

2008 - 2009 Special Initiative Grant Recipients

The Bonnie Days of April (Student Activities Student Employee Association)

“The Bonnie Days of April” has been held annually for the past two years and is a campus wide program that offers activities on most days of the week, for one week in April. The grand finale takes place on a Friday afternoon/evening with live music, food, a rib cook off, a mini club fair, carnival games and prizes. It is normally the last big event before classes end and involves other departments, including academics and student organizations. Besides the carnival, other activities in the past have included billiards and bowling tournaments, dog shows, wheel chair basketball and a yard sale, to name a few.

Entrepreneurial Summit (RU Collegiate Entrepreneurs)

As part of the Entrepreneurial Summit, they hold a 90-second Elevator Pitch competition among all students to challenge and reward their creativity in concisely communicating a for-profit or non-profit opportunity to build an organization. The pitch is made to a panel of experts. This grant would fund the prizes for the winning pitches. 1st place is \$1500 and the three runners up receive \$500 each. The group had a sponsor for this event in the past but because of financial reasons this sponsor had to pull out. An opportunity to practice the elevator pitch and receive feedback from a panel of experts supports the development of entrepreneurial skills and thinking and helps students better prepare for the New Economy

RU Cheerleaders

With the significant effort this year to better the Dedmon Center, Radford University must look for ways to raise the attendance of all collegiate sport activities. The focus of the 28 member Cheerleading squad will be taken off the competitive aspect of Cheerleading and be placed more on this initiative as well as promoting Radford University Athletics in the community at large. We believe that if we attend community events and volunteer our time to the community this year, then we will raise community awareness of the Highlander sporting events and encourage members of the community to attend. The cheerleaders perform at basketball games but will also branch out to support other athletic teams by attending their home games as well. Grant proceeds will go towards purchasing alternative uniforms for community events/activities.

Graduate Student Professional Development (Graduate Student Council)

This program will allow graduate students and undergraduate students in accelerated programs at Radford University (RU) to attend their discipline’s annual conference(s). Attendance at these conferences will allow for further professional development in the student’s field. The “seed” money from the Parents and Family Fund will allow students to be partially reimbursed for the cost of registration and/or the cost of lodging for the conference. The Graduate College has agreed to match up to \$2,500 for this program.

Summer Internship (Experiential Learning & Career Services)

This initiative will provide five students with a \$500 internship scholarship to help with expenses associated with an internship.

Library Security Apparel (McConnell Library)

McConnell Library is applying for funds to purchase t-shirts for our student workers who serve as Library Security. The library has employed work-study students as Library Security for years; however, we have previously been unable to provide them with uniform shirts. Library Security employees are responsible for observing patrons’ activity throughout our five-floor building, monitoring noise levels, assisting with equipment problems, giving directions, helping with any building evacuations, and generally serving as a visible reminder of the Library’s security policies and procedures.

RU Rockers Dance Team

The RU Rockers Dance Team is a group of 15 dancers dedicated to supporting Radford University Athletics, and encouraging school spirit. Our season runs from August to April, in which time we perform at various school events, soccer games, Highlander parade, every home Men’s and Women’s basketball game as well as their conference tournaments. We finally finish our season by competing at the National Dance Alliance’s Collegiate Nationals. We have a lot of pride in representing our University and do it to the best of our ability. Our budget does not cover nationals. We are required to provide for any other expenses that may come up during the year. Many of our girls hold jobs throughout the season to accommodate these expenses. That further goes to show the level of commitment and dedication our girls have.

Holiday Illumination Ceremony (Multicultural and International Student Services)

The Office of Multicultural and International Student Services would like to host a Multi-Cultural Holiday Illumination Ceremony that will feature a Holiday wreath that will symbolize all holiday traditions.