UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina
McCausland College
of Arts and Sciences

McCausland College Faculty Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Russell House Theater

1. The meeting was called to order
2. Approval of Minutes from January Meeting
3. Report from the Dean

- C**ollege Core Priorities**
  Based on goals identified across academic units, institutes, and centers, the College worked with Huron Consulting to develop a comprehensive overview of the College's activities. Seven core priorities were identified, along with associated initiatives:

  1. Enrollment & Student Success
  2. Academic Excellence
  3. Research & Scholarship
  4. Interdisciplinary Collaboration
  5. Community & Employer Engagement
  6. Employee Experience
  7. Operational Excellence

- **Marketing Campaign (DotGlue)**
  The College is working with DotGlue to develop messaging.

- **Recruitment Initiatives**
  Dr. Christy Friend, Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, introduced new recruitment video and print materials emphasizing the value of an arts and sciences education.
  Admitted Students Day will now include department tabling and breakout sessions.

4. Reports from the Standing Committees

- Budget – Dr. Wayne Outten –
    - The committee discussed the importance of Carolina Core to the College budget; Ashley Maciaszek provided Budget 2.0 update; higher level faculty retention strategy
- Graduate – Dr. David Hitchcock
    - The committee implemented templates for offer letters for graduate assistant; investigated best practices for students and staff to avoid travel reimbursement delays; discussed summer employment opportunities for graduate students and connections with Career Center
- Strategic Engagement – Dr. Ed Madden
    - The committee plus additional members appointed by Dean comprise the ModernThink Steering Committee. Met Feb 13 and Feb 18 to discuss results, assess strategic priorities, and generate action plans to address priorities within the College.
    - Identified strategic priorities: (1) belonging & recognition, (2) onboarding, and (3) communication—this last further broken into (a) leadership, decision making & trust and (b) modality, frequency, & accuracy
- Undergraduate – Dr. Dawn Campbell
    - Carolina Core: Committee reviewed data and agreed that our students benefit from having a robust Core to give them a broad foundation of knowledge and skills, including *soft skills* that employers are looking for; plan to discuss with CC committee members in the fall.
    - Course scheduling practices:

5. Bylaw Amendment –Dr. Jean Taylor Ellis, Secretary to the Faculty, presented a proposed bylaw amendment. No quorum was present; therefore, no vote was taken.

6. New Business – N/A

7. Adjournment

McCausland College Faculty Meeting Attendance
March 17, 2026

Loron	Benton	Women's and Gender Studies	Faculty (Tenure track)
Alysia	Bridgman	Office of the Dean	Staff
Mylene	Culbreath	Criminology and Criminal Justice	Faculty (Tenure track)
Jean	Ellis	Geography	Faculty (Tenure track)
Christy	Friend	Office of the Dean	Other
Erik	Gambatese	Theatre & Dance	Faculty (Tenure track)
Bryan	Gentry	Office of the Dean	Staff
Changhan	He	Mathematics	Faculty (Tenure track)
David	Hitchcock	Statistics	Faculty (Tenure track)
Eric	Holt	Languages, Literatures, and Culture	Faculty (Tenure track)
Nina	Levine	English	Faculty (Tenure track)
Wuchen	Li	Mathematics	Faculty (Tenure track)
Mark	Minett	English and SVAD	Faculty (Tenure track)
Amanda	Murphy	Statistics	Faculty (Professional Track)
Wayne	Outten	Chemistry and Biochemistry	Faculty (Tenure track)
Edsel	Pena	Statistics	Faculty (Tenure track)
Alexey	Petrov	Physics and Astronomy	Faculty (Tenure track)
Wendy	Regoezci	Criminology and Criminal Justice	Faculty (Tenure track)
Alexandria	Reynolds	Psychology	Faculty (Professional Track)
Michael	Stoeltzner	Philosophy	Faculty (Tenure track)
Jeffery	Twiss	Biological Sciences	Faculty (Tenure track)
Adela	Vraciu	Mathematics	Faculty (Tenure track)
Tracey	Weldon	CAS/ENGL/LING	Faculty (Tenure track)
Carol	Young	Office of the Dean	Staff