Board of Visitors September 2026 Quarterly Meeting

September 2026

Radford UNIVERSITY

Meeting Book - September 2026 Quarterly Board of Visitors Meeting

September Quarterly Board of Visitors Agenda

9:00 a.m.	Board of Visitors Quarterly Meeting	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Call to Order and Opening Comments	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Approval of Agenda	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Approval of June Quarterly Meeting Minutes	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Approval of July Retreat Meeting Minutes	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	President's Report	Dr. Bret Danilowicz
	Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee Report	Dr. Betty Jo Foster
	Business Affairs and Audit Committee Report	Ms. Joann Craig
	Approval of 2026-2027 audit plan	
	Approval of 2025-2026 six-year plan	
	Approval of Radford University's 2026-2027 operating budget	
	Approval of revised Weapons policy	
	Enrollment Management and Brand Equity Committee Report	Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert
	External Engagement Committee Report	Ms. Betsy Beamer
	Student Affairs and Athletics Committee Report	Mr. David Smith
	Report on the Radford University Foundation	Ms. Mary Anne Holbrook
	Closed Session	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Executive Committee Report	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Approval of 2026-2027 Performance Plan	
	2026-2027 Performance Plan Resolution	
	Report to the Board of Visitors from the Student Representative to the Board	Mr. Jeremiah Garretson
	Other Business	Mr. Dale Ardizzone
	Announcements 2026 December 3rd and 4th 2027 March 11th and 12th June 3rd and 4th July Retreat 18th, 19th, and 20th	Mr. Dale Ardizzone

September 16th and 17th
December 2nd and 3rd

Adjournment — Mr. Dale Ardizzone

Timing Disclaimer

Please note that all start times are approximate only. The Board meeting either may begin before or after the listed approximate start time as Board members are ready to proceed.

Board Members

Mr. Dale S. Ardizzone, Rector
Mrs. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, Vice Rector
Mr. Tyler Lester, Rector Emeritus
Ms. Betsy D. Beamer
Ms. Joann Craig
Ms. Callie M. Dalton
Mr. William C. Davis
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Mrs. Mary Anne Holbrook
Mr. Chris Settle
Mr. David A. Smith
Mr. Jonathan Sweet
Ms. Nancy Rice
Ms. Jeanne Fishwick
Ms. Stacey Brayboy

Meeting Materials

Radford
UNIVERSITY

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Business Affairs & Audit Committee
September 17, 2026

Action Item
Approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Office of Audit and Advisory Services Audit Plan

Item:
Board of Visitors approval of the FY 2027 Office of Audit and Advisory Services Audit Plan.

Background:
The Office of Audit and Advisory Services, the internal audit function for Radford University (University), was established by the Board of Visitors (Board) as an integral part of the overall internal control structure of the University.

The Board-approved *Internal Audit Charter* (University Policy GEN-PO-1005) describes the general purpose, authority, and responsibility of the Office of Audit and Advisory Services. The *Internal Audit Charter* designates the University Auditor as the Chief Audit Executive, which is the senior position that is responsible for effectively managing the internal audit function. The University Auditor is responsible for ensuring that the internal audit function conforms with the *Internal Audit Charter* as well as with the mandatory elements of The Institute of Internal Auditors' International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF). The University Auditor is also responsible for developing an annual audit plan, considering the input of senior management and the Business Affairs and Audit Committee (BAAC).

The Institute of Internal Auditors IPPF requires that the audit plan be approved by the Board; therefore, approval of the FY 2027 Audit Plan is needed to assist with compliance with those requirements.

Action:
Radford University Board of Visitors approval of FY 2027 Audit Plan.

Radford University Board of Visitors

Resolution

Performance Plan Approval for 2026-2027

President Bret Danilowicz

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Visitors hereby approves President Bret Danilowicz's Performance Plan for 2026-2027, as discussed in closed session on July 21, 2026, and that said performance plan pursuant to Section E of the Employment Agreement with President Bret Danilowicz, dated December 7, 2021, is considered a personnel record.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Business Affairs & Audit Committee
September 17, 2026

Action Item
Affirm Radford University's 2026 Six-Year Plan Adjustments

Item:
Board of Visitors affirmation of Radford University's 2026 Six-Year Plan as required by § 23.1-306.

Background:
In response to the requirements outlined in § 23.1-306 of the Code of Virginia, attached is a summary of Radford University's adjusted 2026 Six-Year Plan and Memorandum submitted to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) by the stated deadline of July 1, 2026.

As a mandate established through the "*Preparing for the Top Jobs of the 21st Century: The Virginia Higher Education Act of 2011" (TJ21)* legislation, governing boards of each public institution of higher education shall develop and adopt biennially and amend or affirm annually a six-year plan for their institution. This requires the plans to be submitted to the State Council for Higher Education of Virginia each odd-numbered year and requires any amendments or affirmations to existing plans to be submitted each even-numbered year.

The Op-Six, which includes the Secretary of Finance, Secretary of Education, Director of the Department of Planning & Budget, Director of State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and the staff directors of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee, and their staff maintained a particular focus on:

- Adapting to shifts in student/enrollment pipelines in the design and operations of institutions and programs
- Continuing to innovate on how to best prepare students for success and meet the state's evolving labor market needs
- Ensuring both tuition payers and taxpayers are getting the greatest possible return on their higher education investment

The original strategies identified in the 2025 Six-Year Plan carried forward to the 2026 Six Year Plan and were developed collaboratively with each operating division. It is further supported by the University's Strategic Plan: *Shaping Tomorrow – Together*. The funding of the proposed strategies is subject to change unless incremental general fund support is received. Additionally, approval of tuition and fees is the responsibility of the Board of Visitors and may be adjusted based upon factors such as incremental general fund support, legislative requirements, projected enrollment, and prioritization of strategies to implement

Part I is an Excel template with five components for data entry that includes In-state Undergraduate Tuition and Fee Increase Rate, Tuition & Other Non-general Fund Revenue, Academic-Financial Plan, General Fund Requests, and Financial Aid Plan. Part II provides a narrative summary of the proposed strategies and a strategic deep dive into enrollment, program alignment and performance, financial effectiveness and sustainability, and budget request.

Action:
Radford University Board of Visitors affirms Radford University's 2026 Six-Year Plan Adjustments.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Resolution

Approval of Radford University's 2026 Six-Year Plan
September 18, 2026

WHEREAS, the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 became effective July 1, 2011, and requires each public institution of higher education in Virginia to develop and submit an institutional six-year plan; and

WHEREAS, § 23.1-306 of the Act requires, "*The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall (i) develop and adopt biennially and amend or affirm annually a six-year plan for the institution; (ii) submit such plan to the Council* (State Council of Higher Education for Virginia)*, the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance no later than July 1 of each odd-numbered year; and (iii) submit amendments to or an affirmation of that plan no later than July 1 of each even-numbered year or at any other time permitted by the Governor or General Assembly*"; and

WHEREAS, Radford University prepared a six-year plan in accordance with the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 and guidelines provided by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the University submitted the six-year plan to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia by the stated deadline of July 1, 2026 for the 2026 submission; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Six-Year Plan adjustments must be affirmed by the Board of Visitors prior to the October 1 final submission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Radford University Board of Visitors affirms the Radford University 2026 Six-Year Plan adjustments (Part I and Part II) as presented in the format provided by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University is authorized to revise the 2026 Six-Year Plan as required by State officials for final submission by the stated deadline.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Business Affairs & Audit Committee
September 17, 2026

Action Item
Approval of the Radford University 2026-27 Operating Budget

Item:

Board of Visitors approval of the Radford University 2026-27 operating budget.

Executive Summary:

Each year, the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration & Chief Financial Officer is responsible for presenting Radford University's projected annual operating budget to the Board of Visitors for the upcoming fiscal year. The 2026-27 operating budget was developed in consideration of projected enrollment levels, actions taken by the Governor and General Assembly during the 2026 Special Session, Board-approved tuition and fee rates, the strategic goals of the University, and the economic outlook.

Anchored by a foundational "Culture of Care," Radford University is beginning to move steadily forward with its new six-year strategic vision, *Shaping Tomorrow – Together (2026–2031)*, designed to empower brighter futures and build stronger communities. Taking advantage of recent momentum in enrollment, program quality, and student success, this long-term framework guides the institution's direction by aligning resources to capitalize on core strengths, including a diverse student population, robust academic offerings, solid infrastructure, and dedicated faculty and staff.

The Commonwealth's general fund revenues remain resilient, enabling state investments across public higher education in the newly enacted 2026–2028 Biennial Budget (effective July 1, 2026). Key highlights include:

- **Need-Based Financial Aid:** The state allocated $59 million over the biennium specifically for undergraduate need-based financial aid.
- **Faculty & Staff Compensation:** The budget enacted a 3.5% salary increase for eligible classified state employees and higher education faculty and was effective July 25, 2026.
- **Strategic Alignment & Restructuring:** The state continues to emphasize long-term institutional efficiency, encouraging universities to align strategic operations with statewide goals for degree completion and cost containment.

In alignment with these state priorities, Radford University continues to take a disciplined, conservative approach to managing institutional resources. By maintaining strict fiscal stewardship and optimizing existing operational capacity, Radford ensures that state investments and university assets are deployed effectively to sustain academic quality, preserve college affordability, and advance the strategic vision of the university.

Six-Year Planning Processes and 2026-27 Budget Development:

The Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011 (TJ21) was passed by the 2011 General Assembly and is based on recommendations from the Governor's Commission on Higher Education Reform, Innovation and Investment, which was formed through Executive Order No. 9 issued in March 2010. The TJ21 legislation requires institutions of higher education to prepare and submit a "Six-Year Plan" by July 1st each year in accordance with criteria outlined by the Higher Education Advisory Committee (HEAC).

As an integral part of the six-year planning process, the University's internal annual budget development cycle provides the opportunity to reevaluate the essential needs for the upcoming fiscal year and outline divisional priorities for the outlying years. The budget development review engages key personnel and provides a consistent mechanism to prioritize funding requests and strategically align the institution's long-range goals with projected resources. The Board approved the final 2025-26 Six-Year Plan as of December 5, 2025.

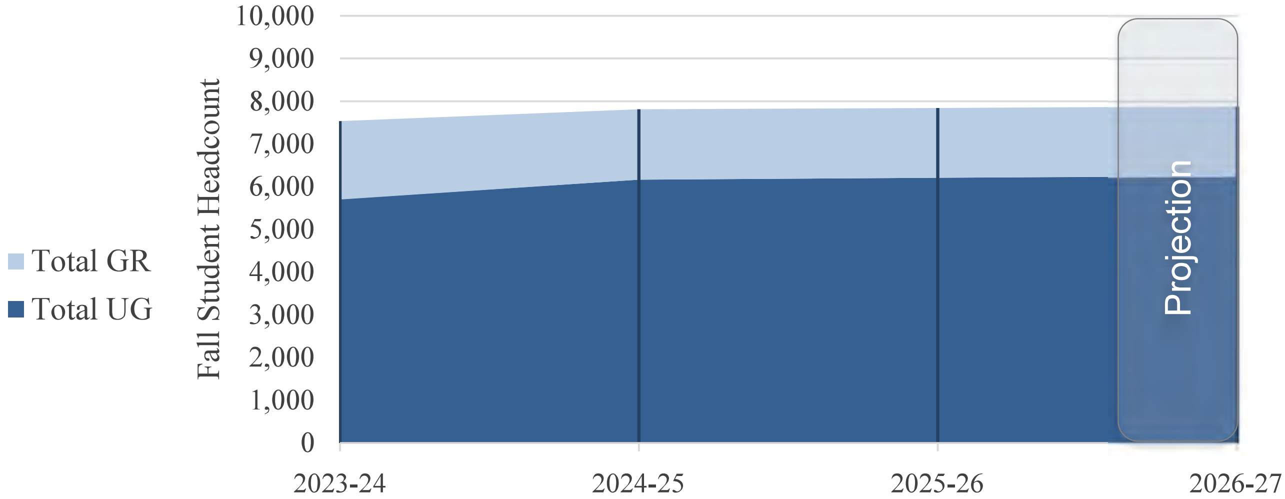
Enrollment Trend:

The enrollment profile below focuses on reporting core student demographics and residency metrics. Between 2023–24 and 2026–27, total headcount expanded from 7,531 to a projected 7,880, driven primarily by strong undergraduate growth from 5,704 to 6,250 students. Concurrently, graduate enrollment stabilized from an initial peak of 1,827 down to a steady baseline of 1,630. On the residency front, the institutional footprint has become increasingly localized, with in-state students rising from 88.9% to 90.9% of the student body, while out-of-state representation experienced a proportional decline from 11.1% down to 9.1%.

For the upcoming 2026-27 academic year, adoption of a conservative flat-growth model serves to hold total student headcount steady. Grounding revenue projections in level headcount allows executive leadership to establish a stable multi-year operational framework, ensuring that core university operations, instructional capacity, and campus resources remain fully aligned with current scale before committing to future expansion initiatives.

From a strategic and governance standpoint, maintaining a flat enrollment baseline represents the most fiscally responsible path forward. This conservative model directly insulates institutional revenue against the broader regional higher education "demographic cliff" and shrinking traditional K-12 pipelines. Furthermore, given the observed multi-year decline in higher-yielding out-of-state enrollments, projecting level headcount prevents structural budget deficits and shifts operational priorities toward student retention and completion. Budgeting under flat assumptions protects faculty lines and essential services, ensuring that any unmodeled growth manifests as an operational surplus rather than a budget shortfall.

Total Fall Student Headcount: Historical & Projected Trends



GR	1827	1651	1631	1630
UG	5704	6161	6206	6250
IS	88.9%	89.8%	90.5%	90.9%
OoS	11.1%	10.2%	9.5%	9.1%

Mandatory Cost Increases:

The University compiled the fiscal year 2027 budget with the information provided during the 2026 General Assembly Session and estimates that were anticipated to impact future funding considerations as shown below:

2026-27 General Assembly Estimated Impact Summary

	2026-27
E&G - Educational & General	
Compensation Adjustments *	$1,900,271
Fringe/Central System Changes*	1,056,344
Total E&G General Fund Recommendations	**$2,956,615**
SFA - Student Financial Assistance	
In-State Undergraduate Financial Aid	$609,000
Total E&G and SFA General Fund	**$3,565,615**

Notes:

(*) Central Appropriation amounts are not included in the University's line-item appropriation. Instead, they are held centrally by the state and allocated after the start of the fiscal year. For this reason, estimates have been provided.

Other Mandatory Costs:

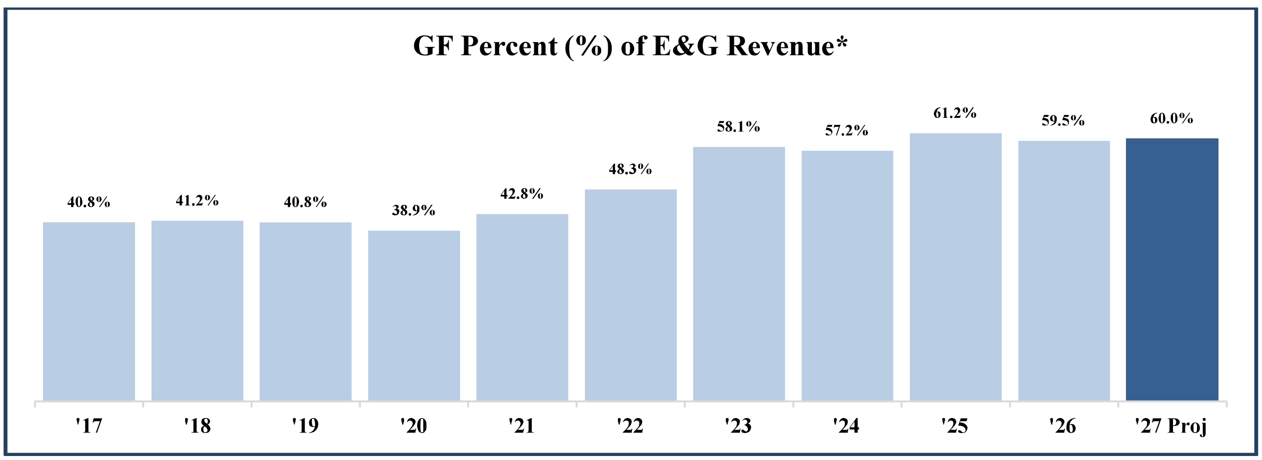
In addition to the state-mandated items, the University must also address teaching and research faculty promotion and tenure contractual commitments, operation and maintenance of facilities, contractual escalators for technology and maintenance contracts, escalating utilities, and committed costs for previously approved projects. These initiatives are referred to as central cost commitments. For additional details, Attachment I provides a further breakdown of the mandatory cost requirements.

Funding Sources and Cost Drivers:

Radford University main campus is very reliant upon general fund support due to the significant number of in-state undergraduate students served (92.6% as of Fall 2025). The state's cost share model identifies that the University's E&G program should be funded 67% from Commonwealth's general fund support and 33% through institutional non-general fund sources (i.e. tuition, E&G fees, etc.).

As demonstrated in Figure 1, the 2026-27 projected E&G general fund split is still below the Commonwealth's policy of 67%. The difference reflects funding of essential programmatic needs to support the University's in-state student population.

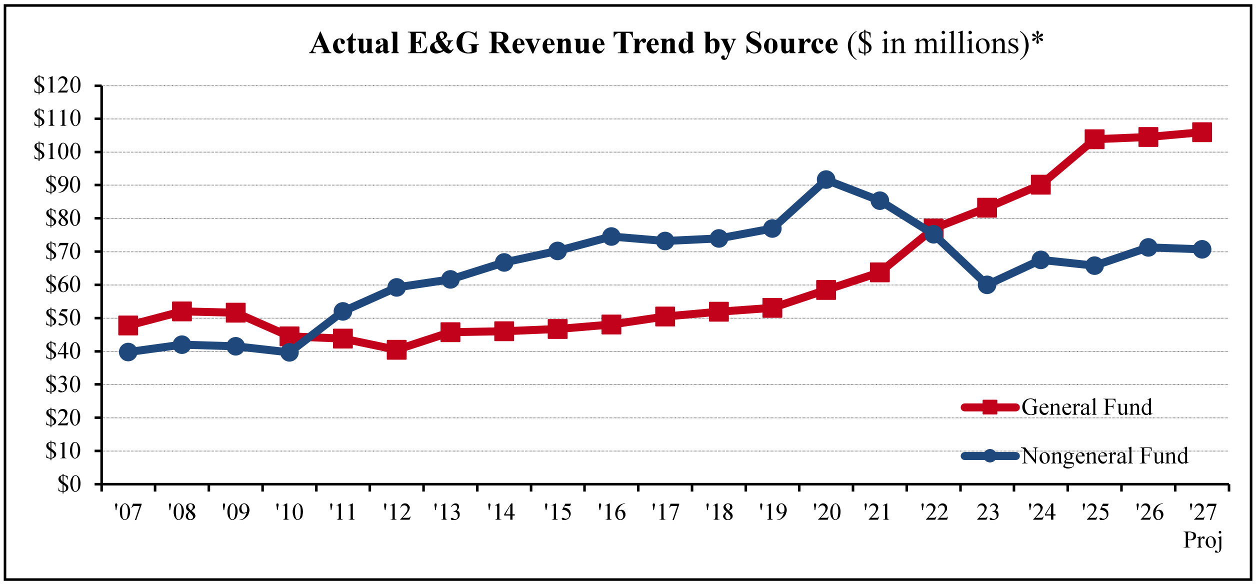
Figure 1: E&G General Fund Appropriation Historical Trend



**Excludes carryforward*

Figure 2 displays the E&G general fund and non-general fund trends between 2007 and 2027 (projected). In 2010, because of the economic downturn and the sustained loss of general fund support, students and their families began funding the majority of the cost of education. The increase in non-general funds for 2020 relates primarily to the merger with Jefferson College of Health Sciences and the related $20.6 million in Tuition and Fee revenue associated with the new RUC site. There is also an increase in general funds related to the initial $1.7 million allocation to RUC, as well as an infusion of support for Tuition Moderation Funding and other mandatory cost increases. A notable increase comes in 2022 with the historic $10 million investment to equalize RUC tuition with the main campus, along with $2.9 million to maintain affordability on main campus. The most recent notable increase, in 2025, is a result of an infusion of Affordable Access funding, a large increase in student financial aid, as well as one-time funding for 2025 priorities: Nursing Program, Affordable Access and Student Financial Aid, late in the 2025 fiscal year. The Commonwealth has continued to invest in higher education to ensure institutions remain affordable.

Figure 2: E&G General Fund/Non-general Fund Split Historical Trend (*Nominal Dollars*)



**Excludes Carryforward*

Proposed Operating Budget:

2026-27 Projected Total Revenue

Radford University's institutional budget is derived from two primary fund sources:

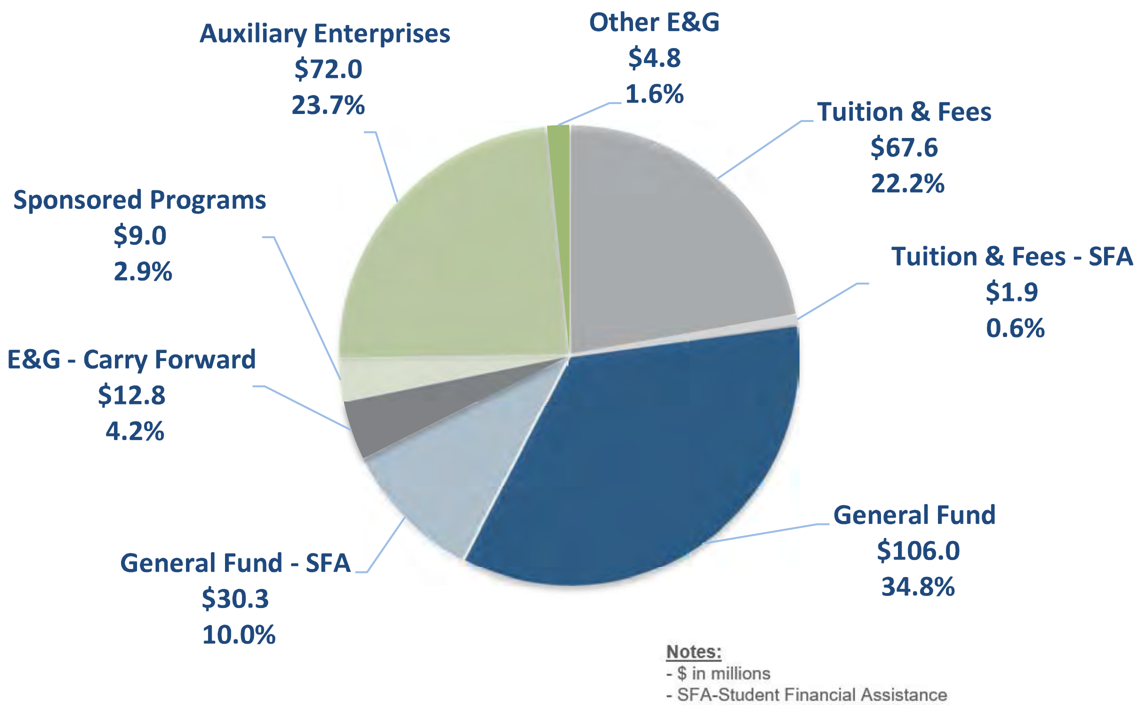
- **General Fund** (GF) – Virginia tax dollars (unrestricted), distributed through the Commonwealth's budget process and documented through the Virginia Acts of Assembly (i.e. Appropriations Act).

- **Non-general Fund** (NGF) – tuition, mandatory (technology and comprehensive) fees, user (room and board) fees, other E&G and auxiliary enterprises fees, grants/contracts/research, federal student work study, and commissions (e.g. dining services, bookstore, laundry, etc.).

For the fiscal year 2026-27, the University is projecting revenue of $304.4 million. This reflects a .2%decrease from the 2025-26 Original Total Budget. The decrease is reflective of the decreased carry-forward in 2026-27 compared to 2025-26.

The majority of the University's total operating budget, 54.2%*(excluding carryforward)* is supported through non-general fund sources. The remaining 44.8% *(excluding carryforward)* is supported through the general fund. Figure 3 displays the breakdown of projected revenue by major funding sources.

Figure 3: 2026-27 Projected Total Revenue (All Sources and Programs)



2026-27 Projected Total Expenditures

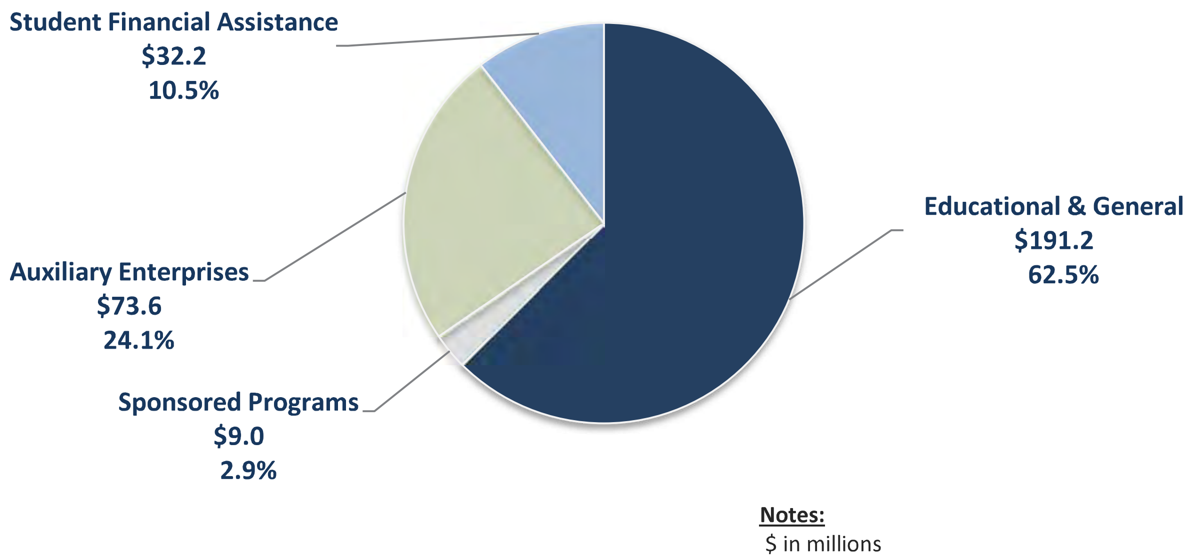
Expenditures are expected to total $306 million for 2026-27.

Figure 4 illustrates projected expenditures for each of the major programs which include:

- **Educational & General (E&G)**: Activities to provide instruction, research, public service, academic support (e.g., library, deans), student support services (e.g., admissions, financial aid, registrar), and program support (e.g., administration, institutional support, physical plant) services.
- **Student Financial Assistance**: Activities to provide financial assistance to Virginia students.
- **Financial Assistance for Educational and General Services Program (Sponsored Programs, Grants and Contracts)**: Activities to provide additional resources for educational and general services through third-party grants, contracts, and research.
- **Auxiliary Enterprises**: Self-supporting activities to provide goods or services to students, faculty, staff, and visitors (e.g. residence halls, dining services, bookstore, athletics, student activities, etc.).

The E&G program represents 62.5% of the expenditure budgeted while Auxiliary Enterprises accounts for 24.1%. The remaining 13.4%is split between Student Financial Assistance and Sponsored Programs.

Figure 4: 2026-27 Projected Expenditures by Major Program



Attachment I and Schedules A and B provide an overview of the University's proposed 2026-27 operating budget by major program. Attachment I details the 2026-27 Funded E&G Initiatives, Schedule A provides an overview of the 2026-27 Total University Operating Budget, and Schedule B reflects the 2026-27 Auxiliary Enterprise Budget by major program area.

The following is a narrative description by major program to complement the financial information presented in Attachment I and Schedules A and B.

Educational & General (E&G) Program –

The Educational and General (E&G) program supports instruction, academic support, libraries, public service, student services, institutional support, and operation/maintenance of the physical plant. The proposed 2026-27 E&G operating budget (base and one-time) totals $191.2 million. The percentage of the E&G budget supported by general funds is projected to be 60% for 2026-27. The University is anticipating receiving $1.9 million in general funds for mandated salary increases as well as $1.1 million in fringes and other categories. Projected E&G non-general fund revenue is derived primarily from tuition and fees at $67.6 million, an E&G carryforward of $12.8 million, with all other E&G revenue totaling $4.9 million.

Student Financial Assistance Program –

Commonwealth support from the general fund is appropriated for scholarships and fellowships to undergraduate and graduate students. The authorized general fund appropriation for fiscal year 2026-27 is $30.3 million. In addition to general fund support, the University continues to commit $1.9 million from institutional non-general fund resources to support undergraduate need-based financial aid.

Financial Assistance for Educational and General Services Program (Grants/Contracts) –

The University receives external funding for grants and contracts from a variety of federal, state, private, and local sources. For the fiscal year 2026-27, estimated annual activity for Sponsored Programs is projected at $9.0 million.

Auxiliary Enterprises Program –

The Auxiliary Enterprises program supports student service activities such as residential life, dining, athletics, recreation, student health, and transportation. Funding for this program is generated from contract commissions and fees assessed to students and/or users. The Commonwealth requires Auxiliary Enterprises to be financially self-supporting. For this reason, general fund support and tuition revenue cannot be allocated to these activities.

For the fiscal year 2026-27, the revenue budget for Auxiliary Enterprises is projected to be $72.0 million. It should be noted that all auxiliary budgets were adjusted to account for projected revenue changes due to enrollment levels, salary increases, auxiliary indirect rate, and contractual commitments, as necessary.

Action:

Radford University Board of Visitors approval of the 2026-27 operating budget as presented in Schedule A for Total Operating Budget and Schedule B for Auxiliary Enterprises.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Resolution
September 18, 2026

Approval of the Radford University 2026-27 Operating Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, the Radford University Board of Visitors approves the fiscal year 2026-27 operating budget as presented in Schedule A for Total Operating Budget and Schedule B for Auxiliary Enterprises.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
Business Affairs & Audit Committee
September 17, 2026

Action Item
Approval of the Updated Weapons Policy

Item:
Recommendation to approve of the revised Weapons Policy to align University requirements with recent changes to Virginia law and to provide clearer guidance regarding the possession, use, storage, and authorization of firearms and other weapons on University property.

Background:
The changes align the University's rules with recent updates to Virginia code, particularly **Virginia Code § 18.2-283.2**, which now expressly addresses firearms and explosive materials in Commonwealth-owned or leased buildings and provides specific exceptions for activities approved through a public institution's law-enforcement or public-safety unit. The updated language also creates more clearly defined exceptions for law enforcement, authorized University employees, academic and research activities, ROTC and other approved organizations, public safety training, authorized storage, and contractors performing legitimate duties. It also establishes the Radford University Police Department and the Chief of Police or designee as the central approval authority for University activities involving firearms or weapons, aligning the regulation with current Virginia law. The revision also strengthens enforcement provisions, identifies potential disciplinary and criminal consequences, and provides clearer authority for RUPD to manage approvals, storage, and violations involving weapons on University property.

Action:
Radford University Board of Visitors approval of the Weapons Policy, as presented.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS
RESOLUTION
Approval of the Revised Weapons Policy
September 18, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, the Radford University Board of Visitors approves the Radford University Weapons Policy, as presented.

Student Representative to the Board

Jeremiah Garretson

RCPT Student

18 Sept. 2026

Radford UNIVERSITY

About Me

- NRV native
- Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Student
- Active with local EMS and state search and rescue

My Goal for 2026-2027

Emphasize Radford University as an "Adventure College"

- Recently voted as the Top Adventure College in the Blue Ridge (x2)
- Located in SWVA with premier outdoor recreation opportunities
- Ample opportunities for local partnerships with businesses and initiatives
- Opportunities to pursue adventure as a major (RCPT Department), and recreationally (RU Outdoors) at Radford

Strategies

- Continued expansion of the Higher Ground Program
- Increased marketing of outdoor pursuits at/around Radford
- Host regional "adventure events" such as competitions, conferences, courses, festivals, etc.

Radford UNIVERSITY

Next Steps

1. Collect information
2. Hone strategy, determine the “end result”
3. Work the plan, provide updates
4. Complete plan, evaluate

Questions

Please reach out with any questions or if you have great ideas!

jgarretson@radford.edu

540.449.6766

Minutes

Quarterly Meeting
9:15 a.m.
June 5, 2026
Kyle Hall, Room 340, Radford VA
Minutes

Board Members Present

Mr. Tyler W. Lester, Rector
Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, Vice Rector
Mr. Dale Ardizzone
Ms. Jeanne Armentrout
Ms. Joann Craig
Ms. Callie Dalton
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Ms. Mary Anne Holbrook
Mr. George Mendiola, Jr.
Mr. David A. Smith
Mr. James C. Turk
Dr. Matthew Close, Faculty Representative
Ms. Dominika Butler, Student Representative to the Board
Ms. Betsy Beamer
Mr. Jonathan Sweet

Board Members Absent

Mr. William C. Davis

Others Present

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President
Dr. Dannette Gomez Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
Dr. Rob Hoover, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Dr. Angela Joyner, Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education
Ms. Susan Richardson, University Counsel
Dr. Susan Trageser, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Bethany Usher, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Penny Helms White, Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Assistant Vice President of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Ryan Bowyer, Chief of Staff
Dr. David Perryman, Associate Vice President for Strategic Communications

Call to Order

Rector Tyler Lester called the meeting to order at approximately 9:15 a.m. in Kyle Hall, 340. Rector Lester welcomed both Board of Visitors member Chris Settle and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Tricia Smith, on their first Board of Visitors meetings.

Approval of Agenda

Rector Lester requested approval of the agenda. The approval of the agenda was motioned by Dr. Betty Jo Foster, seconded by Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Rector Lester requested approval of the minutes from the March 2026 quarterly meeting. The March 2026 minutes were motioned by Ms. Betsy Beamer, seconded by Jennifer Wishon Gilbert and approved unanimously.

President's Report

President Bret Danilowicz provided a report on recent Radford University activities and performance. A copy of the President's remarks are attached as Attachment A and are made a part hereof.

Faculty Senate President Update on Shared Governance

Dr. Matt Close, President of the Faculty Senate, gave an update on the work of the shared governance committee and its quadrennial review during the 2025-2026 academic year. Dr. Matt Close was presented with a Resolution of Appreciation, read by Dr. Betty Jo Foster, which is attached as Attachment B and is made a part hereof.

Committee Reports

Report from the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee

Dr. Betty Jo Foster reported that the committee met on June 4, 2026. Specific highlights are referenced in the committee meeting minutes.

Dr. Foster presented the following resolutions, which are included in the minutes as Appendices C, D, E, and F and are made a part hereof.

- Resolution to Amend the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook; Section 4.1, adding in the College Governance Section "the College of Nursing"
- Resolution to Amend the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, Sections 1.1.2, 4.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.3.1, and 4.1.3.3.

These resolutions were taken as a slate, motioned by Ms. Callie Dalton, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, and approved unanimously.

- Resolution for Discontinuance of the Master of Science (MS) in Data and Information Management

The resolution was motioned by Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Jonathan Sweet, and approved unanimously.

- Resolution for Discontinuance of the Master of Science in Athletic Training

The resolution was motion by Mr. Jonathan Sweet, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, and approved unanimously.

Dr. Matt Close gave an update on behalf of the faculty senate, specifically noting the work of faculty senate including 50 motions related to curricula, a discussion regarding the need for additional resource allocation, faculty handbook language, and the 2025 faculty morale survey.

Full minutes may be found in the committee report.

<u>Report from the Business Affairs and Audit Committee</u>

Ms. Jeanne Armentrout reported that the committee met on June 4, 2026.

Ms. Armentrout reported that Mr. David Rasnic, Auditor of Public Accounts, who gave an unmodified opinion on the audit from 2025 financial statements.

Ms. Armentrout reported that Ms. Margaret McManus gave an oral report on discretionary funding, presented five audit reports.

Ms. Armentrout reported that VP Hoover gave an update on capital projects.

Full minutes may be found in the committee report.

<u>Report from the Enrollment Management and Brand Equity</u>

Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert reported that the committee met on June 4, 2026.

Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert reported that Mr. Justin Ward discussed earned media, including how he and his team proactively sent the video Dolly Parton recorded for the 2026

Commencement ceremony. This included a 2 billion person reach, 74 news stations that covered the article, and an earned media of $3.5 billion in equivalent ad spend.

Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert noted that VP Gomez-Beane reported that admissions numbers were on target and budget remains sound.

Full minutes may be found in the committee report.

Report from the External Engagement Committee Report

Ms. Betsy Beamer reported that the committee met on June 4, 2026.

Ms. Betsy Beamer noted that VP Joyner reported on extremely exciting initiatives, including AdventureWorks, the Vinrod Impact Lab Award, the Divisional Road Show, and their Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council Angel Ruby, VP Angela Joyner, award winner.

Ms. Betsy Beamed reported that VP White noted $9.8 million in total philanthropic funding and that the division is considering significant insight in athletics and philanthropy. Further, the committee heard from Laura Turk, Executive Director of Alumni Relations, on alumni related divisional priorities, including volunteer engagement.

No action items were presented by the committee for Board vote and approval.

Full minutes may be found in the committee report.

Report from the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee

Mr. David Smith, Chair, reported that the committee met on June 4, 2026.

He presented highlights from the meeting, which included a robust presentation from the Student Government President, Mr. Owen Starr. Mr. Starr discussed how his team achieved their overarching goals for the academic year. Mr. Smith then reported that Tricia Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, and Mr. Robert Lineburg, Director of Athletics, gave updates from their respective areas. Other specific information regarding these updates may be found in those committee minutes.

No action items were presented by the committee for Board vote and approval.

Full minutes may be found in the committee report.

Foundation Report

Mr. George Mendiola, Jr., Board Liaison to the Radford University Foundation, provided an update. He reported that the foundation showed continued growth in the endowment.

No action items were presented by the committee for Board vote and approval.

Closed Session

Dale Ardizzone motioned that the Board of Visitors of Radford University convene a closed session, pursuant to section 2.2-3711 sub part A, items 1, and 2 under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the discussion of personnel matters, more specifically related to the President's performance plan and for consultation with legal counsel.

The motion carried and the Board entered closed session.

Reconvened Session and Resolution of Certification

Upon return to the open session, the Board approved the Resolution of Certification affirming that only matters lawfully exempted under FOIA and identified in the motion were discussed in closed session. The resolution passed by roll call vote; all Board members voted in the affirmative.

Approval of Evaluation and Compensation

Vice Rector Wishon Gilbert asked for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Performance Plan and compensation for President Danilowicz. This motion was made by Ms. Betsy Beamer, seconded by Ms. Callie Dalton, and approved unanimously.

Nominations Committee

Mr. David Smith reported that the nominating committee was comprised of himself as chair, Vice Rector Wishon Gilbert and Ms. Betsy Beamer. Mr. Smith gave an overview of the process by which the committee completed their work. Mr. Smith offered an opportunity for fellow members to make a nomination from the floor; none were offered.

Mr. Smith noted that the committee brought forth the nomination of Mr. Dale Ardizzone as rector. Mr. Smith requested a "show of hands" vote for Mr. Ardizzone; this was voted on unanimously.

Mr. Smith noted that the committee brought forth the nomination of Dr. Betty Jo Foster as vice rector. Dr. Foster noted that Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert had been notified the day prior that she was being reappointed to the Board; as a result, Dr. Foster withdrew her name from consideration and nominated Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert as Vice Rector. Mr. Smith then brought forth Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert as Vice Rector. By a show of hands vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert as Vice Rector.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Tyler Lester for his incredible work as Rector over the past year.

Student Representative Report

Ms. Dominika Butler ("Dom"), Student Representative to the Board, gave her final report to the Board. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to advocate for students on the campus. She gave an overview of her position, what she learned from the position, what she left for the next student representative, her next steps, and an initiative recap. She designed a resource catalog for students in the SGA newsletter. Ms. Butler was provided a gift for her service from the Board.

No action items were presented by the committee for Board vote and approval.

Resolutions of Appreciation

Resolutions of Appreciation were read for the following Board of Visitors members. Mr. James Turk read by Mr. David Smith, Ms. Jeanne Armentrout read by Ms. Joann Craig, and Mr. George Mendiola Jr. read by Ms. Betsy Beamer.

These were taken as a slate; motioned by Dr. Betty Jo Foster and seconded by Mr. Jonathan Sweet. These were approved unanimously. These are in Appendices G, H, and I.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Rector Lester sought to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Besty Beamer seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Bowyer, Ed.D.

Chief of Staff

Radford University
Board of Visitors

Retreat
8:00 a.m.
July 20, 2026 – July 21, 2026
Piedmont Room, Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
DRAFT
Minutes

Board Members Present

Mr. Dale Ardizzone, Rector
Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, Vice Rector*
Ms. Betsy Beamer
Ms. Stacey Brayboy
Ms. Joann Craig
Ms. Callie Dalton
Mr. William C. Davis
Ms. Jeanne Fishwick
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Mr. Tyler Lester
Ms. Nancy Rice
Mr. Christopher Settle
Mr. David A. Smith*
Mr. Jonathan Sweet*
*Appeared remotely due to winter weather storm in Radford Virginia.

Board Members Absent

Ms. Mary Anne Holbrook

Others Present

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President
Dr. Dannette Gomez Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
Dr. Rob Hoover, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Ms. Nichole Hair,
Ms. Susan Richardson, University Counsel
Dr. Susan Trageser, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Bethany Usher, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Penny Helms White, Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Executive Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Ryan Bowyer, Chief of Staff

Call to Order – Monday, July 20, 2026

Rector Dale Ardizzone called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00 a.m. Both he and President Bret Danilowicz offered opening and welcome remarks.

Master Planning

Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, Dr. Rob Hoover, gave a presentation on master planning. He gave an overview of current ongoing projects at Radford University. These included the Selu property, Martin/Preston Halls, Russell Hall, Cook Hall, and the tennis courts. He solicited feedback from the Board on long-term priorities, including the Roanoke Academic Health Sciences Building.

Scholarship Strategy

Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications, Dr. Dannette Gomez-Beane, gave an overview of current scholarship strategy. She solicited feedback from the Board regarding strategy and the Board participated in scholarship awarding exercises based on federal, state, and Radford policies and procedures.

Board Advocacy

President Bret Danilowicz and Assistant Vice President for Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives, Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, gave an overview on Board advocacy best practices. They used the Roanoke Academic Health Sciences building as a case study for proper and appropriate board advocacy.

Closed Session

Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert motioned to bring the Board into closed session, pursuant to section 2.2-3711 subpart A, items 1 and 8 under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.. Mr. Tyler Lester seconded this motion. Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert motioned to bring the Board out of closed session; Ms. Nancy Rice seconded. Dr. Ryan Bowyer used a roll call affirmation to ensure proper Board closed session.

Call to Order – Tuesday, July 21

Rector Dale Ardizzone called the board to order shortly after 8 a.m. He commented on how well of a day Monday was for the Board.

Regional Geographic Strategic

President Bret Danilowicz facilitated a discussion on the regional geographic strategy guiding many of the initiatives and efforts of Radford University, including Tartan Transfer, the Blue Ridge Innovation Corridor, the Center for Rural Health, and AdventureWorks!

Closed Session

Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert motioned to bring the Board into closed session, pursuant to section 2.2-3711 subpart A, items 1 and 8 under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Ms. Nancy Rice seconded this motion. Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert motioned to bring the Board out of closed session; Mr. Tyler Lester seconded. Dr. Ryan Bowyer used a roll call affirmation to ensure proper Board closed session.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Rector Ardizzone adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Bowyer, Ed.D.

Chief of Staff

Appendix

Radford
UNIVERSITY

June 5, 2026 President's BOV Remarks

Thank you, Rector Lester, and good morning to all our board members.

We have several items to present to you today and look forward to discussing any insights, comments or questions you might have.

First, I'll review some recent successes, as well as future opportunities for Highlanders and the communities we serve.

Spring commencement took place on May first and second. We conferred degrees on more than 1,400 students. Those included 1,050 bachelor's degrees, 327 master's degrees, and 43 doctoral degrees, as well as a number of academic certificates. We were especially honored to have 258 first-generation students receive bachelor's degrees – a transformative moment for their entire family.

Also, during the past academic year, we awarded 350 Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees — a Radford record for the number of BSN graduates in a single year. This is a testament to the significant commitment we're making to address the healthcare needs of Southwest and Southside Virginia – especially in rural communities.

We were honored to have alumnus Eugene Naughton give our commencement speech. And since he is president of the Dollywood Company, we also had a special video message from Dolly herself!

Many faculty and staff members contributed their time and talent to make sure these events went smoothly and securely. I appreciate everyone who helped plan and conduct the ceremonies.

You might recall that during the March BOV meeting, we were competing for Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine's 2026 Top Adventure College. After going head-to-head with the likes of Appalachian State, Virginia Tech and UVA, among others, we were excited to win this honor for the second year in a row. We're grateful to all the students, families, employees, alumni and friends who supported us throughout the competition.

Turning to enrollment and retention, we're seeing see several strong and positive trends in these areas.

As you heard in committee reports yesterday, we anticipate that our total enrollment for this fall will exceed 8,000. This represents a slight increase over our enrollment last year, and a substantial increase over 2024.

Thus far, deposits for new freshmen are down from last year. That is offset to some degree by increased deposits from transfer students, which reflects the growing impact of programs such as Tartan Transfer.

We have a considerable increase in graduate applications and admissions, particularly for our programs at Radford University Carilion.

In addition, we are encouraged that registrations to Quest — our orientation program for incoming students — are higher than they were at this point last year. Many of these students will be on campus today for the first session of Quest. If you see any of these students or their family members, please take a moment to welcome them to the Highlander family.

In addition, we're restructuring the Radford Online platform of academic and professional programs. We've hired a new assistant vice president, Adam Barger, to lead this effort. He brings a great deal of experience and most recently worked in a similar position at the College of William & Mary.

While retention rates aren't finalized until the second week of fall term, early indications are very good. We are currently at over 81 percent retention from last fall to this fall, which is several percentage points up over previous years at this same time.

We continue to strengthen our commitment to local communities through innovative programs and partnerships.

The New River Valley Governor's School in the Arts and Humanities is one example of this. Opening this fall, it is the 20^{th} academic-year Governor's School in the Commonwealth, and the first to be approved since 2009.

We have had great interest, as you can see from this photo of the open house we hosted in late May. We anticipate about 25 students enrolling in this first cohort, consisting of 10th-grade students representing five school divisions and nine regional high schools across the New River Valley. As sophomores, students will complete interdisciplinary coursework in both the arts and humanities. In their junior and senior years, students will begin to solidify their pathway areas while completing dual-enrollment and university coursework with our faculty.

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote economic opportunity through outdoor recreation and tourism, we'll take part in the first regional AdventureWorks Summit this September. It will attract representatives from local and state government, small businesses, and the tourism industry. At the summit, which we hope will become an annual event, we'll explore shared opportunities to promote outdoor events, venues and resources in Southwest Virginia and further improve the services we provide.

In the area of government relations, I'd like to give several updates, including legislative priorities we've been focused on through the Virginia General Assembly.

Budget discussions continue, but the General Assembly has yet to reach a compromise to finalize the state budget. Both the House and Senate are scheduled to return to Richmond later this month. We will continue to monitor the deliberations and advocate for Radford's budget priorities. These include operating support to maintain affordable access, funding to recruit and retain nursing faculty, and financial aid for our students.

In March, Lisa Ghidotti spoke to you about two pieces of legislation passed by the General Assembly – collective bargaining and BOV governance. Governor Spanberger has since vetoed both bills. She stated that she is committed to enacting reforms that will strengthen higher education governance in Virginia. And she will continue to work with the General Assembly and other key stakeholders to develop a public sector collective bargaining system that works for Virginia. Her veto of the BOV governance bill means there are no changes to the existing board of visitors' governance measures and appointment process set by the Code of Virginia.

In other developments, legislation passed this year that expands and restructures the membership of the New College Institute in Martinsville and renames it to West Piedmont Higher Education Center. Effective July 1, I will be added to its board of directors. This will help us build relationships and strengthen Radford University's ties in Southside Virginia, where we hope to expand our services to the community.

My board membership on the Center for Rural Virginia is a valuable opportunity to connect with state government officials and business leaders and advocate for rural Virginia. Other trustees include the Lt. Governor Hashmi, General Assembly members, Cabinet Secretaries, and representatives from different industries. Delegate Chris Runion, who serves on the board with me, is organizing breakfast next week with business and community leaders and Radford alumni in his district to discuss more about key Radford initiatives and partnership opportunities. Angela Joyner will also attend this event and will play a key role in following up on the opportunities we hope to identify.

Later this summer, Lisa and I will begin our annual meetings with General Assembly members in each region to update them on university initiatives, share the university's priorities for the 2027 General Assembly session, and learn more about higher education and workforce development needs in their regions.

We will continue to host tours and briefings for state government officials in Roanoke over the next year as we advocate for the second tranche of detailed planning funds during the 2027 General Assembly session and full construction funds during the 2028 General Assembly session.

We held our cabinet retreat in mid-May, and it yielded several insights and ideas you will be hearing more about.

One overarching issue is how we can more fully frame and communicate our Culture of Care.

- What does it really mean?
- What should we expect of ourselves and one another?
- How can we express that very broad concept in ways that our students and employees can understand and uphold.

Several themes run through the key principles and expected behaviors we discussed. These include collaboration, effective stewardship of resources, empowerment to try new things and solve complex issues, and an emphasis on student and community success.

It’s inherently challenging to define measurable objectives for a set of cultural norms. But the more we can express our expectations and give concrete examples of how we will apply them, the better we can build and reinforce desired behaviors.

The cabinet also explored how we can build on the work of the six-year strategic plan. This included a great discussion about using the plan to fuel additional efforts in advancement. This will entail looking for donor support and transformative gifts to address areas of the plan that extend beyond our traditional funding sources.

The growing use of artificial intelligence has huge implications for higher education — just as in many other areas of society. This presents us with opportunities and challenges. For example, how do we teach the use of AI and prepare our students appropriately for a future with this technology? And how can we harness it as an institutional tool for growth and improvement?

In April, I attended and presented at the ASU+GSV Summit, a national forum focused on these issues. I was glad to share the work of our Davis College of Business and Economics, which is connecting students to local small businesses to help them develop innovative AI approaches to solve problems and grow their capabilities. In the process, these students are gaining real-world experience to prepare them for a future where AI is integral to their work.

Dr. Samantha Steidle — director of our AI Sandbox and assistant professor of management — is representing Radford University as a participant in the Google GSV Fellowship. This is a competitive national program that brings together education leaders to develop and advance high-impact AI initiatives at their institutions. The program is affiliated with the ASU+GSV Summit and provides fellows with peer collaboration, expert coaching, and access to a broad network of higher education innovators.

Rather than focusing on a single priority area, Dr. Steidle's work has been intentionally designed to connect across all six themes of our 2026-2031 strategic plan. This approach reflects the interconnected nature of our plan and ensures that what emerges from the fellowship will be relevant and applicable across the institution. We will share updates as her project moves forward.

We are continuing to focus on building a hub of medical, mental, and dental health services in Southwest and Southside Virginia.

The Center for Rural Health will be a primary focus for many of our activities. We held our initial meeting of its Partner Council this past Tuesday. Council members represent:

- Health systems, including Carilion Clinic and LewisGale;
- Regional organizations, such as the Appalachian Power Foundation, Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation, and the Wellspring Foundation of Southwest Virginia; and
- Higher education partners, including University of Virginia's College at Wise and Virginia Community College System institutions throughout the region.

We had a great discussion at the inaugural meeting, which set the stage for how we will organize this initiative and identify priorities.

This is — and must be — a highly collaborative effort. No single institution has the resources or expertise to do it all. We will work collectively to identify areas where we can concentrate our resources and services to have the greatest impact. Our partners will play a huge role in this process. We'll continue to update you on the center's goals and activities.

We are bringing health services directly to the community in other ways. This includes partnering with New River Valley Community Services to host local events that provide free maternal health services, such as medical screenings, baby care supplies, and resource information to recent and prospective mothers.

And in partnership with Anthem HealthKeepers, we recently set up a mobile health clinic that will travel to various locations throughout the region to offer medical screening and preventive health activities.

These services help provide hands-on clinical training for our nursing and other healthcare students. And just as importantly, they are a tangible extension of our Culture of Care to improve the life and health of people throughout the region.

Clearly there are many great things happening at Radford University. There are also many opportunities for us to bring even greater benefits to our students, our employees, and our community.

The good news is that these pursuits are not all mutually exclusive. The challenge is finding the best approaches that will achieve them, while also being good stewards of the resources and talent we have. Throughout all these efforts, Culture of Care will continue to be the unifying theme and the key to our success.

I hope you share my pride in our accomplishments, and my excitement for pursuing new opportunities to fulfill our mission. Thank you for bringing your expertise and your energy to guide us as we continue to *Shape Tomorrow – Together*.

Thank you and Go Highlanders!

Radford University

Board of Visitors

Resolution Recognizing

Matthew Close, Ph.D.

WHEREAS, Dr. Matthew Close has provided faithful and diligent service to the Commonwealth of Virginia as President of the Radford University Faculty Senate and as an ex officio member of the Radford University Board of Visitors from 2024 to 2026; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Close has been a member of the Radford University faculty since 2013, most recently as Professor of Biology; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Close served three years on the Faculty Senate between 2020 and 2024 in addition to his two years as its President, effectively advocating for the needs and interests of University faculty, as well as helping the faculty and administration navigate successfully through times of great transition and challenge for the institution; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Close has served as a non-voting Faculty Advisory Representative on the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, working closely with the Board of Visitors and the University administration to implement and revise curricula to reflect rigorous standards and be relevant to the practical needs of the workplace for graduates; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Close has provided valuable expertise and insight into University initiatives, such as the development of its visionary 2026-2031 strategic plan, *Shaping Tomorrow - Together;* and

WHEREAS, Dr. Close extends his expertise beyond the University setting into the community, serving as President of the Radford City Beautification and Municipal Forestry Commission and teaching courses on biology and advocating for wildlife habitat conservation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this fifth day of the month of June in the year two thousand twenty-six, the Radford University Board of Visitors does hereby consider and pass this resolution of commendation and appreciation for service and contribution to the Radford University Board of Visitors, the Radford University students, faculty and staff, and furthermore that this resolution be preserved in perpetuity in permanent business records of the Radford University Board of Visitors and a copy be presented to Dr. Matthew Close.

Tyler W. Lester '15
Rector

Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D.
President

Appendix C

RADFORD UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

JUNE 4, 2026

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE
TEACHING AND RESEARCH FACULTY HANDBOOK

WHEREAS, all proposed changes to the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* must be managed in accord with §5.0 of that handbook; and

WHEREAS, the authority to amend or revise the Faculty Handbook lies with the Board of Visitors. However, proposals for revising the Handbook may be initiated by faculty, administrators, the President, or members of the Board of Visitors. Revisions fall into two categories: (1) those required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and (2) those within the purview of the decision-making processes within the University; and

WHEREAS, revisions required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and that do not require a decision by University personnel, will be effected through an administrative update, with faculty being informed of the change and the reasons for it; and

WHEREAS, revisions within the purview of the decision-making processes in the University Internal Governance system will be considered by appropriate committees as defined by the Internal Governance system. Proposals for changes will be made in the form of text intended to replace a portion of the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, noting new language and striking out the old language; and

WHEREAS, it will be the Faculty Senate's responsibility to ensure that the general faculty is provided time and opportunity to review the proposed change so faculty can communicate with their senators prior to any action by the Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate's recommendations on proposed revisions to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook will be forwarded to and approved by the President. The Provost will forward the Faculty Senate's recommendations to the Academic Excellence and Research Committee who will in turn make recommendations to the member of the full Board of Visitors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Radford University hereby approves in accordance with §5.0 of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook,* **Section 4.1: College Governance** of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* as hereby amended. Said sections are to now read as follows (additions are in **red**):

Referred by: Governance Committee

MOTION:

The Faculty Senate approves the addition of the College of Nursing (red type) to Section 4.1 College Governance of the T&R Faculty Handbook.

4.1 College Governance

The following provisions shall apply to the Artis College of Science and Technology, the Davis College of Business and Economics, the College of Education and Human Development, the College of Nursing, the College of Visual and Performing Arts, and the Waldron College of Health and Human Services, and where applicable, the College of GradUpdate uate Studies and Research.

RATIONALE:

The School of Nursing was elevated to a college. This motion seeks to update handbook language to include the College of Nursing with the other colleges in College Governance.

Appendix D

RADFORD UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

JUNE 4, 2026

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE
TEACHING AND RESEARCH FACULTY HANDBOOK

WHEREAS, all proposed changes to the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* must be managed in accord with §5.0 of that handbook; and

WHEREAS, the authority to amend or revise the Faculty Handbook lies with the Board of Visitors. However, proposals for revising the Handbook may be initiated by faculty, administrators, the President, or members of the Board of Visitors. Revisions fall into two categories: (1) those required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and (2) those within the purview of the decision-making processes within the University; and

WHEREAS, revisions required to ensure that the University is in compliance with state policies and mandates, and that do not require a decision by University personnel, will be effected through an administrative update, with faculty being informed of the change and the reasons for it; and

WHEREAS, revisions within the purview of the decision-making processes in the University Internal Governance system will be considered by appropriate committees as defined by the Internal Governance system. Proposals for changes will be made in the form of text intended to replace a portion of the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, noting new language and striking out the old language; and

WHEREAS, it will be the Faculty Senate's responsibility to ensure that the general faculty is provided time and opportunity to review the proposed change so faculty can communicate with their senators prior to any action by the Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate's recommendations on proposed revisions to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook will be forwarded to and approved by the President. The Provost will forward the Faculty Senate's recommendations to the Academic Excellence and Research Committee who will in turn make recommendations to the member of the full Board of Visitors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Radford University hereby approves in accordance with §5.0 of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook,* **Section 1.1.2, 4.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.3.1, and 4.1.3.3: College of Graduate Studies and Research** of the *Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook* as hereby amended. Said sections are to now read as follows (additions are in **red**):

Referred by: Governance Committee

MOTION:

The Faculty Senate recommends the deletion (~~stricken through~~) of language referring to the College of Graduate Studies and Research and Graduate Faculty in the document T & R Faculty Handbook in Sections 1.2.2., 4.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.3.1, and 4.1.3.3:

~~1.2.2 Graduate Faculty Classification~~

~~Criteria and procedures for election to the Graduate Faculty, and the classifications of Graduate Faculty membership, are determined by the Graduate Affairs Council which shall publish them annually and make them available through the College of Graduate Studies and Research. The Graduate Affairs Council is the final authority for granting and renewing Graduate Faculty status.~~

4.1 College Governance

The following provisions shall apply to the Artis College of Science and Technology, the Davis College of Business and Economics, the College of Education and Human Development, the College of Visual and Performing Arts, and the Waldron College of Health and Human Services~~, and where applicable, the College of Graduate Studies and Research~~.

4.1.2 College Membership

All faculty with teaching appointments in a college, as defined in section 1.1 of this Handbook, are members of that college.

Voting in undergraduate college meetings shall be limited to full-time Teaching and Research faculty in the college's academic units and full-time Administrative and Professional faculty having appointments within the college, with the exception of the Dean.

~~Voting in the College of Graduate Studies and Research shall be limited to faculty having full or associate membership in the graduate faculty and who are either a school director or department chair, or report directly to such a person.~~

Any additional college requirements for voting, such as attendance requirements, shall apply to all faculty with voting rights in the college.

4.1.3 Administration of Colleges

~~With the exception of the College of Graduate Studies and Research,~~ The colleges of the University are composed of academic units: departments, schools (which may or may not consist of departments), and interdisciplinary programs. The chairpersons of departments and, where applicable, the directors of schools and/or interdisciplinary programs are responsible to the deans of their respective colleges for the administration of their academic units.

4.1.3.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Deans

The Deans of the undergraduate colleges~~, and the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research,~~ are the chief administrative officers of each college. The Dean's responsibilities are primarily:

– to lead the faculty and staff of the college in developing and delivering educational opportunities of the highest quality possible for students, consistent with the mission of the College,
– to lead the College in procuring and managing fiscal, human, and physical resources necessary to accomplish these goals,
– to represent the college, its goals and needs to other external as well as internal constituencies, and
– to promote the overall excellence and welfare of the University

Based on recommendations from the Provost, the college deans are appointed by the President, subject to annual evaluations of their effectiveness in this capacity.

4.1.3.3 College Committees ~~(in all but the College of Graduate Studies and Research)~~

RATIONALE:

A resolution was passed in 2024 to dissolve the College of Graduate Studies and Research and re-organize its various responsibilities across a newly formed Office of Graduate Studies, Academic Affairs, and Enrollment Management and to apply for approval from the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV). Approval was received from SCHEV for the discontinuance of the College.

Criteria and procedures for election to the Graduate Faculty and the classification of Graduate Faculty membership have been eliminated by the Office of Graduate Affairs.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

JUNE 4, 2026

RESOLUTION FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS) IN DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, Radford University created the Master of Science (MS) in Data and Information Management program with a projected enrollment of 40 students per academic year; and

WHEREAS, the MS in Data and Information Management program has experienced low enrollment since its launch in 2016, with fewer than 10 students enrolled annually; and

WHEREAS, the program is not projected to meet State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) viability requirements; and

WHEREAS, the proposed discontinuance is consistent with Radford University's Curriculum Lifecycle policies and processes;

WHEREAS, arrangements will be made to ensure that any currently enrolled students are provided with an appropriate opportunity to complete their program of study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Radford University approves the discontinuance of the Master of Science (MS) in Data and Information Management and its removal from the University's degree inventory;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and/or his designee(s) are hereby authorized to submit all required documentation to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to obtain approval for the discontinuance of the program.

RADFORD UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

JUNE 4, 2026

RESOLUTION FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING (MSAT)

WHEREAS, Radford University created the Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) program due to the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) changing accreditation standards to require a master's degree in alignment with other healthcare professions; and

WHEREAS, the MSAT program has experienced low enrollment since its launch in 2022, with fewer than 10 students enrolled annually and fewer than 5 students in each of the past two academic years; and

WHEREAS, CAATE accreditation standards require a minimum of three full-time faculty to sustain the program; and

WHEREAS, the program is not projected to meet State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) viability requirements; and

WHEREAS, the proposed discontinuance is consistent with Radford University's Curriculum Lifecycle policies and processes;

WHEREAS, arrangements will be made to ensure that any currently enrolled students are provided with an appropriate opportunity to complete their program of study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors of Radford University approves the discontinuance of the Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) and its removal from the University's degree inventory;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and/or his designee(s) are hereby authorized to submit all required documentation to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to obtain approval for the discontinuance of the program.

Radford
UNIVERSITY
Board of Visitors

Resolution Recognizing
George Mendiola Jr. '00, MBA '02

WHEREAS, Mr. George Mendiola Jr. has faithfully and commendably served the Commonwealth of Virginia as a member of the Radford University Board of Visitors from 2022 to 2026; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mendiola, a native of Guam, is a proud Radford University double alumnus, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 2000 and a Master of Business Administration in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mendiola has more than 20 years of progressive experience in strategic planning, organizational development, contract management, proposal development, customer engagement and financial planning; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mendiola is President and Chief Executive Officer of FSA Federal, the largest government service provider to the U.S. Department of Justice, and leads more than 1,500 professionals across 400 government sites providing investigative, legal and litigation, and administrative support services; and

WHEREAS, during his service on the Board of Visitors, Mr. Mendiola was Vice Chair of its Business Affairs and Audit Committee from 2024 to 2025, bringing his expertise and perspective to assure the University maintains sound fiscal and business practices and adheres to essential requirements and standards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mendiola has additionally served on the Student Affairs and Athletic Committee and the External Engagement Committee, providing key leadership and guidance to the University during a period of sustained growth in enrollment and retention, as well as the development of the University's visionary 2026-2031 Strategic Plan, *Shaping Tomorrow – Together*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mendiola has been the Board liaison to the Radford University Foundation, promoting infrastructure and funding to enhance student success and academic exploration; and

WHEREAS, throughout his Board services, Mr. Mendiola has been a strong advocate for Radford University to maintain good stewardship of its resources and its responsibilities to its students and the community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this fifth day of the month of June in the year two thousand twenty-six, the Radford University Board of Visitors does hereby consider and pass this resolution of commendation and appreciation for service and contribution to the Radford University Board of Visitors, the Radford University students, faculty and staff, and furthermore that this resolution be preserved in perpetuity in permanent business records of the Radford University Board of Visitors and a copy be presented to Mr. George Mendiola Jr.

Tyler W. Lester '15
Rector

Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D.
President

Radford UNIVERSITY

Board of Visitors

Resolution Recognizing Jeanne S. Armentrout

WHEREAS, Ms. Jeanne S. Armentrout has faithfully and with distinction served the Commonwealth of Virginia as a member of the Radford University Board of Visitors from 2022 to 2026; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout is a proud Radford University alumna, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout served decades in healthcare treatment, education, management and administration, improving the life and health of countless people in Southwest Virginia, retiring as the Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer at Carilion Clinic; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout has continued to devote her time and expertise to the professional development of healthcare administrators through her service as an adjunct faculty member in the Health Care Administration Program at Radford University Carilion; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout established the Simmons Family Scholarship to support Radford University students pursuing a degree in health sciences, with a preference for first-generation students from Giles County, Virginia, to encourage them to pursue a career of essential service to the community; and

WHEREAS, during her service on the Board of Visitors, Ms. Armentrout has chaired its Business Affairs and Audit Committee from 2025 to 2026, providing key leadership and expertise to assure the University maintains sound fiscal and business practices and adheres to official requirements and standards; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout additionally chaired the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee from 2024 to 2025, helping the University build and maintain a curriculum that is rigorous, experience-based and highly relevant to emerging needs and expectations in the workforce;

WHEREAS, as a committee chair, Ms. Armentrout additionally served on the Executive Committee, helping focus the priorities of the Board of Visitors and ensure its effective consideration of key matters;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this fifth day of the month of June in the year two thousand twenty-six, the Radford University Board of Visitors does hereby consider and pass this resolution of commendation and appreciation for service and contribution to the Radford University Board of Visitors, the Radford University students, faculty and staff, and furthermore that this resolution be preserved in perpetuity in permanent business records of the Radford University Board of Visitors and a copy be presented to Ms. Jeanne S. Armentrout.

Tyler W. Lester '15 Rector	Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D. President

End of Board of Visitors Materials