

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

11 A.M.

DECEMBER 5, 2019

**MARY ANN JENNINGS HOVIS MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
MARTIN HALL, THIRD FLOOR, RADFORD, VIRGINIA**

DRAFT **MINUTES**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Gregory A. Burton
Ms. Nancy A. Rice
Mr. David A. Smith
Mr. Breon Case, Student Representative (Non-voting Advisory Member)

OTHERS PRESENT

President Brian O. Hemphill
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
Mr. Craig Cornell, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Mr. Danny M. Kemp, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
Ms. Wendy Lowery, Vice President for University Advancement
Mr. Chad A. 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. Thomas Brewster, Vice Chair, formally called the Academic Excellence and Research Committee meeting to order at 11 a.m. in the Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room in Martin Hall. Dr. Brewster conducted a roll call and established a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the December 5, 2019 agenda. Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham so moved, Ms. Krisha Chachra seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2019 meeting of the Academic Excellence and Research Committee, as published. Ms. Snyder-Falkinham so moved, Ms. Chachra seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Kenna M. Colley, Ed.D. began her report by introducing Teresa Conner, Ph.D., who joined the Radford family on December 2, 2019 as the new Associate Provost for Health Sciences. Dr. Conner previously served as founding Dean and Professor in the College of Health Sciences and Professions at the University of North Georgia.

Dr. Colley shared information about Selu Conservancy and Selu Farm, including that, in Fall 2018, 179 Radford University students visited with 129 being for research or course-related work. In Fall 2019, there were 16 tours, representing a 33% increase in visitors, from 587 to 782, and a 19.5% increase in contact hours, from 1,164 to 1,390, compared to Fall 2018.

Dr. Colley added that the Entrepreneurship minor has been revised to be more effective to students across campus, which will lead to more Venture Lab activity and will link well with the REAL Model. Additionally, Academic Affairs has pitched an Entrepreneurship Competition to the Big South with Radford University as the first sponsor in Spring 2021. This pitch-based competition will include student teams (up to three from each of the Big South universities) with planning already underway.

Dr. Colley reported that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Substantive Change site visit was a very positive experience and thanked everyone for making the site visit a success at both RUC and main campus.

Dr. Colley added that Academic Affairs has been able to fund college-based research awards on the main campus and at RUC for a total amount of \$291,372. These awards are typically between \$4,000 and \$10,000 per faculty member.

Dr. Colley shared that the Dalton Eminent Scholars for 2019-2020 were recently announced, including: Donna Boyd, Ph.D., Eminent Professor of Anthropology and Co-Director of the Radford University Forensic Science Institute; Seife Dendir, Ph.D., Professor of Economics; Agida Manizade, Ph.D., Professor of Mathematics and Statistics; and Thomas Pierce, Ph.D.,

Professor of Psychology. Matthew DeCarlo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Social Work and Site Coordinator of the Roanoke Master of Social Work Program, was selected for the Rising Star Award.

In other Academic Affairs updates, Dr. Colley stated that on November 3-5, 2019, representatives from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) visited the Radford University campus to review the 24 undergraduate and graduate level educator preparation programs. The preliminary feedback from the site visitors was positive, and the program is expected to receive full accreditation after the CAEP Accreditation Council meets in April. Site visitors were especially complimentary of the program's faculty and the work they do, as well as the amazing students and the outstanding relationships Radford has with PreK- 12 partners.

Dr. Colley added that 20 students have been accepted into the Ed.D. program, which represent a diverse group of educational administrators from across the Commonwealth. This inaugural cohort will begin in January 2020. A search is underway for a founding program director with the expectation that this individual will begin in Fall 2020.

In closing, Dr. Colley reported that Radford is responding to the increased demand for school counselors. Earlier this year, legislation was passed requiring schools to provide one full-time counselor for every 250 students. To better serve students in far Southwest Virginia, Radford made a decision to reinstitute the school counseling program in Abingdon. The program will be delivered at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (SWVHEC) and will begin in Spring 2020. Radford University received a \$325,000 grant from the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission to support the program and also received a \$30,000 grant from the SWVHEC to provide scholarships to deserving students.

PRESENTATION

Jeanne Mekolichick, Ph.D., Associate Provost of Academic Programs, and Joseph Wirgau, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, provided an overview of *Tracking Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities*. The presentation began with defining the activities, followed by a description of how the activities align within the strategic plan, what data sources are available, methodology for tracking participation, five-year participation rates, and the impact the activities have on retention and graduation rates. A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as ***Attachment A*** and is made a part hereof.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Faculty Senate President Jake Fox, Ph.D. provided an update on the REAL Model. He stated that the Faculty Senate approved the timeline and launch for implementation in Fall 2021. The REAL Council has convened, and the work is underway. Dr. Fox stated that, at the next Faculty Senate meeting, there will be a motion for a revised core curriculum in 2020, which will provide a "bridge" for the first REAL cohort. The other actions pertaining to REAL that are currently being discussed include: developing Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts rules, recommendations for advising and other support services, and course and program designation

processes. Dr. Fox also reported that the Faculty Senate approved the Civic Engagement Plan and will be working to make major revisions to the Faculty Morale Survey.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Rachel Fowlkes recognized Dr. Orion Rogers, Dean of the Artis College of Science and Technology, and thanked two faculty members, Dr. Francis Webster and Dr. Neil Sigmon, from the Artis College of Science and Technology for providing the "Magic of Chemistry" show and "Disguising Messages and Breaking Secret Codes" presentation to 900 sixth grade girls at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon for the annual STEM workshops on November 22, 2019.

Dr. Fowlkes also reminded the Committee of the request she made at the September meeting to have a discussion regarding what Radford is doing academically to address adult education and non-traditional students.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Fowlkes so moved, Ms. Snyder-Falkinham seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Stewart Taylor
Executive Assistant to the Provost

Tracking Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities (URSCA)

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Defining URSCA

Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities:

An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline. (*Council on Undergraduate Research*)



Calculating URSCA

Student Success Goal 1.A.: Increase the number of students engaged with research, scholarship and creative activities (URSCA) within and beyond the classroom

- Heterogeneity in URSCA experiences (National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2017)
- Lack of centralized tracking systems (Molinaro 2015)



Data Sources at Radford University

- Self-Reported Faculty Data (CURE)
- Self-Reported Student Data (NSSE)
- OURS Programming Data (OURS)
 - Travel Support
 - Accelerated Research Opportunities
 - Poster Printing
 - Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships
- Registrar Data (Apprentice)

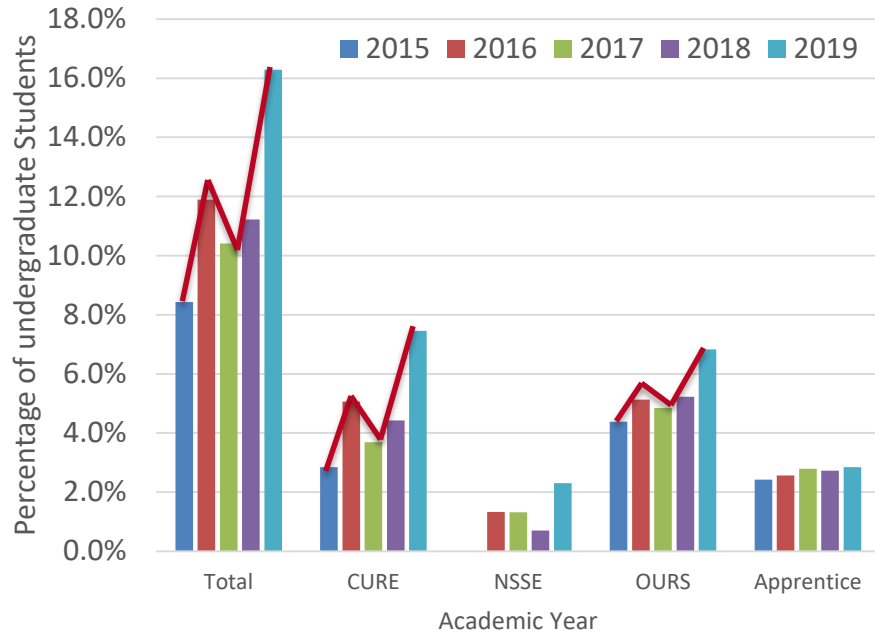


Methodology

- CURE: Students who are enrolled in courses designated by faculty as “undergraduate research”
- NSSE: Students who responded in the affirmative to having participated in research
- OURS: Students who participated in OURS programming
- Apprentice: Students who are enrolled in courses 488, 498 and “small enrollment” courses



URSCA Participation



URSCA Impact: Fall-to-Fall Retention

5-Year Average from 2014 to 2019

Level	No Research	Any Research	Net	CURE	NSSE	OURS	Apprentice
New Freshman	72%	83%	11%	80%	84%	80%	82%
New Transfer	84%	86%	2%	83%	100%	93%	94%
Freshman	62%	78%	16%	75%	43%	67%	100%
Sophomore	84%	89%	5%	89%		91%	88%
Junior	83%	81%	-2%	81%		84%	80%



URSCA Impact: 4-Year Graduation Rates

Undergraduate Research Participants 4-Year Graduation Rates (FTIC Entrants)										
Cohort Year	No Research	Any Research	Net		CURE	NSSE	OURS	Apprentice		
2011-2012	36%	52%	16%		42%		63%	57%		
2012-2013	34%	64%	29%		53%	58%	71%	69%		
2013-2014	31%	70%	38%		61%	65%	77%	75%		
2014-2015	32%	61%	28%		57%	76%	65%	72%		
2015-2016	26%	64%	37%		60%	48%	79%	84%		
AVERAGE	32%	62%	30%		55%	62%	71%	71%		
Undergraduate Research Participants 4-Year Graduation Rates (Transfer Entrants)										
Cohort Year	No Research	Any Research	Net		CURE	NSSE	OURS	Apprentice		
2011-2012	68%	62%	-6%		29%		76%	65%		
2012-2013	69%	88%	19%		78%	100%	89%	93%		
2013-2014	64%	86%	22%		82%	83%	92%	94%		
2014-2015	55%	88%	34%		88%	100%	92%	89%		
2015-2016	65%	87%	22%		83%	90%	88%	90%		
AVERAGE	64%	82%	18%		72%	93%	88%	86%		

Inclusion Effects of CUREs

CURE	N	Transfer	Avg Age	Female	Vet	First Gen	Pell	Minority	HS GPA	SAT
2018-2019	624	30.6 % 191	21.8	63.8 % 398	1.6 % 10	37.2 % 232	37.3 % 233	31.3 % 195	3.29	1048
2017-2018	391	29.9 % 117	21.4	63.7 % 249	2.3 % 9	39.1 % 153	32.5 % 127	30.7 % 120	3.25	1058
2016-2017	331	35.3 % 117	22.0	66.8 % 221	1.8 % 6	41.4 % 137	39.0 % 129	29.9 % 99	3.32	974

Apprentice	N	Transfer	Avg Age	Female	Vet	First Gen	Pell	Minority	HS GPA	SAT
2018-2019	238	30.7 % 73	22.5	67.6 % 161	1.3 % 3	30.3 % 72	24.4 % 88	22.7 % 54	3.60	1135
2017-2018	241	24.1 % 58	22.5	69.7 % 168	0.8 % 2	32.0 % 77	29.9 % 72	25.3 % 61	3.49	1106
2016-2017	250	29.6 % 74	22.2	62.8 % 157	0.8 % 2	34.0 % 85	30.4 % 76	22.0 % 55	3.48	1061



Discussion

End of Board of Visitors Materials

