



Office of the Provost Newsletter September 8, 2021

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

On Sunday, August 22 our college welcomed the new Community of Artists Living Learning Community members to campus with a brunch in Trinkle Hall. During our brunch the new CoA students had the opportunity to meet their CVPA Ambassador mentors who were excited to answer any of their last-minute questions and help them feel more prepared for their first day of classes. At the end of the week, this group celebrated making it through the first week with pizza and brownies! We had an excellent turn out for both gatherings and are excited as we continue to plan events throughout the year with this enthusiastic and engaged group of students.



RADFORD UNIVERSITY CHEMISTRY FACULTY AND STUDENT RESEARCH FEATURED IN INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION

Dr. George Harakas, Associate Professor of Chemistry at Radford University, has been exploring transition metal clusters with unique bonding properties between their metal centers.

“The metal clusters we make could be used to form nanoparticles that have interesting optical, electronic, and/or magnetic properties” stated Dr. Harakas. “These type of nanoparticles are used for making smart materials such as ferrofluids (liquids that respond to magnetic fields) and have potential in catalysis and other applications.”

Ferrofluids for example, have applications that range from active shock absorbers in automobiles to MRI contrast agents.

The research group uses X-ray crystallography to confirm the chemical composition and structural details of the cluster in the solid state. “The X-ray data was collected using our new X-ray diffractometer located in the Inorganic Chemistry laboratory” stated Dr. Harakas. “The majority of undergraduate only programs do not have this type of equipment.”

As such, students have the opportunity to learn about this process at Radford University early in their academic career which gives them an advantage among their peers in both gaining research skills and expressing their findings through STEM communication.

This work was published in the latest issue of IUCrData, a fully open-access peer-reviewed journal from the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr). The IUCrJournal publishes high-profile articles on all aspects of the sciences and technologies supported by the IUCr via its commissions, including emerging fields where structural results underpin the science reported in the article.



COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Dear Colleagues,

I write to invite you to participate in a series of conversations centered around the release of the National Humanities Alliance's report, *Strategies for Recruiting Students to the Humanities* (<https://www.studythehumanities.org/strategies>). As we strive to advocate for the humanities and behavioral sciences in a national climate unaware of their benefits, these conversations seem more timely than ever.

Each week we will discuss a section of the report and host a guest conversationalist with expertise on the topic:

September 10, 2021

"Curricular Innovation" (p. 23-44) with Dr. Heather Keith, Executive Director of Faculty Development

September 17, 2021

"Cultivating a Marketing Mindset" (p. 45-60) with Mr. Craig Cornell, Vice President for Enrollment Management

September 24, 2021

"Fostering Humanities Identity and Community" (p. 61-77) with Dr. Paul Thomas, Director of the Humanities Lab

Each meeting will run 4:00-5:00 p.m. and you can join us in person in Hemphill Hall 4700 or via Zoom using the connection directions below.

Hope to see you,

Matthew J. Smith, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://radford.zoom.us/j/98227017210> Password: 797270

Join from a Telephone : Dial +1 408 638 0968 Enter Meeting ID 98227017210 Password: 797270

International numbers available: <https://radford.zoom.us/j/abQ6HAhTn7>

Join from a Room Systems: 98227017210@zoomcrc.com Password: 797270

To download the zoom client, go to <https://zoom.us/download>

Harvey Knowledge Center

Meet Our Academic Coaches!

The HKC has 22 academic coaches and counting. They can support learning strategies, time management, note taking, and subject-specific content!

Charlene Galvez is a math major who describes her love of math for “the patterns that represent everything around us like how flowers bloom and rainbows exist!” Charlene’s joy in the world is infectious and her math help is both practical and inspiring. [Charlene is considering a career in math education and can help students in Calculus I and any math course below it.](#)



Tatiana Tshibuyi is a political science major and a social justice powerhouse, determined to see more women of color represented in politics. Tatiana’s gentle confidence inspires students to notice their strengths and set challenging goals. [Tatiana can assist students in political science, history, and general college success skills.](#)



Paige Sproul is a first year Master’s student in the Special Education program. With an undergraduate degree in math education and a passion for individual potential, Paige is a welcoming face for any student who wants to talk about short or long-term development in their [math skills. Paige is also an experienced Writing Coach who can support students at any stage of the writing process, and can help students prepare for the Praxis 1 and the VCLA exam.](#)



Did You Know We Do More Than Tutor?

HKC Academic Coaches are trained in coaching strategies around goal-setting and self-determination theory, and seek ways to empower students to develop long-lasting and transferrable learning skills that go beyond the test, assignment, or question that brought them in. They also engage in training on learning science around memory, attention, and practice, and can assist students in finding evidence-based study practices that work for them.

Seeking Faculty Mentor Applicants

The HKC is seeking faculty applicants to serve as mentors for small groups of undergraduate academic coaches for the 2021-2022 academic year. Faculty Mentors serve for one academic year and contribute approximately 25 hours each semester to the Harvey Knowledge Center. Mentors receive an annual stipend of \$1,000 for their participation as mentors in the Academic Coach Training and Professional Development Program.

Criteria

- At least 2 years of full-time teaching experience or equivalent experience
- Demonstrated commitment to student success and student learning
- Ability to connect with and support students in groups and one-on-one settings
- Willingness to foster a supportive and inclusive learning environment
- Demonstrated knowledge or expertise within a stated discipline or subject area
- Ability to generalize or adapt specialized knowledge to the needs of undergraduate students taking a variety of courses within the department or discipline

More information and the application process can be found on our website at <https://www.radford.edu/content/harvey-knowledge-center/home/Involved/apply-to-become-a-faculty-mentor.html>.

Faculty Development

Faculty Development is pleased to announce the 2021-22 Faculty Development Fellows. Each representing a college/school and RUC, fellows meet monthly, participate in leadership training opportunities, and offer peer development via individual or team projects. Examples of projects include cross-University teaching squares, the development of assessment materials for colleges and programs, teaching workshops, and community building programming for faculty. We are especially pleased to add two additional fellows this year who will specialize in programming for diversity, equity, and inclusion and strengthening and supporting our BIPOC faculty community. Fellows serve 1-2 years and receive a stipend.

This year's fellows are:

Melinda Cruz (DEI)

Ali-Sha Alleman (DEI)

Jennifer McDonel (CVPA)

Jae Jeong (Davis)

Sarah Kennedy (Artis)

Diana Willeman-Buckelew (Waldron/RUC)

Amanda Kellogg (CHBS)

Amanda Bozack (CEHD)

Jennifer Turner (SoN)

RUC—Academic Support Services

RUC Academic Support Services is getting ready for the Fall 2021 semester, with updates to all of our core services to support students and faculty:

Testing: We're happy to introduce Amy Shea, our new Educational Testing Center (ETC) Coordinator. Faculty colleagues should please submit testing requests through our online proctoring request form. We also ask that you direct questions and communications to ruc-etc@radford.edu. The ETC is back to full capacity for testing and continues to be open at its normal schedule Monday through Friday.

Subject Tutoring: We welcome new and returning tutors this fall. We are fortunate to still have our two professional nursing tutors, Mackenzie McNamara and Britni Price. In addition, we have Luke Kratzer, who is an ABSN student; Milena Khodjaeva, an RETH student; Scotia Haxton and Anna Lewis, both BioMed students; and Justin Raucheisen, an EMS student.

PASS Academic Coaching: Both Al Overstreet and Sarah Cox continue to encourage teachers and self-referrals to Pathways to Student Success (PASS), academic coaching that can be done in-person or over Zoom. This covers time management, study and test taking skills, as well as notetaking and has seen excellent results. Appointments can be made through Starfish.

Writing Assistance: Faculty looking to schedule in-class writing workshops should contact Sarah Cox (scox1@radford.edu.) Workshops can be tailored to fit your needs, including both duration and topic. Previous workshops have included APA style, avoiding plagiarism, academic voice, literature reviews, and more.

We look forward to seeing our new incoming and returning students and are here to help make your year successful. Contact Al Overstreet at (aoverstreet1@radford.edu) with any questions regarding our services and Starfish for the RUC campus.

Honors College

The Honors College held its annual Honors Convocation on Friday, September 3rd in the Davis Performance Hall. The only annual event that brings together Radford University's over 300 honors students and faculty, presenters celebrated past accomplishments and looked ahead to an exciting year. Outgoing faculty fellows Lauren Flora, Tom Duncan, Sandy French, and Riane Bolin were recognized with honorary Highlander Honors Scholar medallions. Dr. Liz Altieri (STEL) was given the 2021 Award for Faculty Excellence in Honors, bestowed by Honors Student Council. As is tradition, the keynote was delivered by the previous King Award winner for the most outstanding honors capstone project.

2021 King Award winner Hannah White was a Communication major mentored by Drs. John Brummette and Lisa Baker-Webster.

Citizen Leader

Looking Ahead: Citizen Leader Course Applications for 2022-2023

We are closing out the Citizen Leader Course designated courses for the 2021-2022 academic year. If you have courses that you wish to be designated as Citizen Leader for Spring 2022, please fill out the application form online, see link below.

We are turning our attention to the 2022-2023 academic year. We invite faculty to join us. We recognize that many of you currently teach courses that have a strong civic engagement and/or a leadership focus. We encourage you to consider having your course Citizen Leader designated. If you would like to learn how to get your course designed as Citizen Leader, please contact me. I am happy to work with you as much as you need (jmistele@radford.edu)

Citizen Leader designated courses provide you access to funds that can help you purchase materials for your course. Contact Dr. Jean Mistele, jmistele@radford.edu *at any time* to ask questions or to set up a zoom meeting – I am more than happy to help!

Please click on one of the following links to the application forms.

- **New course application link:** [course designation form](#).
- **Renewal course application link:** <https://radford.campuslabs.com/engage/forms>; (8th on the list) Please have your administrators identify your course as Citizen Leader for the Attribute Code.

Citizen Leader and Fall 2021 Event

3rd Annual Constitution and Citizenship Week

September 13 – 17, 2021

Please contact us for events you would like to include in this week long celebration.
(See Upcoming Events below on Pages 9-10 for more information)

ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER

During the first week of the Fall 2021 academic semester (known as “Drop/Add Week”), the Academic Success Center engaged in **751 academic advising in-person appointments with students.**

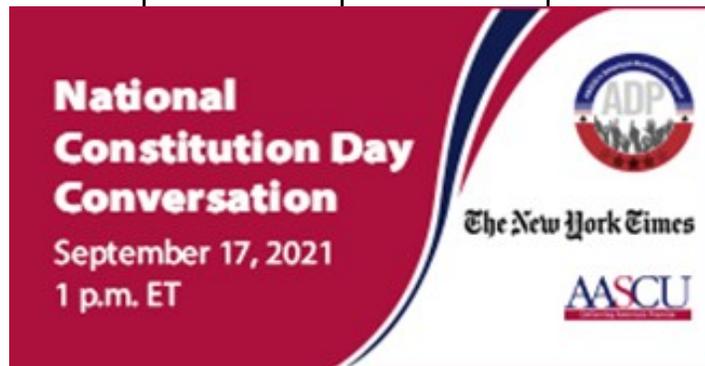
Date	Total
23-Aug	255
24-Aug	178
25-Aug	113
26-Aug	109
27-Aug	96
Grand Total	751

Scheduled	59
Walk-In	692
Grand Total	751

Reason for Appointment	Total
Academic Improvement	3
Academic Petition	3
Admission to the Major	2
Change of Major/Minor	57
Course Withdrawal	1
Degree Audit	4
Graduation Requirements	6
Internship Information	1
Motivation	1
Questions About Current Program	46
Questions About Other Majors/ Minors	9
Registration	77
Schedule Adjustment	528
Second Advising Appointment	4
Seek Career Advice	1
University Withdrawal	8
Grand Total	751

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Location	Date	Time	Sponsor
What the Constitution Means to Me Visit a table to fill out an anonymous survey	Bonnie/Student Union/Library	9-13-2021	All Day	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
What the Constitution Means to Me Visit a table to fill out an anonymous survey	Bonnie/Student Union/Library	9-14-2021	All Day	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
Learning to Interrupt: Identifying and Interrupting Microaggressions Discussion: Dr. Allison Wisecup	TBD	9-15-2021	10:00-11:00am	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
Citizen Leader: Civic Engagement Preparing tote bags for community non-profits	Bonnie Plaza 1-4	9-15-2021	11:00am-1:00pm	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
Center for Diversity and Inclusion Lunch and Learn: Latino Heritage Month	Heth 157	9-15-2021	11:30am-1:30pm	
What the Constitution Means to Me Visit a table to fill out an anonymous survey	Bonnie	9-15-2021	All Day	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
What the Constitution Means to Me Visit a table to fill out an anonymous survey	Bonnie	9-16-2021	All Day	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
Is the Constitution Day Constitutional?	Heth	9-17-2021	TBD	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
What the Constitution Means to Me Survey Results Display	TBD: Display Screens/ Library	9-17-2021	TBD	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week
American Democracy Project Event MUST PRE-REGISTER! RU Students can join the National Constitution Day Conversation . This national facilitated dialogue is based on the fundamental value of the pursuit of knowledge for the public good. We will provide access to information about the U.S. Constitution, but you need not be an expert to enjoy this event and to share in the lively conversation. Open to all higher education faculty/staff/students. Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84481117900	Virtual	9-17-2021	1:00-2:00pm	Citizen Leader Constitution and Citizenship Week



UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Location	Date	Time	Sponsor
Fall Career Fair	Student Rec and Wellness Center	9-22-2021	11:00am-2:00pm	
Fall Career Fair	Virtual: Handshake Platform	9-22-2021	11:00am-2:00pm	
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Center for Diversity and Inclusion	CDI 157	9-23-2021	10:00am-3:00pm	
Highlander Festival— Learn about the local heritage	TBD	10-9-2021	TBD	
Center for Diversity and Inclusion Lunch and Learn: LGBTQIA + Month	Heth 157	10-13-2021	11:30am-1:30pm	
Speaker Event: Meghan Buell TREES: Transgender Resources for Education and Enrichment	TBD	10-14-2021 10-15-2021	TBD	
Gendered RU: Examining gender expectation at RU via Digital Archives	TBD	10-25-2021	5:00pm	
Center for Diversity and Inclusion: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Training Services	CDI 157	10-28-2021	10:00am-3:00pm	
APA 7 Workshops	ILC B, McConnell Library	10-20-2021 11-10-2021	3:00 PM 10:00 AM	Research Services, McConnell Library