

## **17-18.21—Motion to Create the Radford Academic Values Exploration Team**

Referred by: Faculty Senate Executive Council

### **MOTION:**

The Faculty Senate recommends the establishment of the Radford Academic Values Exploration Team to explore the fundamental academic values for the potential revision of general education curriculum at Radford University.

To ensure diversity and equity of representation of many perspectives and that all faculty have access to provide input into that process, the team will be comprised of 2 full time Teaching and Research faculty representatives nominated and elected from each college (CHBS, ACSAT, COBE, CVPA, CHED, Waldron, and Jefferson) will serve as voting members on the team.

Although these voting members are elected at the college level, their mission will be to represent views from across the Radford University community.

Additional appointed, advisory, non-voting members will include:

- 1 facilitator/chair, the Interim Director of Core Curriculum;
- 1 member from the McConnell Library;
- 1 member from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement;
- 1 member from Student Affairs;
- 1 member from the Center for Career and Talent Development;
- 1 member from advising;
- 1 member from the Student Government Association; and
- 1 member who is an alumnus.

With the exception of the facilitator/chair, each of these advisory members will be appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council in consultation with each appropriate unit on campus.

The team charges are to:

- 1) Solicit input from a wide range of stakeholders (students, faculty, alumni, advisors, etc.) to learn about the fundamental academic values that define a Radford University general education;
- 2) Identify a possible set of fundamental academic values for the general education curriculum shared across the Radford University community; and
- 3) By October 8, 2018, develop and submit a set of recommendations on the fundamental academic values that should define the general education curriculum for Radford University, to be submitted for review and approval by the Faculty Senate.

### **RATIONALE:**

Broad review of general education at Radford University has not been conducted within the past ten years. To ensure the academic success of our students and in light of the new Strategic Plan,

the Radford University faculty should determine the academic values that should be at the heart of the general education curriculum as first step in determining whether a long-term revision is necessary. Identifying these values will also enable the faculty to align the general education curriculum with the accrediting expectations of SACSCOC, and SCHEV. Moreover, the engagement of faculty in the identification of the fundamental academic values of general education will allow for a campus wide conversation about the role of general education in the success of our students.

To allow for diversity in background, experience, and expertise and to respect the role of faculty in the ownership of curriculum, two full time teaching and research faculty from each college will comprise the voting members of the proposed team. The inclusion of two faculty from Jefferson College recognizes the diversity of faculty on that campus and provides a crucial opportunity for those faculty to engage in this process alongside their Radford University colleagues. College faculty will be nominated and asked to provide short 3 to 5 sentence statements about their interest in general education to be included with the voting forms within each college. Although elected at the college level, the intent of this motion is to form a diverse team that will represent views gathered from across the campus and which will not be constrained to representing specific constituents.

To promote transparency and open communication, this process will include a broad digital platform and open public forums to allow for widespread input. Additionally, regular Senate reports will be expected as will campus wide dissemination of updates from the team as this process moves forward.

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