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# Staff Senate 2008

## Greetings and Thanks from the Desk of Staff Senate President

As the end of the year approaches I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to serve as President of the Staff Senate. This has been a busy year and we have discussed several issues that have come to the Staff Senate's attention. We have continued to work on the salary survey that was recommended and we hope that we will see the results very soon. We have also been partners with the Faculty and A.P. and Student Senates on the child daycare survey which is being considered.

We are currently working with the Provost and the Presidents of the other Senates on the Internal Governance document for the University. We believe that the current system is too large and needs to be revamped. The Staff Senate is also looking to change the by-laws of the Staff Senate to insure that there is equal representation for all areas.

In October we held our second annual Staff Senate Workshop and we feel that it was again a very valuable opportunity to discuss the issues that have come before the Staff Senate.

I have been very fortunate to have the advice and expertise of our past Presidents and I deeply appreciate their continued commitment to the Staff Senate. I look forward to working with our new Staff Senate President. I pledge my support and will help in any way possible to make the coming year the best yet at Radford University.



Benny Skeens, President

I would like to thank President Kyle and all of the Administrative Staff for their support and guidance this year. It has truly been an honor to serve Radford University this year.

I especially would like to thank Donna VanCleave for her continued support as the Staff Senate liaison; she has been a true friend to the Staff Senate and to me personally.

I hope that you will have the opportunity to attend the Staff Senate meetings in the coming year. Your participation is critical. I urge you to get involved and to help your Senators address the issues that come to the Staff Senate. Every year the Staff Senate has held the fill a book bag and fill a stocking campaigns and they have always been successful. This indicates to me that we are all concerned about the welfare of our fellow employees and community.

Radford University is a great place because of the pride and respect that we all have for our University. I believe that as long as we keep that attitude we will always be among the best Universities in the country.

Again I would like to thank everyone who helped make this a successful year and I look forward to working with the Staff Senate in the future.

**Thanks Benny for all your hard work and dedication!**

## THE 2008 BEA COVINGTON AWARD

The Spirit Committee received a record number of nominations for the 2008 Bea Covington Award. This year, as in past two years, all of the nominees exemplified the loving character and spirit of Bea Covington. The names of the nominees are:

Carmella Carter, Sally Cox, Mary Daugherty, LuAnn Gilbert, Rhonda Goad, Teresa Grubb, Elaine Hite, Jocelyn Hash, Holly King, Tracey Mattson, Lydia McCallister, Vickie Midkiff, Cindy Mize, Janie Morris, Nancy Newton, Brenda Nicewander, David Phillips, Gary Phillips, Carolyn Quesenberry, Katie Reed, Bill Rutledge, Kim Vest and Susan Westbrook.

The Spirit committee had a difficult time making the decision as all nominees were deserving, but, in the end, the 2008 Bea Covington Award went to Kim Vest from the Office of Multicultural & International Services. Kim received an engraved trophy, a plaque, a "Dread the Red T-Shirt" and a dozen red roses. In addition her name will be engraved on the perpetual plaque.

We were so pleased our President Emeritus Dr. Covington was able to attend the picnic and present the award. He mentioned how honored he felt that an award of this nature was made in honor of his late wife Bea. We hope he will be able to attend annually to present this distinguished award.

Respectfully submitted: Jo Thomas, Chair RU Staff Senate Spirit Committee



## Presidential Employee Service Award Winners Announced

The 2008 Presidential Employee Service Award Winners were announced at the Service Recognition Program on April 2, 2008.

Theresa Burriss, Director of the Learning Assistance Resource Center, and Patricia Farmer, Secretary to the Psychology Department, were both presented with a plaque and a \$1,000 award. Congratulations to both recipients!



### 2008-09 Senators

**James Perkins - President**  
**Kathy Nester - VP**  
**Connie Phillips - Recording Secretary**  
**Sandra Steele - Parliamentarian**  
**Benny Skeens - Advisor**

### 2008-09 Meeting Dates—

Date	Location
June 19, 2008	Hurlburt Combo Room
July 17, 2008	Library Conference Room
August (no meeting)	
September 18, 2008	Hurlburt Combo Room
October 16, 2008	TBA
November 20, 2008	Hurlburt Combo Room
December (no meeting)	
January 15, 2009	Hurlburt Combo Room
February 19, 2009	Hurlburt Combo Room
March 19, 2009	TBA
April 16, 2009	Hurlburt Combo Room
May 21, 2009	Hurlburt Combo Room
June 18, 2009	TBA
July 16, 2009	TBA

## **BANNER SUMMARY**

In January 2007, the University launched a major multi-year project designed to review, replace and enhance the university's administrative information systems. These core systems include undergraduate and graduate admissions, financial aid, registration and records, student housing, advancement and fundraising, financials, budget, human resources and the current portal. Together, these systems provide the business processing, data retrieval, reporting and self-service functions critical to providing essential services to faculty, staff, students, prospective students, alumni and the entire university community.

The University chose SunGard Higher Education's Banner administrative systems suite to replace the current IFAS, IRIS, and Student Information (SIS) systems. Implementation phases of Banner began in June 2007, and will continue through Spring 2010. When complete, the following components of the SunGard Banner system and supporting ancillary systems will be operational.

- Banner Finance Phase I and related self service components – July 2008
- Banner Student and related self service components – January 2010
- Banner Human Resources and related self service components – January 2010
- Banner Advancement Phase I – July 2008
- Banner Advancement Phase II with self service components – February 2009
- Banner Financial Aid Phase I – February 2008
- Banner Financial Aid Phase II and related self service components – August 2008
- Operational Data Store – April 2010 (all modules)
- Workflow – June 2010
- Enterprise Data Warehouse - TBD
- Luminis Portal (MyRU portal) – January 2009
- Banner Xtender (Document Imaging) Solutions for two business areas – July 2010
- LDI e-Learning (WebCT integration) – January 2010
- LDI e-Procurement (integration to the Commonwealth's eProcurement system, eVa) – July 2008

Training sessions for the university community will be conducted as the modules are installed into the production environment. The first of these training sessions will focus on the Finance module, which will be live in July 2008. The training class schedule and additional information will be provided to all Finance users by June 2008.

For additional information, contact Randa McDonald via email at [rmcdonal@radford.edu](mailto:rmcdonal@radford.edu) or call 540-831-5173.

Submitted by, Randa McDonald

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## **JLARC SURVEY REPORT:**

A notice was received by Human Resources that JLARC staff have completed the survey of classified State employees, and they extend their appreciation to those who participated in the survey. They have also asked that HR continue to provide employees who leave RU with information to complete a short survey about why they are leaving their job through June 30, 2008.

Updates about the progress of the JLARC staff review of compensation for State employees are expected as they near the anticipated completion of the study in October 2008.

Submitted by: Joey Sword, HR Director

## Staff Senate Retreat Summary

THE 2008 ANNUAL STAFF SENATE RETREAT was held on Thursday, February 14. The Retreat theme was "RU 7-17: One Mission – Forging a Bold New Future."

Following opening remarks from Dr. Stephen Lerch, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Enhancement, senators received a motivational interactive presentation by Dr. Brack Smith, Associate Professor for the Management Department.

Senators enjoyed an update from the Joint Ad Hoc Committee for the RU Daycare Study. Committee members present were Dr. Dennie Templeton, AP Senate President, Sandra Beland, Staff Senate representative, James Lollar, Faculty Senate President, and Matthew Shelor, Student Government Association President. Comments and concerns were given to the representatives to take back to the committee. The committee will present a draft survey to the Cabinet for review in anticipation of opening a dialogue campus-wide relating to needs of students, faculty and staff in the area of child-care. It was noted that no commitments to provide child-care has been made and the study/survey is informational only.

Dr. Rick Slavings, Vice Provost for University Planning & Research, discussed the Strategic Plan and RU 7-17, giving updates on budget initiatives, university accomplishments, capitol outlay projects and other areas of interest to the senators. He stressed that the university's focus must be on the 7-17 plan and all actions should be targeted toward the overall goals and objectives of this plan.

Senators were also privileged to hear from Robert Lineburg, RU Athletic Director, as he outlined the athletic department's vision and updates.

Following presentations, the senators entertained a round-table discussion concerning the senate's mission and how to best represent the staff. It was recommended in the future that senate retreats be held in August in order to give in-coming officers and senators the opportunity to review the constitution/bylaws and to establish goals/objectives for the year. It was agreed that in order to forge ahead into a bold future, open communication between the senates, SGA, and all constituents is a must.

The Staff Senate would like to thank President Kyle for providing the means and opportunity for the senate to host the annual retreat.

Submitted by: Kathy Nester.



## Summer Hours

As approved by President Kyle, beginning **May 5 through August 29, 2008**, you may elect to observe the alternate work schedule operating with normal office hours of **7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** with 30 minutes for lunch, unless the services provided to students and the public require designated offices to remain open until 5:00 p.m. or later. For those offices that must remain open after 4:00 p.m., minimal staffing may be provided and the alternate schedule may be rotated among the office staff, allowing everyone the opportunity to take advantage of the summer hours, if possible. Department heads are expected to communicate with their employees whether or not their area will observe the summer schedule in advance. Employees are expected to record a voice mail message to indicate that their office is observing the alternate schedule and specify the hours of operation.

## Casual Fridays

During the period in which we will observe Summer-Hours, each Friday will be designated as "Casual Friday" when employees will be allowed to wear appropriate business casual attire. Department heads are expected to communicate to their employees any date of exceptions to casual dress on RU Casual Fridays. Department heads should also communicate and monitor the standard for casual dress for the departments so employees have a clear understanding of what is appropriate. Wearing insignia of any school other than Radford is not deemed appropriate.



## 2008 STAFF PICNIC



## 2008 Staff Picnic

**Winners of the Spirit Competition—Department of College of Education. This is their third concurrent year as the Spirit winners. GO RU!—Dread the Red!**

Despite the call for rain showers and overcast weather, our annual staff picnic was a great success once again! The planning team announced the picnic would be moved indoors to the basement of Muse. The Facilities Management and Dining Services staff quickly accommodated the change and transitioned in rapid speed. Benny Skeens acted as the emcee for the day's events and kept things rolling right along.

Dr. Wil Stanton addressed the staff at the beginning of the festivities on behalf of the administration. We were also honored to have Dr. Douglas Covington visit the campus and join in the festivities of the day. He greeted the staff and was warmly received by a standing ovation.

Music was provided by our own Matt Tilley (Warehouse) and Steve Thompson (Paint Shop) with **High Country Timber**. This band is very versatile in their genre of styles - playing new and old country, blues, blue grass, contemporary, etc. *Side note: They have recorded a demo. If anyone would like to have a great band to play for their event, High Country Timber is highly recommended.*

Jo Thomas and the Spirit Committee provided our recreation. Winners had their choice of awards which

were donated by Jo Thomas, Chartwells which donated 3 meal tickets and Starbuck's donated 1 coupon for free cup of coffee daily for the entire school year. The College of Education & Human Development went undefeated in the Spirit Competition with **"Dread the Red from the College of Ed."** This is their third concurrent year as the Spirit winners. **GO RU!**

A big thanks goes to Jo for her contributions and hard work in making sure everyone enjoyed themselves. The Chartwells/RU Dining Staff provided wonderful service and cuisine for our dining pleasure. There was plenty of food and seating for everyone. Comments have been positive from the staff concerning the location, food, games, music and the atmosphere.

The Staff Senate would like to thank the President's Office for hosting this annual event as we celebrated another ending of the academic year. Special thanks to everyone who assisted in anyway to make this event so special."

Submitted by: Connie Phillips



### Fill A Book Bag

Start getting ready for our annual Fill-A-Book-Bag in conjunction with Salvation Army. We usually receive information from the Salvation Army in June as far as school list and dates book bags are due. Last year we completed 141 book bags—let's increase our goal this year to 150 book bags. Emails and flyers will be sent out as soon as the project gets underway. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at csutphin@radford.edu. Thanks—Carolyn Sutphin

Be sure to attend our next Staff Senate meeting in June. In the meantime check out our website at [http://st\\_sen.asp.radford.edu/index.html](http://st_sen.asp.radford.edu/index.html) for updates.

## SUMMER READING @ RU

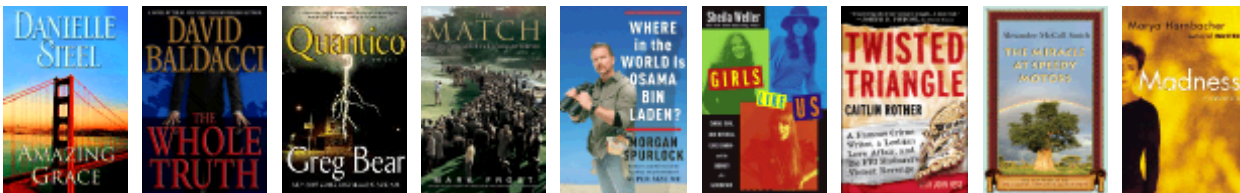
Summertime feels like reading time – your kids or grandkids are in the summer reading programs at the public libraries; you feel like easing off the troubles of the winter months; summer activities include more times & places to read; so, what is better than digging into a good book? Fortunately for us who work on the RU campus, McConnell Library offers a great service in its Popular Reading Collection. In fact, summertime is the best time to grab a book from us!

The collection is intended as a convenient and free source of recreational reading for the students and others in the university community to enhance the quality of life here on campus. It consists of current fiction & nonfiction titles, bestsellers, rented through the McNaughton Leasing Plan used by many libraries throughout the country. So, at any given time of the year, there are 400+ titles available for loan to you with your RU ID card.

And what is really cool about summer times on campus and this collection? There are fewer folks on campus who know about it and all of a sudden those best sellers that you've been wanting to read but not pay the average cost of \$30 for; or, you have been on a list at the public library forever; or, you keep meaning to find it whenever you see or hear another mention of it – are right here!

Located on the shelves in the main lobby, as you first come into the library, look to your left and you'll see the first service desk and just beyond are the books!  
Go for it!

Danielle Steel? David Baldacci? Greg Bear? Jeff Foxworthy? James Patterson? These writers of both fiction and nonfiction are represented in the collection along with many others. Stop in, check it out, and enjoy your summer reading! Submitted by: Polly Archer, Library



## SUDOKU

### EASY

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	3				4	7		
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				5	2	6		
	1			7	3		9	4
		3	9				2	
	2		4	5	8			

### Medium

	2	7	6					
				9				2
6			8			4	3	
5	8	1				7		9
			7	1	2			
2		4				3	1	6
	3	6			1			5
4				3				
					6	2	9	

Hope everyone has a restful and playful summer!