Dean’s Report

College of Education

January 23, 2021

1. As the Convener of the Virginia Education Deans, and Leaders group, Dean Kelly worked with the President of the Virginia Association of Colleges of Teacher Educators to advocate for student teachers/interns to be vaccinated with other school personnel in our partner school districts and across the state. A letter was drafted and submitted to the State Schools Superintendent of Schools Dr. James Lane. Thankfully, Dr. Lane and his team at VDOE drafted policy in support of this request, and many of our interns have received their first dose of the vaccine. This is one more example that illustrates the value of a common voice representing education preparation in Virginia.
2. Renovation of Seacobeck Hall as the new home for the College of Education continues, but not as quickly as we’d like. Our hope is for project completion by late fall 2021, and to move in and begin offering courses in spring 2022. Contractors are working to expedite their work, but it may be more likely we will move in during the spring. We will begin planning for the move from James Farmer Hall to Seacobeck over the next few months.
3. Planning continues for a Regional Educational Leadership Collaboration involving the COE, Continuing and Professional Education, and school building leaders (principals and assistant principals) in the region. Fredericksburg City Schools has provided participants and Stafford has committed to the collaboration. Caroline County has delayed participation until fall 2021. The purpose is to create a platform for collaborative professional development to education leaders in the region. The group will also help direct professional development and strategic partnership development. The plan initially is for two 90-minute meetings this semester, and the initial focus will be on data-based decision making while managing crisis situations. This group will help facilitate leadership development in our partner schools, improve our students’ clinical experiences, and improve teaching and learning in the schools in our region.