Proposal to Create
School of Writing, Language, and Literature

constituted of the Department of English and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
in the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

Purpose:
The School of Writing, Language, and Literature seeks to focus the energies and synergies available
through the shared teaching, scholarship, and service already in place in the existing Departments.

Rationale:
Both departments routinely engage in pedagogic and scholarly work encompassing the study of writing,
language, and literature. Both departments are in the midst of significant re-organization efforts
connected to Radford’s complete revision of the general education curriculum, and a formal connection
between the two will help both departments prepare general education curricula and REAL-aligned
minors to attract new enrollments at all levels. Both departments are engaged in discussions about the
importance of foreign language learning—whether in traditional language experiences or literature-in-
translation classes or cultural studies—as an important and essential element in any Bachelor of Arts
program of study. Both departments seek to develop multiple offerings to attract students across the
University to traditional liberal arts curricula, whether as majors or as part of a coherent program of
study in a professional preparatory program or a STEM-related field.

Administration:
With a new School organizational plan, the Departments of English and Foreign Languages will no longer
require separate Chair positions, but will instead be administered under the Director’s Office with
two Associate Director positions. The existing Administrative Assistants of the English Department and
the Foreign Languages Department will assume responsibility as Administrative Assistants to the Director
as well.

Budget:
The proposed formation of a School of Writing, Language, and Literature will require no additional
funding and will instead result in cost savings through the reduction of stipends attached to Chair
positions in both departments.

Timeline:
The initial steps do not involve immediate creation of the new School, but do involve some measures of
shared administration through the end of the 23-24 academic year.

Spring 2024
Catalog entries and website updates developed

January—May 2024
Director and Associate Directors coordinate administrative duties and roles and responsibilities
The roles of Director, Associate Directors, and Administrative Assistants become contractually valid and payable. Chair positions for English and FORL end.

Collaborative Initiatives to Create Efficiencies Within the School
- Curricular Initiatives re. REAL, Writing-, & Literature-based Courses for Languages Taught in Translation
- Promoting the B.A., Foundational Courses, and Writing-Intensive Courses
- Secondary Teaching Licensure