



Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee
8:15 a.m.**
September 5, 2024
Mary Ann Jennings Hovis Memorial Board Room
Martin Hall, Radford, VA

Committee Members Present

Ms. Jeanne S. Armentrout, Chair
Ms. Betsy D. Beamer, Vice Chair
Mr. Dale S. Ardizzone
Mr. William C. Davis
Ms. Lisa W. Pompa
Dr. Matthew Close, Non-voting Faculty Advisory Representative

DRAFT
Minutes

Board Members Present

Mr. Marquett Smith, Rector
Mr. Tyler W. Lester, Vice Rector
Ms. Joann S. Craig
Ms. Callie M. Dalton
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Mrs. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert
Mr. George Mendiola, Jr.
Mr. David A. Smith
Mr. Jonathan D. Sweet
Mr. James C. Turk

Others Present

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President
Dr. Bethany Usher, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Jeffery Aspelmeier, Interim Dean of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Dannette Gomez Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
Dr. Jerel Benton, Assistant Provost for Student Success
Dr. Donna Boyd, Eminent Professor of Anthropological Sciences
Ms. Karen Castele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Special Assistant to the President
Dr. Susan Trageser, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Wendy Downey, Dean for the College of Nursing
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives
Mr. Don Hall, Manager for Academic Applications and Training
Dr. Robert Hoover, Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO
Dr. Angela Joyner, Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education

Dr. Agida Manizade, Interim Assistant Provost, Graduate Affairs
Dr. Donna McCloskey, Dean for the Davis College of Business and Economics
Ms. Margaret McManus, University Auditor
Mr. Patrick Reed, Director of Executive Communications
Ms. Susan Richardson, University Counsel
Ms. Penny White, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Madelina Yates, Student Speaker

Call to Order

Ms. Jeanne Armentrout, Chair, formally called the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. in the Board Room of Martin Hall.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Jeanne Armentrout asked for a motion to approve the September 5, 2024 agenda for the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, as published. A motion was made by Ms. Betsy Beamer, seconded by Mr. Dale Ardizzone, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Jeanne Armentrout asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2024 meeting of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee meeting, as published. A motion was made by Ms. Betsy Beamer, seconded by Mr. Dale Ardizzone and the motion carried unanimously.

Presentation

Madelina Yates, Student Speaker and Dr. Donna Boyd, Eminent Professor of Anthropological Sciences gave a presentation on the application of forensic nursing to mitigation of suicide risk after sexual assault.

Academic Affairs Update

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Bethany Usher began by giving an overview of the Division of Academic Affairs. The mission statement for Academic Affairs shows that they cultivate an inclusive, experiential learning environment that ignites lifelong curiosity, and empowers graduates to lead thriving communities through service, research and innovation.

Provost Usher shared that the leadership team in Academic Affairs has been redesigned, and all positions are currently filled. There will be searches this year to have permanent Deans for the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences and for the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Academic Affairs accounts for about 75% of the total budget for Radford, with over 600 employees. Radford University has 414 Teaching and Research Faculty in seven schools. Enrollment trends show that the student population is stabilizing, which, with cautious optimism, means that we can stabilize the number of faculty.

Provost Usher provided an update on progress of the 2-year Strategic Plan. Provost Usher, in partnership with Faculty Senate and academic units, continues to implement a Curriculum Lifecycle to define an intentional catalog of programs that are distinctive to Radford, which will include opening new programs, adapting current programs, and closing some degree programs that are redundant. The Curriculum Lifecycle will be a cycle of continuous adaptation, not a one-time process.

Provost Usher mentioned that work-related experiential education continues to be a focus, and Radford is focusing on developing the eight NACE competencies for all graduates through internships, undergraduate research, on-campus employment, practica, student teaching and all other hands-on experiences.

In closing, Provost Usher shared the excellent news that retention is up in almost every category of students, which along with strong enrollment, is a driving force in stabilizing the student population earlier than expected.

Announcement - Emeritus Faculty

Provost Usher presented the names of the retired professors who have been awarded emeritus status.

- Dr. Eric Du Plessis, Professor of English
- Dr. Louis Gallo, Professor of English
- Dr. Jonathan Tso, Associate Professor of Geology
- Dr. Robert Williams, Professor of English (Posthumous)

Recommendation and Action Item

Provost Usher discussed the College of Nursing Organization Resolution to revise the department structure of the College of Nursing. Ms. Jeanne Armentrout asked for a motion to present to the full Board for approval. Ms. Betsy Beamer so moved, Mr. William Davis seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. A copy of the proposed resolution is attached hereto as **Attachment A** and is made a part hereof.

Faculty Senate Update

Faculty Representative to the Board of Visitors, Dr. Matthew Close reported on summer activities and reiterated his alignment with the Provost on the priorities of the 2024-2025 academic year in updating processes, revising the General Education/REAL program, and updating the handbook.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, Ms. Jeanne Armentrout adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Stike
Executive Assistant to the
Vice President for Enrollment Management
and Strategic Communications

**RADFORD UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

**RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE
OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING**

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Board of Visitors approved to change the name of the School of Nursing to the College of Nursing; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revised department structure for the College of Nursing more appropriately aligns with the administrative structure of that academic unit and will align with the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the proposed department structure was approved by a vote of the faculty of the College of Nursing and was subsequently recommended by a vote of the Teaching and Research Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, the proposed departmental structure has a net-neutral effect on the budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Academic Excellence and Research Committee recommends that the Board of Visitors approves to revise the department structure of the College of Nursing as proposed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and/or designee(s) are hereby authorized to submit any and all documentation that may be required to receive approval of the revised department structure to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Motion to Revise the Department Structure of the College of Nursing

Referred by: Governance Committee

MOTION:

The Faculty Senate supports the College of Nursing's proposed revision of its organizational structure to two departments

1. Department of Undergraduate Nursing
2. Department of Graduate Nursing

RATIONALE:

This proposal was approved by a vote of the College of Nursing faculty on August 12, 2024. Although the College of Nursing was formed in January 2024, the college does not align with the structure of other colleges and departments at Radford University. Functionally, the college has three units with "chairs," known as academic unit heads. Thus, the creation of departments within the college more appropriately aligns with the administrative structure of a college and with the *Radford University Teaching & Research Faculty Handbook*.

In order to accommodate the very large number of students and faculty in the BSN degree program (CIP 51.3801), the Undergraduate Nursing department will have two co-chairs – one for pre-licensure BSN and one for post-licensure RN to BSN. The Graduate Nursing department would only have one chair to house the graduate nursing CIP codes (51.3802, 51.3805, 51.3818).

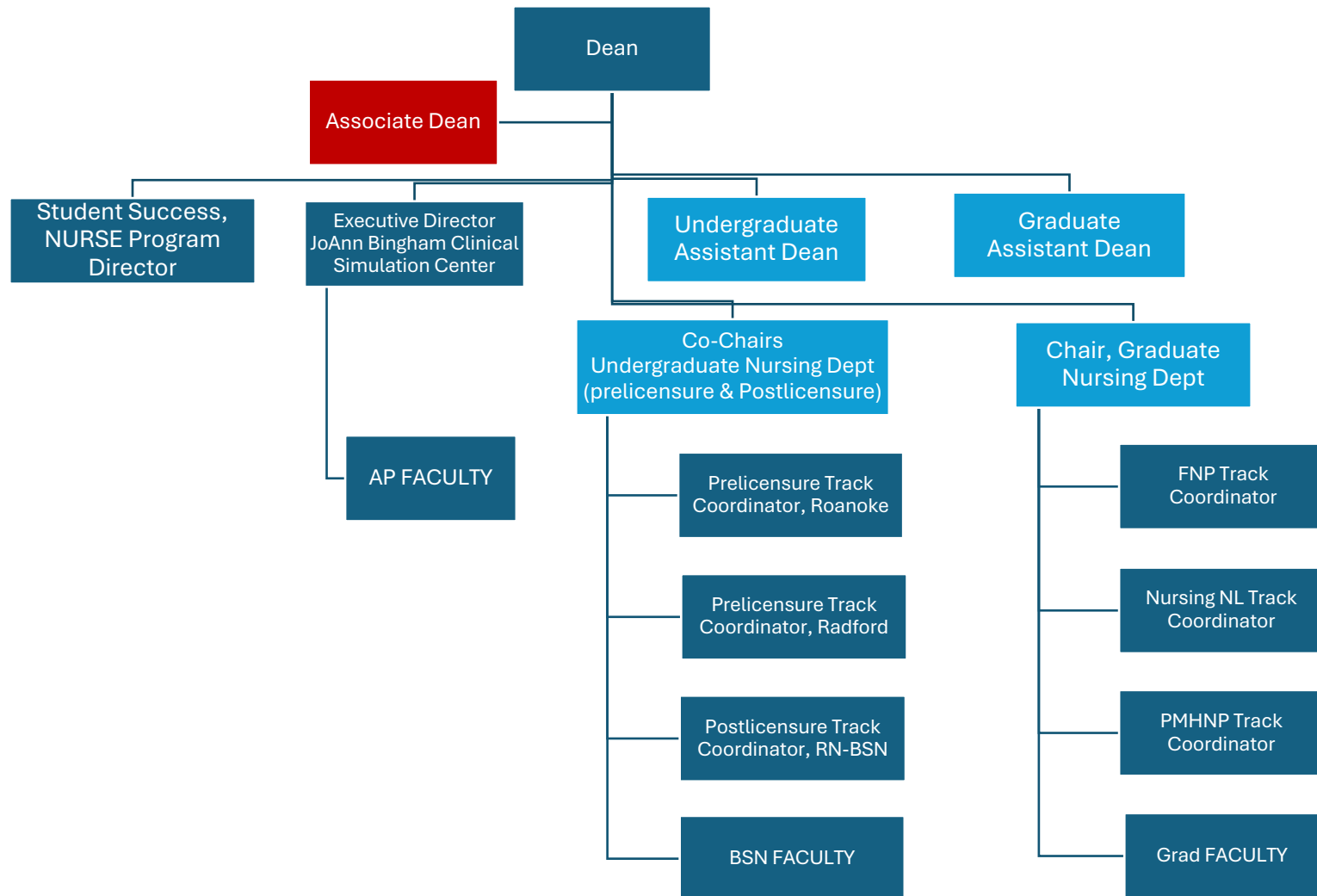
The change to the proposed departmental structure has a net-neutral effect on the budget. Associate Dean, Assistant Dean, and Chair stipends will come from funds already provided to the university for nursing education by the Commonwealth but not yet allocated.

The number of faculty and students in each department will be as follows:

- Department of Undergraduate Nursing
 - o Faculty: 40
 - o Students: 1,242
- Department of Graduate Nursing
 - o Faculty: 13
 - o Students: 130

The college also has a significant number of adjuncts throughout all programs, primarily for the clinical components of courses and online post licensure and graduate courses.

Proposed College of Nursing Organizational Structure



End of Board of Visitors Materials

