



**Richard Bland College**  
*of WILLIAM & MARY*

**REPORT OF THE RBC STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**  
**February 2024**

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W&M Board of Visitors, RBC Student Representative

**Introduction**

This spring, Richard Bland College hit the ground running with an event once a week. The College, especially Residence Life, is basing more programming on student feedback, catering even more to the student body with surveys and questionnaires for feedback on events and programs.

The first week of spring semester featured a double-header basketball game with the women's and men's teams. Student Assembly promoted the event and arranged for Chick-fil-A to provide food, which was a crowd pleaser. Many students attended and supported their fellow classmates. The men's team won the game against Washington Adventist University; unfortunately, the women's team lost to Cape Fear Community College.

**Updates**

Plans for the 2024 alternative spring break are underway with the destination most likely being Savannah, Georgia. There is also a trip to New York City planned for honors students and a select few student leaders. Both trips provide an exciting opportunity for students to travel and experience all that Richard Bland College has to offer them.

The Transfer Scholars Network (TSN) is giving many students great insight into their dream colleges and institutions thanks to Dr. Ann Ifekwunigwe. Coming up in February, a trip to Massachusetts Institute of Technology is planned. John Hopkins is also on the list of prestigious universities to be visited by prospective TSN students.

### **RBC Student Assembly**

Student Assembly goals in the fall included helping international students to feel included and supported and exploring the development of a mentorship program. The mentorship program would be for new students who are just being acclimated to the college environment.

Sophomores on campus would have the chance to mentor first-year students to help ensure a smooth transition into college. This program would help to address feedback we have received from students about not knowing what is going on at RBC or where anything is. The Student Assembly is also focusing on promoting awareness of time-management so students are more prepared and organized. This focus will allow students more time to attend programs and events.

### **Athletics**

Current updates on spring sports include:

Women's basketball - 6-4

Men's Basketball - 8-12

Athletes have mentioned being annoyed at the lack of certainty over the times that the gym is open. They would like to have a set time for student-athletes and a set time for regular students. Because there is no posting of these times online or anywhere in the gym, there is a tendency for overcrowding to occur. This can be inconvenient for athletes who must be there.

New athletic trainers have been hired and athletes are adjusting to their new trainers. Student Assembly representatives will meet with the Athletic Director to discuss how athletes can give feedback to the new trainers regarding their new training regimen.

### **New Internship**

This semester, there is a new internship in chemistry. It is focused on dating pottery through methods of tracking the velocity of the water molecules as they enter the pottery. This is an exciting opportunity for those students working in the field as this research project could yield great insight into this type of dating. If the activation energy of the process is found, then the experiment can be done much more quickly and efficiently in the future.