McCausland College Faculty Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Russell House Theater

1. **Call to Order**
2. **September Meeting minutes approved**
3. **Report from the Dean**
   - Dean Search – Dean Hodges gave the floor to Dr. Todd Shaw, co-chair of the search committee, who provided these updates:
     - Provost Fitzpatrick increased the size of the search committee to more fully represent the College, in response to the input from the listening sessions.
     - Applications are currently being accepted until Dec. 31. The position description is posted on the Provost website
   - Faculty Hiring -
     - All previously approved searches have been launched and are on track.
     - Looking ahead, the recent period of dense hiring highlights the need to ensure adequate resources for supporting and retaining both faculty and staff.
   - ModernThink survey college level data.
     - McCausland College had a 13% response rate – with 63% of respondents being faculty. The college is following the university's process for reviewing and responding to the survey results.
4. **Guest Speaker**

   Dr. Christopher Tollefsen, Executive Director, Center for American Civic Leadership and Public Discourse, introduced the Center.

   Guiding ideas: promote public discourse; cultivate the skills to help people disagree in productive ways; civic education.

   Work so far: multiple public events, curricular initiatives: proposed minor; launch of the Francis Lieber Undergraduate Forum.

   Distinguishing factors: the Center is embedded within the College. New hires will be tenured in their disciplinary department and must meet the standards for tenure in their department to be hired.

5. **Reports from the Standing Committees**
    - **Budget** – Dr. Wayne Outten: The committee met with Dean Hodges and CFO Ed Walton who explained the RCM budget model and 2.0 changes.
    - **Faculty Advisory** – Dr. Kelan Lu/Jean Ellis: The committee is considering AI use as a college initiative.
    - **Graduate** – Dr. David Hitchcock: The committee will meet Nov. 19 to discuss changes to admission process and deadline changes.
    - **Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity** – Dr. Jeanne Garane: the committee met Nov. 12 with Dr. Claudia Benitez-Nelson, who spoke about funding initiatives for research.
    - **Strategic Engagement** – Dr. Ed Madden: The committee met to discuss the Modern Think Employee Insights Survey.
    - **Undergraduate** – Dr. Dawn Campbell: The committee hosted Ashley Byrd White and her team to discuss career readiness.

6. **Bylaw Amendment – Dr. Jean Ellis, Secretary to the Faculty**
    - Proposed amendments to the current faculty bylaws were presented for consideration before the vote at the January meeting.

7. **New Business**

8. **Good of the Order**
    - Next McCausland College Faculty Meeting: January 13, 2026, 4:00-5:00 PM, Russell House Theater
    - Standing Committee Meetings announced here.

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Angela	Acosta	Faculty	Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Emily	Beaulieu	Faculty	Political Science
Claudia	Benitez-Nelson	Faculty	School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment
Matthew	Boylan	Faculty	Mathematics
Alysia	Bridgman	Staff	Office of the Dean
Dawn	Campbell	Faculty	Women's and Gender Studies
Mike	Doty	Staff	Office of the Dean
Alexander	Duncan	Faculty	Mathematics
Jean	Ellis	Faculty	Geography
Christy	Friend	Faculty	Office of the Dean
Jeanne	Garane	Faculty	Languages,Literatures, and Cultures
David	Hitchcock	Faculty	Statistics
Laura	Kissel	Faculty	School of Visual Art and Design
Nina	Levine	Faculty	English
Kelan	Lu	Faculty	Political Science
Ed	Madden	Faculty	English
Emily	Manetta	Faculty	Linguistics
Mark	Minett	Faculty	English, School of Visual Art and Design
Agnes	Mueller	Faculty	Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Amanda	Murphy	Faculty	Statistics
Wayne	Outten	Faculty	Chemistry and Biochemistry
Edsel	Pena	Faculty	Statistics
Alexey	Petrov	Faculty	Physics and Astronomy
Wendy	Regoeczi	Faculty	Criminology and Criminal Justice
Todd	Shaw	Faculty	African American Studies
Morgan	Stefik	Faculty	Chemistry
Christopher	Tollefsen	Faculty	Philosophy
Adela	Vraciu	Faculty	Mathematics
Carol	Young	Staff	Office of the Dean