UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina
McCausland College
of Arts and Sciences

McCausland College Faculty Advisory

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Monday, April 27, 2026, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Petigru 321

Attendees:
Committee Members: Jean Ellis, Leslie Lovelace, Nina Moreno, Michael Stoeltzner, Josh Tebbs, Adela Vraciu, Carrie Wessinger
Ex Officio and Guests: Tommy Hodges, Nina Levine

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) Chair Michael Stoeltzner.

Minutes from February were approved

1. Chair's Report

Chair Stoeltzner provided a summary of his chairpersonship over the last year and a half. He thanked everyone for their service, including Dr. Nina Levine for her support in creating the Bylaws. The successes and efficacy of the Standing Committees were reported. FAC has accomplished one of its mandates, to fill these committees and make the election process efficient. This will require some bylaw changes, which is not easy given the quorum required. It was commented that FAC was an advisory committee, and it is hoped that in the upcoming year the committee will be used in this capacity by the new Dean. A lively discussion generated the following suggestions and/or discussion points:

- Schedule FAC meetings before the College-wide Faculty meeting
- How can we increase attendance at the College-wide Faculty meeting?
  - Send out additional reminders
  - Incentivize
  - Attendance be assigned to selected faculty members, similar to Faculty Senate
  - Better communicate the difference between meeting purposes

- Start meeting at class time (so as not to overlap two class sessions)

2. Secretary to the Faculty Report

Election of a New Chair: Adela Vraciu was nominated and elected as the Chair for FY 2026-2027.

3. New Business

Committee members serving for an incomplete term (defined as <3 years) are eligible to serve on the same committee for a full term (3 years) if nominated and elected by the McCausland faculty.

Faculty affiliated with SCIAA will be considered in the AHSS division.

Report from Dean Tommy Hodges: Dean Hodges reported on his discussions with incoming Dean Culbertson. He announced the Associate Dean transitions and was grateful for Dr. Benitez-Nelson's and Levine's incredible commitment to the College.

4. Good of the Order
None

Adjournment at 1:05 PM by FAC Chair Michael Stoeltzner.