The Dean’s Office is soliciting curriculum proposals for Summer Bridge 2009 scheduled for July 12—17.

All faculty are invited to submit a proposal for a science, math or information technology course that would include 10 hours of instruction geared for sophomores or juniors in high school.

Proposals should include the title of the course, course description, budget, facility requirements, learning outcomes and expected final product such as a student produced power point, project, presentation or poster.

For more information, see the Oct. 9 edition of From the Dean’s Desk.

REMINDER: Proposals for Summer Bridge Due Nov. 3

Student Research Chalk Talks Scheduled for Oct. 30

Information Technology student Eric Ballance will be presenting his research during Chalk Talks on Oct. 30 from 5—6 p.m. in Cook Hall, room 317.

Biology associate professor Gary Cote invites students who may be interested in presenting on Oct. 30 to contact him at gcote@radford.edu. All faculty are invited to attend the Chalk Talks and discuss Ballance’s research with him. For more information, contact Cote.

MES Lecture Offered 3D Look at Death Valley

Geology professor Parvinder Sethi took visitors on a three-dimensional tour of Death Valley during his recent presentation hosted by the RU Museum of the Earth Sciences. Sethi’s guests joined him on an adventure to discover the inhuma terrain that stalled the migration of the Mormon settlers in their quest for the West, and the incredible vistas of water, sand and rocks that define this national park.
Tim Filbert: Career Services Representative—By Tim Filbert

Greetings,

I’d like to introduce myself as the career liaison for the College of Science and Technology from the RU Center for Experiential Learning and Career Services (ELCS). This role involves working with CSAT in helping students prepare for engagement into a lifelong process of work and service that is satisfying and addresses the changing needs of local communities and the global community. Specifically, I will be available to students through workshops, classroom visits and one-on-one meetings to discuss various aspects of career development, including those often most immediately pressing—preparing resumes and cover letters, preparing for interviews, assessing professional skills/strengths, career assessments, and searching for jobs and internships. As I begin to work with CSAT, I’ll look forward to exploring other ways ELCS can support you.

As just a little background, I earned an M.S. in general engineering at the University of Illinois, followed by work in the aerospace and the semiconductor equipment industries. I earned a second M.S. in water resources management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison that led to work in rural community development and then in student leadership development at Virginia Tech. I joined Radford University in September.

I look forward to meeting and working with you!

Tim Filbert
Assistant Director, Career Counselor
RU Center for Experiential Learning and Career Services.

Rhett Herman Interviewed by Channel 7’s Holly Pietrzak

Physics associate professor Rhett Herman and the RU Society of Physics Students conducted an experiment to prove that horoscopes are not scientific.

Herman was interviewed by Channel 7 reporter Holly Pietrzak on Friday while he was setting up the experiment scheduled for that evening.

The experiment required a sensitive gravity meter to show that a mass of 50 students one floor above the meter has more effect than the position of the planets. Herman said “if you want to believe in horoscopes that’s fine. But if you want to evoke science as an explanation, no, you can’t do that.”

The experiment was prompted by a campus visit from Tori Belleci of the Discovery Channel’s "Mythbusters".
As faculty advisors, many of you have been or will be meeting with your new transfer students in the next few days. Here are some things to keep in mind.

According to the State Policy on Transfer, Radford’s general education requirements will be considered met if the student has earned an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or Associate of Arts and Sciences or will complete these degrees during their first semester at RU.

The Associate of Applied Sciences does not meet Radford’s general education requirements. Remember, this policy only applies to Virginia Community Colleges, not community colleges from other states.

Once a student has submitted a final transcript with a qualifying degree posted, this will be indicated on the Degree Works audit. The audit will show a checkmark in the General Education box with “General Education Requirements have been met by a previous degree” stated below.

If the General Education requirements are still showing on the audit, then the student has not submitted the final transcript. The student is required to do so immediately to avoid taking additional coursework.

In addition, Radford only accepts transfer work with a grade of a C or better. Therefore, credits earned with a C- will not transfer to RU.

In order for transfer students to graduate from RU, they must meet the following criteria:

1. Complete a minimum of 45 hours at RU
2. 50% of the major or minor classes must be taken at RU
3. 30 of the last 39 credits must be taken at RU.
4. A minimum of 60 credits must be taken at RU to be considered for Latin Honors. (students with a 3.5 or greater GPA who have not earned at least 60 credit hours at Radford will graduate “With Distinction.”)

I hope this will answer the common questions and misconceptions concerning transfer students. As always, please feel free to call the Advising Center at 831-5601 if you have any questions.

Mathematics professor Wei-Chi Yang founded the international Electronic Journal of Mathematics and Technology (eJMT) in February of 2007 to give high school teachers, university students and professors across the globe a valuable medium to discuss implementation of technology in their teaching, learning and research. The journal is located at https://php.radford.edu/~ejmt/.

“I believe technological tools are pivotal for linking mathematics to any applied fields. Thanks to evolving technological tools, anyone can elevate their mathematics knowledge,” says Yang.

He says that it’s imperative to produce more qualified K-12 math teachers and to motivate future K-12 math teachers and undergraduate students to be interested in mathematical sciences, technology, and engineering. So, eJMT will electronically publish source codes of programs together with submitted papers, to enable readers to continue the experiments.

Since its inception, authors from around the world have contributed to the journal. “Over the years, I was fortunate to have built extensive international connections with educators, researchers and scholars in mathematics areas,” says Yang. “In my opinion, the internet will push global collaborations among universities even further,” adds Yang.

Math students James Inman, Kevin Jones and Kevin Thompson’s paper QuickBoard: the Airplane Boarding Problem was selected for publication in the journal last year. In addition, papers from math faculty Neil Sigmon, Juergen Gerlach, Skip Thompson and Yang have either appeared or will be published in the journal. Accepted papers go through rigorous reviews by an international editorial board.

Yang says all papers from the journal are now accessible to RU students and faculty members. He is interested in considering papers from faculty and students in CSAT that inform readers about how mathematics and technological tools are used in different disciplines. “Managing editor and CSAT math faculty member Steve Corwin has done a wonderful job publishing the journal in a timely manner,” says Yang.
The College of Science and Technology inspires students to look beyond their world and into the global arena of ingenuity, invention and research.

College faculty dedicate themselves to their students' success. They are mentors who guide inquiring minds through the process of discovery in the classroom and in real-world research.

The College of Science and Technology houses the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Information Technology, Geology, Chemistry and Physics, and Biology.

College faculty and students collaborate across disciplines in research and real-world problem solving. This synergy inspires many opportunities for faculty and student innovation to take root and grow to meet the ever changing needs of the global community.

Thank you for being a part of our CSAT faculty. You inspire excellence within our students and your colleagues.