Dear Supporters,

I am writing to you in April of 2022, after another unique year.

While there is quite a bit of volatility in the stock market as I type this, our investments had a very good year for the period ended June 30, 2021, and we had a return of approximately 25%. Unfortunately, I cannot predict what our return will be for the year ending June 30, 2022.

A year ago, we delayed issuing the annual report to make sure we could tell you about the exciting hotel project, The Highlander, that is now under construction. The hotel is expected to open this fall and is about 50% complete. It is going to be a spectacular addition to the entire Radford community, but especially for the university community. I invite each of you to check out The Highlander when you are on campus. If you would like to help support this project in any way, there are naming opportunities available. If you are interested, please contact Wendy Lowery or a member of her team in University Advancement.

This year, we delayed the report to ensure that we could tell you about the sale of RU Corporate Park. We closed on the sale on March 1. This sale will both provide cash during challenging times and allow the Foundation staff to move across the river and close to campus. Collectively, we welcome that opportunity.

In spite of the challenging times, the Foundation board is also hard at work in support of Radford University. As you will read in this report, we are losing three long-term board members because of term limits. Chris Huther ’88, J.D., Nancy Artis ’73 and Marquett Smith ’85 have been outstanding board members and have all served in leadership positions during their time on the board. We thank them for their service and look forward to the future. In June, we expect that Michelle O’Connor ’91 will become our new chair. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to work with Michelle and her new leadership team in the coming year.

Additionally, I would like to recognize the work of Carolyn Ringer Lepre, Ph.D., as the interim president of Radford University. She has been a pleasure to work with and has been incredibly supportive of both the Foundation and the hotel project.

Finally, Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., will be joining Radford University in July as our next president. He brings a wealth of experience to the Radford University community, and as some of us have already observed, he also brings an abundance of energy. I know we all wish him luck and success as he prepares himself for this new role.

Thank you for your support of the Radford University Foundation and best wishes for 2022 and beyond.

John Cox, CPA
Chief Executive Officer
Dear Highlander Family:

2021 presented new and continuing challenges to Radford University as it sought to adapt and safeguard the university community during an ongoing pandemic and bid farewell to a president who served the university and surrounding community so effectively for many years. But 2021 also marked a year of great promise and possibility for the university with the selection of Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., as our next president, groundbreaking on The Highlander hotel and the growth of the Radford University Foundation's endowment. The future is bright for the university thanks to the continued generosity of donors and the dedication of our faculty, administration and students. We extend our deepest gratitude to those who have supported our mission and accompanied us on this journey with a steadfast commitment.

The most important purpose of the Radford University Foundation is the sound investment of funds contributed by donors so that Radford's students and programs may benefit in perpetuity. It is an honor for the Radford University Foundation to assist the university and its students in realizing an outstanding future.

This annual report relates a few stories of our donors’ impact on students and programs. Foundation scholarships like the Melba Overstreet Henshaw Leadership Scholarship, Shelor Motor Mile Scholars Program, Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham Scholarship and Smithfield Foods Scholarship make it possible for deserving students to attend and succeed at Radford. The recipients of these Foundation scholarships share stories of how the help they've received has allowed them to grow as students and as people. Foundation awards also help Radford recruit and retain the best and brightest faculty, whose groundbreaking research and thoughtful scholarship benefit our students, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and beyond.

This annual report also reflects on a year that saw Radford University further cement its prominence locally and regionally. Thirty-one industries, laboratories and organizations now reside at the Radford University Corporate Park, a 106,000-square-foot facility that overlooks the New River and the west end of town.

Over the years, the Foundation staff filled this once half-empty building to capacity, and in early 2022, the Foundation sold the property. This sale allowed the Foundation to monetize the asset and will enable our staff to move back into the city of Radford by fall. The Foundation welcomes the opportunity to be close to campus. Construction on The Highlander hotel and conference center, a first-rate project made possible by the Foundation's partnership with the City of Radford, Preston Hollow, the university and others, is well underway and remains on schedule for completion later this year.

This June marks the end of my service on the Board of Directors of the Radford University Foundation. I am proud of all that we accomplished over the past nine years, and want to recognize John Cox, the Foundation’s CEO, and his exceptional team for their steady stewardship and the essential role they played in the achievement of our many successes. I will always be grateful for the wisdom and talents of my fellow board members, the commitment of Radford University's donors, and the dedication of the university community. Because of you, the university is and will remain a top-notch, dynamic, collaborative, and innovative institution that I am proud to call my own.

Sincerely yours,

Chris Huther ‘88, J.D.
Chair
At Radford University, Sydney Hopkins has become a leader.

For that, she is thankful. Thankful for the encouraging campus community that surrounds her and thankful for the scholarships she has received that make it all possible for her.

Hopkins is the recipient of the Melba Overstreet Henshaw Leadership Scholarship, which, in her words, has “made me feel valued for all the student-leadership opportunities I have taken since becoming a student at Radford University.”

The scholarship has encouraged Hopkins and given her confidence to take on more leadership opportunities on campus and in the community. “I feel great about being at a college,” she said, “that gives recognitions to hard-working students.”

Hopkins is a second-year junior from Louisa, Virginia, majoring in media studies with a minor in digital communication. She serves her fellow students as the director of public relations of the Student Government Association (SGA), and she worked as an intern during the spring 2022 semester in the University Relations office.

Hopkins also received two other scholarships. One is the Bonnie Hurlburt SGA Scholarship, which has “pushed me,” she said, “to gain connections with people that I never would have otherwise without involvement in student leadership.”

The other is the prestigious Highlander Distinction Scholarship, which demonstrates that Radford “values and encourages my academic achievements,” Hopkins said.

Without these generous scholarships, “I would not have been able to pursue student leadership opportunities nor give so much back to the community, Hopkins explained. “Thank you to all of the scholarship donors who helped shape me into the person I am today.

“This makes me proud to be a Highlander,” she continued, “because being a Highlander means being a member of a supportive community that wants you to succeed.”
When asked why he is proud to be a Highlander, Justin Meeks offers a myriad of reasons.

“I’m proud to be Highlander because I can talk with my professors after class; I’m proud to be a Highlander because I’ve had the opportunity to get to know the leaders of the university,” said Meeks, a senior accounting major from Fairfax County, Virginia. “I’m proud to be a Highlander because of the recruiter who came to my high school and told me they wanted me at Radford University. I’m proud to be a Highlander because I feel a sense of belonging at Radford.”

Meeks chose Radford for these and many more reasons, but perhaps the most influential was the scholarship he received from the Shelor Motor Mile Scholars Program.

“Not only did the program alleviate my education costs, but it also gave me a new sense of responsibility to dedicate myself to my studies, my career and my community,” he said.

The Shelor Motor Mile scholarship was created from Shelor Motor Mile’s commitment to the community and to extend its Growing the Future Program, which currently supports more than 50 elementary, middle and high schools across several Southwest Virginia counties. Shelor Motor Mile’s mission was to provide scholarship support for talented students like Meeks who aspire to careers in business-related fields.

Meeks is thankful for the opportunities the scholarship has provided him, from the challenging academics and close-knit relationships with faculty members to the Student Wellness and Recreation Center – “it’s a weightlifter’s utopia,” he said – to Wing Wednesday in Dalton Hall.

For that, Meeks says “thank you” to the generous donors behind his scholarship.

“Thank you for the opportunity you have provided me so that I can focus more on school and extracurriculars,” he said. “From one business professional to another, I hope to repay your generosity back to the community.”
One scholarship changed Meagan Cox’s life.

“It has helped me devote so much of my time to my craft and studies as opposed to working full-time,” said the senior theatre major from Draper, Virginia, who also is pursuing a minor in dance. “It has also helped me pursue an education in what I love without having to worry about financing my dream.”

When Cox enrolled at Radford, she received the Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham Scholarship, established for incoming freshmen from the New River Valley who also qualified for the Radford Presidential Scholarship Program. Students must have achieved a minimum 3.0 high school GPA and a minimum score of 1180 on the math and English sections of the SAT.

The scholarship’s namesake, Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham, served on the Radford University Foundation board from 1989 to 2020. The Blacksburg native is currently on the Radford University Board of Visitors and the Radford University Real Estate Management, LLC Board. She is president of Snyder & Associates and has helped create other scholarships at Radford, creating a smoother financial path for students like Cox.

Since Cox first visited Radford, she has felt at home on campus and with those who make up the Radford University community.

“I feel like this was part of my family,” she said. “And my professors have not only become mentors, but true friends. They have my best interests in mind and they push me to become a better actor, dancer and a better person every time I am with them.”

Those relationships are among the many things Cox cherishes about Radford.

“Radford is a place where people know you by name. You’re not just a number,” said Cox, whose mother and two of her aunts are Radford alumni. “Friendships abound here, and we help each other grow.”

The Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham Scholarship is making it all possible for Cox, who has two sisters who are also in college. The scholarship, she said, “has lifted a huge burden off not only me, but my parents.”

Cox did not know of the scholarship before she came to Radford, she said, “but I will always remember its impact on my future.”
Without a scholarship, Dayanna Wimbish clearly states, she would not be pursuing her dream of a college education at Radford University.

“My scholarship helps me pay for my room and board, and without it,” the senior interdisciplinary studies major explained, “I would not be able to stay in school.”

When Wimbish first visited Radford as a high school student, she quickly grew fond of the campus’ “hometown vibe,” she said. “Everyone I met when I was visiting was extremely nice and cool.”

Once she enrolled as a student, Wimbish was ready to make headway toward a bright future. She fell in love with the education program in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership, which is housed in the College of Education and Human Development. Now, as a soon-to-be graduate of the program with a concentration in English and education and a minor in psychology, Wimbish will be equipped to make a difference in her community.

She knows about the difference people can make in each other’s lives because that is what the Smithfield Foods Scholarship has done for her.

“I’d like to thank them for the opportunities” they have provided, Wimbish said of the scholarship’s benefactors. The Smithfield scholarship “has allowed me to buy my books, to buy food and be able to continue being a student at Radford.”

Wimbish is thankful, too, for the all-around support she has received at Radford, from faculty to the staff in the Admissions Office, she noted. They “have made my stay at Radford possible. People at Radford University genuinely do care about students and will go the extra mile to make sure we are successful.

“Everyone who is a Highlander is family!”

Everyone who is a Highlander is family!”

Dayanna Wimbish
With the support from the departments located on Radford University’s main campus, we are fully integrated into the university’s information technology infrastructure.”

Tom Bennett

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Some 31 industries, laboratories and organizations now reside at the Radford University Corporate Park.

That’s an impressive tally, one that marks an increase of five new tenants over just the past two years. The Corporate Park, a 106,000-square-foot facility, sits high on a hill overlooking the New River and the west end of town, situated amongst roughly 55 acres of land.

The complex, a former Carilion hospital, was gifted to the university and repurposed as a satellite location and multiuse space in 2004 and is one of a group of properties owned by the Radford University Foundation.

Other tenants include the Radford Virginia Employment Commission, the New River Valley Agency on Aging and the New River Valley Senior Services, among many others.

Its academic tenants include the College of Education and Human Development's Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism Experimental Learning Laboratory and the Radford University Adventure Based Learning Experience (RUABLE).

UNITED WAY

In June 2021, the Corporate Park welcomed the United Way of Southwest Virginia to the site as its newest tenant.

The UWSWVA, which also maintains offices in Abingdon, is a nonprofit organization that seeks to support health, education, and financial stability in Radford, several other local cities and 17 counties, including Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tazewell and Wythe. It currently occupies office space, a conference room, and a common area within the park.

Mary Anne Holbrook, vice president of development and outreach, said that having locations in both Abingdon and Fairlawn helps her office recruit talent from the same communities the UWSWVA currently serves.
“As a new model United Way that has shifted from being a premier fundraiser and distributor to an organization focused on root-cause issues, we have become a regional organization over the last 10 or so years,” she explained.

Adding a Fairlawn location, Holbrook said, has also “allowed us to steward donor dollars and grants and also better serve our partners.”

IMPACT
In January, another Corporate Park tenant, the Vinod Chachra IMPACT Lab at Radford University, marked its fourth year of tenancy.

IMPACT specializes in online, self-paced, competency-based education (CBE) in high-demand workforce areas that include cybersecurity, geospatial intelligence and K-12 education.

The lab occupies just over 10,500 square feet of space, which includes two large reception areas, two conference rooms and a meeting room. IMPACT also took another room previously used for X-rays and radiology and modified it into a recording studio to capture lectures and lessons by faculty members and subject experts.

“The physical location provides the IMPACT offices with an amazing view of the city of Radford and the New River, along with the tranquil setting that creates an inviting and welcoming environment for our guests and team members,” said Tom Bennett, IMPACT’s senior director of operations.

“With the support from the departments located on Radford University’s main campus, we are fully integrated into the university’s information technology infrastructure and function as if IMPACT was physically located on the main campus,” Bennett said.

“This is a true demonstration of the support and expertise these departments provide in supporting an off-site department of the university.”

As this report was about to go to press, the Radford University Foundation sold RU Corporate Park. The Foundation will be moving into the city of Radford, by fall. The Foundation would like to thank all of our tenants for their support.
The furniture has been ordered. The search for a manager will begin soon. The Highlander hotel is becoming a reality — at the rate of a new floor approximately every three weeks.

First announced in the fall of 2019, the boutique hotel project, a joint effort between Radford University and the Radford University Foundation, on Tyler Avenue has made steady progress thanks to good luck and mostly good weather, according to John Cox, the Foundation’s chief executive officer. If that luck holds out, the hotel should open for business before Thanksgiving of this year.

“We’re still pretty excited about it,” Cox said. The feeling is echoed on campus and in the community, he said: “The rooftop bar restaurant seems to be one of the things causing the most excitement. And people are already excited about the idea of a conference center.”

Wayne Klotz ’78, president of the Radford University Real Estate Management LLC Board of Directors, agreed that the impacts of the 124-room hotel extend beyond campus, with the potential for the community to lure outside events. “It’s an upgrade from what we’ve had to work with before,” Klotz said. “It’s a thing that sort of uplifts the City of Radford.”

As spring rolls on, a general manager will be hired by Aimbridge Hospitality, the Foundation’s partner in hotel management. The general manager will run the hotel and lead staff recruitment, and the job opportunities should be there for Radford students seeking a job.
In addition to the anticipated fall launch, there will be a grand opening ceremony—but, given the worldwide uncertainty, it’s hard to say when, Cox said.

The Radford University Foundation, which approved financing for the project, is working in partnership with a team of private companies that include:

- S.B. Ballard of Virginia Beach, Virginia, general contractor.
- Blur Workshop of Atlanta, Georgia, architect.
- Aimbridge Hospitality, of Arlington, Texas, the largest third-party management company in the U.S., as manager of the hotel.
- Preston Hollow Capital of Dallas, Texas, as the capital partner, with its partner, Provident Resources Group, a mission-focused national nonprofit organization committed to making a positive impact in communities across the country.

Additional partners included Jones Lang LaSalle and Radford University.

Also, Atlantic Union provided financing to the Foundation on this project.

Nancy E. Artis ’73 chaired the Radford University Foundation Board of Directors from January 2018 to June 30, 2020; Chris Huther ’88, J.D., chaired the board from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022. Michelle O’Connor ’91 is expected to be board chair on July 1, 2022.
About once a quarter – and occasionally a few times in between – the Radford University Foundation’s Investment Committee meets to discuss and debate financial issues regarding the institution and then vote on which recommendations to take to the Foundation board.

“It truly is a working committee,” said Bill McNulty ’91, the investment committee chair, who also serves as Foundation board secretary. “We do everything by committee.”

The investment committee provides general oversight of the security, funding and investment management of the Foundation’s endowment and investment plans and has the authority to select and retain investment managers.

“The main thing we try to do is make sure the managers, in this case, Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and SMIPO – Radford’s Student Managed Investment Portfolio Organization – are managing their pieces of the portfolio according to the investment policy,” McNulty explained. “So, we want to make sure the asset allocation we agreed on is in the right percentages.”

The committee periodically reviews all investment policies of the Foundation with respect to the investment of its assets.
and recommends appropriate changes to these policies and the Foundation’s asset allocation and the selection of investment advisors to the executive committee for final approval by the board of directors.

The committee now consists of three members: McNulty, Board Treasurer Nancy E. Artis ’73 and Marquett Smith ’85.

“We all have a solid background in finance,” said McNulty, who has served as chair for more than a year and on the Foundation board for more than three years.

The investment committee’s underlying goal, McNulty said, is to assist the university with scholarships, spending and the budget.

“We have a nice endowment, and there are constraints on it, and there are a lot of very important needs, and I think the most important needs are the scholarships,” he continued.

“And, so everyone is very passionate about that [scholarships] making sure that we’re taking full advantage of the money that has been trusted to the Foundation, to get us the best market rate we can with a commensurate amount of risk.”

Leading a committee that plays such a vital role for the university is an honor for McNulty, a senior vice president at Morgan Stanley.

“It was an honor just to be considered,” he said. “At first, you really don’t know what you’re jumping into, but as you get more involved and learn more as to what the Foundation is trying to do and understand the vision the president is trying to implement over the strategic plan, it’s pretty fascinating. I love it. I love the university, and it’s a great way to give back and see Radford continue to shine and grow.”

“I love the university, and it’s a great way to give back and see Radford continue to shine and grow.”

Bill McNulty ’91
THE DALTON EMINENT SCHOLARS FUND

$10,000 TO FUND RESEARCH + $5,000 UPON COMPLETION
In addition to supporting the education of Highlander students, the Radford University Foundation also supports and acknowledges the work of Radford’s outstanding faculty with a number of annual awards. The various awards honor recipients’ teaching methods, student and peer support efforts and research initiatives.

- The Donald N. Dedmon Distinguished Teaching Professor Award, which recognizes and rewards outstanding teaching;

- The Distinguished Creative Scholar Award, which recognizes significant original contributions to the body of knowledge in academe and rewards contributions that have a significant impact on effective classroom teaching;

- The Distinguished Service Award, which was established to recognize faculty who have contributed substantial service to the university over a sustained period of time;

- The Distinguished Faculty Advising Award, which recognizes and rewards teaching faculty who excel in their role of academic advisors to undergraduate or graduate students;

- The Anna Lee Stewart Award for Contributions to Faculty Development, which recognizes faculty and staff who have contributed substantially to the professional development of their colleagues;

- The Award for Administrative and Professional Excellence, which recognizes administrative and professional faculty for distinguished leadership and/or superior service in their areas of professional activity within the university;

- The Waldron Faculty Student Development Award, which supports faculty and student development in Waldron College and the School of Nursing; and

- The Artis CST Outstanding Faculty and Student Awards, which is awarded to an outstanding faculty member or student in the Artis College of Science and Technology.

The importance of recognizing Radford University faculty members who go above and beyond in their chosen academic fields cannot be understated. It is vital to recruiting and retaining the best and brightest faculty minds in the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond. The impact of this acknowledgement benefits our students as they learn from academic leaders in the classroom, the lab and the field, but also society as a whole as these scholars continue their research into important issues that face all of us. Another example of how the Foundation supports recognizing the work of faculty is through the Dalton Eminent Scholars program and the faculty awards that come through that endowment.

The annual awards provide recipients with a $10,000 award to fund research travel and materials, along with a $5,000 award following successful completion of research and scholarly activity. The initiative is funded by the Radford University Foundation, through the generosity of the Dalton family and their friends.

The Dalton Eminent Scholars Fund, which provides financial support for the awards, was originally established in the late 1980s and early 1990s as a way to honor United States District Judge Ted Dalton and his wife, Mary, and former Virginia Gov. John Dalton and his wife, Edwina. Through a grassroots fundraising campaign, more than $700,000 was raised for the endowment, which now has funds exceeding $2.5 million.
Serving on the Radford University Foundation Board of Directors has given Nancy E. Artis ’73 many enjoyable experiences throughout her tenure.

What has been most enjoyable?

“That’s easy,” she said, smiling. “It’s seeing the faces of students whose lives have been changed by scholarships which are funded by Foundation-managed assets.”

Many of the scholarship students Artis alluded to come together for a couple of hours each fall when Radford University hosts its annual Partners in Excellence Luncheon. “From my perspective, the most rewarding aspect of the service on the Foundation board is the annual fall scholarship luncheon where donors, foundation board members and students meet to celebrate their success,” Artis said. “It is a high-energy event where we have the opportunity to meet with the students we support and share their lives and dreams.”

Those interactions and other opportunities on campus – Artis regularly gives guest lectures to classes and interacts with students in meaningful ways – have allowed the entrepreneur to build a stronger connection to students and learn “their goals, dreams and backstories,” she said. “Once you understand the magnitude of the impact that scholarships funded by the foundation’s endowment has, it is easy to obtain a lot more meaning and personal satisfaction from discussing financials, which are by their very nature just boring numbers.”

That leads us to another Foundation board project Artis has been passionate about: the annual report you are reading.

In the past, the annual Foundation report has focused on numbers. Those numbers, of course, still reside within these pages. For example, did you know Radford University has many generous donors, like Artis, who contribute to the 1,000-plus partial scholarships totaling more than $2.4 million and are given to approximately 700 students each year?

And, thanks to Artis’ leadership, foresight and focus on student success, the report now also highlights “the inspiring stories of our students and donors, as well as providing an annual statement of the financials,” Artis explained. “The annual report now tells the whole story and is a way to encourage more donors to get involved.”

Artis, who soon will depart from the board after having served since 2014, has provided leadership on this and many projects, but she said no progress could have happened without the collaborative work of the “great group of intelligent, committed members of the board.”

“It has been a wonderful time being with the Foundation team,” she said, “and I will miss it.”
Radford University Foundation Board of Directors Chair Chris Huther ’88, J.D., leaves a lasting impact as he finishes his ninth year as a board member.

Huther, a partner at Wiley Rein LLP, one of the largest law firms in Washington, D.C., has a long history of improving the lives of students through his support, experience and knowledge.

“Chris brings a keen understanding of business ethics and negotiation to our board, coupled with a sincere interest in the success of his alma mater, Radford University,” said Wendy Lowery, vice president of Advancement and University Relations. “His approachable leadership style and collaborative nature have contributed a great deal to the growth the Foundation has experienced during his tenure.”

It’s evident that Huther is passionate about his alma mater. He supports students and their academic achievements through the Christopher S. Huther Family Scholarship. In addition, his insight helped bring about The Highlander, an upscale, full-service boutique hotel located at the intersection of Tyler Avenue and Calhoun Street. At the groundbreaking ceremony, Huther spoke to a crowd of excited members of the Highlander family, including those closely involved with the project, calling it “the best of what the Foundation and the university can do for students, their families, alumni, the Radford community and the commonwealth.”

Enthusiastic about what’s in store for the future of the university, he added, “It will create opportunities, improve the local economy and provide a beautiful place to gather and celebrate the university and the region.”

During his time on the Foundation board, Huther also served as a member of the Real Estate Management LLC Board and on the Presidential Search Committee that found Radford University’s eighth president, Bret S. Danilowicz, Ph.D.

“Chris has been a terrific board member and board leader,” said John Cox, chief executive officer of the Radford University Foundation. “His willingness to extend his term on the board by a year so he could serve a second year as board chair is a great example of his commitment to both the Foundation and the university.”

Huther has long been a celebrated Highlander. In 1995, he was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award just seven years after graduating with degrees in political science and speech communication.

The university and Foundation leadership would like to thank Huther for his dedication and service to Radford University.
Marquett Smith ’85 says that being a member of the Radford University Foundation Board of Directors is an opportunity to give back to an institution that has impacted his life tremendously.

“I grew up in the ghetto of Washington, D.C.,” Smith said. “I’m fortunate to be where I am today.”

Smith is retired from his role as president of the Washington, D.C./Baltimore/Virginia region for Verizon Wireless, holding full profit and loss and operational responsibility for a $2.8 billion revenue stream for the nation’s largest wireless company. He’s a two-time winner of Verizon Wireless’ President’s Cabinet Award for sales excellence and the prestigious Verizon Chairman’s Award for outstanding business leadership.

While Smith’s professional achievements are admirable, he attributes them to his personal mission to maximize his potential and to his own determination and hard work. Many of the attributes that have led to his success were developed while a student at Radford.

As a Highlander, Smith was a marketing major, the chapter president of the NAACP and one of four male cheerleaders. He also held a part-time job at the local bike shop. He thought if he didn’t limit himself and strived to reach his best possible, so much was possible.

“It is a privilege to go to college,” Smith said. “Some don’t have the ability or opportunity, but I was determined to make the most of it.”

Smith said his service as a member of the board allows him to truly make a positive difference in the lives of current and future students.

“Simply said, it makes me feel proud. Someone helped me along the way, and I am carrying on the gift of a helping hand. I do this to make a difference in the lives of others and not for the recognition,” he said.

Smith said that his time as a board member has shown him the impact that the Foundation can have on students and the university as a whole.

“I enjoy seeing the smiles on the faces of students who have been helped,” Smith recalled. “We are here to show students that there are many ways to reach success. They can earn that valuable degree and achieve so much. We are here to encourage, support them and model the way.”
When Michelle O’Connor ’91 began her journey as a Highlander at Radford University, she was determined to earn her degree. She was a single mother and had heard about the non-traditional degree program for working adults.

“I attended an information session and became excited for the opportunity to continue my education,” O’Connor recalls. “It was important for me to keep a balance of my responsibilities as a mom while excelling in my classes.”

Since her graduation with a degree in business management and a minor in psychology, O’Connor has had no trouble excelling.

She earned a Master of Education degree in curriculum and instruction at Virginia Tech and accepted a position at CMR Institute as the first full-time employee in the curriculum department. The CMR Institute is a nonprofit educational organization established by physicians more than 40 years ago. The organization works to educate life sciences professionals and their companies on issues trending and affecting the field of healthcare.

Today, O’Connor is the CEO and president of the organization. “I love this role because it allows me to actively participate in developing the next generation of leaders, which is one of the most rewarding aspects of my job,” O’Connor said.

She could be accepting another role at her undergraduate alma mater. O’Connor is expected to become the new chair of the Radford University Foundation Board of Directors pending a vote by the full board in June.

“Radford University played a key role in my education and provided the basis for a rewarding career,” O’Connor said. “It’s gratifying to know that the work of the Foundation is providing similar opportunities for students to be successful and contribute to their communities.”

O’Connor said being part of the board is a joy because she can give back to Radford and be a small part of decisions that positively impact the future of the university and its students. However, she said the most enjoyable part of being a board member has been the friendships she has made with her colleagues on the board as well as with the Foundation staff.

“Both comprise extremely talented individuals that are passionate about their work and dedicated to serving Radford University and its students,” O’Connor said. “I’m grateful to them for sharing their knowledge and expertise with me over the years.”
### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

RADFORD UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC. and AFFILIATE
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as of June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021

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<td>Funds held in trust by others</td>
<td>$864,983</td>
<td>$1,027,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections of art</td>
<td>$2,113,291</td>
<td>$2,127,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$119,642,152</strong></td>
<td><strong>$122,375,748</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></th>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
<th><strong>2021</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$211,164</td>
<td>$78,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses and other payables</td>
<td>$236,562</td>
<td>$88,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred rental income</td>
<td>$210,817</td>
<td>$127,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>$33,618,237</td>
<td>$19,654,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuity and unitrust obligations</td>
<td>$419,939</td>
<td>$395,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$34,696,719</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,344,493</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></th>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
<th><strong>2021</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without donor restrictions</td>
<td>$15,384,210</td>
<td>$17,832,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With donor restrictions</td>
<td>$69,561,223</td>
<td>$84,198,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$84,945,433</strong></td>
<td><strong>$102,031,255</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
<th><strong>2021</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$119,642,152</strong></td>
<td><strong>$122,375,748</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACCOLADES

- **2004-2021**
  - "Best Colleges and Universities in the Southeast"
    - The Princeton Review

- **2010-2021**
  - "Top Green Colleges in the Nation"
    - The Princeton Review

- **2013-2021**
  - "Best Regional Universities" in the South
    - U.S. News & World Report

- **2015-2020**
  - "Best Colleges for Your Money"
    - MONEY
**SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS AWARDED BY FISCAL YEAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021</td>
<td>$2,361,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>$1,968,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>$1,693,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>$1,544,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>$1,697,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>$1,590,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>$1,331,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>$1,264,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2013</td>
<td>$1,138,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2012</td>
<td>$990,003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2020-2021**

- "College of Distinction"
- "Top Public Schools" South #14
- "Best Colleges for Veterans — South"

**2021**

- U.S. News & World Report
- U.S. News & World Report

**2021-2022**

- VIQTORY
BOARD LEADERSHIP FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

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Michelle O’Connor ’91, M.Ed., Vice Chair
Nancy E. Artis ’73, Treasurer
William McNulty ’91, Secretary

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OFFICERS
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*President ending June 30, 2021 **Interim president starting July 1, 2021