

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee

June 2025



Radford
UNIVERSITY



Student Affairs and Athletics Committee
3:30 p.m.
June 5, 2025
Kyle Hall, Room 340, Radford, VA

DRAFT
Agenda

- **Call to Order** Mr. David Smith, *Chair*
- **Approval of Agenda** Mr. David Smith, *Chair*
- **Approval of Minutes** Mr. David Smith, *Chair*
 - March 20, 2025
- **Student Government Association Report** Ms. Jada Freeman, *Student Government Association President*
- **Student Affairs** Dr. Susan Trageser, *Vice President for Student Affairs*
 - Student Affairs Goal Review
- **Intercollegiate Athletics Report** Dr. Robert Lineburg, *Director of Athletics*
 - Academic Excellence
 - Athletics Strategic Plan Update
 - Competitive Excellence
 - Men's Basketball
 - Resource Development
- **Other Business** Mr. David Smith, *Chair*
- **Adjournment** Mr. David Smith, *Chair*

***All start times for committee meetings are approximate. Meetings may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as committee members are ready to proceed. ***

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. David A. Smith, Chair
Mr. James C. Turk, Vice Chair
Ms. Callie Dalton
Mr. William C. Davis
Mr. George Mendiola
Mr. Onajae Edmund (Non-voting Student Advisory Member)

Meeting Materials



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Student Government Association



Board of Visitors

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Membership

- Starting the Spring Semester, SGA had 35 members
 - 5 members graduated in the Spring
- Returning for the Fall semester, SGA has 24 returning members
 - Last academic year, SGA started the Fall semester with 11
 - More then doubled the return rate



Elections

- Elections occurred from April 6 – April 10
 - Over 500 students voted
- Results for the 2025-2026 academic year are as follows:
 - President – Owen Star
 - Vice President – Rylee Meadows
 - Chief Activities Officer – Nya Robberts
 - Chief Financial Officer – Corohn Gregg



Senate

- Throughout the semester senate passed a Syllabus resolution that will be sent to Susan Trageser and Provost Usher
- The purpose of this resolution is to make Syllabi available to students before registering for classes with the intention for students to make better informed choices and decrease the rate of students dropping classes during the first week of classes

Senate

- April was Sexual Assault Awareness Month with the purpose of bringing awareness of sexual violence/abuse, domestic abuse, stalking and consent
 - Was a success
- We had 4 separate events throughout the Month of April
 - Kit to Keychain
 - Petal with a Purpose
 - Sprinkle and Bloom
 - Blossom Into Your Own
 - Had a total attendance of over 300 students



Unity Fest

- Our annual Unity Fest is centered around community and hosting clubs and organization that represent different races, cultures and religions
- Open to all
- We had a turnout of over 350 people
- Throughout the event, we had popcorn, music, merchandise, painting and overall joy of community



Cabinet

- Safe fun in the Sun
 - Event centered around students having a stress-free activity right before finals week, while educating students about the importance of hydration and sunscreen
 - Collaboration with Peer Health Educators
 - Students played childhood yard games such as tug-of-war and water balloon fights
 - Had a total turnout of over 140 students



End of Year Count

- SGA had 37 events for this academic school year with an overall attendance of over 2300 students
- Averaging 62 people per event



Accomplishments

- Throughout the academic year:
 - Reinforced rules and expectations
 - Interacted with the Student Body more
 - Students felt more inclined to come to us around problems happening on campus
 - Catered programming around student needs
 - Every event had a purpose, and we were able to properly relay that purpose
 - Fulfilled agendas they were put into motion in previous years
 - Green Office Certification
 - Syllabus Resolution
 - April Awareness Month
 - Earth Week



Goals

- Overall, my goal was to not only grow SGA in terms of membership but grow cabinet and senate to get back to the purpose of those positions
- This was accomplished by creating a positive environment where members felt comfortable asking questions, where the executive board motivated members to make connections and going out of our way to speak to the student body even if we were in a rush. The results of this were:
 - Had students want to come to our tables and interact with us
 - Collaborated with more organizations on campus
 - PHE
 - BSA
 - Career Closet
 - and more
 - Within SGA everyone knows each other creating a more positive environment



Discussion

Student Affairs



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Goal and Tactic Progress

- ✓ Utilize Selu as a space for well-being engagement
- ✓ Provide space and programs for student to de-stress, reset and re-center
- ✓ Complete process maps from the student end-user perspective
- ✓ Document engagement in programs and events
- ✓ Improve quality of service provided to students

Residential Engagement Model

Offer an engaging residential experience that is highly relational, fosters curiosity and learning, centers well-being and supports students finding their place



Residential Engagement Model

Offer intentional strategies to enhance overall residential experience



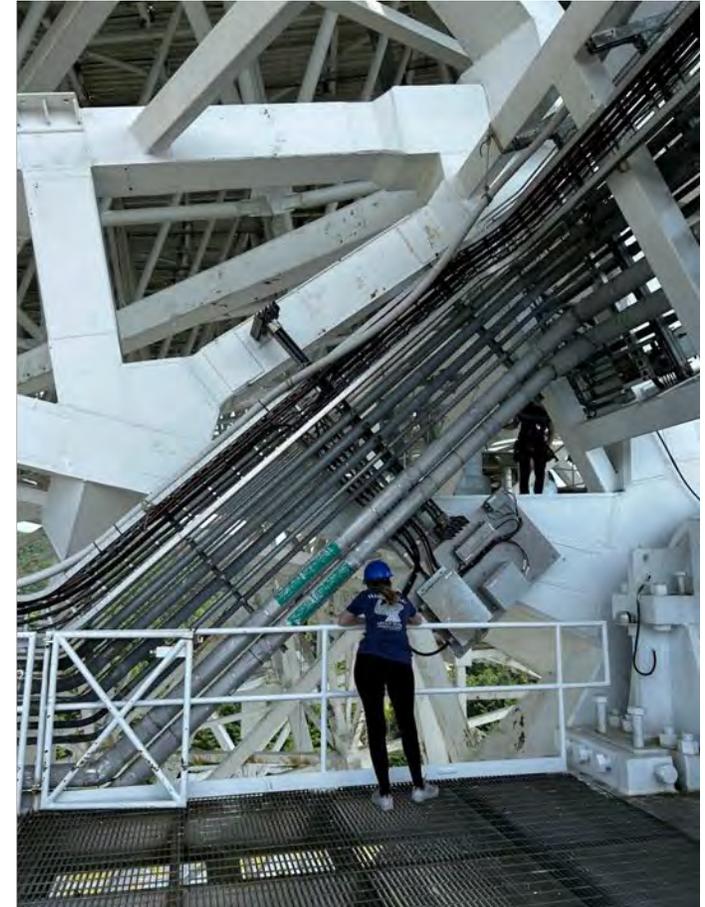
Top Adventure College



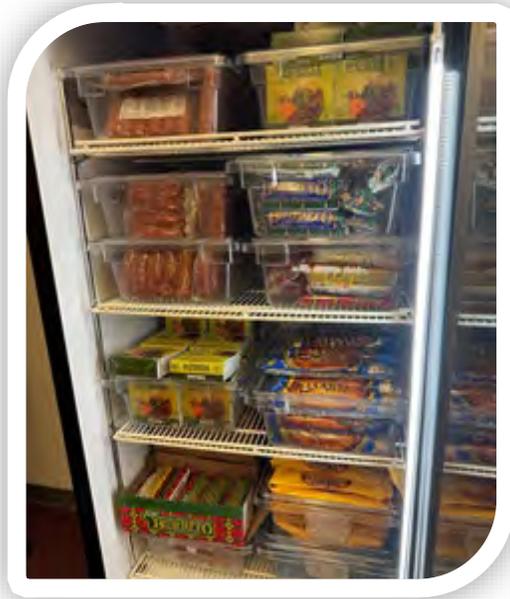
The Selu Conservancy



Club Programming Committee



Highlander Pantry



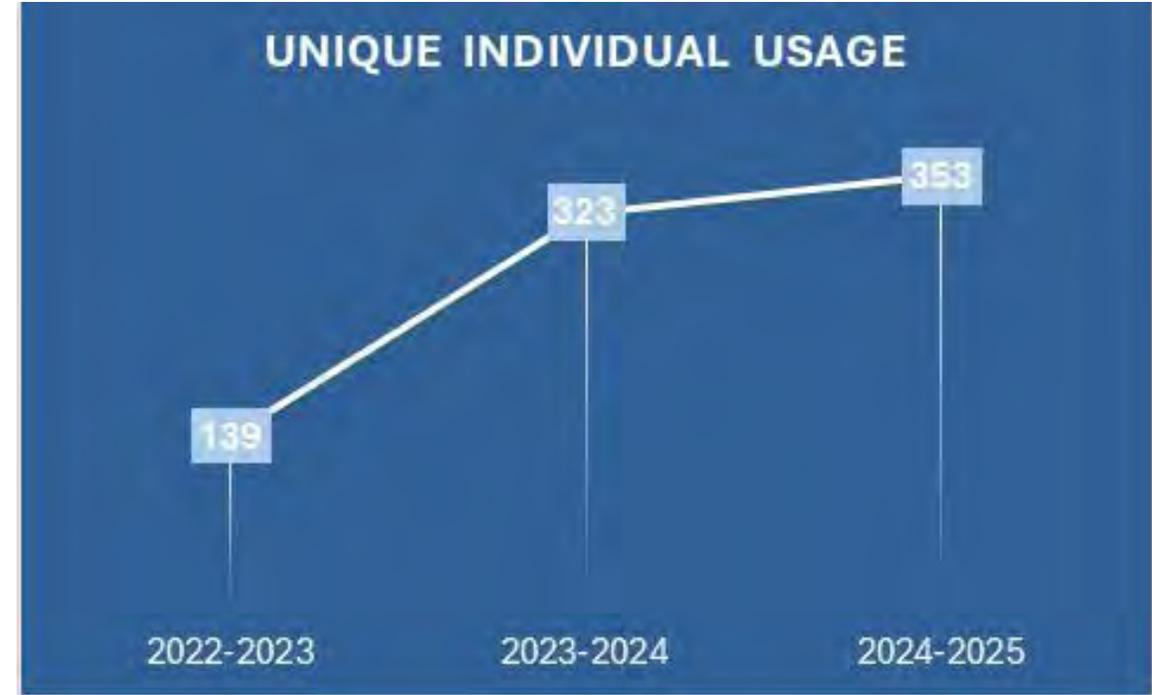
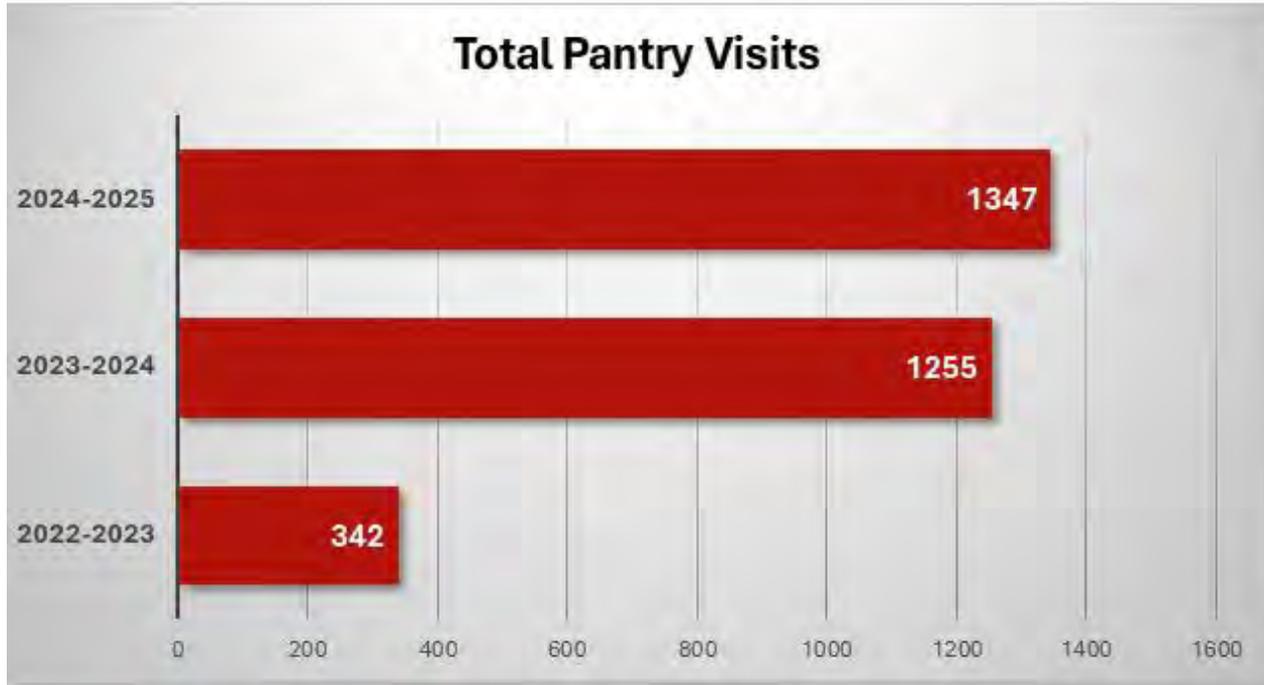
Increase in available frozen and refrigerated foods



Developed partnerships with Chartwells and Food City



Highlander Pantry



Student Success Advocates

The SSAs are “*dedicated to supporting the retention and graduation of Pell Eligible (PE) undergraduates at Radford University*” and will “[*serve*] as a one-stop advocate to navigate university systems from application through graduation.”

This initiative is supported by a \$1.19 million grant awarded by SCHEV, spanning four years. SSAs focus on students who may face elevated challenges, including:

- First-generation college students
- Transfer students
- Students experiencing academic difficulties
- Students dealing with “life” issues



Student Voices

“I appreciate your help with reaching out to my professors on my behalf when I was dealing with the loss of my grandmother. On top of that, I could tell you actually cared about my loss by asking me about her and the things you read from the funeral information I sent you. She was my hero, and I will miss her so much. But I’m all the more convinced I made the right decision to come to Radford University as evidenced by the compassion and care of offices and people like you guys.” D.V.

“Thank you for not judging me based on my mistakes but instead treating me like a human and helping me navigate through a difficult period in my life. I didn’t know you guys did the things you do to help students, and I wish I knew sooner!” M.M

"Your services have been insanely helpful; I genuinely feel that I would not have made it through this semester without you! Looking forward to Fall 2025 with you." M.M.

"Having the support of a student success advocate is a must. Being a freshman and a first-generation student here is not the easiest. But having my student success advocate, Lauren, has been amazing. Student success advocates are the support for student success, engagement, and academic resource for all students." A.H

“Thank you for not judging me based on my mistakes but instead treating me like a human and helping me navigate through a difficult period in my life. I didn’t know you guys did the things you do to help students, and I wish I knew sooner!” M.M

Discussion

Intercollegiate Athletics



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Agenda

- Academic Excellence
- Athletics Strategic Plan Update
- Competitive Excellence
- Men's Basketball
- Resource Development

Academic Excellence

Spring 2025 Academic Success

- Overall department term GPA was a 3.50
- 82% of all student-athletes earned a 3.0 GPA or higher
- 67% of our student-athletes earned a 3.4 GPA or higher
- 61 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA
- 16 of 16 athletic programs received a 3.0 GPA or higher
- Women's Golf had the highest team GPA of 3.88



Athletics Strategic Plan Update

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

STEP 1

SWOT ANALYSIS & BENCHMARKING STUDY

In order to set a vision for the future of Radford Athletics, we had to first define our priorities and confront our reality. Our process kicked off with a SWOT analysis administered to the athletics department, as well as with internal and external constituencies.

STEP 2

ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT & PLANNING

The athletics department engaged with Collegiate Sports Associates (CSA) to provide an in-depth assessment of the organization, staffing and culture within athletics. The broad based assessment included athletic senior staff, coaches, student-athletes and faculty

STEP 3

DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC GOALS, MISSION, AND VISION

In order to lead the strategic planning process, a committee was created to help develop the department's mission, vision, and develop strategic goals that would help guide the plan.

STEP 4

DEVELOPMENT OF OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

Upon completion of the strategic goals, each goal became a guide for four sub-committees charged with developing the objectives and strategies to support implementation.



Athletics Strategic Plan Update

IDENTITY AND MISSION

The strategic planning process established a shared identity for all Highlanders. The overall identity is intended to be concise and consistent, with versatile elements that can be used in a wide range of platforms.

MISSION

*We are the pride of the New River Valley,
empowering leaders through athletics
while serving our communities.*

VISION

*Cultivating champions through competition
and a community of care and respect.*

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY | ACCOUNTABILITY | RESPECT | COLLABORATION | RESPONSIVENESS | RECOGNITION

Athletics Strategic Plan Update

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Collectively, Radford Athletics identified four strategic priorities that will shape the department's work over the next five years.

PRIORITY I

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE

Develop future leaders through a culture that promotes excellence, integrity, community engagement, and inclusivity.

PRIORITY III

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Increase self-generated funding by creating new revenue streams and improving existing ones.

PRIORITY II

COMPETITIVE EXCELLENCE

To put our programs in a position to consistently compete for conference championships.

PRIORITY IV

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Raise the prominence of Radford Athletics brand and deepen community impact by delivering a highly engaging fan experience for all.

Competitive Excellence

Women's Golf Wins Big South Championship

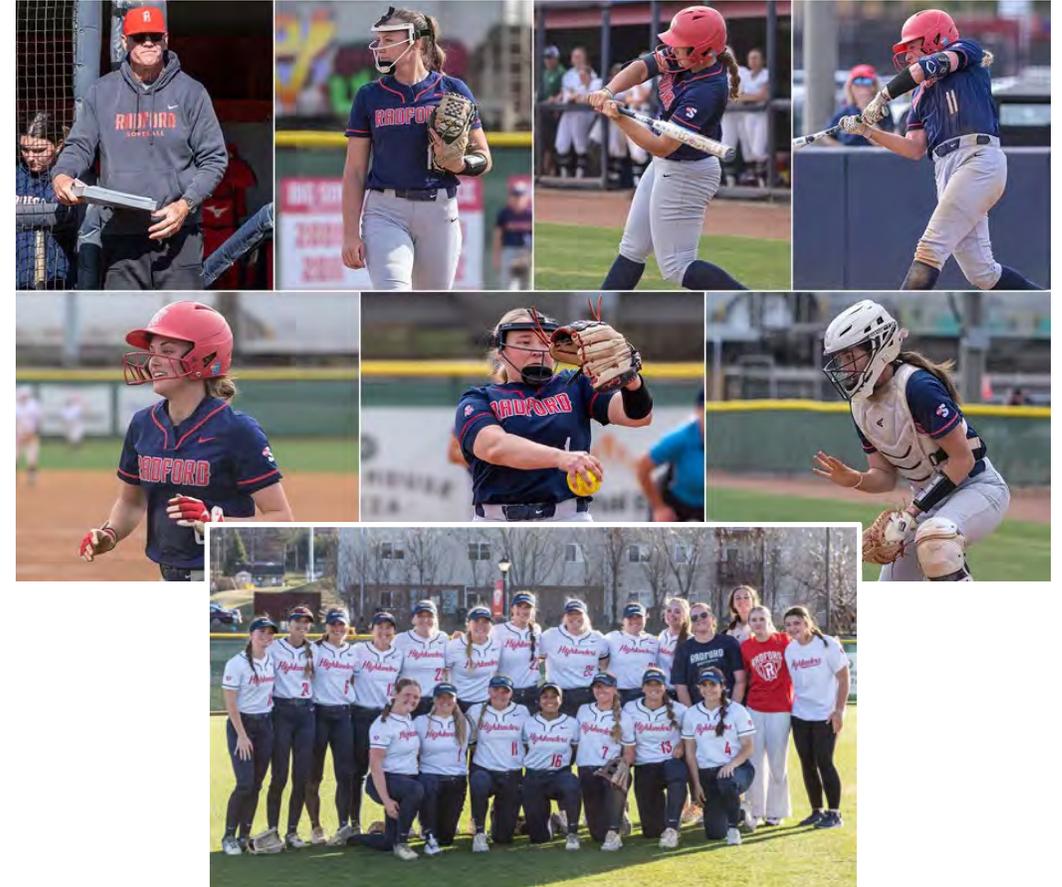
- 1st championship win in program history
- Macy Johnson named First Team All-Conference and Scholar-Athlete of the Year honors
- Selected as the #12 seed in the 2025 NCAA Charlottesville Regional



Competitive Excellence

Softball

- Big South Regular Season Champions
- Dakota Redmon
 - Big South Pitcher of the Year
 - Big South Freshman of the Year
 - First-Team All-Conference
- Cassi Barbato
 - First-Team All-Conference
 - Scholar-Athlete of the Year
 - All-Academic Team Member
- Grace Bechtol, Rachel Smith, Kelley Feigen, and Morgan Cooper all earn All-Conference recognition
- Kevin Fagan – Big South Coach of the Year



Competitive Excellence

Baseball

- Finished the season 28-28 overall (13-11 conference)
- Hunter Keen – 1st Team All-Conference
- Breckin Nace – 2nd Team All-Conference/All Academic Team Member
- James Ward – Big South Honorable Mention
- Eli Hudgins – Big South All-Freshman Team Member

Women's Track & Field

- Finished 5th at the Big South Outdoor Championship
- Sienna Bailey – 5,000-meter champion
- Jeylah Hamrick – 2nd place finish in the 400m
- Danae Niles – 3rd place finish in the 100m



Men's Basketball



MARCUS JENKINS
Associate Head Coach



JORDAN SURENKAMP
Assistant Coach



JOSH ADEL
Assistant Coach



CONOR DOW
Assistant Coach &
Director of Recruiting



DAVID WATKINS
Assistant Coach &
Special Asst. to the Head Coach

2025-26 Schedule: North Carolina, SMU, and tournament at the Greenbrier Resort

Resource Development

Radford Sports Properties Revenue Update (4/30/2025):

- **Overall Revenue:** **\$408,750**
 - Signed Cash \$214,250
 - Signed Trade \$132,000
 - Signed Highlander Club \$62,500
- Overall Percentage to Budget: 86% (\$475,000)

Notes: \$144,000 in multi-year contracts already secured for FY26

2024-25 Fund Drive Final Numbers (4/30/25):

	FY25 (7/1/24 – 4/30/25)	FY25 GOALS	Previous Year (7/1/23 – 6/30/24)
<i>Total New Gifts & Pledges</i>	\$2,368,227	\$1,500,000	\$900,391
<i>Athletic Donors</i>	1,476	1,000	1,236

Notes:
Out of the total 1,476 donors YTD, 777 of them are new donors to the Highlander Club.

Discussion

Minutes



Radford
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Student Affairs and Athletics Committee
1:45 p.m.
March 20, 2025
Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room
Martin Hall, Third Floor, Radford, VA

DRAFT
Minutes

Committee Members Present

Mr. David Smith, Chair
Mr. James C. Turk, Vice Chair
Ms. Callie Dalton
Mr. William C. Davis
Mr. George Mendiola, Jr.
Mr. Onajae Edmund (Non-Voting Student Advisory Member)

Board Members Present

Mr. Marquett Smith, Rector
Mr. Tyler W. Lester, Vice Rector
Mr. Dale S. Ardizzzone
Ms. Jeanne S. Armentrout
Ms. Joann Craig
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert
Mr. Jonathan Sweet
Dr. Matthew Close (Non-Voting Faculty Advisory Member)

Others Present

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President
Ms. Karen Castele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Special Assistant to the President
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Dannette Gomez-Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
Dr. Rob Hoover, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Dr. Angela Joyner, Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education
Dr. Susan Trageser, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Bethany Usher, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Penny White, Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations
Ms. Susan Richardson, University Counsel
Mr. Robert Lineburg, Director of Athletics
Mr. Cory Durand, Deputy Athletics Director

Mr. Bruce Hayden, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students
Ms. Tricia Smith, Associate Vice President for Student Life
Ms. Sheron Henry-Smith, Associate Dean of Students
Ms. Jada Freeman, President, Student Government Association
Ms. Abbi Green, SCHEV Student Representative
Ms. Meridythe Witt, SCHEV Student Representative

Call to Order

Mr. David Smith, Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 1:43 p.m. in the Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Board Room, Radford, Virginia. Mr. Smith welcomed everyone to the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the March 20, 2025 meeting agenda, as published. Mr. James C. Turk so moved, Ms. Callie Dalton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2025 Student Affairs and Athletics Committee meeting, as published. James C. Turk so moved, Ms. Callie Dalton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Student Government Association Report

Student Government Association President Jada Freeman provided an update on the programs and initiatives the Executive Board, Senate and Cabinet Staff members have planned and collaborated for the Spring Semester. SGA continues to deliberate in re-establishing its foundational principles. Active membership has increased to 37 and includes a full Cabinet. Jada reported on the collaborations with other student organizations with a focus on sustainability. Senate continues its legislative work related to safety initiatives and resources through an edition of inSTALLments. The Event Planning Committee is working to raise awareness of Radford University's Career Closet by hosting a Fashion Show.

SCHEV Student Advisory Committee Report

Abbi Green and Meridythe Witt have represented Radford University on the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) of SCHEV this year. They were able to provide an overview of the purpose of the SAC of SCHEV, proceedings and four (4) meetings held. They both served on the Mental Health subcommittee, where they were able to have discussions around advertising and communication of resources and services as well as solutions such as adding LinkTrees to Instagram, student interns to run departmental social media among others.

Student Affairs Report

Vice President for Student Affairs Susan Trageser provided an update on the Division's progress of the Student Employment Initiative. The work on this Enrollment Stabilizing tactic of the two-year goal remains on track toward intended targets. Students employed across the Division of Student Affairs in fall 2024 were retained at 98.4%: 4% higher than the incredibly strong all-campus retention rate of 94%. Students' GPAs consistently increase the longer they are employed. An average of 3.13 GPA after one semester of employment, 3.44 average GPA after three semesters of employment and an average GPA of 3.67 after five semesters of employment. Lastly, Vice President Trageser reported that Career and Talent Development has partnered with Student Affairs to launch the initiative campus-wide in the fall.

Intercollegiate Athletics Report

Director of Athletics Robert Lineburg presented the Athletics update to the Committee. Mr. Lineburg shared that student-athletes for fall 2024 had an amazing academic semester. 16 of 16 athletic programs received a 3.0 GPA or higher. Overall, the department GPA was 3.50. Unfortunately, Radford Men's Tennis was unable to compete in any dual matches this spring due to student-athlete injuries that limited the number of available players. Athletics has partnered with The Zone, a digital health platform focused on enhancing student-athlete wellness. This proactive approach enables early identification and prevention of issues student-athletes may face, promoting a healthier and more supportive athletic environment. Mr. Lineburg reported major changes within Athletics, which include Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) payments, also referred to as "revenue sharing" for student-athletes. New NCAA roster and scholarship adjustments were made and NIL backpay for eligible student-athletes who participated in sports between 2016-2024. Women's indoor track and field finished 4th overall; men's basketball finished 20-13 overall and 9-7 in the conference; and women's basketball finished 14-17 overall and 10-6 in the conference.

Radford University welcomes Zach Chu, the new Head Men's Basketball Coach. Rick Carlisle, Indiana Pacers Head Coach is quoted "Zack Chu is a forward-thinking choice to continue the tradition of Radford University basketball. Where Coach Chu goes, success follows."

Mr. Lineburg provided an update on resource development, which included a revenue update and overall percentage to budget. During RAD48, Highlander Nation joins together for 48 hours to support Radford Athletics, which raised over \$160,000 by 1,275 donors. A 43% increase from the previous year and received a gift from all 50 states!

Lastly Mr. Robert Lineburg concluded with a Save The Date: Red & White Gala on April 25, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the committee, Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Galyean Goff
Executive Assistant to the
Vice President for Student Affairs

End of Board of Visitors Materials

