Hard Lessons of Leadership: An Insider's Look That You Won't Read In A Textbook

Governor Pat McCrory
UNC Institute of Politics Fellows Program, Spring 2018

All seminars will be held in Hamilton Hall 271 from 5:30pm to 6:45pm. University IDs required for entry. Governor McCrory's office hours will be from 4:00pm to 5:30pm in Hamilton Hall 310 on the same days as his seminars. Office hours are offered on a drop-in basis, but to guarantee time with the Governor you may make an appointment by emailing fellows@unciop.org.

February 6th: Why Should Anyone Run For Office? (And Learning That It Isn't About You) Governor McCrory explores some common motivators that push people to run for office, including his own, and each participant is encouraged to share their own thoughts on seeking public office.

February 13th: The Allure Of Power

While sexual misconduct scandals are by far the most high-profile instances of lapses in judgement by those in leadership, this seminar will explore how to avoid the allure of power and how to lead in an ethical and responsible way.

February 20th: No Winners on Social Issues

Social issues are always the most hot-button topics of the day, and no decision will please everyone. Governor McCrory will discuss the complexities of what often seem to be black-and-white issues in the public space, and the political dangers associated with these challenges.

February 27th: Short-Term Political Expediency vs. Long-Term Problem Solving

Delaying long-term tough decisions is a politician's greatest short term strength for themselves (and their re-election), but a great weakness for society as they put off addressing the big issues facing their communities.

March 6th: Prepare To Be Eviscerated

There will always be someone ready to jump on your performance in public office, and it's important to be mindful of the agendas and narratives set in the public conversation in order to form your own informed opinions

March 20th: Lead From The Front, But No One Size Fits All

The best leaders get out in front of problems to face them head-on, and take responsibility for their mistakes. In doing so, they have to balance the interests of every part of their constituency in order to respond to both short-term crises, like hurricane, floods and riots, and long-term policy challenges, like transportation planning.

March 27th: It's All About The Money

It's no secret that big money has come to dominate our political and electoral systems, and this seminar delves deeper into the influence of money in campaigning (and in governing).

April 3rd: You Will Be Forgotten, But You Will Make a Difference

If one takes the risk to run for office, they have the opportunity to leave their community a better place than when they arrived, yet to serve for glory or recognition alone will prove a dissapointment. How to make a difference before, during, and after holding office.

Governor Pat McCrory

Pat McCrory served as the 74th Governor of North Carolina, elected in 2012 on an agenda of tax reform, long-term transportation planning, higher teacher pay, and re-investment in community infrastructure. Prior to his election as Governor, McCrory served as Mayor of Charlotte for seven consecutive terms, from 1995 to 2009, a record-setting term of office that remains unbroken. As Mayor, McCrory prioritized local investment in public transit, development of robust community policing programs, and upgrading public housing facilities. He also served on the US Homeland Security Advisory Council, appointed during President George W. Bush's first Administration. His time as Mayor followed a three-term tenure on the Charlotte City Council.



McCrory has also led an active professional life, working for 29 years at Duke Energy and serving on the Boards of Lending Tree, Kewaunee Scientific, and Transportation Impact. In addition to his work as an IOP Fellow this semester, McCrory currently hosts the Pat McCrory Show on WBT radio and is a regular contributor on NBC's Meet the Press.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Pat McCrory moved to Jamestown, North Carolina as a child and graduated from Catawba College in 1974 with a degree in Political Science. He also holds a teaching certification from the same institution. McCrory resides in Charlotte with his wife, Ann, and their dog, Moe.