

VRAS

Virginia Regional Accreditation Symposium

May 9, 2022, 9:00-4:00

Agenda

9:00 **Welcome**

Cindy Chiarello, 2022 VRAS Planning Board Co-Chair

Panel I: Responding to Challenging Standards

9:15

Linda Birtley, *Director Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison*, Union Presbyterian Seminary
Tisha Paredes, *formerly Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment*, Old Dominion University
Rachel E. Smith, *formerly Assistant Director of Assessment and Compliance*, Regent University

10:30 **Break**

10:45 **Panel II: Substantive Change**

Ryan Murnane, *Assistant Vice President for Academic Policy and Compliance*, Regent University

12:00 Break - Get lunch and bring it back for facilitated discussions!

12:30 Lunch and facilitated discussions in breakout rooms:

- Leading Up - How We Get Our Leadership to Push for Change (facilitated by Ryan Murnane)
- Handling Ambiguity and Chaos - Changing Tracks, Writing A Report During Times of Institutional Change, and Other Fun Topics! (facilitated by Kathy Walker)
- Specialized Accreditation Alignment with Institutional/SACSCOC (facilitated by Rachel Gable)
- How to Develop a Timeline (facilitated by Cindy Chiarello)

1:30 SACSCOC Vice President, Geoffrey Klein

2:45 Break

3:00 Presentations

How to prepare for the on-site visit

Linda Birtley, *Director Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison*, Union Presbyterian Seminary

Cindy Chiarello, *University Planning and Accreditation*, James Madison University

How to write a clear and concise narrative

Tisha Paredes, *formerly Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment*, Old Dominion University

3:45 Wrap Up

On behalf of the 2021-22 VRAS network, THANK YOU for joining us today!

The 2021-22 VRAS Planning Board

Linda Birtley (Union Presbyterian Seminary), Susan Bosworth (William & Mary), Cindy Chiarello (James Madison University), Rachel Gable (Virginia Commonwealth University), Jason Lyons (Christopher Newport University), Ryan Murnane (Regent University), Tisha Paredes, Matthew J. Smith (George Mason University), Kathy Walker (Randolph-Macon College)

VRAS Information

The 2021-22 VRAS Planning Board is welcoming new members! Please contact Co-Chair Matthew Smith if you are interested in joining this great team of colleagues across Virginia!

Past Symposia and Events can be viewed on our website: www.jmu.edu/sacs/VRAS.shtml

VRAS Listserv

To join the VRAS email listserv, visit <https://lists.virginia.edu/sympa/info/vras>

Mission

VRAS, an active, purposeful network of higher education colleagues in Virginia, advances open discussion and dissemination of knowledge to support institutions' achieving and sustaining SACSCOC accreditation.

Vision

VRAS serves the higher education community in Virginia by facilitating inter-institutional relationships and providing accurate information and reliable interpretation of SACSCOC policy.

Purpose

The purposes of the VRAS are to:

1. Build relationships among faculty and staff responsible for compliance with SACSCOC policies and principles.
2. Provide resources for faculty and staff that deal with the intersection of state recognition and regional accreditation.
3. Serve as a forum for discussion about salient accreditation-related issues and how they affect Virginia institutions.
4. Share accreditation-related knowledge and experiences among Virginia institutions that may serve as an example or guidance to colleagues.
5. Welcome, engage, and mentor new members from within our own and other accredited institutions within the Commonwealth to share knowledge and ensure the future growth of the VRAS.