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. 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.”

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.

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 Re-inventing 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 professional journeys.”

• 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.

• In February, teachers from Salem, Roanoke Co., Craig Co., Washington Co., Wythe 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 Walker 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.

• 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 unite 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.

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.

AACSB Full Story

SMIPO Competition Full Story

Federal Reserve Workshop Full Story

SMIPO Competition Full Story

GNAC Full Story

Photo Credit: COBE