



AGENDA

IALR Board of Trustees PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 1, 2025 - 9:00-10:30 am – IALR Conference Room 203

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| I. Convening of Meeting | Dr. Greg Hodges |
| A. Welcome | |
| B. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum | |
| C. Call for Changes to Agenda | |
| II. Attendance of Committee Members by Electronic Communication Means (Vote Required) | Dr. Greg Hodges |
| III. Approval of Minutes | Dr. Greg Hodges |
| A. January 30, 2025 (Vote Required) | |
| IV. Programs & Services / Advanced Learning Report | Dr. Julie Brown |
| V. Open Discussion of Concerns, Issues, and Observations | Group |
| VI. Adjournment | Dr. Greg Hodges |

Reference material included: “Advanced Learning Updates”
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Future Committee Meetings

Future Plenary Meetings

May 15, 2025

Programs & Services

Committee Members

Dr. Greg Hodges, *Chair*
Dr. Betty Jo Foster
Mr. Don Gibson
Mr. Mark Holland
Dr. Cornelius Johnson
Ms. Emma Kozlowski
Mr. Don Merricks, *Ex Officio*
Ms. Connie Nyholm

IALR Staff

Mr. Telly Tucker, President
Dr. John Hughes, EVP, Operations
Dr. Julie Brown, VP, Advanced Learning
Ms. Pam Patterson, BOT Secretary



**IALR Board of Trustees (BOT)
PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Minutes – January 30, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. – Conference Room 203

<u>Board Members Present</u> Dr. Greg Hodges, <i>Chair, via Zoom</i> Dr. Betty Jo Foster Mr. Don Gibson Mr. Mark Holland Dr. Cornelius Johnson Ms. Emma Kozlowski, <i>via Zoom</i> Ms. Connie Nyholm <u>Unable to Attend</u> Mr. Don Merricks, <i>Ex Officio</i>	<u>IALR Staff Present</u> Mr. Telly Tucker, President, IALR Dr. John Hughes, Executive Vice President of Operations Dr. Julie Brown, VP, Advanced Learning Ms. Pam Patterson, BOT Secretary <u>Staff Unable to Attend</u> None <u>Guests</u> None
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Call to Order / Quorum / Changes to Agenda

Dr. Greg Hodges called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2025. A quorum was present. There were no changes to the agenda.

Attendance of Committee Members by Electronic Communications Mean

Dr. Hodges and Ms. Emma Kozlowski participated electronically. Dr. Hodges attended via Zoom while on business travel for Patrick & Henry Community College. Ms. Kozlowski attended via Zoom due to the distance between her principal residence and the meeting location. The committee voted to allow both to attend the meeting via Zoom.

- **Motion:** Mr. Don Gibson made a motion to allow Dr. Hodges and Ms. Kozlowski to attend the meeting via Zoom. Mr. Mark Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The results of the vote are shown below.

Committee Members Absent	-	1
Committee Votes For	-	5
Committee Votes Against	-	0
Committee Abstentions	-	0

Approval of Minutes

- **Motion:** Ms. Connie Nyholm made a motion to approve the October 31, 2024, meeting minutes. Dr. Betty Jo Foster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Programs & Services / Advanced Learning Report

Dr. Brown's report included the Advanced Learning Narrative report (Exhibit A).

➤ **New Grant Awards/Contracts**

1. \$116,745 from GO Virginia for Region 3 Talent Pathways Initiative: TPM Futures to support advanced manufacturing and controlled environment agriculture talent pipeline development. Investment will support delivery of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Talent Pipeline Management Academy for 35 fellows; update to Chmura's 2016 job availability and living wage study; Futures Summit; and up to three best practice visits to address identified pathway challenges.
2. Awarded \$438,078 from the Virginia Department of Social Services for 2025-26 AmeriCorps programming. Investment will combine DRY and PHA programs, adding new Youth Mental Health Corps members.

➤ **Personnel Updates**

- Currently interviewing for the GO TEC Region 5 Program Coordinator position. Working with the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) to promote the Region 4 Training Coordinator opportunity.

➤ **AmeriCorps**

Dana Silicki, Brian Stanley, and Audia Harris attended the *Serve VA AmeriCorps Our Shared Impact 2024* Virtual Conference on December 5. AL staff partnered with IALR's Communications Team to produce a podcast celebrating 10 years of AmeriCorps, featuring the Danville Science Center partnership.

- Dan River Year AmeriCorps: Thirteen members enrolled; 1 exited without completion. Members serve at various educational and community sites and participated in events including the Monster Mash, meal service at House of Hope, the Danville Christmas Parade, and Mentor Virginia training.

REACH Public Health AmeriCorps: Seven members enrolled; 1 exited without completion. A partnership established with Sovah Health Residency Clinic to support community workshops.

GO TEC

GO TEC staff supported Mobile Lab programming across the Commonwealth, engaging students through hands-on activities at career fairs, community events, and open houses in Regions 1, 3, 4, and 5. Highlights include participation in the Danville Christmas Parade, the Health Sciences Summit in Roanoke, and the Maritime Career Festival. Staff conducted interest meetings, provided teacher training, maintained lab equipment, and supported school divisions with curriculum and lab setup across multiple regions. Advisory meetings and lab ribbon cuttings were held in Regions 1 and 4. GO TEC also partnered with industry and educational institutions, including Sovah Health, UVA Weldon Cooper Center, and Danville Community College, to support program evaluation and workforce development efforts.

Apprenticeship (ExTRA)

IALR supported new apprenticeship registrations at Huber (two Industrial Maintenance Mechanics) and DAW Construction (4 total apprentices). Staff attended Virginia Works' Apprenticeship Awards on Nov. 15 and co-hosted a National Apprenticeship Week event with New College Institute on Nov. 19. The ExTRA Awards Breakfast was held Nov. 25, recognizing outstanding employers. Six Emergency Medical Technician apprentices from Danville Life Saving Crew completed their terms and received journeyman cards on Dec. 3, 2025.

Open Discussion of Concerns, Issues, and Observations

No concerns, issues, or observations were discussed.

Adjournment

Dr. Hodges adjourned the meeting at _____ a.m.

Signatures & Exhibits are shown on the following page.

Minutes Recorded By:

Minutes Approved By:

Ms. Pam Patterson
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Dr. Greg Hodges, Chair
Programs & Services Committee

Date

Date

Attachments Included as Official Part of These Minutes

Exhibit A - Advanced Learning Updates – February 2025

Advanced Learning (AL) Updates

May 2025

NEW GRANT AWARDS/CONTRACTS:

NA

PENDING GRANT APPLICATIONS/CONTRACTS:

1. \$600,000 white paper proposal submitted in response to the Department of Navy (DON) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education and Workforce Program RFP. IALR would pilot two interventions to address (1) the gap in DON-aligned GO TEC pathways and (2) the math barrier to pursuing postsecondary STEM and CTE pathways.
2. Submitted two Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS requests) to Senators Kaine and Warner: one to support apprenticeships (using DOL ETA proposal; scored in top quartile) and one to develop the Healthcare Hub.

PERSONNEL UPDATES:

- Drew Jackson, GO TEC Region 4 Program Coordinator, resigned on March 17th.
- Based on program needs, the REACH Program Assistant position was eliminated. Francina Jones separated from employment on April 7, 2025. WE have posted for a REACH Program Coordinator position.

AMERCORPS:

- Onboarded three new AmeriCorps members (21 total active members).
- Twelve IALR AmeriCorps members created MLK Inspirational Rocks to spread across the city for the national MLK Day of Service.
- Celebrated AmeriCorps week (March 10 – 14th) with posts on social media and during Family Literacy Night.
- Family Literacy night was held at IALR on March 13th for 140 children and their parents/caring adults. Multiple agencies and 82 volunteers provided age-appropriate engaging activities.
- AmeriCorps members completed a service project at God's Storehouse on April 15th. Thirteen members and three staff created 29 Children's Play Pals and 13 Blessing Buckets.
- REACH AmeriCorps members provided 10 workshops for 101 participants In March.

GO TEC® (Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers)

- Provided a tour of the Region 4 Training Lab to the Virginia State University (VSU) Metropolitan Business League (50 attendees).
- Meeting with Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Career and Technical Education (CTE) leaders to discuss GO TEC course alignment for middle school.
- Attended the Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium meeting on March 3rd.
- Provided an update on the GO TEC evaluation plan to the GO Virginia State Board during their March 11th meeting.
- Dr. Brown and Jake Taylor were interviewed by PBS on March 26th for VDOE segment on GO TEC as an innovative program.
- Supported Fieldale-Collinsville new lab set-up and modelled instruction. (Region 3); supported equipment set-up at Activ8 & STEM Academy (DPS); multiple equipment service and repair visits; supported CTE event at Martinsville High School

- Team members served as Head Referee and assisted with Danville Public Schools Lego Competition, supporting 6 teams [Thanks to SWVHEC for loaning the Lego sets]. Served as a judge for Portsmouth STEAM robotics competition.
- Supported MA Division with DMCS closeout meetings.
- Supported Region 2 Per Capita application for GO TEC expansion
- Supported Hampton Roads Maritime Industrial Base's visitors from Alabama; arranged tour of Waters Midel School.
- GO TEC mentioned on page 58 ([A Happy medium: State looks to produce more 'middle-skilled' workers](#)) in [Virginia Business' Big Book](#) .
- 3rd Annual GO TEC VEX IQ Robotics Competition held at IALR April 10th; 20 teams with 85 students, making it the largest competition yet. Congrats to OT Bonner Middle School, Gretna Middle School, and Dinwiddie Middle School on their 1st -3rd place finishes. Jake Taylor coordinated the event with support from the GO TEC Team, Advanced Learning Division, IT Department, Communications, and ICC.
- Held the first GO TEC Region 1 VEX Competition
- Held five Community Open House Events in Region 1; resulted in new partnerships with two community colleges and at least two new industries.
- MIB Alabama Visit to Hampton Roads – MIB Workforce Lead, K12, Chamber, Economic Development (tour – Virginia Digital Maritime Center, The Apprentice School at Newport News Shipbuilding, Advanced Technology Center, GO TEC Program)
- GO TEC Mobile Lab at the Manufacturing Leadership Summit in Blacksburg
- GO TEC Mobile Lab at the State Innovation Summit in Region 5
- Visits to the new GO TEC schools in Region 2 on April 16th; anticipating six new schools.
- Presentation to GO Virginia Region 6 and Superintendents Region 3 on April 17th about GO TEC.
- Congratulations to Jake Taylor and Chris Griffith for taking and passing their Technology and Engineering Praxis Endorsements as we work to prepare opportunities to support sessions for GO TEC teachers to earn this endorsement to meet VDOE requirements.

EmPOWER: career exposure/engagement and Work-based Learning (WBL) system

- 21 AET Juniors are participating in the NoW Teamship experience with “problems” provided by Hitachi, Presto, and the SOVA Innovation Hub.

AspHIRE

- AspHIRE Mock Interview Day was held on April 25th at IALR.

Internships [High School & IALR]:

- IALR Internship Applications have closed. Interviews are taking place at the end of the week with interns being notified April 25th. Interns will start June 2nd or 9th. We hope to have approximately 13 interns this summer.
- Applications for High School Summer Internships for Danville and Pittsylvania County Students close on April 18th.

Apprenticeship (ExTRA):

- Registered a Youth Registered Apprenticeship Program for Bisbee Honda in partnership with Danville Public Schools for Automotive Technicians.
- Registered three new apprentices with Red Oak Excavating; heavy equipment operators.

- Registered Charlotte County Rescue Squad's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) apprenticeship program. Assisted Charlotte County Rescue Squad in registering four EMT apprentices.
- Comfort Systems' plumbing apprentice earned journeyman's certification.
- Spitzer Electric registered a new apprentice.
- Submitted apprenticeship metrics report (Q1 FY25) to Virginia Works and responded to FY 25/FY26 goals, requesting alternative metric for apprenticeship targets.
- Hosted the Virginia Occupational Safety & Health Institute of Learning on March 12th. We will be partnering to offer OSHA 10 training Oct. 21 – 22nd. IALR may also be able to benefit from VOSH's safety consultation services.
- Assisted Reynolds Presto with registering two Industrial Manufacturing Technician apprentices.
- Assisted the Danville Life Saving Crew in registering 10 EMT apprentices. Four EMTs from the March 2024 cohort completed the apprenticeship, earning journeyman credentials.
- Natori Neal presented at the Virginia Workforce Symposium on April 15th in Lynchburg.

V-TOP:

- Executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for the Virginia Talent & Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) internships through August 2025.
- Provided two virtual workshops for V-TOP in partnership with the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity.
- Attended Longwood University's Spring Career, Internship, and Graduate School Fair to talk with employers about V-TOP program.
- Attended P&HCC's Spring Health Career Fair on March 19th to pitch matching funds program to employers.
- Fifteen organizations in GO Virginia Region 3 were recognized as 2025 Virginia TOP Employers for Interns by the State Council of Higher Education (including us- IALR!). We will be recognizing award recipients at a reception on May 7th at IALR.

Talent Pathways Initiative

- Hosted a virtual interest webinar on March 4th for Region 3 Partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation on the Talent Pipeline Management Academy.
- Executed a contract with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to deliver their Talent Pipeline Management Academy in a hybrid format for up to 35 fellows. The orientation session was held on April 29th.
- Executed a contract with Chmura Analytics to replicate their 2016/2018 living wage and job availability study with a focus on manufacturing jobs. Report will cover all 15 GO Virginia Region 3 localities.

IALR STEM Scholarships

Dana Silicki Thank you to the review committee members: Dr. John Hughes, Tim Holland, John Smith, and Allison Moore. IALR Foundation will award 16 \$1,000 scholarships:

Halifax: 3	Mecklenburg: 2
Franklin: 2	Pittsylvania: 4 (3 Tunstall, 1 Chatham)
Danville (GWHS): 2	Henry (Magna Vista): 2
Martinsville: 1	

STEM Field Trips & Outreach

- AL team supported a field trip and tour for 55 Bonner Middle School STEAM students on April 3rd.
- AL Team (thanks to Dana Silicki!) assisted with coordination and attended the DPS Career Fair on April 6th at the Community Market.
- Brian Stanley and Audia Harris provided STEM Dash Bot robotics activity at the Rivermont Career Fair on April 24th.

REACH Partnership

- In January, Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Community Paramedics/EMTs supported outreach clinics at Danville House, Heritage Towers and Holiday Village.
- In March, REACH Community Paramedics conducted two outreach clinics with blood pressure checks at Holiday Village and the Danville House.
- The Implementation Team met on April 16th to discuss a potential research study partnership with UVA, open positions, partnership with Sovah's Residency Clinic, and development of the Social Care Network.

Southern Virginia Partnership for Health Sciences Careers [SVPHSC]

- SVPHSC meeting at Sentara Halifax in February focused on RN pathway development.
- Dr. Brown attended the Virginia Partnership for Health Sciences Careers at Reynolds Community College.
- SVPHSC meeting at SVCC – Keysville on April 15, 2025, with 33 members present. Discussion on RN training and challenges in increasing enrollment/retention.

Wonder Community

- In January, conducted four 1:1 computer training sessions and three workshops - Excel, Tai Chi and Winter Painting - with 11 participants.
- Hosted Intermediate Canva class for 11 participants.
- Provided Advanced Excel for 9 JTI employees (2 sessions)
- Partnered with ICC to offer Culinary 101 (12 participants)
- Provided Teams and Planner app training for the Center for Early Success (5 employees)
- Partnered with NCI to offer Etching (11 participants)
- Offered seven 1:1 computer training sessions
- Offered Intro to Canva (2 sessions) and Intro to Excel (10 participants)
- All Things Etiquette on April 19th
- Recruited members during the STEAM+C Fair at the Danville Mall

AET (Academy for Engineering and Technology)

Recruitment and testing for SY25-26. Initial placement indicates that PCS will fill 16 slots (100%); DPS has filled four slots (44%), intending to fill the remaining five by June. PCS has students on the wait-list.

AL TEAM DEVELOPMENT/PD/Community Engagement & Stakeholder Meetings/Personnel

- Brian Stanley, Advanced Learning Program Coordinator II, was presented with the inaugural IALR Catalyst Award, a quarterly recognition program designed to honor employees who exemplify IALR's mission and core values.
- Dr. Julie Brown, VP, Advanced Learning led the IALR Overview and tour for Tidewater Community College President and Leadership Team members on Jan. 29, 2025.
- Advance Learning Team members attended and provided program information during the City of Danville's Untapped Talent | Inclusive Hiring event.

- Jessie Vernon (AL Program Manager) led a tour for Averett University's Bonner Leaders.
- Dr. Brown attended the Tobacco Commission's 25th Celebration event on February 6.
- Kianna Dillard attended the joint Martinsville-Henry County (MHC) and Danville Pittsylvania County (DPC) Chambers' After-Hours event in Martinsville.
- Dr. Brown is serving on The Education Collaborative – Danville Chapter Initiating Committee, convened in partnership with DRF.
- Participated in the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission's (TRRC) Workforce Development Focus group meeting on March 20th to inform their strategic plan.
- CONGRATULATIONS to Jake Taylor for receiving the STEM Innovator of the Year Award from STARBASE Victory, Inc. Jake was honored during their annual gala on March 13th in Portsmouth.
- Attended the Fast Track Business Expo 2025 hosted by Martinsville Chamber
- Audia Harris and Jessie Vernon provided leadership to support the DPC Chamber's WE Lead kickoff event on March 19th.
- Dr. Brown was selected to serve as one of 25 delegates for the Jefferson Innovation Summit, held in Charlottesville on April 18th.

UPCOMING of INTEREST / Support from the BOT

1. IALR Summer Camps were posted April 21st. Share with networks.
2. IALR is recruiting summer AmeriCorps members for Danville Science Center and Boys and Girls Clubs in Danville and Martinsville, as well as for REACH Public Health AmeriCorps.
3. Upcoming Wonder Community workshops:
 - Sublimation Workshop, May 6th | 5:30-7 PM
 - Intro to Excel, May 8th | 9 AM - 12 PM at IALR
 - Intro to Canva, May 22nd | 9 AM - 12 PM at IALR
 - Deep Listening and Radical Vulnerability, Laugh and Play, May 24th | 1 PM - 3 PM