

Experience Business...

Spring 2009 Newsletter

RU COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
RADFORD UNIVERSITY



Mission Statement:

The mission of the Radford University College of Business and Economics is to provide an active learning environment focused on developing responsible business professionals who can work collaboratively to compete in a dynamic global economy. We emphasize intellectual contributions that advance practice, pedagogy and knowledge of our disciplines.

Radford University Maintains Prestigious AACSB International Business Accreditation

The Radford University College of Business and Economics has maintained its business accreditation by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Founded in 1916, AACSB International is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.

AACSB accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business education and has been earned by less than five percent of the world's business schools. Today, there are 567 business schools in 33 countries that maintain AACSB accreditation.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for our dedicated faculty, staff and students, and I would like to commend and thank my colleagues for their hard work to ensure we achieved this remarkable honor," said Faye Gilbert, dean of COBE. "Our re-accreditation by the AACSB only emphasizes RU's commitment to cultivate a high quality, challenging and rigorous academic environment. Additionally, this announcement underlines RU's goal set forth in its 7-17 strategic plan to become one of the nation's leading public comprehensive institutions." [AACSB Full Story](#)

Building a New Future

In April 2008, the Virginia General Assembly approved a \$1.5 billion bond package that incorporated two important building projects for RU, including a new \$44.2 million signature building for the College of Business and Economics.

This 107,082 square foot signature building will feature a multitude of innovative concepts and cutting edge technology, including Sympodiums, a version of Smart Board with the connectivity of a laptop; a battery exchange station where students may replace their laptop batteries instead of utilizing plug-ins; classrooms on wheels where every piece of furniture will move; breakout study rooms; large lecture rooms in a landscape format; and executive-style places for undergraduate and graduate students to gather and interact with faculty. Plans may also include an amphitheatre.

COBE is excited to announce that Glavé & Holmes Associates (Richmond), in association with Ayers/Saint/Gross (Baltimore), will serve as the architects for the college's signature building. A construction manager at risk will be contracted in this project, which will be supported in part by private funding. The architects are expected to be on campus in April to meet with constituents to discuss building design.

In Other COBE News...

- For the fifth time in six years, members of the RU Student Managed Investment Portfolio Organization (SMIPO) were invited to present their work at the international Reinventing Investment Strategy Education (RISE) symposium at the University of Dayton. "Each year, an invitation to present is limited to the top four performing student managed portfolios in each investment category. In total, more than 250 schools from around the globe participate in the symposium, and most of them compete," explained Steve Beach, SMIPO advisor and associate professor of finance in RU's College of Business and Economics. "SMIPO's consistent performance reflects the incredible dedication and work of the students, where they apply sophisticated investment knowledge they acquire during their studies at RU. I am so proud of our SMIPO students, who repeatedly show that they are well prepared for the next steps in their exciting personal journeys." [SMIPO Competition Full Story](#)
- COBE strives to engage its students outside of the classroom. Recently, economics professor Alex Orlov and eight of his students attended "A Day at the Fed" at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Students learned about monetary policy and related issues from prominent researchers and administrators. The trip also provided excellent networking opportunities for the students who were able to interact with researchers, HR representatives and students from other universities. [A Day at the Fed Full Story](#)
- In February, teachers from Salem, Roanoke Co., Craig Co., Washington Co., Wythe Co., Grayson Co., Alleghany Co. and Wise Co. gathered at Radford University to attend a Federal Reserve workshop hosted by RU's Center for Economic Education. Richmond Federal Reserve Bank representatives Amanda Gibson, Lis Turner and John Walter conducted the daylong workshop, which introduced teachers to federal resources used for teaching topics related to the history of the banking system, from the Great Depression through today. [Federal Reserve Workshop Full Story](#)
- In March, RU's international co-ed business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi co-sponsored "Landing a Job in a Difficult Economy" with keynote speaker Tim Augustine. The interactive seminar was based on Augustine's nationally acclaimed book *How Hard Are You Knocking?* As a former vice president of human resources and a corporate recruiter for a major software company in Chicago, Augustine provided RU students with tips on how to develop a successful job search strategy, how to research potential employers and how to interview like a veteran.
- A new honor fraternity for management, Sigma Iota Epsilon (SIE), was chartered in the fall of 2008 with 39 initial members. This semester, approximately 25 new members will be inducted into the society, which is under the direction of management professor Jerry Kopf. SIE student members are recognized as being the top achievers in their program. Membership into the society is by invitation only; undergraduates must have a minimum GPA of 3.25 and graduate students must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 in order to be eligible. To learn more about SIE, visit <http://sie.asp.radford.edu/>.
- David Shanks, director of RU's Small Business Development Center (SBDC), has secured a \$39,000 grant from Patrick County Entrepreneurship Training, which is funded by the Patrick County Education Foundation to provide training in Patrick Co. To learn more, visit the SBDC website at <http://bac.asp.radford.edu/SBDC/>.
- RU's Governmental and Nonprofit Assistance Center (GNAC), under the leadership of director Bruce Chase, began extending its popular nonprofit training program to Wythe and Bland counties through a new partnership with Wytheville Community College (WCC). WCC established a Nonprofit Development Program offered through RU's Nonprofit Leadership and Management Development Certificate Program. Available to eligible nonprofit employees, board members and volunteers in the Wythe-Bland area, the 80-hour program will be designed to offer a variety of classes for Wythe-Bland nonprofit organizations so that they may better serve the citizens of their counties. There are approximately 40 nonprofit organizations in the Wythe-Bland counties. [GNAC Full Story](#)

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