

# The Graduate Review

Radford University...Investing in Lifetimes



## Introducing the New Dean of the Graduate College

By: Sarah Heintzelman

The College of Graduate and Professional Studies at Radford University is proud to welcome our new Dean, Dr. Dennis Grady. The Graduate Student Council would like to take this opportunity to introduce him to all of the graduate community.

Dr. Grady officially began his position as Dean on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. He replaces Dr. Carole Seyfrit, who has decided to return to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

As Dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, Dr. Grady has many responsibilities that span across the University. His responsibility of supervising the overall graduate program at Radford University seems to be the most important to the graduate student community. Within this responsibility, Dr. Grady has to be sure all the highest standards are met among all the graduate programs and that each program has the most up to date information being taught to the students. Dr. Grady also has a responsibility along with the Graduate Affairs Council (GAC) to approve both graduate faculty and graduate programs.

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Dr. Grady holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. He obtained a master's degree in City Planning from Georgia Tech and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Emory University in Atlanta.

Dr. Grady comes to us from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. At ASU, he served as both the director of the Energy Center at the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School and chair of the Department of Political Science /Criminal Justice. Dr. Grady comes to Radford University with academic experience that spans 20 years.

Dr. Grady has numerous publications in journals and books on environmental policy. When in North Carolina, he led a research team for 7 years. One of the main topics that the team studied was the “economic impact of North Carolina’s change from a carbon based energy system to an energy system reliant on renewable fuels.” Dr. Grady says that “it was very interesting work” and he hopes it will contribute “to the debate on addressing global climate change in a rational manner.”

When asking Dr. Grady about his most important accomplishment to date, he proves to be modest, by saying that it is “more appropriate for others to judge.” He says all of the opportunities he has had makes him proud because he feels that he has had “positive impacts on people’s lives.”

In his spare time, Dr. Grady enjoys spending time in the outdoors, either hiking or playing tennis. Dr. Grady and his wife, Martha, recently travelled to Yellowstone National Park and did hikes that he says were “amazing.” He really enjoys all of the hiking and outdoor opportunities available here in Radford and the surrounding area. When not being active outdoors, Dr. Grady enjoys reading American History books. Thomas Jefferson is his hero and he loves to read anything about him and that period of history.



## Chair's Message...

I would like to welcome all the graduate students of Radford University for the 2008-2009 school year. It is an honor and a pleasure for me to represent all of you as the Chair of the Graduate Student Council (GSC). I want to take this opportunity to give the graduate community a basic understanding of GSC. GSC is responsible for representation of the interests of graduate students and GSC works with the University to improve not only graduate programs but also graduate student life.

At this point, GSC is not well known across campus but I am working hard to try to change that this year. I would like for GSC to have a larger presence on RU's campus this year but in order to achieve that, I am going to need help from everyone.

Within this Newsletter, you will find events that have been scheduled, information that will be helpful to all of you, and positions open on the council. The more of us that can become involved on the council, the less we will each have to do. If you want to be able to make changes for the graduate student community of RU, this is your chance!

Good luck to everyone this school year and please let me know if you have any suggestions or concerns. You can reach me at [saheintze@radford.edu](mailto:saheintze@radford.edu). I hope to meet many of you this school year!

## Graduate Student Council Membership

The Graduate Student Council is looking for any graduate students, part or full time that would like to help make changes for the graduate community. Many graduate students are not aware that we exist and this year we will be trying very hard to get our name out there. Please come help us with this major change! We still have positions open that must be filled in order for the GSC to run smoothly this year and to provide the graduate community with support and fun. Even if you don't feel you have the time to be in a position on the council, you can still help out, so please e-mail the Chair, Sarah Heintzelman, if you are at all interested.



The open positions and responsibilities are as follows:

**Treasurer:** Handles all procurement for Council, retains copies of all receipts and process for payment and to keep accurate records of all financial transactions, prepare and present a written report of the financial status of the council at each meeting, ensure that budget allocation is spent and that there are no overages, ensure that PPR forms are processed in advance to give time for processing before needing items for events, work with Student Accounts Manager to ensure that all university and state purchasing and payment guidelines are met in regards to purchases made for council, meet with Student Accounts Manager and the SGA Treasurer to be trained concerning Student Activity Account policies and procedures, maintain a close rapport with dining services in case a waiver or service is needed, meet all procurement and payable deadlines to ensure money is spent out of appropriate fiscal year, prepare the council's annual budget request for the following year for SFC hearings and go with Chair to hearing to defend and explain budget submission, attend and help at events sponsored by the GSC.

**Department Representatives:** Take information from GSC and disseminate to your department, prepare and present a written report of your departments' needs, concerns, suggestions, etc. once monthly to the Graduate Student Senators, post Flyers for events around your department, attend and help at events sponsored by the GSC, collaborate on Budget proposal for 08/09, act as official representative of constituents.

**Newsletter Committee Members:** Work with the Newsletter Editor to complete newsletters, write articles for the newsletters, and alternate writing articles for the Tartan.

## RU Involved?

RU Involved is a new page that has been designed by the Radford University Student Affairs Department. At this page, students can find out information about all clubs and organizations that are registered on campus. Any clubs or organizations you are involved in, you can become a member of on RU Involved. Please check out this site often, as the GSC will post all information there! The website is [www.ruinvolved.com](http://www.ruinvolved.com). We hope you come to enjoy all the benefits it has to offer.

## Come Visit the LARC

By: Dr. Theresa Burriss



“Even the most well known, widely published authors have editors.” I share these words of wisdom with not only my undergraduate students, but my graduate students as well. No matter how strong a writer’s command of style and grasp of grammar, every writer benefits from another pair of critical eyes reading his or her work. The Learning Assistance and Resource Center (LARC), located on the first floor of Walker Hall, is the place to come on cam-pus when you’re searching for that friendly critic and editor. Trained tutors work with graduate students across the disciplines on both formal and informal papers alike. Whether you need confirmation of your APA/MLA citations or aid in crafting a stronger thesis statement and supporting details in the body paragraphs, we can help. Please make an appointment at the LARC by phone, 831-7704, by AIM at “rularcappt”, or by stopping by Walker Hall. Be sure to tell our schedulers that you’re a graduate student so they can place you with the appropriate tutor. If you have other questions, please contact me, Dr. Theresa Burriss, at 831-6857 or [tburriss@radford.edu](mailto:tburriss@radford.edu).

## Highlight a Highlander: Hagen Dias

By: Amanda H. O'Reilly



It can be difficult transitioning from any environment into the college setting. Imagine doing this if your family is thousands of miles away. That is exactly what our Highlighted Highlander Hagen Dias had to do. He originates from India, but his parents and sister live in Kuwait. Hagen has been in the US for 8 years now and has adjusted well to life here at Radford. He is a graduate student in the MBA program. I asked Hagen what brought him to Radford University. His response was, “I initially came to Radford in 2000 as an undergraduate majoring in Computer Science, and I chose RU for a number of reasons, firstly they offered me a Deans List scholarship which took care of a bulk of my tuition. Secondly, the computer science program was accredited and had reputable professors who had a passion to teach. Thirdly, I felt RU's campus was one of the easiest campuses for an international student to transition into, because of its small and convenient size and also its small but diverse international community. I came back in '06 to pursue my MBA after a stint as a Systems Administrator for New River Pharmaceuticals, with the dream of starting my own web technology company someday. I took a years worth of various business classes as MBA prerequisites before finally becoming a MBA student in '07.” Hagen was involved with SMIPO and encourages business majors to consider being a part of this organization to get a feel of the corporate environment. Hagen says that one of the biggest differences between here and Kuwait is that there is no taxation there. He says that it did take a little while to adjust, but with the help of his peers and instructors –he settled on in. Something interesting he mentioned about Kuwait is that oil is cheaper than bottled water! Kuwait also plans on building the world’s tallest building –taller than the one currently in Dubai. Hagen offers this advice for International students, “Try and connect with the many great professors of the program, they are very passionate about their job and they don't hesitate in reaching out to their students, especially if you make yourselves available to them. They will teach you many lessons for business and life. Also don't hesitate connecting with great and helpful people like Teresa Dalton King at the International Education Office and Kara Ferguson at the Multicultural Office, if you need any kind of assistance, guidance or help as an International Student.” Hagen says he will take with him from Radford University, “the many great relationships I've gained here with my peers and my professors and the lessons I've learned as a student and an individual.”

## Out and About in Fairlawn: Sal's Jr.

By: Amanda O'Reilly

Hungry? Don't know what to eat? I recommend you try Sal's Jr. in Fairlawn. It's located in the plaza next to Wal-Mart in Fairlawn. Sal's Jr. recently replaced Sandro's Pizzeria that was in the same location. Owned by the same family that operates Sal's in Radford, Sal's Jr. offers great Italian food at a very reasonable price. The wait is short. I'd say entrées arrive in about 10 to 15 minutes. I really enjoyed the "Pizza Pops". This is pizza dough with cheese and your choice of toppings rolled up and cooked. It comes out looking like a crescent roll –or an open stromboli. It also comes with marinara to dip in. My only complaint is that it's a bit greasy. I also hear that they have great stuffed eggplant and calzones. I recommend the garlic knots to anyone who likes bread, garlic, cheese, and sauce. You can get them without cheese if you want –but why would you? They're great whichever way you choose. The staff is friendly and professional. This would be a great break from the usual Radford cuisine and fast food restaurants. Who should go to Sal's Jr.? Anyone who likes great Italian food! Give it a try! If you have an experience different from my own...let me know!

## Out and About in Radford: Sharkey's

By: Sarah Heintzelman

Since Sharkey's has opened on Main Street in Radford, it has been a favorite with people young and old. It has a great selection of food from breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings to wraps and burgers to the best wings and ribs around! Even vegetarians can enjoy Sharkey's with a full section dedicated to them. Not only is there a great variety of food -they have the best variety of beers in Radford at a great price. Monday through Friday from 5 to 9 they have what is called the "best happy hour in town" and I don't think anyone can disagree with that!

They have a special every Monday through Thursday so that everyone can enjoy their favorite parts of Sharkey's.

<b>Monday</b>	Free Burger Monday (Buy 1, Get 1)
<b>Tuesday</b>	Guest Appreciation Day (20% discount on food and non-alcoholic beverages)
<b>Wednesday</b>	Wing and Pizza Buffet
<b>Thursday</b>	50% off appetizers

On top of all the great selection of food and drinks at Sharkey's, it is an awesome atmosphere with an extremely friendly and helpful staff. And all of you football fans don't forget that Sharkey's has great flat screen TVs with the NFL Sunday ticket.

## Announcements:

### Awards:

#### Graduate "On The Spot" Recognition Program

This program will recognize the outstanding performance of graduate students and faculty on the RU campus. This will be a nomination program and will be awarded as submissions occur or bi-weekly, whichever occurs more frequently. These winners and their accomplishments will be posted on the GSC website. Excellence takes many forms. It can refer to academic or non-academic achievement. Some examples of excellence might include (but are not limited to): good citizenship, community involvement, research, scholastic excellence, or being an "all around good guy." Graduate faculty and students are eligible for this award. Please send nominations to Sarah Vogler at [smvogler@radford.edu](mailto:smvogler@radford.edu)

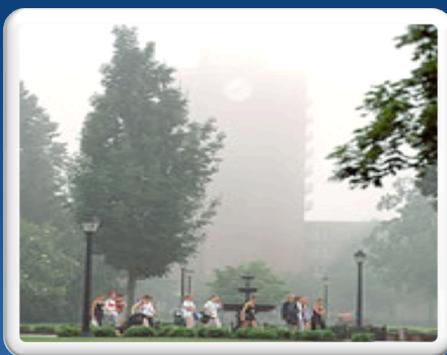


### Graduate Student Honor Society:

We are in the process of trying to start a chapter of Alpha Epsilon Lambda (AEL) on Radford's campus. This will allow graduate students who have at least 12 credit hours, exhibit leadership skills, and are in the top 35% of all graduate students to graduate with honors given by AEL. You can check out their website and [www.gradschools.org](http://www.gradschools.org). Please e-mail Sarah Heintzeman at [saheintze@radford.edu](mailto:saheintze@radford.edu) if you are interested in being part of the founding chapter.

### National Association of Graduate-Professional Students:

The Graduate Student Council is looking into becoming a member of NAGPS as it has potential benefits to all graduate students at Radford University. Once the Graduate Student Council becomes a member, any Radford University graduate student can apply for a position in this association, use the job board, talk to other graduate students, obtain insurance, and use the many resources of the website. Check it out at [www.nagps.org](http://www.nagps.org).



## Calendar of Events

If any graduate student is interested, the GSC is hoping to have an article published once monthly in RU's weekly newsletter *The Tartan*. If you have an idea for an article, please submit it to your GSC Newsletter Editor Amanda O'Reilly at [aoreilly2@radford.edu](mailto:aoreilly2@radford.edu). Articles must be submitted on the Thursday before the newsletter goes out (each Wednesday). This is a GREAT way to get your voice heard to the entire Radford University Community! If you have an idea for an article to be placed in future editions of *The Graduate Review*, please email all ideas to the above email address. All suggestions are welcome!

**September 28      1:00pm      Bisset Park Shelter 1      Welcome Picnic!**

We want to get to know you! All faculty, staff, students, and family are invited to have fellowship with each other as we start this new school year off. This will be a potluck picnic. Let's get this school year off to a great start by making some new friends!

**October 18      6:30pm      Bonnie Game Room      Game Night!**

Need a mid-semester break? Come join us for some well-deserved and very much needed relaxation from classes. We will have pool, bowling, ping-pong, and many other activities planned. Door prizes will be given out just for attending! This event is held in conjunction with Chi Sigma Iota. Bowling shoes and 1 game will be paid for! Please RSVP by October 3 to Sarah Heintzelman. We hope to see you there!

**November 1      TBA      Selu Conservancy      Halloween Costume Celebration**

Get your Halloween costumes out ladies and gentlemen! In conjunction with Chi Sigma Iota, the GSC is sponsoring a Halloween celebration! 21 and up only please! There will be someone checking ID's at the door, so make sure to bring yours with you! Must have a ticket to enter –will be available mid-September. Tickets are free and there is a limit on the number that can attend. There will be costume and door prizes. This event is guaranteed to be a blast!

**December 19      TBA      TBA      Graduation Reception**

After the hooding ceremony, a reception will be held in honor of our graduates. Students, faculty, friends, and family are all invited. More details (including time and place) will follow. Congrats grads!