



School of Education

SOE Day August 24, 2026

10:00 – 11:30 Main Session (Matoaka Woods)

Welcome Back
Academic Leadership Team
Faculty Recognition
 New Faculty
 Faculty Promotions
Summer & Celebrations
State of the SOE – Strategic Planning
Inclusive Excellence

11:40 – 12:25 Breakout 1

Session 1.1 Leading from Within: Creating More Compassionate and Connected Learning Communities, Led by Coralie Solomon

Dogwood

This inspiring presentation invites faculty and staff to explore how greater self-awareness, compassion, and inner clarity can transform the way we respond to stress, change, and one another. Participants will leave with practical tools for cultivating resilience, connection, and a more grounded presence across the School of Education.

Session 1.2 Research – Corporate & Foundation Relations

Holly A

In this session, we will share data summarizing SOE faculty grant-getting success over the past year, highlighting strategies SOE faculty have used to pivot to new sources of funding. Our colleagues from W&M Corporate Foundation Relations will share their observations of the funding landscape, insights on SOE successes, and strategies for the coming year.

Session 1.3 – Instructor Well-Being as Instructional Practice, Led by STLI

Holly B

This session introduces instructional well-being as a core lens for framing our approach to teaching. We will surface practical ways to infuse joy and sustainability into courses, including rethinking policies, assessment and feedback routines, and technology use to support both pedagogical value and instructor well-being. Participants will leave with early ideas for personalized instructional well-being pathways they can continue to develop throughout the semester.

12:30 – 1:10 Lunch

1:15 – 2:00 Session 2 (Matoaka Woods)

Strategic Enrollment Management & Program Optimization, Led by
Lindy Johnson and Dot Osborne

2:05 – 2:50 Breakout 3

Session 3.1 **What Did You Mean by That?: Exploring How Interpretation Shapes Workplace Conversations**

Dogwood

This interactive keynote explores how the meaning we assign to everyday workplace interactions shapes our conversations, relationships, and organizational culture, inviting participants to examine the assumptions and interpretations that influence how we communicate.

Session 3.2 **Research** – Finding Grants using Hanover

Holly A

In this session, Brandon Millowitz from Hanover Research will provide an overview of grant-getting resources available to our faculty. We'll conduct Slido polls in this session to get a sense of the most useful resources for your work.

Session 3.3 **Starting the Year Off Right: Creating and Maintaining Integrity in Your Class**, Dave Gilbert

Holly B

Learn how to create and maintain a climate of academic integrity, how to establish an optimal classroom environment, and how to manage student classroom behavior. We will provide an overview of the Honor Code and highlight your role in maintaining the Code, provide tools you can use to optimize your classroom environment and academic assignments, and share tips and resources for responding to issues and concerns.

SOE Values

Statement of Values

Accomplishing our mission requires that the entire community work together as stewards of the core values that infuse our collective effort:

Advocacy

We create an open academic environment wherein we apply research-based solutions to advance systemic change to address persistent problems of a diverse society.

Compassion

We seek opportunities to understand and value the experiences of all members of our community as we work toward our shared impact priorities.

Engagement

We value and credit the process of community engaged teaching, research & service and actively seek opportunities to collaborate to advance the mission of the SOE.

Impact

We promote learning in others, and ourselves, to prepare educators and scholars who make a positive difference in schools, communities, and the world.

Inclusivity

We respect the dignity of every human being and work collaboratively to create a culture of invitation wherein all members of this community are seen and valued.

Integrity

We actively listen to and communicate precisely with all members of this community in a manner that values all perspectives and contributions as we advance professional discourse and interactions with fidelity.