

Board of Visitors

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Richard Bland College
of WILLIAM & MARY

REPORT OF THE RBC STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Kayla Hand

Just as final exams were about to begin, an unexpected snowstorm forced rescheduling that provided my fellow students an extra day to prepare. The additional 24 hours of study time was beneficial as the College had a big rise in students earning distinction on both the President's and Dean's List. RBC saw an overall 15% increase in students achieving a 3.25 GPA for the fall semester as compared to the previous semester. President's List students rose 26% for the same time period, and Dean's List students improved by 9%. In total, 231 students had a GPA of 3.25 and above, which was a fantastic way to start the 2018-19 academic year.

Prior to exam week, the College hosted the annual Balance & Breathe Bash, an annual event held to help everyone relax and have fun before the crush of studying begins. There was something for everyone to enjoy, including a henna table, rock wall, yoga, frisbee toss, inspirational crafts, chair massages, video games, and meditation. The most popular attraction for students was the petting zoo, featuring adorable rabbits, goats, alpacas and donkeys. A second Balance & Breathe Bash will be held this spring. RBC does a great job of helping students prepare for final exams, and the late-night study breakfast in Statesman Café was a huge success. Students were thankful for some comfort food and a much-needed break from continuous studying.

The spring semester is underway with energy and enthusiasm, which is noticeable from classrooms to the library and the café. There is an optimistic buzz from returning students and a new group of Statesmen who have enrolled for the spring semester. One of the most inspiring aspects of the year has been watching the library become a hub of activity. It is the go-to place, and extended spring hours until midnight most days will be beneficial.

Lots of activities are happening on campus, from men's basketball games, campus forums, special lectures and weekly events from Student Activities and Residential Life. On a personal note, my final season of playing intercollegiate softball has started, and I am looking forward to bringing RBC a Region X Championship to close out my student-athlete career before heading to William & Mary!