

The Official Magazine of Richard Bland College of William & Mary

FALL/WINTER 2022



RBC
ON THE RISE
DRONEUP COMES TO RBC
ENROLLMENT INCREASES
RESEARCH IMPACTS THE COLLEGE



FEATURES

4. RBC on The Rise

Richard Bland College's expanded approach to student success leads to increased enrollment.

8. Dual Enrollment Opportunities

High schools partner with Richard Bland College to dually enroll students in classes.

10. RBC Admissions Hits the Road

A new Admissions initiative for prospective students.

12. Learner Mentors

RBC Learner Mentors are changing the college experience.

14. Blair Underwood on RBC

An inside look at the script written for actor Blair Underwood as he endorses RBC.

16. DroneUp Comes to RBC

A leading drone flight services innovator partners with Richard Bland College.

22. Education Your Way at RBC

Students can organize their class schedules to meet their needs.

24. Training Your Mind & Body

New faculty member leaves counseling career to teach students at RBC.

28. The Real World

New Chief Academic Officer balances her duties as head of RBC's educational program.

30. STUDY WITH ME

Dr. David Morgan explains his philosophy in teaching Physics and Astronomy.

32. Learning From Soccer

Dr. Damien Westfield has a passion for coaching soccer and teaching.

36. Jeff Britt

Credits Richard Bland College as a launch pad towards a successful career

38. In a Glass By Itself

An RBC alumnus discusses how the school helped mold him into a successful businessman.

44. RBC Lands a \$300k Grant

New Vice President Dr. Kimberly Boyd lands the college a grant that fulfills its mission.



Message from
PRESIDENT DEBBIE L. SYDOW

Viewed from any perspective, Richard Bland College is on the rise. This fall, RBC enrollment grew by more than twenty percent (20%), and based on growing interest, we are sanguine about projections for future enrollment. As a new model for higher education in Virginia, RBC offers flexible and personalized study options, work-based learning, and high-value credentials to high school, college and

adult students throughout the Commonwealth. RBC's affordable, one-size-fits-one approach is different.

At RBC, we believe in the power of difference, and this second edition of *Inside RBC Magazine* features stories that highlight our rich diversity of programs, partnerships and people. Whether you read the magazine from cover to cover, select stories of particular interest, or just

flip through the pictures, I hope you will be inspired by what you find.

From the arrival of unmanned aircraft at the new DroneUp Flight Academy at RBC, to the increase of research and innovation grants that support student persistence, to the promotion of faculty profiles through our *Study With Me* campaign, Richard Bland College is on the rise.



Inside RBC Magazine

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RBC ENROLLMENT *on the* RISE

Richard Bland College's expanded approach to student success leads to increased enrollment.

BY AMY LACEY

During a time when year-over-year enrollment in higher education has declined, Richard Bland College of William & Mary (RBC) has bucked the trend by experiencing a 20.4% increase.

Justin May, Chief Enrollment Management Officer at RBC, credited the college's focus on relationships. "We've redesigned the application process to be more customer-centric and less transactional," May explained. "Calling a prospective student the same day. Making an acceptance decision within 48 hours."

May said just as a company like Amazon offers customers updates on the status of a product's delivery, RBC involves candidates during each step, from confirmation of the application's receipt and review to conversations about individual needs. "It's about showing them they can do it and believe in themselves," May said. "We are giving applications more care. We reach out to prospective students to ensure they understand the process and how we can accommodate them with financial aid and help with other challenges they may face, certainly including but not limited to COVID."

According to a report from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center (NSCRC), post-secondary institutions have lost nearly 1.3 million students since the spring of 2020 when the novel coronavirus began; colleges and universities have experienced a 4.7% decline in undergraduates this spring from the spring 2021 semester. The NSCRC expects to release numbers for fall 2022 later this week.

President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., attributed RBC's growth to the culture on campus.

"With the pandemic now



RBC works hard to ensure that every student's educational experience is personalized.

"At RBC, students are always our first priority, and everything we do reflects that core value. Our students thrive in RBC's 'one size fits one' environment."

Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D.
President - Ricahard Bland College



RBC's new approach to student success leads to increased enrollment.

behind us, the RBC team has rolled out the red carpet to welcome students back to campus," she said. "At RBC, students are always our first priority, and everything we do reflects that core value. Our students thrive in RBC's 'one size fits one' environment."

She went on to say, "RBC is always mindful that students have many options when it comes to choosing a college, so our team goes the extra mile to ensure that prospective students know exactly what RBC has to offer. We want students to find the perfect college fit, and for many students there is no better fit than RBC. Every student at RBC is unique, and we work hard to ensure that their educational experience is personalized."

One way RBC has been able to identify students most interested in its programs and boost enrollment is by working closely with counselors at school systems.

"Our strategies are the same, but we've worked to tighten relationships with those counselors," said May. "They are trusted advisors. We strengthened our relationships with them with more frequent visits and by hosting more events, like lunches, on campus."

Expanded email marketing about new initiatives, an effort May called 'information campaigns,' also helped counselors refer qualified students to RBC.

Further, there has been a focus on hiring additional staff members for programs like Promise Scholars, which offers William & Mary courses and guaranteed transfer to Virginia residents...



Calling a prospective student the same day. Making an acceptance decision within 48 hours is a part of RBC's proactive process.

Inside Admissions



President Sydow loves interacting with students.

who are high-performing and eligible for a Pell Grant; it has allowed RBC to recruit individuals who are most committed to their education. The most recent incoming Promise Scholar class is the largest since the program's inception.

"These are the students who aren't applying because everyone else is doing it," May described. "They're doing it for the right reason. They know what they are getting into, and they will persist. That naturally leads to increased enrollment, happiness and higher graduation rates."

Financial fallout from the pandemic caused many institutions of higher learning to raise their tuition, but Dr. Sydow said RBC has taken great strides to mitigate student loan debt.

"Cost matters, so to keep college affordable RBC has not increased tuition since 2017. Today's students also want to know that what they learn in college is going to translate to real job skills. RBC has entered into partnerships with business and industry partners to ensure that students have the option to 'earn and learn' on the job, then move directly into living wage jobs."

One of those opportunities is the Central Virginia Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME), which RBC launched during the spring 2021 semester. FAME students earn their associates degree over two years while immersing themselves in paid on-the-job training.

Programs like FAME advanced

RBC's efforts to become an option for students during a time of economic recovery. "Providing them the option to gain job skills at the same time that they earn college credentials makes good sense," said Dr. Sydow. "Students will graduate without big debt, and they will be well prepared to succeed in the workforce. It's a win-win!"

Added May, "Since COVID, we know that people are struggling. We also know they're looking to retool and advance their skill sets, whether that is to move up the ranks in their current profession or move out of it all together and pursue new opportunities. RBC has always been at the crossroads of a quality education at an affordable price. RBC can get them there."

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN at RBC



Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY

Federation for Advanced
Manufacturing Education



Gain Leading Industry Work Experience

Earn Your RBC Associate Degree

Finish With No Debt



SCAN LEARN MORE



DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES *at* RBC

High schools partner with Richard Bland College to dually enroll students in classes, allowing them to complete up to two degrees by the time they finish high school.

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

Opportunities to 'Seize Your Potential' are open to college and high school students at Richard Bland College. Students can earn college credits while working towards their high school diploma through dual enrollment. Typically, dual enrollment is open to 11th and 12th graders, but the program is flexible, and exceptions can be made.

Dual enrollment is offered in the following ways: credentialed high school teachers instruct college classes in high schools, RBC professors

travel to high schools to teach, students take asynchronous classes online, and students take courses on RBC's campus.

The Director of Dual Enrollment and High School Programs, Christie Clarke, says, "It gives students an opportunity to experience a college course and explore different content while thinking about long-term goals."

RBC partners with 21 high schools in Virginia and accepts all high schoolers and homeschoolers upon agreement from parents and schools for them

to participate in the program. Some school divisions have as many as 500 students dual enrolled at RBC. The college regularly holds informational luncheons with local school superintendents to discuss the benefits of jumpstarting students' college careers.

In 2021, Hopewell High School partnered with RBC to create the Early College Academy, where Hopewell students take RBC classes taught by credentialed Hopewell teachers. Any college courses not available at Hopewell are supplemented online and taught by

RBC's instructors. So, Hopewell students can complete an associate's without leaving high school.

In addition, RBC partnered with the Homeschoolers Education Association of Virginia (HEAV) last year to make the program more accessible to homeschool students. The flexibility in courses and schedules offered to students is also available to homeschoolers.

Students working towards an associate's degree usually take a full load of classes, while others take about 3-6 credits combined with their high school work. Each student has a different goal, and their high school guidance counselor and RBC Learner Mentor work together to help them achieve it.

Julia Wright, a Millwood School student says, "Attending RBC as a dual enrolled student has allowed me to transition into college life while I am still in high school. I was dreading going off to college and being away from home but being able to take classes at RBC reduces that stress."

Earning a high school diploma is a priority, so students need to begin planning out their classes early on to make sure they will be able to meet the requirements for both degrees. Clarke says, "The earlier on a student can plan, the easier it will be to create a workable course plan and meet their graduation requirements."

All high school students may apply to the dual enrollment program by going to rbc.edu and clicking "Apply."

"Students can earn college credits while also in high school."

Christie Clarke



Christie Clarke enjoys her day working alongside her RBC colleagues.

RBC Dual Enrollment allows students to transition to a less expensive college life.

RBC HITS THE ROAD

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

Traveling to all corners of Virginia, Richard Bland College's admissions team reveals all the school has to offer. Opportunities are opened for students to access a lifetime of endless potential.

Richard Bland College is one of Virginia's hidden gems. Just south of Richmond, VA, and located in the city of Petersburg, the college campus springs forth. Hundred-year-old pecan trees tower over bustling students as they walk the brick paths to class. The two-year school is a cross between a community college and a four-year and is best known as William and Mary's junior college.

Kyle Dobry, Associate Director of Admissions at RBC, travels across the state to reveal RBC's existence to high school students. Through technology, Dobry takes prospective students on a campus tour from remote locations and explains the school's offerings. A four-year is not always the best fit, but a junior college like RBC allows students to live on campus and benefit from a college experience unmatched by a community college.

Dobry says, "Reaching out to schools across Virginia allows me to spread awareness about the college and work alongside high school counselors to find students who would benefit most from a two-year." His role is to meet students and help them decide whether RBC is a good fit. In addition, Dobry assists students through the admissions process, which involves tracking down documents and helping them re-

member important dates.

Speaking on behalf of RBC, the Director of Admissions, Justin May says, "The more students see us at schools, the more they learn about how RBC can help them reach their educational goals." RBC has the benefits of small class sizes, good staff and faculty support, numerous transfer agreements, and cost-effective tuition.

To get the word out, admissions targets sections of VA over one-week periods, sending Dobry out as a messenger. Dobry finds students who are interested in



Kyle Dobry - Associate Director of Admissions for RBC.



attending RBC and passes their information on to the back office to follow up. Usually, the admissions team attends 2-3 college fairs per week, in addition to the high schools Dobry visits.

Sometimes, representatives from RBC programs like the Global Student Success Program or the Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME) program join Dobry on his trips. RBC seeks to provide students with as much information as possible to ease the decision process, giving them a "white glove" experience, as Dobry calls it,

As an admissions counselor, Dobry looks for students who act with "grit and determination." RBC is more concerned with a student's will to learn and succeed than they are interested in the looks of their academic transcript. "If a student bombs the first part of their senior year but continually follows up with me to prove their upwards trajectory, they've got a chance," says Dobry.

The admissions team helps students access a "lifetime of endless potential." While many RBC students are local, Dobry's travels extend this opportunity to students all over Virginia. One of Virginia's best-kept secrets is out!

rbc.edu

YOU BELONG HERE

apply now



48-HOUR ACCEPTANCE DECISION

Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY



Student Success Program

LEARNER MENTORS

Richard Bland College of William & Mary is the first U.S. college to introduce Exceptional Student Experience with a goal of 100% student success. RBC Learner Mentors are changing the college experience.



Jasmine Hickson is the first person to admit that she did not know everything the Learner Mentor program at Richard Bland College of William & Mary (RBC) offered before joining the staff as a student worker during the Spring 2022 semester.

"I was not too sure about what it did aside from registration and campus events," remembered Hickson, who is now a junior Neuroscience major at William & Mary (W&M). "However, shortly after starting,

I understood what their purpose was on campus and how I could help make an impact as well."

A Learner Mentor, assigned to each student upon enrollment, serves as a point of contact throughout the individual's schooling at RBC. Learner Mentors help students develop academic plans and explore majors, while also connecting them to tutors and other resources to help set them up for success in the classroom.

Thom Addington, the chair of

RBC's English and Humanities Department, also became RBC's director of Student Success in March 2021. He says the difference between Learner Mentors and traditional academic advisors is best understood by comparing urgent care facilities and the emergency room (ER) at a hospital.

"If you go to the ER, you wait in triage. They'll take your information, you'll wait more, maybe see a physician, but likely a nurse practitioner, and then they send you home with a hefty bill.



That's how academic advising works in some cases," Addington explained. "I see Learner Mentors at more of the urgent care level. You wake up with a sore throat, and you can pop in without an appointment, see someone relatively quickly and head home, even with your medicine most of the time. Learner Mentors work the same way. You pop in, see them and get the information you need in a shorter period."

The Learner Mentor program is located in the campus library for easy access. Virtual office hours are also available.

"A lot of times students have questions, and they like the 'open door' feel," said Hannah Hensley, who has been a Learner Mentor for more than a year. "We talk about paths to their degree and what courses are required. It is all very individualized based on their backgrounds and where they want to go."

Hensley, who worked in residence life at RBC before becoming a Learner Mentor, often connects with participants in the Middle College program,

which allows qualified Petersburg High School students to earn an Associate Degree while finishing their high school diploma.

"They're 16 or 17 and still in that high school mindset," described Hensley. "I work with them on managing their time, making plans and sticking to a schedule. Skills they can use in life in addition to their education."

According to Learner Mentor Ben Thoreson, the diversity of RBC's campus is evident in the range of students and needs his team addresses on a daily basis.

"I've recently talked to international students from Portugal, Vietnam and China," said Thoreson, who also has a residence life background. "We have athletes who come in from out of state. There's individualized support needed for socioeconomic status. Maybe they are first generation college students figuring out the language of higher education, or they bounced around the foster system. I hear how they persevered."

Learner Mentors are available to both residential and com-

muter students, and there is no limit to how often they utilize the program.

Addington notices relief and gratitude are the common threads among students who connect with their Learner Mentor.

"RBC students come from different walks of life, yet they share the same anxieties; the transfer process is daunting," Addington recounted. "There is peace of mind in that there is someone on campus who can put them on a pathway that is transparent. I know where I'm going and the classes I need to take, especially for the first year of college. It is heartening to see them leave, knowing we took care of their fears."

Hickson considers the Learner Mentor program a highlight of her time at RBC. The aspiring pediatrician recommends every RBC student tap into the resources offered.

"It really boosts your confidence in your success during your time at RBC and after," she said.





BLAIR UNDERWOOD

COMMERCIAL SCRIPT

Original Writer: Ramona Taylor

Contributing Writers: Dr. Debbbie L. Sydow & Jesse Vaughan

To paraphrase the philosopher Matshona Dhliwayo:

A rose starts as a bud

A bird as an egg

And a forest – a seed

Set south of the historic cities of Richmond and my
hometown of Petersburg, Virginia

Nestled amidst hundreds of stately pecan trees

There is a scenic and serene -- picture-perfect place

A place that invites contemplation, self-discovery and reinvention

A place where young minds have been nurtured for generations

A place where students cultivate their genius and passions

Where they gain clarity about their unique purpose and prospects
for the future

Richard Bland College of William & Mary is such a place

It is here that students learn and grow and evolve to become their
authentic selves

Through critical thinking and applied learning

Business and community leaders, entrepreneurs, educators

And, yes, even celebrities have traced

their accomplishments back to the seeds that were first planted
here --- at Richard Bland College of William and Mary





Dr. Debbie L. Sydow participates in a DroneUp press conference at the Governor's mansion.

with Walmart, Inc. to provide drone delivery services at 34 sites, providing the potential to reach 4 million U.S. households by the end of the year. Walmart has a minority stake in DroneUp and a seat on its board and in turn, DroneUp is the exclusive provider of drone services for Walmart.

"This is an impressive and highly impactful project for Virginia Beach, Dinwiddie County, and beyond that represents a new age of technology for our society, and DroneUp is at the forefront of Unmanned Aircraft System development," said Governor Glenn Youngkin. "This homegrown Virginia company is transforming product delivery through its partnership with Walmart, and we are proud to partner with DroneUp as it extends its footprint across the Commonwealth and creates more than 650 cutting-edge jobs. The Commonwealth successfully competed against multiple states for this expansion project and I'm so proud

of the multi-pronged effort to attract this investment to Virginia."

"DroneUp's expansion in Virginia Beach and new testing, training, and R&D center at Richard Bland College is an exciting step forward for the unmanned systems industry in Virginia and serves as a model for higher education partnerships and economic development," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. "With the second-highest concentration of tech workers in the nation and world-class education institutions, the Commonwealth is well-positioned to empower DroneUp's continued success."

"The team at DroneUp couldn't be happier with the support we've received from Governor Youngkin's office and the Commonwealth of Virginia as a whole over the years," said Tom Walker, founder and CEO of DroneUp. "Virginia is our home, and we are proud to be able to continue to bring new inno-

vation, talent, and economic opportunities to our great state. This investment and expansion will not only bring new career opportunities to our region, but also allow us to tap into the brightest minds around Unmanned Aircraft System development and design."

"We are beyond thrilled that DroneUp has decided to make Virginia Beach its corporate headquarters and expand their operations by bringing more than 500 new jobs to our community," said Virginia Beach Mayor Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer. "Their expansion is the latest shining example in our city's history of fostering an environment where businesses can thrive."

DroneUp is investing over \$20 million in RBC and bringing 145 plus jobs.

Inside The Flight Academy

DRONEUP comes to RBC

Governor Glenn Youngkin announced recently that DroneUp, LLC, a leading drone flight services innovator and aviation technology provider, will invest a total of \$27.2 million to expand its headquarters in the City of Virginia Beach and establish a testing, training, and R&D center at Richard Bland College in Dinwiddie County. Virginia successfully competed with Arizona, New York, North Carolina, and Texas for the projects, which will create 655 new jobs.

DroneUp will invest \$7 million to expand its headquarters at 160 Newtown Road in Virginia Beach, creating 510 new jobs. The company will also invest \$20.2 million to establish a new testing, training, and R&D center for drone operators at Richard Bland College, which will create 145 new jobs.

In addition to the headquarters facility and training center, DroneUp plans to establish three drone hubs at Walmart locations in the Commonwealth this year. DroneUp recently announced a multi-year commercial services agreement



Members of Richard Bland College's Board of Visitors join Dr. Debbie L. Sydow at the Governor's mansion.



The RBC and DroneUp partnership is a cause for celebration with Governor Youngkin.

Being a student in FAME is a great opportunity. You can make \$60,000 a year while avoiding student debt.

"We welcome DroneUp and their training center program to Dinwiddie County," said Harrison A. Moody, Chairman, Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors. "The campus of Richard Bland College is the ideal setting for their testing, training, and R&D center, and bringing 145 high-quality jobs to the County presents a phenomenal opportunity for our citizens. DroneUp's work complements ongoing efforts of Richard Bland College to develop a curriculum for an unmanned aviation program. Drone technology is cutting-edge, and we are proud to be a part of it."

"Through strategic linkages with partners like DroneUp, Richard Bland College (RBC) continues to assert itself as a new model for higher education in the Commonwealth," said President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. "RBC and DroneUp share the vision of delivering a world-class drone pilot training program to expand the UAS work-

force in Virginia and across the nation. Now the vision is becoming a reality as DroneUp prepares to welcome its first class to the drone testing, training, and R&D center at Richard Bland College."

"This exciting announcement is a testament to Virginia's Gateway Region, a top logistics center in the Commonwealth," said Keith Boswell, President & CEO of Virginia's Gateway Region Economic Development Organization. "We look forward to the economic impact this project will bring to our seven communities as individuals and companies travel from near and far to hone their skills in drone technology and delivery."

Tobacco Commission member Senator Joe Morrissey said, "It is wonderful to see an innovative technology company like DroneUp partner with Dinwiddie County and Richard Bland College to bring the future of last mile delivery to our area all while creating 145 new high-quality jobs. Additionally, I am

excited to see that DroneUp will work with Richard Bland College to instruct students on the use of drone technology, a field that is only going to continue to grow. This is a big win for Dinwiddie County, and I very much look forward to seeing this project succeed."

Tobacco Commission member Coley J. Drinkwater said, "This is a great day for Dinwiddie County, and I am excited that DroneUp chose to locate here and create 145 great new jobs that will have a lasting impact on our community. Dinwiddie is the perfect place to live and work and I look forward to welcoming DroneUp as our newest business partner."

"VIP's relationship with DroneUp spans several years and multiple pilot programs with our Virginia Unmanned Systems Center and funding opportunities through our Commonwealth Commercialization Fund and Virginia Venture Partners," said Robert Stolle, President and CEO of the

the Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation (VIP). "They are a shining example of Virginia's willingness to welcome and support innovation and job creation."

"As an emerging industry, unmanned systems has been a priority for the Hampton Roads region for several years. We are proud to have DroneUp as a cornerstone of that industry cluster," said Doug Smith, President and CEO of the Hampton Roads Alliance. "DroneUp's investment at their Virginia Beach headquarters is a testament to their innovation and rapid success in a niche market, and their expansion into other locations in Virginia shows potential for even greater future growth. The Alliance extends its sincere congratulations to our friends at DroneUp, the City of Virginia Beach, and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership on this exciting win for the Commonwealth."

"Virginia Beach is the perfect place for DroneUp to continue leading in one of the world's fastest-growing industries," said Representative Elaine Luria. "When I visited DroneUp in May, we discussed how investing in technologies and workforce programs is good for business and good for Coastal Virginia. This expansion is a testament to the thriving workforce in Hampton Roads. I will continue to support businesses like DroneUp that lead in development and innovation and grow and diversify our economy in Hampton Roads."

"It is an honor and true testament to Virginia's pro-business climate that DroneUp has decided to invest in our Commonwealth and expand its headquarters in Virginia Beach," said Senator Jen A. Kiggans. "DroneUp's expansion develop this valuable industry right here in Hampton Roads. I look forward to watching their

business grow and provide high-quality service to our residents!"

"The 85th District of Virginia Beach is proud to serve as home for DroneUp, a small business gone global," said Delegate Karen S. Greenhalgh. "Today's announcement of plans to expand DroneUp's headquarters, bringing 510 new jobs, is a tremendous investment into our city. Virginia Beach is a great place to live and to work, and we are definitely looking up, thanks to DroneUp!"

"I am thrilled that this innovative technology company has decided to call Virginia its home," said Representative A. Donald McEachin. "DroneUp's expansion in our Commonwealth will create hundreds of new jobs in localities across my district, stimulate economic activity, and support other businesses in our communities. Tech is a burgeoning industry, and I look forward to seeing the impact DroneUp will have in Virginia."

"This is a fantastic opportunity for DroneUp and the folks in Virginia Beach and around Richard Bland College," said Senator Frank Ruff. "As innovations in the drone world continue to advance, the opportunity for training will also grow."

"I am thrilled to hear the news of DroneUp investing \$20.2 million in our community and bringing 145 jobs to the new training facility at Richard Bland College," said Delegate Emily M. Brewer. "Innovative partnerships like this demonstrate how creativity in higher education can yield incredible opportunities. This year, it was one of my priorities to facilitate budget language so the General Assembly could reduce regulatory barriers to make this training facility happen. I am also very grateful to Governor Youngkin for championing innovation in higher education

and workforce development in our Commonwealth."

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with the City of Virginia Beach, Dinwiddie County, Richard Bland College, and Virginia's Gateway Region to secure the project for Virginia. Governor Youngkin approved a \$928,000 grant from the Commonwealth's Opportunity Fund to assist with the project. The Governor also approved \$4 million in funds from the Virginia Economic Development Incentive Grant. The Virginia Economic Development Incentive Grant was established as a self-funded program of performance-based incentives that the Commonwealth awards to exceptional economic development projects with large numbers of employees and very high wages relative to average wages for that particular area. The Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission approved a grant for \$111,000 from the Tobacco Region Opportunity Fund for the project, and funding and services to support DroneUp's employee training activities will be provided through the Virginia Jobs Investment Program.



Inside Campus Grounds

RBC PECAN GROVE

Richard Bland College of William & Mary has a 750 acre campus that includes the oldest and largest pecan grove in Virginia.





Inside Academics

EDUCATION YOUR WAY AT RBC

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

At Richard Bland College, students can organize their class schedules to meet their needs. The college recognizes that many students work jobs or have other obligations outside of school. Now, students can decide what combination of in-person and online classes works best for them. RBC wants you to get an education your way.

For the student juggling work or family responsibilities, online classes are offered in a couple different formats. Fully online classes are called asynchronous and allow students to complete course work on their own time. If you need school to be ultra-flexible, consider weaving asynchronous classes into your schedule.

Maybe you would prefer to take your classes online, but you want the structure of attending class at a certain time and seeing your professor. Synchronous classes meet over Zoom, so students get the benefit of a live lecture and class discussion, while participating remotely. Sometimes, there is

even an option to go in-person.

Hybrid classes are a mix between online and in-person and equip students with the variety they need to streamline their schedule. In-person class is held one day a week and is paired with online activities and assignments. These types of classes are recommended for commuter students who are looking to cut down on drive time.

The traditional class format is also a great option. Students are highly encouraged to include completely in-person classes like these in their schedules. Professors are more able to become mentors to students who are regular par-

ticipants in their classrooms. Moreover, in-person classes are opportunities for students to form relationships with their peers. Students searching for the college experience should enroll in traditional classes.

When considering what types of classes to enroll in, consider your availability for attending in-person, what you want out of the class, and how you are best able to learn. The right combination of classes depends on you, and RBC wants to foster a learning environment that will meet your needs. To further discuss getting an education your way, prospective students can reach out to an Admissions Counselor and current students can contact their Learner Mentor.



Inside Academics

TRAINING MIND & BODY

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

New faculty member at Richard Bland College leaves counseling career to prepare students' minds and reach a broader audience via a podcast.

If we can get our minds right, then our lives will follow."

Dr. Tamara Williams



From the time Dr. Tamara Monet Baldwin Williams began preschool at 18 months old, her inquisitive personality pressed her to understand how the minds of people work. At 20 years old, she was equipped with a Bachelor's in Psychology from Spelman College. She later earned her Master's and Doctoral degrees in Clinical Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

When Dr. Williams began her career in clinical psychology at a counseling center, she never imagined she would end up teaching college students. Working as a counselor in school, prison, and medical settings left her unsatisfied

with the number of people she could help. "I've experimented with many methods to try and reach people, even a podcast and a reality tv show, and I've found that teaching is the best method." Williams continues, "Education is teaching people how to fish instead of bringing them the fish."

In 2008, she began teaching in her hometown at Hampton University, readying students for their future lives and careers through the exploration of mind and behavior. Williams found that the dynamic of teaching allowed her to share her passion with the most people in the least amount of time. Recently accepting a faculty position at Richard

Bland College, she hopes to continue giving students a step up in their educations and future careers. She comments, "I love what I do! My job is to get students ready, and theirs is to stay ready."

Dr. Williams is a huge proponent of accountability, showing her students that their situations do not limit what they can accomplish. She has high expectations and is a stickler for dates because she takes her students' studies as seriously as they should and wants them to succeed. "There is no growth in the comfort zone," Williams would remark. Besides, she is also their enthusiastic cheerleader and constant supporter.

"I like to show students that you can do what you love," says Williams. In recent years, she has become a motivational

speaker and co-host of a podcast called "Sunday Brunch," airing every Sunday at noon on WHOV 88.1 iHeartRadio. Williams loves helping a broad audience understand psychology and various table discussions in a way that applies to them.

A few years ago, Dr. Williams wrote her psychology textbook, "The Science of Psychology: An Introduction," published by Kendall Hunt. The text uses application as a learning tool to help students understand how the material relates to real-world scenarios. She has also published a life coaching talk called "10 Key Steps to Developing a Winning Mindset," which she employs through her business, Willing a Win Enterprises.

Out of all her endeavors, Dr. Williams is proudest when she hears that she is a student's

favorite professor or has helped someone with her talks. She firmly believes in helping people achieve healthy and happy lifestyles and serving her family, church, and community. She reminds us, "If we can get our minds right, then our lives will follow."



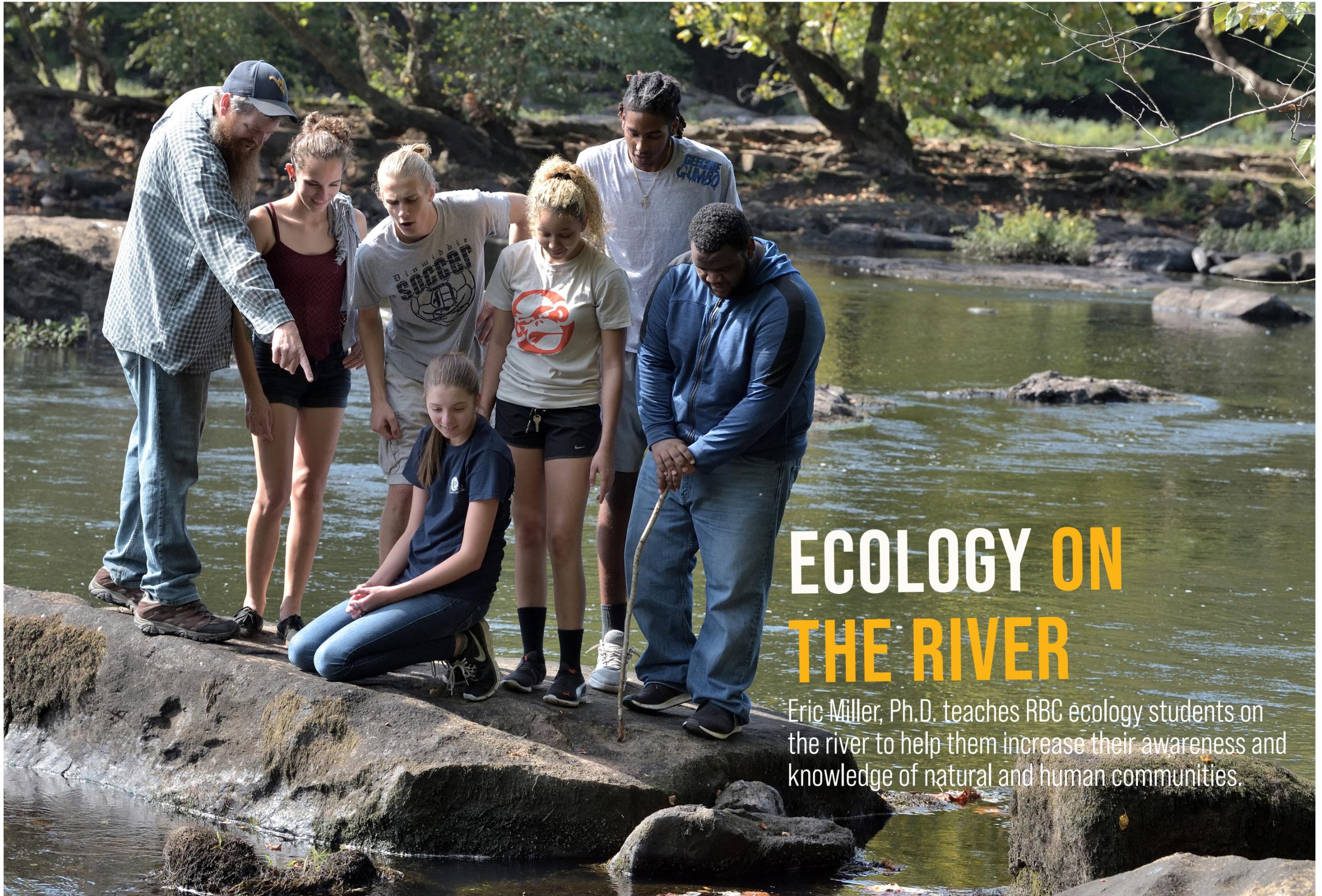
"I love what I do. My job is to get students ready, and theirs is to stay ready."

Dr. Tamara Williams



Dr. Tamara Williams graduated from Spellman College, the current top HBCU in the country.





ECOLOGY ON THE RIVER

Eric Miller, Ph.D. teaches RBC ecology students on the river to help them increase their awareness and knowledge of natural and human communities.

THE REAL WORLD at RBC

Clinical Psychologist becomes Chief Academic Officer at RBC and teaches students how to apply classroom learning in the real world while balancing her duties as head of the school's educational program.

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

Dr. Tiffany Birdsong serves as the Chief Academic Officer at Richard Bland College, overseeing the educational program and seeking student success. As a first-generation college student, she earned her bachelor's degree at Manhattan College in psychology. During her time at LaSalle University, Birdsong earned her master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology.

Dr. Birdsong spent the first part of her career working as a clinical psychologist in a women's trauma center and later teaching psychoeducation workshops and training to medical staff in hospitals.

Her love for teaching people about her profession led her to apply for a faculty position at RBC.

"I was working on call at Poplar Springs Hospital in Petersburg, reflecting on my time teaching medical staff on the psychological elements of patient care, and I felt a desire to get back to educating others," says Birdsong, "Richard Bland had a faculty position open, so I decided I would try teaching."

Sharing her expertise with college students held some uncertainties, but Dr. Birdsong was willing to try something new if it meant reaching RBC's student population. She has a

special connection with RBC students because many are first-generation college students like herself. Birdsong remarks, "I am passionate about the students because I see myself in them and want them to succeed."

Having taught at RBC for seven years, Dr. Birdsong has received many honors, such as the Dean's Faculty Excellence Award, and served as Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department. Her recent promotion to CAO occupies much of her time, but she still manages to invest in her students.

In the classroom, her teaching

style emphasizes experiential learning by challenging students to learn concepts and demonstrate their application in the real world. Dr. Birdsong explains, "If a student can digest it and apply it in a non-classroom setting, that's a success for me!"

Dr. Birdsong believes "College is a gift," so she strives to teach her course material using methods that students will appreciate and enjoy. She provides reference points for students that are both memorable and fun. For instance, on a day where the lesson is on paranoia, students might walk into class with Michael Jackson's "Somebody's Watching Me" playing overhead to demonstrate its application.

The environment Dr. Birdsong creates fosters learning and closes the gap between the student and the academic. "Students stay the same age, but I grow older. Their generational experience helps me to develop as an academic because they bring current and first-hand research from their generation."

On top of her career, Dr. Birdsong enjoys world travel to places like England, France, Spain, Greece, and Belize, where she went cave spelunking into a Mayan sacrificial site. On a more regular basis, dance, cooking, hiking, listening to true crime podcasts, visiting family in New York, and taking care of her baby occupy her free time.

Dr. Birdsong loves what she does and attributes it to her tribe—the people she surrounds herself with. She believes that her tribe has been integral to her professional success and life accomplishments. Birdsong leaves you with this question: "Are the people around you feeding you, or are they starving you?"

Having taught at RBC for seven years, Dr. Birdsong has received many honors, such as the Dean's Faculty Excellence Award and served as Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department.



The environment Dr. Birdsong creates fosters learning and closes the gap between the student and the academic.



"I am passionate about the students because I see myself in them and want them to succeed," says Dr. Birdsong



Her love for teaching people about her profession led her to apply for a faculty position at RBC.





Inside RBC-TV hosted by Amy Lacey

Inside Academics

STUDY with ME DAVID MORGAN, Ph.D.

Dr. Morgan teaches Physics and Astronomy at RBC

Amy Lacey, host of Inside RBC-TV recently sat down with Dr. David Morgan to discuss his experiences as a professor at RBC.

Amy Lacey: Dr. Morgan, please tell us about your philosophy as a Richard Bland College of William & Mary professor.

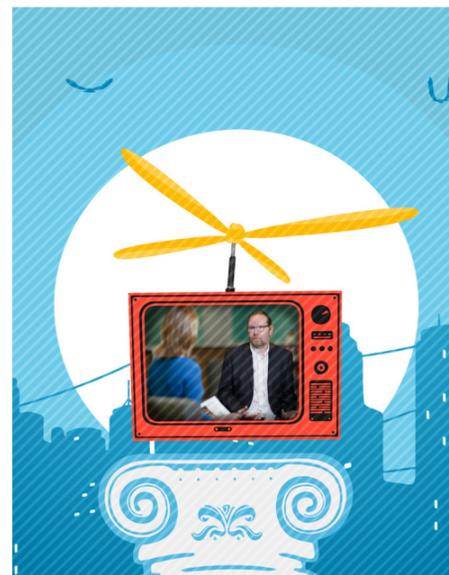
Dr. David Morgan: My philosophy as an RBC professor, and specifically as a professor of science, which is what I teach, is to instruct students, not just about how to use the formulas and how to understand the ideas of science – but I teach them how to think like a scientist.

One of the things I try to do in my courses is to make sure

students are always connecting what they learn to the real world. So when they get an answer to a problem, they think about what that answer means – and that allows them to make sure that their ideas about science are always not just abstract and about the equation, but actually connected to the real world.

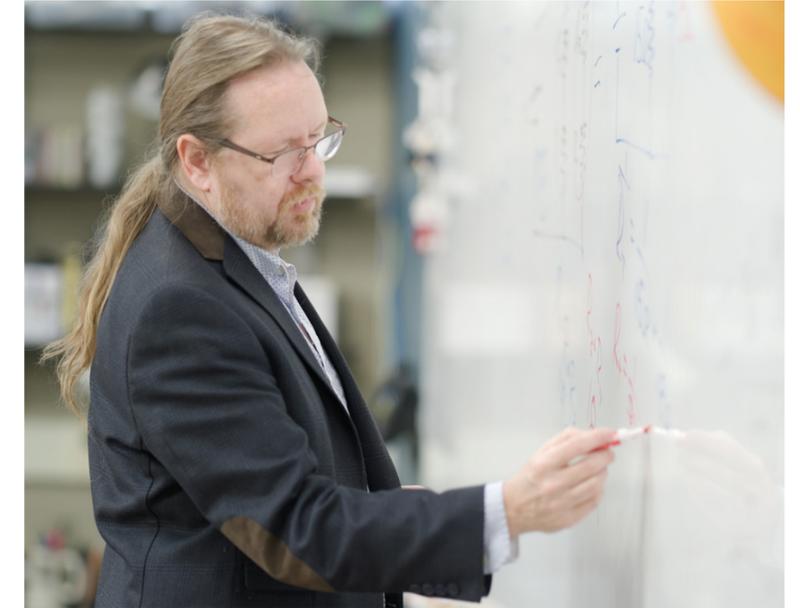
“RBC is a good place for students who may not be quite so sure of what they want to major in.”

Dr. David Morgan



Amy Lacey: What are the advantages of going to a junior college?

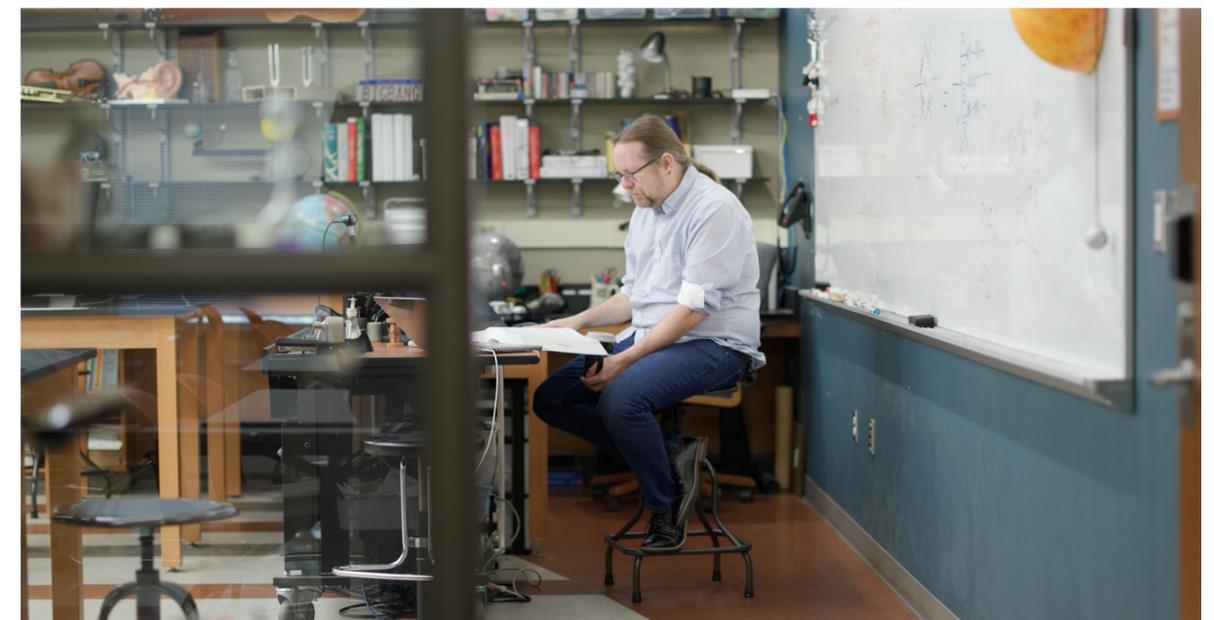
Dr. David Morgan: I think the advantages of going to a junior college, aside from just the financial advantages, is that you are in a small environment. You also know all your professors. It's a friendly environment for students here at RBC -- particularly for students who might be first generation college students who maybe don't have a model of what going to a four-year college is like. So the two-year college is a way to kind of dip your toes into the water of the college experience as it makes every effort to be really safe and supportive of students. And it's also a good place for students who may not be quite sure of what they want to major in.



Before coming to Richard Bland College, Dr. Morgan held a position as the founding director of a STEM academy for advanced high school students.

“I teach students not just about how to use the formulas and how to understand the ideas of science, but I teach them how to think like a scientist.”

Dr. David Morgan



Dr. David Morgan received his PhD from The College of William & Mary in the area of theoretical high-energy and particle physics.

COACHING WITH CLASS

Soccer scholarship brings a lifelong learner to the U.S. from a Caribbean Island to eventually become an Associate Professor and Head Soccer Coach at RBC.

BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

Originally from Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Damien Westfield came over to the U.S. on a partial soccer scholarship at Young Harris College in Georgia. He started by playing on a junior college level before making his way up to D1 on a full ride. After coaching soccer at Young Harris College and Truett McConnell University, Dr. Westfield returned to the junior college level as head coach of the men's soccer team at Richard Bland College.

Dr. Westfield's passion for playing and coaching soccer coincides with his love for

teaching Communication and Leadership Studies. When Dr. Westfield is off the field, he can be found in the classroom lecturing his students on how to recognize and give verbal and nonverbal feedback.

Dr. Westfield observes, "Young people don't always speak up, so it's very important for me to pay special attention to how my students and athletes communicate through nonverbal feedback." To teach students how to strengthen their communication skills, Westfield tailors his teaching methods to accommodate whether his

students are visual learners or auditory processors.

"Learning is a continuous and collaborative process that takes place in and outside of the classroom," reminds Dr. Westfield. His following philosophy creates a space for students where communication can flow both ways: "My class is an exchange of messages between me and my students. I am a lifelong learner and realize that I can learn from my students, they can learn from me, and we can all learn together."

Humility has a strong presence



in Dr. Westfield's teaching style, acknowledging that students are people like him who should be respected by their professor in the same manner that they should also have respect for their professor. "I tell my guys, I do not consider myself

the greatest soccer coach, but every day that you come to my session, you will be challenged, and there will be opportunities to also challenge me as well," relates Dr. Westfield.

Incorporating modern classroom tools like technology helps Dr. Westfield to interact with the current generation. "Good teaching takes place where learning takes place, so as an instructor, I need to adapt to meet my students' needs." Our digital age no longer limits communication to in-person interactions.

Dr. Westfield enjoys learning and creating just as much as teaching, so he will often visit outdoor places like zoos and beaches to observe and learn from animals and nature. In his personal time, Dr. Westfield bakes French and Caribbean bread, the latter of which reminds him of his Caribbean upbringing.

"Some days, I think I am the greatest chef," Dr. Westfield brags, "but others, I am just someone messing around in the kitchen." The takeaway from Dr. Westfield's

experiences should be that there is never a point at which a person is above learning. Coming from an academic with a Ph.D., "there's always more to learn."



I am a lifelong learner and realize that I can learn from my students, they can learn from me, and we can all learn together.



Head coach Damien Westfield talks about the upcoming season during media day.



Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY



INVEST IN RBC'S FUTURE

Richard Bland College Foundation

Your contribution helps our students succeed and experience a lifetime of endless possibilities.



FAME student learns to operate 3D printers at Armsted Rail.

TURNING POINTS with ALUM JEFF BRITT

Class of '95, first-generation college student credits RBC as launch pad for successful career

Jeff Britt grew up near Richard Bland College in Prince George County, VA, where he graduated in '95. Government and political science caught Britt's eye while attending RBC, prompting him to strategically transfer to George Mason University and get involved with the political scene on Capitol Hill.

Britt and his family knew he would attend college as a first-generation college student. The 4-year school admissions process was overwhelming to the high school senior who was unsure of what he wanted out of his future. "I wasn't the best

student—probably earned solid B's—but I was accepted to RBC where I could enjoy the comforts of home and get a taste for college life," says Britt.

Britt qualified for a Pell grant which made college an affordable option for his family. He remembers, "I took for granted the financial aid I was receiving and didn't focus on my schoolwork as I should have. During my second year at RBC, I allowed my GPA to dip low enough to lose the grant, forcing me to take out a personal loan to cover my spring classes. That was a wake-up call." Once Britt was literally invested,

he reached the turning point, which drove him to take his education seriously.

Sight unseen, Britt applied and was accepted to George Mason University. Upon transferring, Britt took advantage of GMU's proximity to Capitol Hill, interning for a U.S. Senator from Virginia.

After graduating from Mason, he moved to Richmond where he took a position as a legislative aid in the Virginia House of Delegates during the 1999 General Assembly. That experience led to a part-time job with the VA Board of Elections where he

processed voter applications, proofed ballots, and audited campaign finance reports. "I learned a great deal about Virginia elections and campaigns during my time, but that job was a means to an end. I knew there was more out there. After a few months, the board secretary offered me a full-time job, but I was honest and turned it down, explaining that I would love to work in the governor's office instead," says Britt.

Britt's bold move to turn down a steady, full-time job right out of college was rewarded a few months later. It was one of those turning points in his life where things started to work out right after taking a risk. He received an offer to work in the governor's office in constituent affairs, where he served as the governor's "front door" for two years before the term ended.

back to work as a school teacher and he was home with an infant considering his next move.

"I wasn't sure I had any marketable skills outside of campaigns," said Britt.

As luck would have it, a great opportunity presented itself with a powerhouse public affairs firm in Richmond. In 2005, Britt thought he blew an interview at McGuireWoods Consulting when he told the firm he did not care to lobby. Britt reached another turning point because, as it would turn out, he could not have given the lobbyist-heavy company a better answer; they did not want another lobbyist, they were interested in his skillset as a grassroots organizer.

Britt serves as a senior vice

"Britt and his family knew he would attend college as a first generation college student."

At that point, he took a different course and decided to jump into campaigns. His seasonal volunteer efforts with a candidate for attorney general caused a campaign manager to notice Britt and hire him as a campaign staffer to do grassroots organizing.

That led to a five-year stretch where Britt worked on three statewide races and served as the political director of the state Republican Party. In this time, he met his wife, January, and they began to build their family.

"Campaign life and family life are hard to balance," recalls Britt. "During my last campaign, we had our first son. Unfortunately, we lost that race and suddenly, I was unemployed with a baby at home." At that point, Britt's wife went

president in the firm's advocacy practice, having worked at McGuireWoods for almost seventeen years. "The same rules apply at the firm as they do campaigning—it's all advocacy," says Britt. He uses grassroots organizing to advocate for his clients in the areas of energy, manufacturing, healthcare, and land use to ensure that good policy is implemented.

With the support of the firm and his wife and four boys, Britt attended the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia in 2007 and returned to school to earn his master's in public administration from Virginia Tech in 2014. But looking back on his career, Britt attributes much of his success to the time he spent at Richard Bland. "I learned a lot about myself

while at RBC," said Britt. "My time at Richard Bland was formative giving me the experience and confidence to forge my own path."

Britt currently serves as Chairman of the RBC Foundation Board of Directors, where he is committed to supporting the mission of the college and the success of its students. Britt offered this bit of advice to students at RBC, "Take time to learn, take time to play, take time to explore your interests, but don't take your time at Richard Bland for granted. Make the most of it."



RBC Foundations enhances the academic, social, and physical growth of the College.



Inside Alumni Relations

IN A GLASS *by* ITSELF BY ABIGAIL HOLMES

Attending Richard Bland College was foundational for Mario Mastroeli, class of 1990. After graduating from Thomas Dale High School, Mastroeli ended up at RBC because he wanted to continue playing the keyboard with his high school band. Mastroeli says, "I did studio musician work, and I thought I was going to be a professional song writer."

His love for music is still very much alive, but Mastroeli's initial dream changed over time. One of RBC's economics

professors was particularly influential, and Mastroeli decided to study Business Management. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Radford University in economics and studied for his master's degree in economic development at both Virginia Tech University and Virginia Commonwealth University.

He and his ex-wife, Larissa Mastro met at RBC and teamed up to accomplish their academic and professional goals. They finished up at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where Mastro completed her



"Our goal is to put good beer in the hands of great people," Mario says.

Doctor of Dental Surgery degree (DDS) and Mastroeli completed his Juris Doctor degree (JD).

While in graduate school, the couple began brewing their own beer because it was less expensive. Mastroeli recalls, "We were 26 years old, and we started brewing beer together. Before I was interested in law school, I wanted to be a chef." Little did they know, their little hobby would transform into a huge company.

After moving to Hickory, North Carolina, Mastroeli decided to purchase a 119-year-old soda bottling factory and open a brewery in the neighboring town of Granite Falls. "I had practiced law for 16 years and was looking for an investment," says Mastroeli. In 2012, Granite Falls Brewing Company (GFB) was opened to the public.

The business expanded quickly and became a destination brewery, drawing people in from as far as California and Florida. For the locals, "Gran-

ite Falls is a little oasis in the midst of a dry county," relates Mastroeli. When Mastroeli founded GFB, he wanted to serve the Caldwell County community by creating jobs and providing a place to congregate.

The company is a huge source of income for the county, paying out 3.6 million in payroll over the last 10 years. Mastroeli adds, "The town of Granite Falls really had no where to gather. I have had employees and patrons who have met here and are now married with children or their own businesses." With a dog friendly patio, arcade for kids, and cigar lounge, there is a place for everyone. The brewery fosters and gives back to its surrounding community.

Mastroeli is a proud alumnus of RBC and attributes the college to giving him his start. He says, "If I could go back in time, I would do it all over again. RBC was the best education I got, and my professors at RBC were better than the ones I had in graduate school." Across

the five schools that Mastroeli attended, he looks back the most fondly on RBC because it taught him how to be a life-long learner.

"The most important thing in life is not knowing what you do know, it's knowing what you don't know. RBC taught me to love learning new things," reminisces Mastroeli.



"The kitchen has earned the title of Best Restaurant in Caldwell County,"



Credit :Granite Falls Brewing

"Food, darts and music — we do it all because we're all there is to do," Mario says.

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SCAN TO FOLLOW



**TELLING OUR STORY
AT RBC**



Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY

Inside Residential Life

RBC MADE HOME

Housing options are available to all RBC students and surpass traditional college dorm accommodations. Students feel at home in the spacious apartments and miss them when they transfer.

Students who live on campus at RBC have access to the full student experience. Apartment-style living helps them to form connections on campus, discover who they are, and learn how to live independently.

Residents are a mix of out-of-state, international, and local backgrounds, creating a diverse and multi-cultural community. All students are highly encouraged to live on campus to benefit from its student-centric atmosphere.

Most colleges provide students with a small, one-room dorm, shared by two people. RBC goes above and beyond typical accommodations, presenting students with a fully furnished and multi-room apartment!

There are two great options for where students can live on campus: Freedom Hall and Patriot Hall. Both buildings are just a five-minute walk from class and were built in 2008. In addition to dorm rooms, these modern builds house study rooms, game rooms, and plenty of common areas.

College staff members are often heard saying that RBC's dorm rooms by far exceed their first or current apartments. This could be attributed to the fact that each dorm has its own spacious kitchen, fitted with a breakfast bar, additional eating area, and standard-sized appliances including a refrigerator, dishwasher, oven/stove, microwave, and garbage disposal.

On top of that, students can do

their laundry for free without ever having to leave their dorm. A washing machine and drying unit are located in a room adjacent to the dorm's living and kitchen areas.

The living room features a large window, sofa, armchairs, and side tables—soon to become your frequented hang-out space, a comfortable place to collapse after class, and the perfect spot for a study-session.

Having enough elbow room is a common concern for students who may be uneasy about living with suitemates. Worries aside, each dorm has up to four bedrooms and two bathrooms, allowing for plenty of personal space. Moreover, additional sinks can be found outside of the bathrooms to increase

the number of people who can get ready at the same time.

Resident Assistant and sophomore, Thulani Jayasinghe says, "One of the best things I've experienced at RBC are the dorms. I've enjoyed having my own space, and the freedom has made it easier to concentrate on my studies. I definitely will miss the dorm life at RBC after I have transferred."

Jayasinghe is part of the ASPIRE Living & Learning Community (Academic Scholars Program in Residential Environment), which promotes community service, involvement, and leadership. Students in the program live on the 4th floor of Patriot Hall and form a cohort of individuals who love to be academically challenged.

Located on the first floor of Freedom Hall, The Office of Residence Life (ORL) actively works to design events that will keep their residents busy. Bonfires, ice cream socials, movie nights, and get-togethers galore fill the common areas and neighboring grounds.

From those who live half-way across the world to those born and raised in Dinwiddie, VA, the dorm life is for everyone.



Having enough elbow room is a common concern for students.

Residential Life

"Students who live on campus at RBC have access to the full student experience."

RBC GETS 300K GRANT

NEWS RELEASE

Richard Bland College is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a \$300,000 Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) grant to reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking (DVSAS) on campus. OVW received 83 applications requesting over \$26 million. RBC is one of only 36 projects selected for funding. The college will create RESPECT, a comprehensive program to strengthen prevention education, bystander intervention training, and victim services with a collaborative effort of campus personnel, off-campus partners, and off-campus consultant resources, a Coordinated Community Response Team (CCR).

The grant was written and brokered by Kimberly Boyd, Ph.D. – Vice-President and Chief Research & Innovation Officer at RBC. Her office is RBC's hub for research

grants at the college. "We hold a commitment at RBC to making the world a better place for others," says Dr. Boyd. "This grant represents ideals fundamental to our mission."

Dr. Debbie L. Sydow, President of RBC adds, "The goal of RESPECT is to reduce or eliminate DVSAS incidents and to offer trauma-informed services to victims with support for long-term healing. The intended outcome is that students will continue to build safe, diverse and welcoming environments throughout their lifetime."

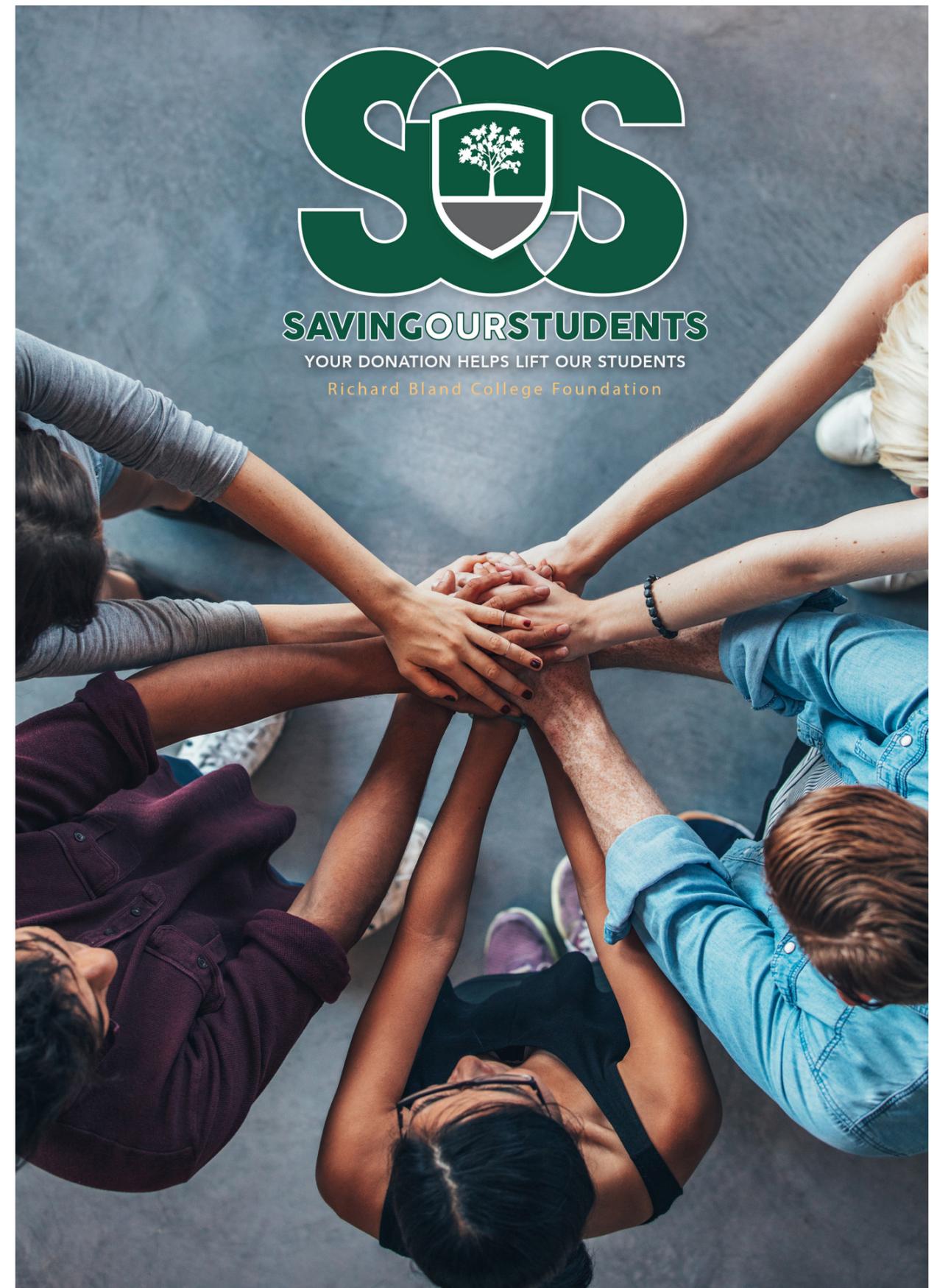
The project will work with surrounding RBC communities to engage committed partners to ensure that RESPECT is empowered to accomplish the following objectives:

They include the creation of a Coordinated Community Response Team to accom-

plish all mandated tasks including: prevention education, bystander intervention, training for campus, community and victim services.

It also includes providing prevention education for the entire campus, such as mandatory prevention education for all incoming students about DVSAS. Prevention education for all students will incorporate awareness, cultural sensitivity, bystander interventions, information about resources, campus policies and procedures.

The initiative will continue to work closely with Dr. Evanda Watts-Martinez – Director of Counseling Services, Thomas Travis – Director of Campus Safety & Chief of Police and Stacy Sokol – Director of Continuing Education at RBC. They will compose the RBC team, serving as the coordinated internal response unit.



WHAT MAKES RBC A JUNIOR COLLEGE

At RBC, students are encouraged to explore a range of classes and passions without having to worry about laying a concrete path for their future.



Community colleges and junior colleges like Richard Bland are the same thing... Not quite. RBC resides under the same Board of Visitors as The College of William & Mary and has more extensive opportunities for students academically and socially.

The junior college experience combines academics with athletics, extracurriculars, and room and board to create a place where students can live,

learn, and interact together. Larger universities and colleges offer these programs, but their size can inadvertently turn students into numbers instead of individuals. RBC's total student population of just over 2400 ensures that each student forms their own unique relationship with the college.

Dr. Kim Boyd, Vice-President at RBC, explains, "Most intro level courses at larger universities are filled with 100+ students. This can be discouraging for students entering college

for the first time. RBC's class average is 20:1. A small classroom environment encourages participation and increases the retention of course material." Fewer students in the classroom allow professors to know their students.

It is a common occurrence for RBC professors to check in on how students are doing individually. Communications professor, Jamia Hines welcomes students to come to her if they need emotional support or just someone to listen. Professors at RBC love



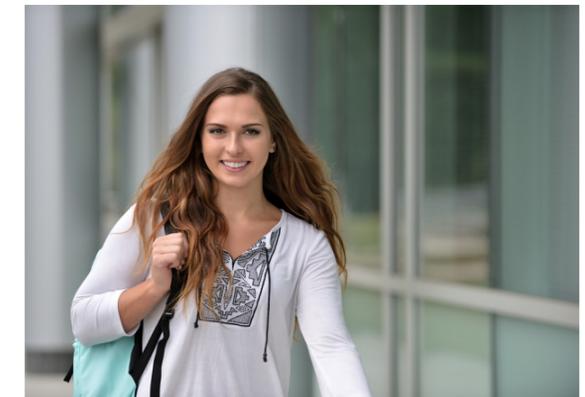
helping students in small ways like this, and they are all required to have on campus office hours in case students need help academically or otherwise.

Like RBC, community colleges have smaller class sizes, but many of them lack student activities and support. RBC has close to a dozen men's and women's sports teams and offers athletic facilities. You would be hard pressed to find a community college with their own gymnasium—one of the many benefits of being a junior college.

Moreover, offering counseling services and assigning students to a Learner Mentor helps to support students during their endeavors. Learner Mentors advise students on decisions regarding their degree track, class schedules, and transfer opportunities. Their doors are always open to students who want to talk through academic requirements or how they will transition to a four-year. Learner Mentors are also available to provide more general support to students.

Dr. Boyd says, "Many students entering college are undecided on what they want to do, RBC allows them to explore different interests before declaring a major. Most high school students want to explore different career options before committing to a specific major." At RBC, students are encouraged to explore a range of classes and passions without having to worry about laying a concrete path for their future.

Because it is a two-year school, lowerclassmen get to decide what clubs and activities they would like to see on campus. Incorporating their own interests into RBC's environment allows them to flourish and enjoy their involvement. The saying around RBC is "Seize Your Potential," and it is right up there with making it your own and thriving in your own unique and personal design for college.



Each student forms their own unique relationship with the college.





**EVERY TUESDAY
10AM-2PM**

**STUDENT PARKING LOT
(NEAR ACADEMIC QUAD)**

 **Richard Bland College**
of WILLIAM & MARY

**RBC STUDENTS
HEALTH
DAY**

WALK-INS WELCOME!

SERVICE OFFERED

**FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS
DIABETES TESTING
MONKEY POX TESTING
BLOOD PRESSURE TESTING
COVID-19 TESTING AND VACCINATIONS**

 **FREE MEDICAL SCREENING**