Student Affairs and Athletics Committee

December 2026

Radford University

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee
2:15 p.m.
Dec 3rd, 2026

DRAFT
Agenda

• **Call to Order**	Mr. David Smith, *Chair*
• **Approval of Agenda**	Mr. David Smith**,** *Chair*
• **Approval of Minutes**	Mr. David Smith**,** *Chair*
• **Student Government Association Report**	Ms. Rylee Meadows, *Student Government Association President*
• **Student Affairs Report**	Dr. Tricia Smith, *Interim Vice President for Student Affairs*
• **Intercollegiate Athletics Report**	Dr. Robert Lineburg, *Director of Athletics*
• **Other Business**	Mr. David Smith**,** *Chair*
• **Adjournment**	Mr. David Smith**,** *Chair*

**** All start times for committee meetings are approximate. Meetings may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as committee members are ready to proceed.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mr. David A. Smith, Chair
Mr. Tyler W Lester, Vice Chair
Mr. Christopher Settle
Ms. Callie Dalton
Mr. Jonathan Sweet
Ms. Nancy Rice

Mr. Jeremiah Garretson (Non-Voting Student Rep)

Meeting Materials

Radford University

Student Government Association

Rylee Meadows

President

December 3, 2026

Radford University

Goals 1: Build Pathways

Develop meaningful connections between students, administration, faculty, and staff





Goal 2: Legislation

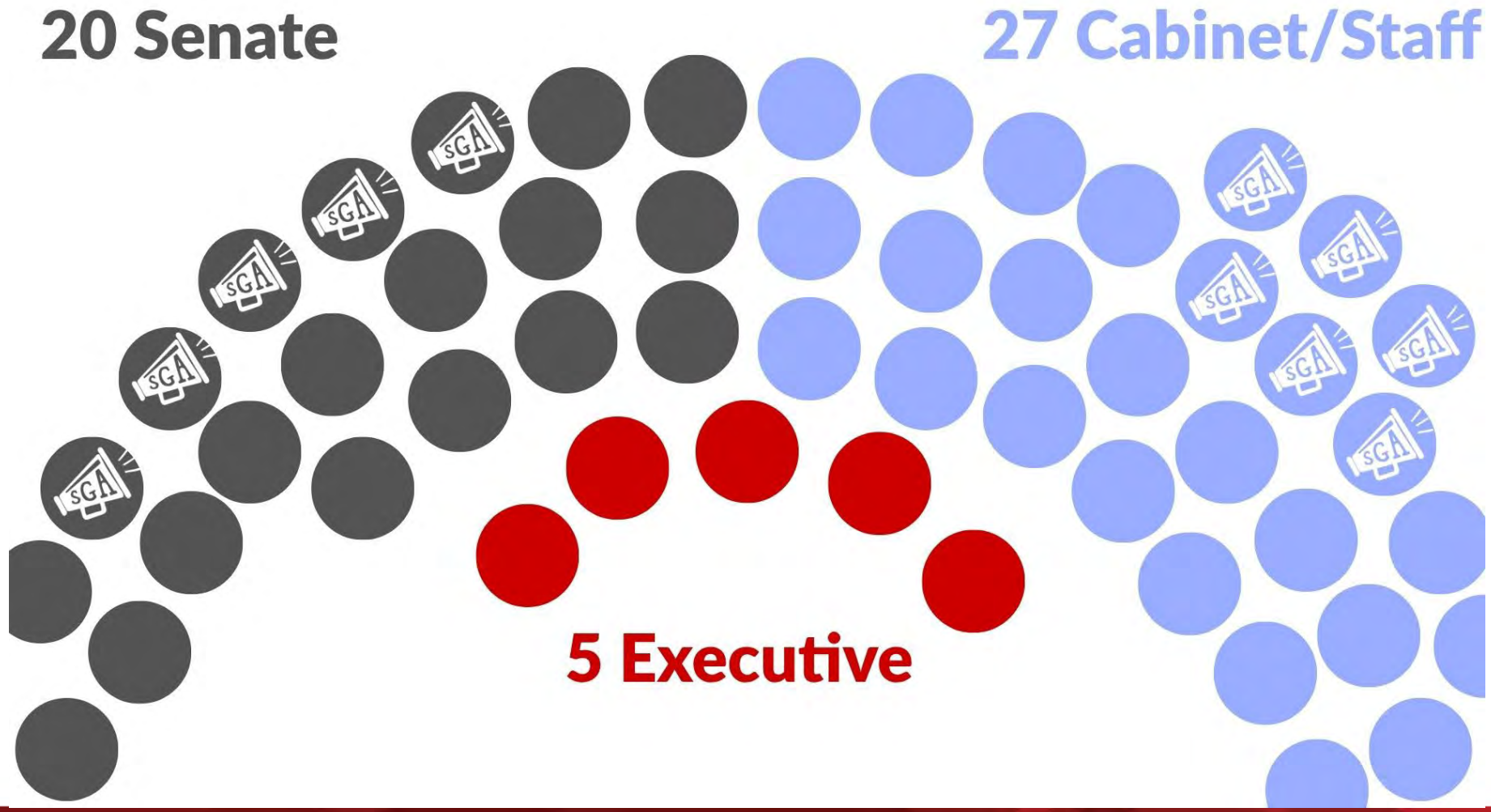
Increase SGA's impact through policy and advocacy

- WDYWW
- Digital Drop Box
- Newsletter



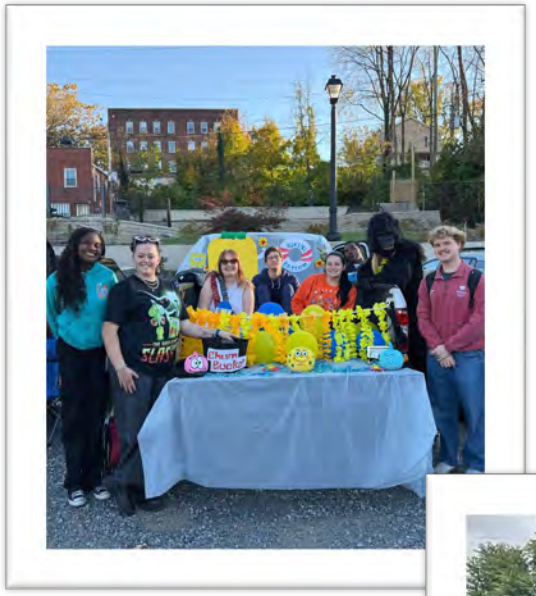


Goal 3: Membership



Events

- Loteria – Bingo Night
- Volunteer Event – Sinkland Farms
- Stock The Pantry – Homecoming
- Game Night
- Midterms: Let's Unwind
- Women's Resource Center Walk
- Highlander Gratitude
- Thank Before The Break
- Slime Time
- Holly Jolly Holiday
- Advocacy Day









Thank you!

Student Affairs

December 2026

The Next Chapter:
Recovery, Resilience, and HOPE



From left to right:

- **Cora Taylor**, Associate Director of SAVES
- **Lauren Sisler**, ESPN Reporter, Keynote Speaker and Author
- **Dr. Stephen Loyd**, Medical Advisor to the Great American Recovery Initiative
- **Dre Parker**, Student, Peer, Highlander HOPE Scholarship Recipient
- **David Diana**, Director of SAVES and SCS

Esports Center Grand Opening

- Scholarship student and esports player, **Garrett Palmer**, announced job offer with Kiewit, attributing success to skills he learned through esports.
- Radford hosted High Point University for an exhibition match, which was commentated by Cambron (‘29) and Marty Smith (‘98).



Radford University

Radford Gives Back




19 R 10
Radford
UNIVERSITY
Student Affairs
ROANOKE

Student Demographics

	Roanoke	Radford	Online
Undergraduate	7%	82%	11%
Graduate	32%	6%	62%
First Generation	26%	32%	27%
Pell Eligible	26%	46%	11%
Gender	Female: 79% Male: 21%	Female: 64% Male: 36%	Female: 76% Male: 24%
Minority Status	23%	31%	32%
Military Affiliated	5%	7%	4%

Student Affairs Roanoke Model

Direct Service

- Student Counseling
- Accessibility
- Housing & Residential Life
- Campus Events
- Student Conduct
- Clubs & Orgs
- Fitness
- Highlander Pantry

Liaison

- Compass
- Laptop Loaner
- Dean of Students/Advocacy
- Connected Communities
- RU Outdoors
- Student Health
- SAVES

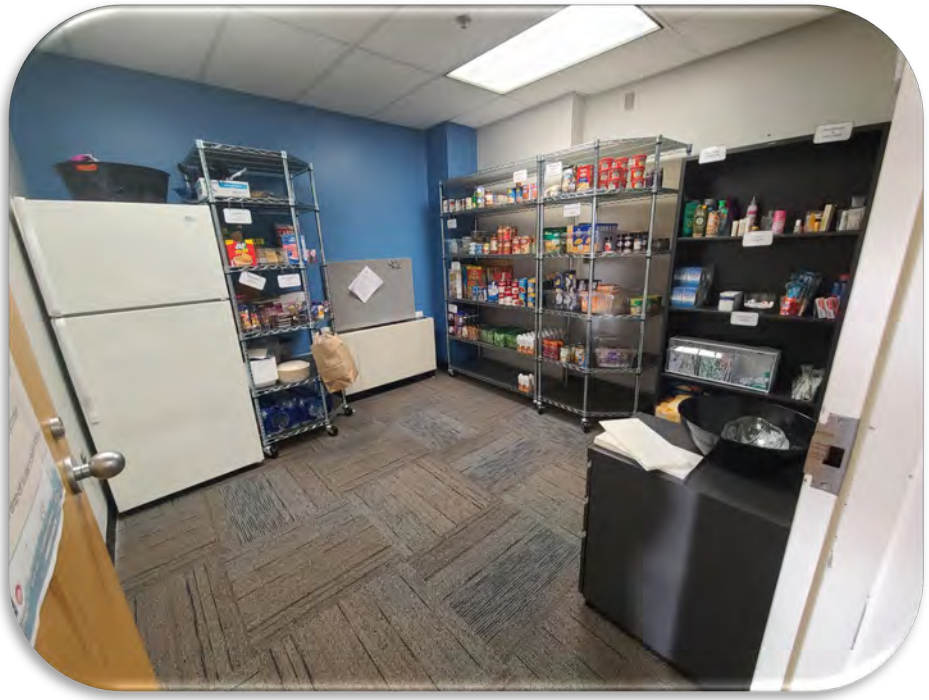
Student Well-being

- Accessibility Services
- Counseling and Well-being
- Fitness Centers
- Highlander Pantry
- Affinity Group Support
- Outdoor Recreation
- Student Advocacy and Support
- Laptop Loaner





Highlander Pantry



- **Opened Fall 2026**
- Visits: 91
- Unique Visitors: 37
- lbs. of food donated: **345**

Student Engagement

- Campus Life and Events
- Clubs and Organizations
- Housing and Residential Life
- Off-Campus Housing
- Student Standards and Conduct
- Highlander House
- Club Hub





Communication by the Numbers

51.5%

open rate

675,800

social views

Radford UNIVERSITY

Campus Impact

- **90%** of attendees agreed that our events enhanced their Highlander experience
- **90%** of attendees felt more connected to Radford University through attending our events
- **100%** of student respondents were satisfied with the move-in experience
- **94%** of respondents agreed their counselor provided them with the help they needed
- **100%** of respondents agreed that meeting with an accessibility specialist was worth their time



Questions

Intercollegiate Athletics

Robert Lineburg

Director of Athletics

December 3, 2026

Radford University

Competitive Excellence – XC







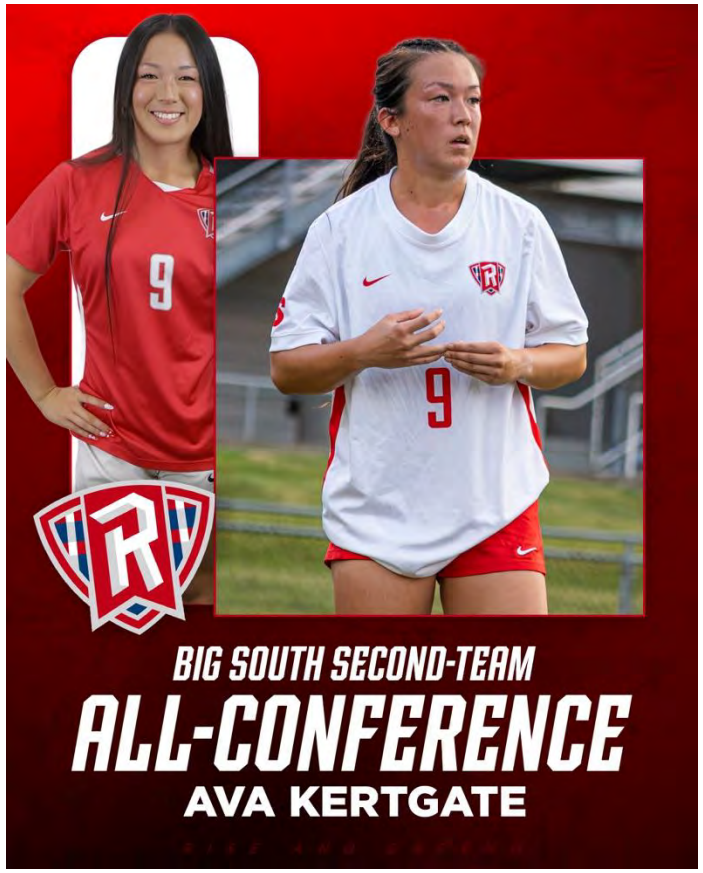
Competitive Excellence - MSOC

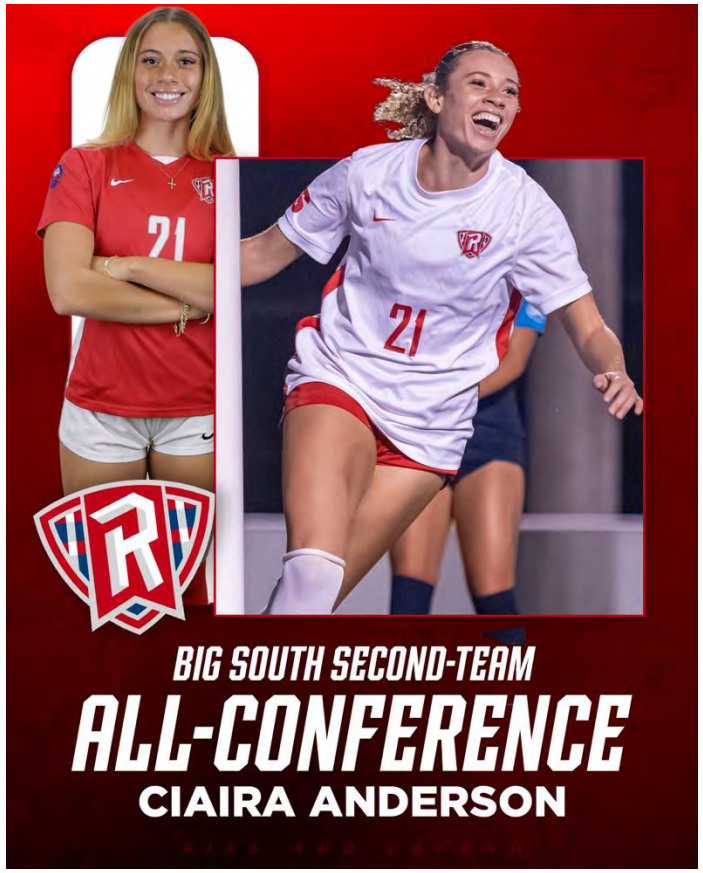






Competitive Excellence - WSOC







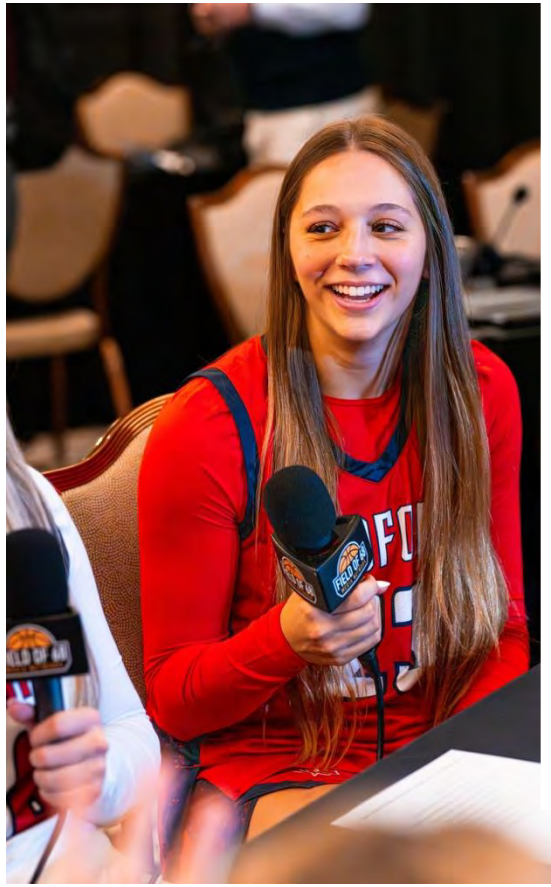
Competitive Excellence - VB







Competitive Excellence - WBB









Competitive Excellence - MBB









Radford Legends

Radford Legends is an alumni-led initiative that will collaborate with liaisons from Radford University to create opportunities to reunite and bring together former players, coaches/staff, and supporters. The pilot program is focusing on Men's Basketball in year one and will expand to other sports in the future.









National Landscape: Protect College Sports Act

Proposed federal legislation that would replace the current state-by-state patchwork with a single national framework for NIL, revenue sharing, transfers and eligibility – pairing new athlete protections and agent oversight with limited antitrust relief for the NCAA and conferences.

NIL Rights & Disclosure	Athletes keep eligibility/aid while earning NIL and using agents; House terms set: $20.5M cap, $22.5M retention, $5M Olympic/Women's ($48M).
Valid Business Purpose Test	Collective deals face fair-market value and business purpose review; pay-for-play is prohibited.
Revenue Share Cap	Direct-payment caps remain, with aid shielded from performance, injury, or roster decisions.
Limited Antitrust Exemption	Federal Trade Commission overseen antitrust protection spans NIL, cap, transfer, tampering, eligibility and enforcement, plus media rights carveout.
State Law Preemption	One federal standard displaces the 30-plus state rules on NIL, transfers and eligibility.
Athlete Protections	Guarantees span academics, medical coverage through five years post-participation, safety standards, one free transfer, and a five-year eligibility clock.
Agent Regulation	Agents register federally, face a 5% fee ceiling and required contract terms, with a public registry and a private right of action.
Structure & Media Rights	Boards must seat one-third current or recent athletes: expansion, super-leagues, and mid-season coaching moves are limited, and employment status is left open.

Sponsorship Revenue | 2026-27

Sponsorship composition across Radford Athletics including trade agreements and the Highlander Club.



Athletics Cash

$227K • 42.9%

Trade / In-Kind

$127K • 24.0%

Highlander Club Cash

$175K • 33.1%

Notes: YTD we are seeing a 6% decrease in revenue from sponsorship overall. Several new partners this year including an increase with Shentel to a new $60,000 deal over three years to include category exclusivity.

Discussion

Minutes

Radford University

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee
2:15 p.m.
September 17, 2026
Kyle Hall 340, Radford, VA

DRAFT
Minutes

Committee Members Present

Mr. David A. Smith, Chair
Mr. Tyler W. Lester, Vice Chair
Mr. Christopher Settle
Ms. Callie Dalton
Mr. Jonathan Sweet
Ms. Nancy Rice
Mr. Jeremiah Garretson (Non-Voting Student Rep)

Board Members Present

Mr. Dale S. Ardizzone, Rector
Ms. Betsy D. Beamer
Ms. Joann Craig
Mr. William C. Davis
Ms. Jeanne P. Fishwick
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Ms. Jennifer Wishon Gilbert, Vice Rector
Ms. Mary Anne Holbrook
Dr. Courtney Watson (Faculty Representative)

Board Members Absent

Ms. Stacey Y. Brayboy

Others Present

Dr. Bret Danilowicz, President
Dr. Rob Hoover, Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO

Dr. Dannette Gomez-Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications
Ms. Penny White, Vice President for University Advancement
Dr. Angela Joyner, Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Education
Dr. Tricia Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Bethany Usher, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Ryan Bowyer, Chief of Staff
Ms. Lisa Ghidotti, Executive Director of Government Relations
Ms. Susan Richardson, University Counsel
Ms. Jenene Lewis, FOIA & Governance Officer
Mr. Jerel Benton, Assistant Provost for Student Success
Mr. Lamar Walker, Interim Associate Vice President for Student Life
Ms. Stephanie Hovsepian, Interim Director of Connected Communities
Dr. Nancy Loosle, Associate Vice President for Campus Life RUC
Ms. Connie Phillips, Assistant Director, Budget Operations
Ms. Michele Laudenbacher, Associate Vice President for Budget & Planning
Mr. D.J. Preston, Director Student Recreation & Wellness
Mr. Cory Durand, Associate Director of Athletics
Mr. Robert Lineburg, Director of Athletics
Ms. Rylee Meadows, Student Government Association President

Call to Order

Mr. David A. Smith, Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. in Kyle Hall Room 340, Radford, Virginia. Mr. Smith welcomed everyone to the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the September 17, 2026 meeting agenda, as published. Mr. Tyler W. Lester so moved, Ms. Callie Dalton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the June 4, 2026 Student Affairs and Athletics Committee meeting minutes, as published. Mr. Tyler W. Lester so moved, Ms. Nancy Rice seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Student Government Association (SGA) Report

Ms. Rylee Meadows, Student Government Association President, provided an update on SGA goals and priorities for the 2026-2027 academic year. She discussed the SGA retreat at Selu, which focused on leadership development, annual goal setting, team building, and strengthening SGA's role as a voice for students.

Ms. Meadows outlined action items supporting SGA's goal of building bridges and pathways among students, university administration, faculty, and staff. SGA plans to meet with representatives from campus clubs and organizations, Academic Deans, and President Danilowicz. Membership efforts are focused on retaining current members and filling remaining positions; 16 new members had recently been welcomed.

SGA's legislative priorities include advancing resolutions and bills based on student feedback. Current areas of interest include syllabi and security cameras in campus parking areas. Ms. Meadows explained that SGA gathers ideas through student conversations and surveys, develops proposals through the Senate, and collaborates with administrators and faculty to move approved initiatives through university processes.

Recent engagement activities included the Opening Picnic for first-year students, annual First Day Photos, the Club Fair, Advocacy Day outreach, and ongoing SGA speeches and elections for freshman class senator. An October SGA retreat will bring new and returning members together for team building and goal setting.

In response to a question regarding parking lot cameras, Ms. Meadows shared that concerns involving vehicle theft, hit-and-run incidents, and student safety prompted the idea. The proposal remains in the exploratory stage, with surveying identified as a potential next step.

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Student Affairs Report

Dr. Tricia Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, introduced new Student Affairs leaders and provided updates on student engagement, well-being, student success, and the Division's strategic planning work.

Dr. Smith highlighted several engagement and well-being initiatives. A guided meditation pilot in the planetarium served 112 participants and experienced significant growth over the course of the pilot; 90% of participants reported feeling calmer, more present, and mindful. Higher Ground, now in its fourth year, served 50 participants and continues to track student success metrics. Summer at Selu drew approximately 300 participants through activities including National Trails Day programming, Moonlight Madness, kayaking, and owl calling.

Radford Community Fest, held August 22 as part of Welcome Week, drew approximately 8,000 attendees, up from roughly 3,000 in its first year. The event is a partnership with the City of Radford and included multiple stages, musical performances, family activities, and community partners. Dr. Smith noted that attendance was approximately evenly divided between students and community members and that participation continues to expand across the New River Valley and beyond.

At Radford University Carilion, Star Trek continued as a traditional kickoff experience, with 36 RUC students, 10 employees, and 20 Virginia Tech Carilion participants. The Highlander Float engaged 359 participants. Dr. Smith also highlighted Family and Friends Weekend and Celebration Weekend as important engagement opportunities during the first month of the academic year.

Dr. Smith provided an update on the Healthy Minds Study. The Division has received the data and is reviewing study questions, free-response themes, and next steps. Discussion included academic impairment related to emotional or mental difficulties and food insecurity. In response to a question about food insecurity, Dr. Smith noted that approximately one-third of students experience food insecurity and discussed resources including the Highlander Pantry, partnerships with Feeding America and Feeding Southwest Virginia, refrigerator and freezer capacity, donation efforts, and the Food Recovery Network in partnership with Chartwells. Resources are available across campuses to students, faculty, and staff.

Dr. Smith also discussed the Division's strategic plan, including a new mission and vision and continued focus on well-being, student success, and engagement experiences. Priorities include mental health and well-being education, faculty and staff training, partnerships with Academic Affairs, a common language for student success, targeted

executive-functioning support, peer-to-peer training, outdoor experiences, and expanded use of impact data.

In response to a question about the growth of engagement initiatives, Dr. Smith attributed progress to setting clear goals, measuring outcomes, coordinating with Enrollment Management and other partners, and creating intentional touchpoints that help students identify and shape the experience they want at Radford.

Intercollegiate Athletics Report

Mr. Robert Lineburg, Director of Athletics, provided updates on academic excellence, coaching transitions, fall competition, Athletics initiatives, and recent NCAA developments.

Mr. Lineburg highlighted continued academic success among Radford student-athletes. Women's Golf ranked No. 18 nationally in overall team GPA with a 3.86. Radford ranked second overall in the Big South Presidential Honor Roll, with 216 student-athletes earning a GPA of 3.0 or higher. He recognized the work of student-athlete services in supporting academic achievement.

Athletics also welcomed new leadership and coaching staff. Joe Pound was hired as head coach of Highlander Softball, joined by assistant coaches Molly Jacobson and Ramses Cordova. Cross Country and Track & Field updates included Paul Zalewski serving as interim director and the addition of Stephen Howard to the coaching staff.

Mr. Lineburg shared fall competitive updates for Women's Soccer, Men's Soccer, and Volleyball. Women's Soccer was selected second in the Big South preseason poll. Men's Soccer, under first-year head coach Andy Cormack, earned his first career win as a head coach. Volleyball was preparing to host a home tournament, with Athletics continuing efforts to increase home competitions and attendance.

An update was provided on Exit 109 Lager, a Radford-branded beer produced in partnership with alumni-owned Kindred Spirit Brewing. Mr. Lineburg recognized Mr. Cory Durand for his work on the initiative and reviewed the project timeline leading to its September launch.

Mr. Lineburg discussed NCAA developments, including the age-based eligibility model, ongoing litigation such as Wisne v. NCAA and related lawsuits, and the Protect College Sports Act currently under consideration in the U.S. Senate. In response to questions, he noted that continued litigation is expected absent broader federal legislation. Discussion also addressed roster limits and the approximately 300 student-athletes within Radford's overall student population.

Mr. Lineburg concluded with upcoming Athletics dates and initiatives, including RAD Giving Day on September 22-23 and the Athletics Hall of Fame ceremony on October 23. The 2026 Hall of Fame class includes four inductees.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Galyean-Goff
Executive Assistant to the
Vice President for Student Affairs

End of Board of Visitors Materials

