GUARANTEED ADMISSION AGREEMENT

VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM and RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford University (RU) and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from Virginia's community colleges to RU as they pursue their educational goals. RU provides special opportunities to help VCCS students experience a smooth transition to RU.

In an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, the VCCS and RU do hereby enter into the following Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA).

DEFINITIONS

"Transfer-oriented associate degrees" refers to VCCS Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts and Sciences degrees. This includes VCCS General Studies associate degrees that have been approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as transfer degrees according to the State Committee on Transfer (see website at http://www.schev.edu/Students/SCThome.asp).

"GAA student" refers to a student who graduates from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.800 or higher on a four-point scale, who has earned a grade of "C" or higher in each course applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree, and who intends to transfer to RU.

"GAA Contact" refers to staff members designated by each Virginia community college and by RU who work with prospective GAA students.

ACADEMIC ADMISSION AGREEMENT

GAA students will be guaranteed admission to RU and may expect the following:

- 1. All of the courses that are accepted by RU will be applied to the attainment of the baccalaureate degree, and no distinction will be made by RU regarding college courses applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degrees that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools.
- 2. RU guarantees the acceptance of all transferable credits earned from the associate degree program from the Virginia Community College System and will accept the student with junior standing However, RU cannot guarantee that the student will be able to complete all requirements for graduation within the 120-credit minimum required for graduation at RU. Upon request, the student's Academic Advising Center will inform him/her if there

are any course requirements that would require credit hours beyond the 120 minimum needed for graduation.

- 3. Acceptance in some colleges and departments at RU is competitive; acceptance into RU does not imply admission to these programs without further acceptance by the college or department offering the program. Students participating in this admission agreement should follow all special college and/or departmental application procedure and deadlines, as well as grade point requirements listed in the RU catalog for native RU students. GAA students and native RU students will be treated identically with regard to admission to competitive programs.
- 4. Completion of the transfer-oriented degree program will satisfy all general education requirements at RU. In addition to general education requirements, GAA students will need to complete upper-level and all other University, college, and departmental requirements in order to obtain the baccalaureate degree from RU.

STUDENT SERVICES:

GAA students enrolling from any VCCS college to RU will be treated on an equal basis with native students with regard to award and distribution of financial aid and other scholarships, campus housing, selection of courses, and other student services. Continuing transfer students will also be treated identically to continuing native RU students in the competition for merit scholarships funded through the Radford University Foundation, Inc.

In addition, RU will permit interested GAA students to be admitted to RU's cultural, athletic, and entertainment activities at a cost equal to native RU students. (Students must contact the Admissions Office in advance of the events to make arrangements.)

ELIGIBILITY:

To be guaranteed admission to RU, students must complete the requirements to become GAA students (graduation from a transfer-oriented degree program at a Virginia community college with at least a 2.800 cumulative grade point average on a four-point scale with intent to transfer to RU) and submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the RU Admissions Office. In addition, GAA students must have earned a grade of "C" or higher in each community college course applicable to the transfer-oriented associate degree program.

NOTE: students not meeting these eligibility requirements may transfer under guidelines described in the RU/VCCS "Transfer Guide," but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

Students who were previously enrolled at RU, were academically suspended, and transferred to a VCCS college to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree must receive approval from RU to participate in the GAA.

BENEFITS OF THE GAA FOR VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS:

GAA students may select a catalog for degree requirements on the same basis as native students. This means that students may select the catalog in effect at the time of matriculation at RU under the GAA and may continue with this catalog for up to five academic years.

2. Through the community college GAA Contact, students can obtain the name and contact information for the RU GAA Contact, who can direct the student to RU departmental or college advisors for advice and information on meeting requirements for various RU majors.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

VCCS colleges will:

- 1. Assist prospective GAA students in declaring intent to transfer to RU under the GAA.
- 2. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the transfer-oriented associate degree.
- 3. Collaborate with RU to promote the agreement among prospective and current VCCS students.

RU will:

- 1. Review readmission applications of students academically suspended from RU. With the consent of the student, notify the appropriate VCCS GAA Contact regarding the student's readmission status.
- 2. Provide tracking data annually on the performance of GAA students at Radford University, to include comparisons with native students. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be determined by the institutional research staffs at the VCCS and RU.

GAA students will:

- 1. Assume primary responsibility for understanding and following the requirements for the VCCS transfer-oriented associate degree, as well as degree requirements and the specific requirements for their intended major at RU, as stated in the RU *Undergraduate Catalog*.
- 2. Notify the GAA Contact at his/her community college of his intent to transfer to RU under the GAA.

- 3. Follow all RU application for admission processes and timelines. (Ability to start at RU in the Spring Term is subject to space availability.)
- 4. Meet minimum grade criteria and prerequisites for courses in specific programs at RU.
- 5. Notify the GAA contact at the community college if participation in the GAA is to be terminated.

REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT:

The VCCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the GAA at the VCCS. RU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the GAA at RU. Representing RU will be the Vice Provost for Academic Programs. Representing the VCCS will be the VCCS Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research and the VCCS Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Programs and Instructional Technology, in consultation with the Articulation Subcommittee of the Academic and Student Affairs Council.

- 2. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of this agreement to their respective clientele (external and internal constituents). RU and the VCCS will review this agreement every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of all institutions as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing GAA.
- 3. The agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. Such notice should be given at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination, and students who entered under the agreement may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

Approval granted by:

Glenn DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College System

Penelope W. Kyle, President
Radford University

Date

Date