



**Richard Bland College**  
of WILLIAM & MARY

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

### **VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY and RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE**

#### **Affiliation and Curriculum Pathways**

**THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU" or "Agreement")** between **VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY ("VSU" or the "University")**, a public baccalaureate educational institution and instrumentality of the Commonwealth of Virginia, located at 1 Hayden Drive, Virginia State University, Virginia 23806, and **Richard Bland College ("RBC" or "College")**, a public college and instrumentality of the Commonwealth of Virginia located at 11301 Johnson Road, Prince George, Virginia 23805, hereby enter into an affiliation and curriculum pathways agreement for various degree programs to be effective Spring 2020.

#### **The Terms and Conditions Of This Agreement Are As Follows:**

- I. RBC GRADUATE TRANSFER ADMISSION:** Upon application for admission, VSU will guarantee acceptance of all RBC graduates with an Associate in Arts or Associates in Science degree who have earned a minimum grade point average of 2.3. This guarantee presumes that there are no other factors in the student's academic or personal record that might prevent acceptance. For guaranteed acceptance, applications must be received by June 1 for the fall term and November 1 for the spring term. Students with grade point averages below 2.3 or who apply after the stated deadlines will also be considered for admission but there is no guarantee of acceptance.
- II. TROJAN ALLIANCE PATHWAYS ELIGIBILITY:** RBC students enrolled in an Associate in Arts or Associates in Science degree program who earned a high school diploma or GED, who have earned a minimum grade point average of 2.0, and who are in good academic standing are eligible to apply for the RBC to VSU Trojan Alliance Pathways program. Eligibility is also contingent on the RBC students having earned no more than 30 credit hours of applicable credit at the time of application to the Trojan Alliance Program. After completing the RBC Associates Degree, Trojan Alliance Pathways' students will be

eligible to transfer to VSU as juniors.

- III. **ACADEMIC STATUS:** RBC students accepted for transfer admission and through the pathway transition programs will be granted the junior status upon admission.
- IV. **CREDITS THROUGH EXAMINATION:** Credits earned through examination (Advanced Placement, CLEP, or DANTES) and awarded credit at RBC will be treated on an equal basis as credits earned at RBC.
- V. **UNFULFILLED REQUIREMENTS:** RBC graduates may be required to complete any unfulfilled VSU upper-division general education requirements that are required of native students.
- VI. **COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS:** Acceptance in some programs at VSU is competitive; acceptance into VSU 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 procedures and deadlines, as well as grade point requirements listed in the VSU catalog for native VSU students. Transfer students and native VSU students will be treated identically with regard to admission to programs (e.g., College of Business, Teacher Education, etc.).

RBC students following a Trojan Alliance pathways curriculum who meet initial eligibility and maintain curricular and GPA requirements will be admitted (junior standing) into the VSU competitive academic program as identified in the RBC to VSU Trojan Alliance course-by-course transfer guide.

- VII. **MISCELLANEOUS EXPECTATIONS:** RBC graduates transferring to VSU can generally expect to graduate in two years assuming that they take normal course loads, have met the specific prerequisites for their majors, and make satisfactory progress.

The application fee will be waived for any RBC student who applies to VSU.

RBC transfer students must sign a Guaranteed Admission Letter of Intent form to enroll at VSU.

RBC transfer and Trojan Alliance Program students are allowed to join and participate in VSU clubs and organizations.

**VIII. ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL):** Students for whom English is a second language must score at least 500 on the TOEFL examination and have the minimum grade point average of 2.3 in order to be guaranteed admission.

**IX. UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE COLLABORATION:** The faculty and staff of the two institutions will work together to maintain a course-by-course evaluation of all courses listed in the Richard Bland College Catalog. RBC faculty and advising staff will encourage prospective VSU transfer students to meet the spirit and content of the VSU general education requirements to the greatest extent possible in preparing for transfer. The Registrar and student advisors at VSU will offer counsel to RBC students who plan to transfer to VSU concerning degree requirements and programs of study. The respective Deans/Chairs of each institution will work to coordinate curriculum as dictated by the needs of the programs.

RBC agrees to support this agreement by indicating the relationship in appropriate literature and through its website.

In coordination with RBC, VSU will establish Advisement/Admissions Day(s).

All other VSU and RBC existing agreements are incorporated by reference to this master agreement.

**X. SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** VSU will offer accepted applicants from RBC consideration for financial aid if they apply for aid by the recommended deadline of March 31 for the fall and November 1<sup>st</sup> for the spring.

**XI. TERM & TERMINATION:** This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective upon execution by all parties and shall remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice to the other party of an intention to terminate. Such notice shall be effective only if given 180 days prior to the intended date of termination. Upon termination, the agreement will remain in effect for two additional years to accommodate students currently pursuing the articulated program at RBC.

**XII. ACCOUNTABILITY:** By May 2023, representatives from both institutions will meet and write a joint status report, including recommendations for the future of the Reverse Transfer Degree Program.

**XIII. NOTICES:** Wherever in this Agreement it shall be required or permitted that notice be given or served by either party to or on the other, the notice shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally to the party to whom it is given or sent by prepaid, registered mail, addressed as follows:



Mary Gurnick  
Acting Director of Academics  
Richard Bland College  
11301 Johnson Road  
Prince George, VA 23805  
804-862-6253  
[mgurnick@rbc.edu](mailto:mgurnick@rbc.edu) |

Kawachi Clemons, Ph.D.  
Assistant Vice President Academic and Student Affairs  
Virginia State University  
1 Hayden Drive  
Virginia State University, VA 23806  
804-524-3063  
[kclemons@vsu.edu](mailto:kclemons@vsu.edu)

Each such notice shall be deemed proper given three (3) business days after mailing in the case of mail and two hours after the time of transmission in the case of facsimile or email transmission. These addresses and/or facsimile numbers or email addresses may be changed from time to time by either party by notice as above provided.

**XIV. INTERPRETATION:** This Agreement constitutes all of the agreements between the parties pertaining to its subject matter and supersedes all prior agreements, undertakings, negotiations, and discussions, whether oral or written, of the parties to it and there are no warranties, representations or other agreements between the parties to it in connection with its subject-matter except as specifically set forth or referred to in this Agreement. No waiver of any other provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed or shall constitute a continuing waiver unless expressly provided.

Headings are not to be considered part of this Agreement and are included solely for convenience of reference and are not intended to be full or accurate descriptions of the contents of any section. In this Agreement, words importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa, words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter genders, and words importing persons include individuals and proprietors, corporations, partnerships, trusts, and unincorporated associations.

**XVI. ENFORCEABILITY:** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement or any covenant in it shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision or covenant in it and the invalid provision or covenant shall be deemed to be severed.

**XVII. MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT:** This Agreement may be supplemented, amended, or modified only by the mutual agreement of the parties. This Agreement may be amended or supplemented for specific program articulation or for program offerings to be expanded without affecting the currency of the master agreement. All course-by-course transfer guides may be amended as needed. No supplement, amendment, or modification of this Agreement shall be binding unless it is in writing and signed by all parties.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have each caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed in their respective names and certify that each has the authority to execute this Agreement.

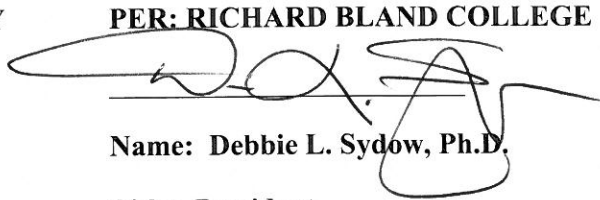
**PER: VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY**



**Name: Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D.**

**Title: President**

**PER: RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE**



**Name: Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D.**

**Title: President**