UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

McCausland College
of Arts and Sciences

McCausland College Faculty Advisory

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2, 2026, 12:00 PM
Virtual (due to University Closure)

DRAFT

Attendees:
Committee Members: Jennifer Augustine, Jean Ellis, Mindy Fenske, Leslie Lovelace, Kelan "Lilly" Lu, 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 November were approved.

Chair's Report:
Chair Stoeltzner provided a report on his participation in recent meetings, including the College Faculty Meeting and the Standing Committee Chairs Meeting, both held in January. He expressed optimism regarding increased attendance at the upcoming College meeting. Additionally, he noted that he presented the FAC discussion on Artificial Intelligence, which prompted a vigorous discussion.

Secretary to the Faculty Report:
Standing Committee Elections – Emails to be sent to the faculty to solicit nominations and request votes were formally documented. Meeting logistics concerning the FAC regarding the elections were deliberated. The Secretary reviewed election protocols in accordance with the Bylaws and reported the upcoming committee vacancies.
Budget - 2 Natural and Physical Sciences (NPS)
Graduate - 1 NPS and 1 Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (AHSS)
FAC - 2 NPS and 2 AHSS

Research - 1 NPS and 1 AHSS
Strategic Engagement - 1 NPS and 1 at-large (either NPS or AHSS)
Undergraduate - 1 NPS and 1 AHSS

A new Chair of FAC will be elected during the upcoming Spring meeting. Committee members were encouraged to consider running for this position.

Beginning in Fall 2026, the responsibility of recording meeting minutes will be rotated alphabetically among members. New members shall be exempt from the duty of recording minutes during their initial meeting.

New Business:
Report from Dean Tommy Hodges
The college has enlisted consultants to identify the College's existing core priorities and strengths. This work will support the College's internal and external identity. Some aspects of these results will be discussed at the next FAC meeting.

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General Discussion
The committee discussed AI. Consensus suggestion of the FAC should be communicated to the Dean's office via a memorandum. FAC is an advisory body and provides recommendations on behalf of the McCausland faculty.

Good of the Order:
McCausland Faculty Committees and Bylaws website here.
The next FAC meeting will be in late Spring 2026.

Adjournment at 1:04 PM by FAC Chair Michael Stoeltzner.