



Fran Bradford

Associate Vice President for Government Relations
The College of William & Mary

Fran Bradford has spent the past seventeen years championing Virginia higher education through the state and federal legislative process. In the fall of 2005, Ms. Bradford was called on to fill the position of Deputy Secretary of Education during the remaining months of Governor Mark Warner's term. While serving in the Warner Administration, she worked to forward his higher-education priorities including access, affordability, performance measures, research, economic development and the relationship between higher education and K-12.

Fran Bradford currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Government Relations at the College of William and Mary, where she has been since 2003. As Associate Vice President for Government Relations, Fran is responsible for the Colleges' federal and state government relations. She serves as institution's contact with the state's Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, state agencies, as well as Congressional Member Offices. Additionally, she assists in the coordination and development of institutional state and federal legislative and fiscal priorities.

Before arriving at William and Mary, Fran served as Acting Director of Communications and Government Relations at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). Prior to that, she served as Coordinator of Communications and Government Relations and as the Assistant to the Acting Director from May 1997 to June 1998. Ms. Bradford joined the agency in July 1990.

At SCHEV Ms. Bradford served as the agency's primary contact with the legislature and provided policy advice and administrative guidance to the Executive Director and agency directors regarding governmental relations and communications. Her responsibilities included coordinating SCHEV's legislative and regulatory affairs, and working with the Executive Branch. She also served as SCHEV's chief spokesperson, responsible for all media contact with the media.

In addition to her service at William and Mary, Ms. Bradford currently serves on the taskforce for the National "State Relations" Conference (Sponsored by CASE, AASCU, and NASUGLC). The State Relations Conference is the only conference in the nation serving professionals responsible for state government relations, external relations, or assisting the president with their work in the state and federal policy arenas. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the Virginia Network, a statewide organization that coordinates a professional development and networking program for senior female higher education administrators.

Ms. Bradford previously served on the Infrastructure Advisory Committee of the Joint Commission on Science and Technology (JCOTS) and as the President of the Board of Directors for the Virginia Campus Outreach Opportunity League (now Campus Compact). She also served as judge for the national Teacher of the Year Award, sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

Ms. Bradford earned a Bachelor of Arts from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana and she holds a Masters of Public Administration from Virginia Tech. She also received a certificate of completion from the Commonwealth Management Institute.