



The Graduate Review

THE GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL
D. J. MATHEWS, EDITOR

FALL 2009

**RADFORD
UNIVERSITY:**
**Investing in
Lifetimes**

Dean Proud of Increased Enrollment

The 2009-2010 school year has begun on an upbeat note for the Radford University College of Graduate and Professional Studies. The Graduate College experienced a 14 percent increase in applications this past spring, as well as a 10 percent increase in enrollment overall this school year.

“We did a lot more advertising across the state,” especially online, according to Graduate College Dean Dennis Grady. This included ad-

vertising in such places as the *Richmond Times Dispatch* website and the college’s own graduate college website.

In the last year the website has been drastically revised, with a “moving” column containing updated information on the various majors available, which anyone on the home page can view. Of course, the home page also contains informative links to graduate course catalogs, application forms, faculty contacts



Dean Dennis Grady

and past Graduate College and Graduate Student Council newsletters.

Dean Grady says “redoing the web pages has had a positive impact” on enrollment and inquiries. Many students do major class searches
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Our GSC President speaks...



Dear
Highlanders,

Hello,

My name is Matt Shelor, President of the Graduate Student Council. A true leader is not one who gives orders, but one who takes the time to make the people and the university better. I take great pride in

leading the graduate student body during the 2009-2010 school year. And I have one major goal for the year.

My goal is to make sure the students come first. I am your president and this is your university. I invite all of you
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Dean Proud of Enrollment... (continued from page one)



and college applications online, which the graduate college staff has kept in mind.

Grady himself has a cup of coffee and reads the morning “news-paper” on his laptop computer every day. He recognizes the fact that more and more people are getting their news and information online, so why not prospective grad students?

“It’s free and more convenient,” he points out.

The Graduate College also did a number of persistent “follow-ups” with each inquiry, which helped increase

the enrollment numbers.

He is particularly proud of the success of advertising that has attracted a graduate population that is 59 percent non-R.U. natives, even from other states. The online applications are convenient, but this is also a convenient time for the many career minded out there because of a poor job market. So “the economy has some part of it,” Grady believes.

The Graduate College has taken an interest in the ever expanding field of healthcare.

Grady points out the Doctorate of Psychology (Psy-D) program was started last year, and the Masters in Occupational Therapy was added this school year (2009-2010). Plans are now in place to introduce the Doctorate of Nursing Practice next year, then the Doctorate of Physical Therapy after that. Healthcare is a huge field in “desperate need of educators,” he believes. This will become especially important as the U. S. population ages and needs more assistance.

“We’re targeting to have another increase” in applications for the 2010-2011 school year, Grady predicts. The college’s 7-17 plan calls for growing “larger and better graduate programs.”



GSC President Speaks... (from page one)

to email me at mshelor3@radford.edu with any issues about your courses or life here at R. U. I embrace the mission to make Radford a place graduate students can truly call their own.



The Graduate College

DID YOU KNOW ?

Nearby Virginia Polytechnic Institute is a land grant college, chartered

not long after the Civil War. It has a major goal of research, unlike schools like Radford University, JMU and Norfolk State,

which are considered “comprehensive” colleges because they offer both undergraduate and graduate majors.

Editor Wins Writing Contest

by D. J. Mathews

For the past few years the R.U. English Club, which is open to all year students, has held a horror contest, in honor of Halloween. And since it is close to the mid point in the semester, there can still be some time for a little extra writing — that must have been my motivation for entering the English Club’s second

annual horror story.

And what was my inspiration for what turned out to be a winner in the “funniest” horror story category? Edgar Allan Poe, of course. I had read his short story, “The Black Cat,” and wondered if I could do a similar story in the first person. But Poe’s character, who cuts out his cat’s eye and eventually kills his wife, was obviously deranged. I

wanted to conceive a story that was a bit lighter than that.

In “The Two Tone Cat” the narrator works for the very odd Farmer White, whose heart doesn’t turn out to be pure. He sips from a tureen instead of using a spoon and dances with his cat at the town barn dance. The narrator’s work shack has no electricity. In the end, a two toned cat saves her from death by fire.

GSC Game Night Proves a Success



Our SGA Rep Colin enjoys some pizza Fri. night.

students got together for some pizza, games and some relaxation at “The Bonnie” game room the evening of November 6. Close to 30

grad students came out to eat, bowl and try their hand at pool room games. And everyone was able to hang out and relax, if only for a little while.



It was a week past Halloween and a few weeks past the mid point of the semester when some hungry graduate

Looking to the Future For December Graduates

Even though an unexpected snowfall canceled out hooding and graduation ceremonies for seniors and grad students, it is hoped it didn’t dampen the spirit of adventure that these new students are embarking on. The job market will be tight.

One grad student who’s already been out in the working world, at

least part time, was MFA student Jason Lancaster. Those who remember him at the graduate college will not forget his penchant for peanut butter and Ramen noodles. And he is wished luck back in North Carolina.

At www.savingadvice.com it says that to use your degree to your advantage there are a few things

you can do. Networking with alumni in your field is a definite plus, as is keeping your resume as up-to-date as possible. Take courses to keep learning in your field and to keep your brain actively learning.

It’s recommended to eat healthy foods, even if you’re on your own and mom isn’t watching. Lastly, thank those who have inspired you.

SGA Expresses Concerns on Printing This Semester

This semester graduate and undergrad students arrived on campus to some changes. A few of changes, like requiring students to eat in at the dining halls to save on use of take out materials and cut costs, relatively few complained about. But many complained about the cost of printing papers.

During the spring of 2009 students got five dollars' worth of printing, at basically a

penny a page. Students complained to Student Government members, who did some investigating into who uses how much paper during a semester. Their quick poll found that R.U. students, on average, printed 25 pages a week (or 350 a semester, and 700 a year). Last school year students received ten dollars in printing money (and at a penny a page it is basically free).

This year 25 pages cost \$1.25 a week or \$17.50 a semester. SGA finds this is a lot for students who aren't

used to paying for their printing. Nursing majors are especially hard hit as the SGA finds they may print 50 to 100 pages a week.

Students have since learned that R. U. had made it very easy for their students, but elsewhere college students were charged more; and it looks like these costs are here to stay.

SGA has asked professors for more online

assignments, for both economic and environmental reasons at this time.

GSC NEEDS

YOU

The Graduate Student Council wants more members. If you are interested in meeting others like yourself, contact Pres. Mark Shelor: mshelor3@radford.edu



What's In Store For Graduate Students

What's in store for graduate students in the future at Radford University? Would they like more of a presence on campus? Do they really want their vote to count?

A survey was emailed to grad students this fall by Donna Spradlin, Director of Graduate Recruiting and Retention, about that presence on campus. The survey asked if students, given the chance to live on campus, would be willing to reside in an on campus dormitory set aside specifically for them. Thirty percent in the poll expressed an interest in the

idea. In the past the college has had apartments set aside for married couples, so why not grad students?

There are also plans in the works for a student center just for graduate students. This is several years away, but would be a good way to

meet others and perhaps get more involved in the GSC and make friends.



Robinson College Building, Cambridge, England