

	Term End	Residence	County	Origin of appointment	Year of appointment	Eligibility	Gender		Office
					District		Race		
<b>Atkinson, June</b>	N/A	Raleigh	Wake	Ex Officio	N/A	N/A	W	W	Ex Officio
<b>Bardo, John W.</b>	N/A	Cullowhee	Jackson	Chancellor WCU	N/A	N/A	W	M	Ex Officio
<b>Bowles, Erskine B.</b>	N/A	Chapel Hill	Orange	UNC President	N/A	N/A	W	M	Ex Officio
<b>Byers, Eddie U.</b>	10/31/2007	Jefferson	Ashe	BOG	2003	7	Yes	B	M
<b>Cheek, Cherri</b>	6/30/2009	Ocean Isle	Brunswick	Speaker	2001		No	W	W
<b>Edwards, Grace M.</b>	6/30/2009	Henrico	Halifax	President Pro Tem	2005		Yes	B	W
<b>Griffin, Richard Scott</b>	10/31/2009	Mount Holly	Gaston	BOG	2001	6	No	W	M
<b>Highsmith, John</b>	10/31/2009	Clyde	Haywood	BOG	2005	8	Yes	W	M
<b>Leidy, Lee Lewis</b>	10/31/2009	Elizabeth City	Pasquotank	BOG	2005	1	Yes	W	W
<b>Politano, Virginia</b>	10/31/2007	Durham	Durham	BOG	1996	3	No	W	W
<b>Revels, Wesley</b>	10/31/2007	Pembroke	Robeson	BOG	1999	4	No	I	M
<b>Smith, Guy Patrick</b>	10/31/2009	Lexington	Davidson	BOG	2003	5	Yes	W	M
<b>Waterman, Sheryn</b>	6/30/2009	Charlotte	Mecklenburg	Speaker	2001		No	W	W
<b>Wells, Kenneth W.</b>	6/30/2009	Hertford	Perquimans	President Pro Tem	2001		No	W	M
<b>Williams, Lorene</b>	10/31/2007	Supply	Brunswick	BOG	2003	2	Yes	B	W



**NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CULLOWHEE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Mr. Eddie U. Byers (B/M)**  
BOG 10/07 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)  
828-264-5174 (O)  
336-982-3740 (H)  
828-264-0838 (FAX)  
[eddiebyers@excite.com](mailto:eddiebyers@excite.com)  
323 Ashe Park Road  
Jefferson, NC 28640

**Ms. Cherri Cheek, Vice Chair (W/F)**  
Speaker 6/09 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
910-575-7770 (W)  
910-579-1010 (H)  
910-579-4241 (FAX)  
[cherricheek@yahoo.com](mailto:cherricheek@yahoo.com)  
P.O. Box 6962  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469

**Ms. Grace M. Edwards (B/F)**  
President Pro Tempore 6/09 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)  
252-536-1375 (M)  
252-533-0923 (H)  
[vermina@schoollink.net](mailto:vermina@schoollink.net)  
249 Conoconnara Trail  
[revelsw.earlycollege@robeson.k12.nc.us](mailto:revelsw.earlycollege@robeson.k12.nc.us)  
Henrico, NC 27842

**Mr. Richard (Scott) Griffin (W/M)**  
BOG 10/09 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
704-827-7989 (H)  
704-689-2049 (M)  
[mrgskids@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrgskids@bellsouth.net)  
110 Oakland Street  
Mount Holly, NC 28120

**Dr. John Highsmith (W/M)**  
BOG 10/09 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)  
828-627-9005 (H)  
828-627-9282 (O)  
[schminsk@bellsouth.net](mailto:schminsk@bellsouth.net)  
78 Nelson Street  
Clyde, NC 28721

**Ms. Lee Leidy (W/F)**  
BOG 10/09 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)  
252-449-8289 (O)  
252-335-1073 (H)  
[lee@coastallandtrust.org](mailto:lee@coastallandtrust.org)  
1108 West Main Street  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

**Dr. Virginia Politano (W/F)**  
BOG 10/07 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
919-530-7606 (O)  
919-489-8839 (H)  
[politano@wpo.nccu.edu](mailto:politano@wpo.nccu.edu)  
4204 Settlement Drive  
Durham, NC 27713

**Mr. Wesley Revels (NA/M)**  
BOG 10/07 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
910-737-5232 (O)  
910-739-1276 (H)  
910-737-5231 (FAX)  
P.O. Box 983  
St. Pauls, NC 28384

**Mr. Guy Smith (W/M)**  
BOG 10/09 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)  
336-249-1500 (H)  
336-243-1015 (FAX)  
336-596-0425 (Cell)  
306 East Highway 64  
Lexington, NC 27292

**Ms. Sheryn Waterman (W/F)**  
Speaker 6/09 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
919-403-8385 (H)  
919-560-3946 (O)  
[seswaterman@aol.com](mailto:seswaterman@aol.com)  
1106 Woodburn Road  
Durham, NC 27705

**Dr. Kenneth Wells, Chair (W/M)**  
**President Pro Tempore 6/09 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)**  
252-426-7840-(H)  
252-426-5741 (O)  
252-426-4913 (FAX)  
[kwells@pcs.k12.nc.us](mailto:kwells@pcs.k12.nc.us)  
Perquimans County Schools, Superintendent  
PO Box 337  
Hertford, NC 27944

**Ms. Lorene Williams (B/F)**  
**BOG 10/07 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)**  
910-842-2558 (H)  
910-253-2900 (W)  
910-253-2983 (FAX)  
[lwilliams@bcswan.net](mailto:lwilliams@bcswan.net)  
1764 Percy Place Circle, SW  
Supply, NC 28402

**Dr. Harold L. Martin**  
**(Representative for President Erskine Bowles)**  
Ex officio  
Senior VP for Academic Affairs  
919-962-1000 (O)  
[hmartin@northcarolina.edu](mailto:hmartin@northcarolina.edu)  
The University of North Carolina  
PO Box 2688  
Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2688

**Ms. June Atkinson, Superintendent**  
**(Ex Officio)**  
919-807-3430 (O)  
[jatkinson@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:jatkinson@dpi.state.nc.us)  
State Department of Instruction  
Education Building, 301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825

**Dr. John W. Bardo, Chancellor**  
**(Ex officio)**  
828-227-7100 (O)  
[jbardo@wcu.edu](mailto:jbardo@wcu.edu)  
Western Carolina University  
Cullowhee, NC 28723

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**Dr. Mary McDuffie, Executive Director**  
828-293-5202 (O)  
800-922-0482 (O)  
828-227-7013 (FAX)  
[mcduffiem@nccat.org](mailto:mcduffiem@nccat.org)

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**North Carolina Center for the  
Advancement of Teaching**  
276 NCCAT Drive  
Cullowhee, NC 28723

August 20, 2007

Mr. Jim W. Phillips, Jr.,  
Chair  
The University of North Carolina Board of Governors  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

RE: Appointments to the Board of Trustees  
The North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Four members of the Board of Trustees for The North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) have terms expiring October 31, 2007. Wesley Revels and Virginia Politano are completing second terms and are ineligible for reappointment. The third member, Lorene Williams, has requested not to be reappointed to a second term due to health reasons. Eddie U. Byers is eligible for reappointment.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit the following individuals for the Board of Governor's consideration:

Eddie U. Byers of Jefferson (Region 7)

We would like to request that Mr. Byers be reappointed to represent Region 7. Mr. Byers has been diligent in his service to the Board of Trustees and to education in North Carolina, having dedicated his life to teaching in our state's public schools. He currently works with at-risk youth through the Western Youth Network. Mr. Byers is active in his professional organizations as well as his local and church community. His presence on the NCCAT Board of Trustees helps to ensure that the Board reflects the voice of its constituency. Mr. Byers' resume is attached.

Wanda Dawson of Kinston (Region 2)

Ms. Dawson is the Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services for Pamlico County Schools. She is a life-long educator with a strong commitment to children with exceptionalities. She has served as the Town Clerk and Mayor of Mesic. She received the NCCASE Outstanding Exceptional Children Director for 2005-06 and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Services Award in 2005. Ms. Dawson is active in civic and community organizations. She brings a commitment to education and the teachers of North Carolina.

Ferrell Guillory of Raleigh (Region 3)

Mr. Guillory is a renowned writer and lecturer and also serves as a Senior Fellow at MDC Inc., a nonprofit research firm specializing in Southern workforce, economic and community development, Chapel Hill, N.C. He was appointed by Governor Mike Easley Member, Council on the Southern Community, Southern Growth Policies Board in 2006.

Currently, Mr. Guillory is director of the Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life, an interdisciplinary program based in the Center for the Study of the American South at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has co-authored *The State of the South*, a series of biennial reports to the region and its leadership (1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004). He also co-authored *The Carolinas: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: An Exploration of Social and Economic Trends, 1924-1999* (Duke Press, 1999). Mr. Guillory is an influential leader with vast experience and expertise which will be beneficial to the Board.

Eugene B. (Gene) McLaurin, II of Rockingham (Region 4)

Gene McLaurin is a successful business, community and public service leader. For most of his career, Mr. McLaurin was General Manager for TOTAL's Rockingham and Knoxville, Tennessee facilities. In this position, he was responsible for manufacturing, quality, sales and service to customers in the Southeastern United States. In 2007, Mr. McLaurin left TOTAL to become General Manager of Swink-Quality Oil Company, a distributor of petroleum products in North and South Carolina. Mr. McLaurin was elected mayor of Rockingham in 1997 and has been reelected 4 times. During his tenure as mayor, Rockingham gained a positive progressive reputation for open government and efficient and improved public services. Mr. McLaurin is a past president of Rockingham Rotary, former chairman of the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce and Richmond County United Way. He served two terms on the Richmond Community College board of trustees where he was chair of the budget and finance committee. He brings to NCCAT his leadership abilities and knowledge of higher education.

Resumes or biographical sketches for all candidates are attached as well as a chart indicating the ethnic composition of our Board.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Mary D. McDuffie, Ed.D  
Executive Director

Attachments: Vitas  
Composition Chart

Cc: Dr. Adelaide Daniels Key, Board of Governors Liaison to The North Carolina  
Center for the Advancement of Teaching

Dr. Ken Wells, Chair, The North Carolina Center for the Advancement of  
Teaching Board of Trustees

Mr. Bart Corgnati  
Secretary of the University of North Carolina

## NCCAT Board of Trustees

### Board of Governors Appointments

#### Region 1

Lee Lewis Leidy

Caucasian/Female

#### Region 2

Vacant

Proposed—Wanda Dawson

African American/Female

#### Region 3

Vacant

Proposed— Ferrell Guillory

Caucasian/Male

#### Region 4

Vacant

Proposed—Eugene B. (Gene) McLaurin, II

Caucasian/Male

#### Region 5

Guy P. Smith

Caucasian/Male

#### Region 6

Richard Scott Griffin

Caucasian/Male

#### Region 7

Reappointment

Eddie U. Byers

African American/Male

#### Region 8

John Highsmith

Caucasian/Male

### Legislative Appointments

Cheryle Cheek

Caucasian/Female

Grace Edwards

African American/Female

Sheryn Waterman

Caucasian/Female

Kenneth Wells

Caucasian/Male

**EDDIE U. BYERS**  
**323 Ashe Park Road**  
**Jefferson, NC 28640**  
**(336) 982-3700 (H)**

## **EDUCATION**

- Appalachian State University, Bachelor of Arts, Education (1973)
- Appalachian State University, presently enrolled in Master Program

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Mountain View Elementary School, Jefferson, NC (1978-2006)
- Western Youth Network, Boone, NC (2006-present)

## **ASSOCIATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- State Chair for Alumni Fund; North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT)
- Professional Rights and Responsibilities Committee, North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE)
- Canvassing Committee; North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE)
- Facilitator; North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program, Public School Forum
- I Can Do It Trainer; North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) and Public School Forum of North Carolina
- Northwest Regional Teacher of the Year nominee (2004-2005)

## **AWARDS**

Recognized by Who's Who Historical Society

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

North Carolina Association of Educators (Lifetime member)

## **PERSONAL**

President; New Covenant Baptist Association of Ministers and Deacons; River Hill Baptist Church

# Wanda P. Dawson

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## Experience

2005-Present Pamlico County Schools Bayboro, NC

### **Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services**

- Direct human resources department for 287 employees
- Supervise programs for exceptional children
- Coordinate services for Section 504 and Homebound
- Supervise school nurse program
- Coordinate gifted education program
- Serve as LEA representative on IEP teams
- Coordinate recruitment efforts for the system
- Oversee licensing process for teachers
- Oversee mentor program and evaluation process for teachers
- Implement and monitor beginning teacher program
- Coordinate services for national board certification
- Administer budget for state special education funds
- Monitor exceptional children headcount process
- Write federal grants
- Assist in assigning exceptional children to special buses
- Coordinate the screening, selection, and placement of personnel
- Serve as liaison between the school system and local, state and federal agencies
- Serve as trainer for 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
- Supervise Child and Family Support Teams
- Supervise Title I program
- Administer budget for Title I, Title II, Rural and Low Income Schools, Improving Teacher Quality, IDEA-Part B, IDEA Preschool, and Capacity Building and Improvement Grants

1999-2005 Pamlico County Schools Bayboro, NC

### **Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services**

- Direct human resources department for 298 employees
- Supervise programs for exceptional children
- Coordinate services for Section 504, Homebound, and Title IX
- Supervise school nurse program
- Coordinate gifted education program
- Serve as LEA representative on IEP teams
- Coordinate recruitment efforts for the system
- Oversee licensing process for teachers
- Oversee mentor program and evaluation process for teachers



- Implement and monitor initial licensure program for beginning teachers
- Coordinate services for national board certification
- Administer 1.3 million dollar budget consisting of state and federal funds
- Monitor exceptional children headcount process
- Write VI-B and preschool grants for exceptional children program
- Assist in assigning exceptional children to special buses
- Coordinate the screening, selection, and placement of personnel
- Serve as liaison between the school system and local, state and federal agencies
- Serve as trainer for 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

1991-1999

*Pamlico County Schools*

*Bayboro, NC*

**Director of Programs for Exceptional Children**

- Supervised exceptional children curriculum and programs
- Supervised approximately 25 teachers and/or related service providers
- Prepared budget and administered funds in accordance with established state, federal and local policies
- Served as LEA representative on IEP teams
- Served as mediator for special education issues
- Assisted in screening, selection and placement of personnel
- Prepared and supervised the preparation of records and reports as required by local state and federal policies
- Wrote VI-B and preschool federal grants
- Monitored exceptional children head count process
- Assisted in the development of in-service programs for the development and improvement of staff
- Served as liaison between the school system and local, state and federal agencies

1987-1991

*Pamlico County Schools*

*Bayboro, NC*

**Assistant Principal**

- Supervised staff
- Evaluated teachers
- Enforced discipline policies
- Organized school programs
- Assisted in the overall daily operation of the school
- Assisted in screening, selection and placement of personnel

1980-1987

*Pamlico County Schools*

*Bayboro, NC*

**Speech Pathologist**

- Provided speech therapy services for students grades K-12
- Screened and evaluated students for potential speech/hearing problems
- Conducted hearing screenings
- Wrote and implemented IEPs
- Served as member of IEP teams

<b>Education</b>	Present	East Carolina University	Greenville, NC
	▪	Doctorate, Projected Graduation May 2008	Educational Leadership
	2005	East Carolina University	Greenville, NC
	▪	EdS	Educational Specialist
	1987	East Carolina University	Greenville, NC
	▪	MaEd	Educational Administration
	1976-1980	<i>Hampton Institute</i>	<i>Hampton, VA</i>
	▪	BS, Communication Disorders	
	▪	Graduated with highest honors	

**Licensure/  
Certification**

Speech/Language Pathologist  
School Administrator - Principal  
Curriculum Instructional Specialist  
Program Administrator - Exceptional Children  
Mentor

**Professional  
Memberships  
Past and  
Present**

- NC Association of School Administrators
- Exceptional Children Directors' State Advisory Council
- Board of Directors for Southeast Education Alliance
- ECU Clinical Schools Network Partnership Advisory Board
- Council for Exceptional Children
- Personnel Administrators of North Carolina

**Community/Civic/  
and Social  
Organizations  
Past and  
Present**

- New Bern Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc
- Neuse Pamlico Sound Women's Coalition
- St. Peter Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ Women's Fellowship
- St. Peter Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ Young Adult Choir
- Pamlico County Arts Council
- Pamlico County Historical Association
- Mayor of Town of Mesic
- Town Clerk of Town of Mesic
- Pamlico County Hurricane Booster Club
- Pamlico County Middle School PTO
- Patient Rights Committee, Britthaven Nursing Home

**Honors/Awards**

- Pamlico County Association of Education Office Personnel Boss of the Year 2006
- NCCASE Outstanding Exceptional Children Director 2005-06
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Service Award, January 2005
- Nominee for Southeast Region Exceptional Children Program Administrator of the Year, October 2004
- Pamlico County Schools African American Educator Award, 2004
- Outstanding Achievement Award for Antioch United Church of Christ, March 2000

- Women of the Millennium Award, February 2000
- New Bern Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Soror of the Quarter, 1999
- Pamlico County Association of Education Office Personnel Boss of the Year, 1994
- Eastern Plains Conference Varsity Cheerleading Coach of the Year, 1990; 1991
- Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities, 1980
- Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, 1979; 1980

**Professional  
References**

Rick Sherrill, Superintendent  
Pamlico County Schools  
507 Anderson Drive  
Bayboro, NC 28515  
252-745-4171

Lieutenant Governor Beverly Perdue  
310 North Blount Street  
20401 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
919-733-7350

Cathy Dunbar, Assistant Superintendent  
Pamlico County Schools  
507 Anderson Drive  
Bayboro, NC 28515  
252-745-4171

Dr. Linda Brunson, Assistant Superintendent  
Clinton City Schools  
606 College Street  
Clinton, NC 28328  
910-592-3132

SPRING 2007

Ferrel Guillory  
4628 Gramercy Court  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609  
Office: (919) 962-5936 / Home: (919) 782-6798

CURRENT:

Director, Program on Public Life, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1997-present. Founded the Program on Public Life, formerly the Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life

Lecturer, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1997-present

Adjunct faculty, Department of Public Policy, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2006-present

Senior Fellow, MDC Inc., a nonprofit research firm specializing in Southern workforce, economic and community development, Chapel Hill, N.C., 1995-present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, Research, teaching and consulting

- 2006-present, Member, Council on the Southern Community, Southern Growth Policies Board, appointed by Governor Mike Easley.
- 2005-06, Consultant, James B. Hunt Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy, Chapel Hill.
- 2001-2, Member, North Carolina Education First Task Force, appointed by Governor Mike Easley
- Spring 2000, James K. Batten Professor of Public Policy, Davidson College.
- 1999-2000, Steering Committee, North Carolina Rural Prosperity Task Force
- 1999, Consultant to N.C. State University on re-designing N.C. Progress Board
- 1997, Consultant, N.C. Progress Board
- 1997-98, Consultant, along with George Autry of MDC, to Louisiana Governor's Office in developing legislation for a new statewide workforce system.
- 1998, Consultant, facilitated meetings of Louisiana commission on community colleges.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, Published writing and reporting

- \* Co-author, along with George Autry, *The Carolinas: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, a book on issues and trends in North Carolina and South Carolina. Published by Duke Press, commissioned by the Duke Endowment, 1999.
- \* Co-author, *The State of the South 2007, 2004, 2002, 2000, 1998, 1996*, a biennial report on regional demographic and economic trends, issued by MDC Inc. (As Writer-in-Residence at MDC in 1995, I had a leading role in conceptualizing and launching of the *State of the South* series.)
- \* Co-author, along with Thad Beyle, professor of political science, of "Profile of North Carolina Senate," a chapter on the 1998 U.S. Senate election in *Outside Money: Soft Money & Issue Ads in Competitive 1998 Congressional Elections*, a report of a campaign finance study funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, 1999.
- \* Co-author, along with George Autry, of a study, funded by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, of the effects on rural communities of changes in the tobacco economy. Results of the study published in various papers, including "The Farmer and the Helicoaster" in *Southern Research Report #10*, in the UNC-Chapel Hill Southern Historical Collection, Spring 1998
- \* Author, "Challenges for the Urbanizing South: A Journalist's View," an essay for the Local Insight series of the Southern Growth Policies Board, February 1989.
- \* Co-editor, along with Thad Beyle, a special collection of essays, *The Culture of Southern Politics*, in the *Southern Cultures* journal, spring 1998. Author of the essay, "A Political Paradox: North Carolina's Twenty-Five Years Under Jim Hunt and Jesse Helms," in the collection.
- \* Author, "Imperatives for Change: The Case for Radically Redesigning Public Education in America," for the Education Commission of the States, MetLife/Pew "Change in Education" series, April 2001.
- \* Writer, "New Traditions: Options for Rural High School Excellence," Southern Governors' Association, September 2004.
- \* Author, "Education Governors for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," a paper for the James B. Hunt Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy, commissioned by The Wallace Foundation, 2005

\* Consulting Writer, "Choices for a New Century," North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, 1999.

\* Chapters in three books:

"David Duke in Southern Context," in *The Emergence of David Duke and the Politics of Race*, edited by Douglas Rose of Tulane University, published by the University of North Carolina Press, 1992

"The New Situation in North Carolina: Republican Governor and Democratic Legislature," in *Politics and Policy in North Carolina*, edited by Thad Beyle and Merle Black, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1975.

"The Politics of Tobacco in North Carolina: A Load Not Easy to be Borne," in *The Tobacco Industry in Transition*, edited by William R. Finger of the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research, Lexington Books, 1981

\* Articles in the following publications:

The Economist

The New Republic

Governing

America (magazine)

Southern Magazine

N.C. Insight

South Today

New South

The Nation

The Progressive

City (magazine)

Southern Voices

Commonweal

The New York Times (Week in Review, Travel, Education, news sections)

The Washington Post (Outlook, news sections)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (Perspective, oped page)

Los Angeles Times (oped page)

Intellectualcapital.com, an on-line magazine

Book Reviews: North Carolina Historical Review, The Journal of Southern History, Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly, Riverside Press-Enterprise

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, Newspaper

Columnist, The News and Observer (1972-94)

- \* Wrote a weekly column of commentary on public issues, governance and politics with a special focus on North Carolina and the South

Southern Correspondent, The News and Observer, Raleigh, N.C. (1992-94)

- \* Reported on trends and developments in public policy and politics in the South
- \* Coordinated newspaper's public opinion surveys

Government Affairs Editor, The News and Observer (1989-92)

- \* Supervised state government and political reporters, and Washington bureau
- \* Devised strategy for reporting presidential and statewide campaigns, as well as legislative sessions and state government issues
- \* Organized daily news report on state public policy and politics

Associate Editor, The News and Observer (1979-88)

- \* Supervised editorial writers, a cartoonist and a copy editor
- \* Participated in setting the newspaper's editorial positions and wrote editorials
- \* Selected and edited daily editorials, letters to the editor and columns for the opinion page

Washington Correspondent, The News and Observer (1977-78)

Chief State Capitol Correspondent, The News and Observer (1972-76)

Reporter, The States-Item, New Orleans, La. (1970-72)

#### ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE, Teaching and lecturing

- "A Conversation with Five Living Governors," N.C. Museum of History, UNC-TV, 1994. Contributed to conceptualizing this event, and served as moderator of the discussion with the current and former governors.
- Moderator, MultiState Textile Summit, Gaston College, March 22, 2002, Participants included Gov. Mike Easley of North Carolina, Gov. Jim Hodges of South Carolina and Gov. Roy Barnes of Georgia.
- Tour Guide, (lecturing on state government, politics, demography, economy) UNC Faculty Bus Tour, 1998-2007
- "Writing for the Media," Seminar in the Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs, Duke University, fall semester 1980 and fall semester 1988
- Radio commentary on campaigns and government, interviews of candidates, WUNC-radio.

- Lectures, Speeches and Panels:

Southern Governors' Association  
 Southern Growth Policies Board  
 Commission on the Future of the South  
 Council of State and Executive Cabinet (invited by Gov. Jim Hunt)  
 Duke University  
 N.C. Wesleyan College  
 Meredith College  
 University of Alabama  
 Davidson College  
 N.C. Council of Churches  
 N.C. Association of County Commissioners  
 N.C. League of Municipalities  
 Johnston County Forum  
 Leadership Alabama  
 Leadership North Carolina  
 Birmingham Civil Rights Institute  
 South Carolina Governor's Rural Summit  
 Tobacco and Health Symposium, Roanoke, Va.  
 Education Policy Fellowship Program, N.C. Public School Forum (annual presentation, 1994-2007)  
 Wildacres Leadership Institute  
 UNC Board of Governors Committees  
 UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Visitors  
 North Carolina State Board of Education  
 UNC Alumni Association (election-year seminars, 2000, 2004, 2006)  
 Southern Rural Development Initiative  
 North Carolina Museum of History, Panel: New Leadership in North Carolina Politics

## EDUCATION

M.S., Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, New York City, 1970

B.A. (magna cum laude), Loyola University New Orleans, 1969

## PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Born March 5, 1947, in Lutchet, La.; hometown Baton Rouge

Married Kathleen Augusta of Baton Rouge; three children, Kristen 36, Lesley 33, Justin 23.



## ORGANIZATIONS (memberships during the period 1978-2007)

Founding Board of Advisers, Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues,  
 University of Kentucky  
 Visiting Committee, Department of Communications, Loyola University, New Orleans  
 Vice Chair, Catholic Campus Ministry Advisory Council, Diocese of Raleigh  
 Board of Advisers, Stateline.org, Pew Center on the States  
 Board of Directors, North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership, University of North  
 Carolina at Wilmington  
 Advisory Board, Executive Seminars, Institute for Humanities and Human Values, UNC-  
 Chapel Hill  
 Chair, Advisory Board, N.C. Catholic (newspaper)  
 Advisory Board, Bishop's Annual Appeal, Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh  
 Member, National Conference of Editorial Writers  
 Board of Directors, Pan Lutheran Ministries, Agape Place, a shelter for homeless families  
 in Raleigh  
 Nominating Committee, Habitat for Humanity, Wake County  
 Board of Directors, Capital City Dance Company  
 Chair of Parish Council, long-range planning, and social concerns committees of Our  
 Lady of Lourdes Parish, Raleigh

Recipient: 1) "Faith Active in Public Life Award," N.C. Council of Churches, 1989.  
 2) "Benemerenti," a papal medal, 2004.  
 3) North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame, April 2007

**Eugene B. "Gene" McLaurin, II**  
**905 Fayetteville Road**  
**Rockingham, NC 28379**  
**910-995-7965**  
[GMcLaurin@carolina.rr.com](mailto:GMcLaurin@carolina.rr.com)

A native of Rockingham and Richmond County, Gene McLaurin has built a successful career in business, community and public service. He was part of the second graduating class at Richmond Senior High School, attended Richmond Technical Institute and then transferred to UNC-Charlotte where he graduated in 1978. McLaurin worked in industrial relations for a management association in Charlotte before returning to Rockingham in 1980 to join Solene Lubricants, Inc. Solene was sold in 1986 to the Pennwalt Corp, which later was acquired by international oil companies Elf Aquitaine and TOTAL. For most of his career, McLaurin was General Manager for TOTAL's Rockingham and Knoxville, Tennessee facilities. In this position, he was responsible for manufacturing, quality, sales and service to customers in the Southeastern United States. In 2007, McLaurin left TOTAL to become General Manager of Swink-Quality Oil Company, a distributor of petroleum products in North and South Carolina.

McLaurin was elected mayor of Rockingham in 1997 and has been reelected 4 times. During his tenure as mayor, Rockingham has gained a positive progressive reputation for open government and efficient and improved public services. The city has developed an industrial park with 4 new tenants, constructed a new city hall and plaza area where community concerts are held and renovated its police and fire departments. In 2006, Rockingham collaborated with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission on the development of a 216 acre park, Hinson Lake, with walking trails, canoeing and fishing available to the public. The city's recreation program has enjoyed substantial growth. A 10 year strategic plan was developed for Rockingham and recommendations are currently being implemented.

McLaurin is a past president of Rockingham Rotary, former chairman of the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce and Richmond County United Way. He served two terms on the Richmond Community College board of trustees where he was chair of the budget and finance committee during the construction of the Cole Performing Arts Center. McLaurin is a former chair of the Richmond County Democratic Party and has served statewide on the NC Governor's Crime Commission. In 2003 McLaurin was elected to the board of Community One Bank (formerly First National Bank) where he is Vice Chair and Chair of the Corporate Governance and Nominating committee. In 2000 Governor Hunt awarded McLaurin the state's highest citizen award, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. The Rockingham Civitan Club named McLaurin citizen of the year in 2002. The McLaurins are active members of First Presbyterian Church of Rockingham where he serves as an elder.

Of all his accomplishments Gene McLaurin is most proud of his family. He and his wife, Donna, have three children. Catherine is a 2005 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and works with Metro Magazine in Raleigh. Anna is a student at Sandhills Community College and Mac is a freshman at UNC Charlotte.