transform information into insight."**

Engagement: Integrating knowledge, methods, and experiences to establish connections across disciplines, concepts, and communities.

> **Tagline: "More than the sum of our parts."**

18-19.01 Motion for the Creation of Radford University General Education Principle and Model Team

Referred by: Faculty Senate Executive Council

MOTION:

The Faculty Senate recommends the establishment of the Radford General Education Principles and Model Team to identify and make recommendations on the guiding principles and model for a general education curriculum at Radford University based on the values identified by the Academic Values Exploration Team.

To ensure diversity and equity of representation of many faculty perspectives and that all faculty have access to provide input into that process, the team will comprise 2 full time Teaching and Research faculty representatives nominated and elected from each undergraduate college (CHBS, ACSAT, COBE, CVPA, CHED, and Waldron) as voting members on the team. Although these voting members are elected at the college level, their mission will be to represent views from across the Radford University community. One additional non-voting member, the Interim Director of the Core Curriculum, will be appointed as facilitator/chair of the team. It is expected that this team will need to meet weekly to ensure adequate progress towards completion of the charges within the timeline specified.

The team charges are to:
1) Review the accreditation expectations related to general education from SACSCOC and SCHEV in consultation with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement.

2) Conduct focus groups to solicit input from the following stakeholders and constituencies:
   a) Radford University T&R faculty
   b) Jefferson College faculty
   c) Current students
   d) A&P faculty
   e) Alumni
   f) McConnell Library
   g) Center for Career and Talent Development
   h) Academic Advising
   i) Student Affairs
   j) Any others identified by the team

3) Identify the guiding principles, based on the values identified by the Academic Values Exploration Team and in light of the Strategic Plan, which will guide development of general education at Radford University. Guiding principles are statements of mandatory institutional requirements that any general education model and program must fulfill at Radford University

The expectation is that these principles will not prescribe the model of general education but rather identify necessary attributes of any model of general education. This recommendation will be submitted to Faculty Senate Executive Council no later than November 15, 2018 for subsequent review and approval by Faculty Senate.

4) Review peer institution and other college and university general education models for ideas and principles that might inform the development of general education at Radford University.

5) Upon deliberation and approval of guiding principles of general education by the Faculty Senate, this team should develop and recommend a model with which general education learning goals and outcomes could be fulfilled.

6) Drafts of all team recommendations should be circulated via public forums and the general education website for input and discussion. Feedback on the model of general education should be collected in consultation with each academic department in addition to the focus groups identified in charge #2 (above).

Recommendations for the general education model will be submitted to the Faculty Senate Executive Council no later than March 1, 2019, for subsequent review and approval by the Faculty Senate.

RATIONALE:

Broad review of general education at Radford University has not been conducted within the past ten years. Such a review is even more appropriate in light of the new Strategic Plan and the recent recommendations developed by the Academic Values Exploration Team.

As a faculty-driven effort this review is intended to be transparent and open to wide ranging input and communication from across campus. This review process is intentionally designed to result in actionable conclusions based on broad faculty buy-in, which will be essential in the success of any general education initiatives.

End of Board of Visitors Materials