

### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance

May 26, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Live Stream
University of North Carolina System Office
Center for School Leadership Development, Board Room
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

### **AGENDA**

### **OPEN SESSION**

A-1.	Approval of the Open Session Minutes of April 21, 2021	David Powers
A-2.	North Carolina Arboretum Board of Directors Appointments	. David Powers
A-3.	UNC Press Board of Governors Appointments	. David Powers
A-4.	Liability Insurance Trust Fund Council Appointment	. Andrew Tripp
A-5.	2021 Boards of Trustees Selection Process	David Powers
CLOSED	SESSION	
A-6.	Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of April 21, 2021	. David Powers
A-7.	Legal Affairs Report	. Andrew Tripp

### **OPEN SESSION**

A-8. Adjourn

### **Additional Information Available**

**UNC Policy Manual Technical Corrections** 



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance May 26, 2021

### **Closed Session Motion**

### Motion to go into closed session to:

- Prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential under Article 7 of Chapter 126 of the North Carolina General Statutes, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.
- Consult with our attorney to protect attorney-client privilege; and

To consider and give instructions concerning a potential or actual claim, administrative procedure, or judicial action for the following cases:

- Lannan v. University of North Carolina Board of Governors
- Dieckhaus v. University of North Carolina Board of Governors

**Pursuant to:** G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and (3).

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance



### **DRAFT OPEN MINUTES**

April 21, 2021 Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Live Stream University of North Carolina System Office Center for School Leadership Development, Board Room

This meeting of the Committee on University Governance was presided over by Chair David Powers. The following committee members, constituting a quorum, were also present at the meeting: Pearl Burris-Floyd, C. Philip Byers, N. Leo Daughtry, Mark Holton, and Terry Hutchens.

Chancellor Karrie Dixon and Chancellor Philip Rogers also participated via videoconference. Dr. Wesley Burks was not present for this meeting.

Staff members present included Andrew Tripp, Meredith McCullen, and others from the UNC System Office.

### 1. Call to Order and Approval of OPEN Session Minutes (Item A-1)

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., on Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

Chair Powers reminded all members of the committee that the meeting would be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act. The law requires that all votes be taken by a roll-call vote. The chair also reminded committee members of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest. The chair asked if there were any conflicts or appearances of a conflict with respect to any matter coming before the committee. No conflicts were noted by the committee members. Chair Powers stated that he would be recusing himself from voting on the 2021 boards of trustees nominations for East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and that Vice Chair Hutchens would chair the meeting during those two votes.

The chair next called for a motion to approve the open session minutes of February 17, 2021.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the open session minutes of February 17, 2021, as distributed.

Motion: N. Leo Daughtry

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes
Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes

Holton	Yes

### 2. North Carolina Teaching Fellows Commission Appointments (Item A-2)

The chair provided background information to the committee on the two partial-term nominations to the NC Teaching Fellows Commission as well as the roles, responsibilities, and duties of the commission.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve Item A-2 and recommend it to the full Board of Governors for a vote.

Motion: Mark Holton
Motion carried

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes
Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes
Holton	Yes

### 3. 2021 Boards of Trustees Selection Process (Item A-3)

The chair began the next item on the agenda by briefly explaining that every two years, half of the Board of Governors-appointed positions on boards of trustees require either new appointments or reappointments. The Committee on University Governance, working with the institutions and the members of the Board of Governors, identifies candidates, reviews candidates, and makes recommendations to the full Board of Governors for election. The chair explained that the vote on the slate of nominees would be by institution and each campus liaison would be given a moment to speak to the slate of nominations.

The chair next invited Mr. Byers to speak on the four nominees for the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at Appalachian State University.

Motion: C. Philip Byers

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

Chair Powers, as liaison to Elizabeth City State University, explained that for this meeting two partial-term appointments would be considered for approval. The other three slate of nominees will be voted on at the committee's next meeting.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the two nominees for partial terms at Elizabeth City State University.

**Motion:** David Powers **Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

The chair next called on Mr. Daughtry to speak on the four nominees for the Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at Fayetteville State University.

Motion: N. Leo Daughtry

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

Following Mr. Daughtry, Chair Powers called on Ms. Burris-Floyd to speak on the four nominees for the North Carolina Central University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at North Carolina Central University.

Motion: Pearl Burris-Floyd

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes
Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes
Holton	Yes

Ms. Burris-Floyd next spoke on the four nominees for the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at North Carolina A&T State University.

Motion: Pearl Burris-Floyd

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

Chair Powers next called on Mr. Hutchens to speak on the four nominees for the North Carolina State University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at NC State University.

**Motion:** Terry Hutchens

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

The chair called on Mr. Holton to speak on the four nominees for the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC Charlotte.

Motion: Mark Holton Motion carried

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

The chair called on Mr. Hutchens to speak on the four nominees for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC Greensboro.

**Motion:** Terry Hutchens

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

The chair, as liaison to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, spoke on the four nominees for the UNC Pembroke Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC Pembroke.

**Motion:** David Powers

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes
Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes
Holton	Yes

The chair called on Mr. Holton to speak on the four nominees for the University of North Carolina School of the Arts Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC School of the Arts.

Motion: Mark Holton Motion carried

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

Mr. Holton next spoke on the four nominees for the University of North Carolina School Wilmington Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC Wilmington.

Motion: Mark Holton
Motion carried

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

The chair called on Mr. Byers to speak on the four nominees for the Western Carolina University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at Western Carolina University.

Motion: C. Philip Byers

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes

Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes
Holton	Yes

Mr. Byers next spoke on the four nominees for the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at Winston-Salem State University.

Motion: C. Philip Byers

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote	
Powers	Yes
Hutchens	Yes
Byers	Yes
Burris-Floyd	Yes
Daughtry	Yes
Holton	Yes

Chair Powers next recused himself and called on Mr. Hutchens to chair consideration of the nominees for the boards of trustees at East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mr. Hutchens spoke on the four nominees for the East Carolina University Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at East Carolina University.

**Motion:** Terry Hutchens

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Recused	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

Mr. Hutchens next spoke on the four nominees at UNC-Chapel Hill. Board member Art Pope asked to speak and expressed concerns regarding candidate Mr. Malcolm Turner. After a brief discussion, Mr. Pope requested that the vote on the candidates for the Board of Trustees at UNC-Chapel Hill be considered separately by the full Board at its meeting on May 27, 2021.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on University Governance approve the slate of four nominees at UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Motion:** Terry Hutchens

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Recused	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

### 4. Closed Session

Chair Powers returned to the room and called on Mr. Byers for the closed session motion. Mr. Byers moved that the committee go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential under Article 7 of Chapter 126 of the North Carolina General Statutes, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes; to consult with our attorney to protect attorney-client privilege; and to consider and give instructions concerning a potential or actual claim, administrative procedure, or judicial action for the following cases: *Kadel, et al. v. Folwell, et al.; Staton v. ECU; Wagner v. Carcaño, et al. v. McCrory, et al.*, and *Kadel, et al. v. Folwell, et al.* Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and (3).

Motion: C. Philip Byers

**Motion carried** 

Roll Call Vote		
Powers	Yes	
Hutchens	Yes	
Byers	Yes	
Burris-Floyd	Yes	
Daughtry	Yes	
Holton	Yes	

### THE MEETING MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:59 A.M.

(The complete minutes of the closed session are recorded separately.)

5.	. <b>Adjourn.</b> There being no further business and without objection, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.		

C. Philip Byers, Secretary



### **AGENDA ITEM**

A-2. The North Carolina Arboretum Board of Directors Appointments....... David Powers

Situation: The North Carolina Arboretum has four vacancies on its board of directors for a

term ending June 30, 2025.

Background: The NC Arboretum Board of Directors has 17 members, with eight appointed by

the Board of Governors. Terms are for four years and an individual may be reelected for successive terms with a service limit of two full terms. There are four members of the current board who are rotating off as of June 30, 2021, and who are not eligible for reappointment. The committee is being asked to appoint four

new members to the NC Arboretum Board of Directors.

**Assessment:** Janet A. Leath, Karen LeVert, Leah McGrath, and Rodney Swink are recommended

for the appointments. Biographical information is included in the materials.

**Action:** This item requires a vote by the committee and a vote by the full Board of

Governors.

#### Janet A. Leath

Janet Leath has had a life-long passion for horticulture which she maintained during a successful business career. She is a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Delaware with a degree in plant science.

Leath owned and operated her own State Farm Insurance Agency in Garner, NC, for 21 years before becoming the first lady of Iowa State University and then Auburn University. During her time in North Carolina, she developed a multiacre botanic garden at her home south of Raleigh and at the request of David Murdock designed the landscapes for the core of the North Carolina research campus in Kannapolis, NC, and oversaw the installation. At Iowa State and Auburn, she became engaged in a variety of campus-beautification projects and was actively involved in building relationships with university stakeholders. At Iowa State she served on the board of directors of the Youth and Shelter Services Foundation, the Reiman Gardens Master Plan Committee, the Iowa Art in State Buildings Committee, the Jack Trice Stadium Greenspace Committee, and on the Iowa Nursery & Landscape Research Corporation. At Auburn, she assumed a major role in a total remodel and addition of the president's mansion and grounds. She served on the Association of American Universities Partners Membership and Executive Committees. Leath also has considerable philanthropic experience and served on the Women and Philanthropy Committee at Iowa State and the Performing Arts Center fundraising committee at Auburn University.

She served as an active member and president of The Triangle Bonsai Society and chairperson of the Triangle Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

#### **Karen LeVert**

Karen LeVert is a venture partner at Pappas Capital with plans to launch an AgTech fund focused on early stage ventures as part of their Specialized Funds. She has a long history of commercializing early stage technologies from university research labs and launching them into the marketplace. These commercialization efforts were realized via innovation labs she co-founded and led: Southeast TechInventures (STI) for medical technologies and Ag TechInventures (AgTI) for agriculture.

LeVert's business experience encompasses both corporate and entrepreneurial worlds with over twenty-five years of successful leadership experience in executive management, start-ups, and technology commercialization. She started her career at Nationwide Insurance holding positions of increasing responsibility from computer programmer, to controller, to general manager of a 500-person property & casualty service center. Before founding the innovation labs, her first entrepreneurial venture was launching a franchise bioremediation company that she later sold. Her next entrepreneurial venture was co-founding a Silicon Valley-based software company that led the industry in automating athletic scouting.

LeVert earned an master's in business administration from the University of Dayton and an information technology undergraduate degree from Eastern Michigan University while being a varsity basketball letter winner. Along with her professional duties, she serves as a board member for several entities: North Carolina Biotechnology Center; Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina; North Carolina School of Science and Math; NC IDEA Foundation; and LCBA Life Insurance Company.

#### Leah McGrath

Leah McGrath began her career in nutrition serving as an officer and dietitian in the U.S Army. She also worked briefly in public health as a WIC (Women, Infants and Children) dietitian and supervisor for the Low Country Health District in South Carolina. Since 2000, McGrath has been the corporate dietitian for Ingles Market and has implemented various programs for the retailer including their social media presence, a local food and vendor initiative, and various events for the gluten-free and celiac customer.

McGrath appears regularly on regional television with nutrition- and food- related messages, hosts a weekly radio program, writes for several regional publications, and speaks to groups regularly on topics related to food, social media, and nutrition. In 2014, McGrath started Buildup Dietitians to provide encouragement to registered dietitians and nutrition students. The initial Facebook page has become a global social media presence with involvement of dietitians around the world.

McGrath holds a bachelor's in speech communication from West Chester University and a bachelor's in human nutrition from the University of Maryland. McGrath did her dietetic internship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and also did coursework towards an mater's in marketing at Webster University.

#### **Rodney Swink**

Rodney Swink is a licensed landscape architect and professor of the practice in the Landscape Architecture Program at North Carolina State University College of Design. In private practice, Swink is senior associate for Planning and Development with PlaceEconomics, a Washington, D.C.-based real estate and economic development consulting firm that specializes in services to public and nonprofit-sector clients who are dealing with downtown and neighborhood commercial district revitalization and the reuse of historic structures. He also works in the firm's international arm, Heritage Strategies, International, providing services to governments and non-governmental organizations at the intersection of economics and heritage conservation.

Active in community development throughout his career, Swink directed the North Carolina Main Street program for 24 years and he knows first-hand the issues facing not only cities and towns but also community organizations concerned about growth and development. He has provided consulting services and guidance to communities and organizations throughout the United States as well as in Bolivia, Chile, China, Saudi Arabia, and Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Swink served as president of the American Society of Landscape Architects and chair of the Council of Fellows. He is active in many professional and community-based organizations, currently serving as chair of the City of Raleigh Board of Adjustment, having recently completed terms as chair of the City of Raleigh Planning Commission and the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. He was also chairman of the Board for Preservation North Carolina and chair of the JC Raulston Arboretum Board of Advisors. Swink served on the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation board for three terms.

Rodney Swink has won numerous state and national awards for his leadership and public service, including the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) President's Medal and the ASLA LaGasse Medal in recognition of management and conservation of natural resources and public landscapes. An adjunct faculty member of the NCSU College of Design since 1997, Swink is a 2004 recipient of the college's "Wings on Wings" award and was recognized as its 2004 Distinguished Alumnus. He also sits on the College of Design Leaders' Council. Active in the Urban Land Institute, he is also a member of the American Planning Association, National Trust Preservation Forum, and North Carolina Partners of the Americas. He holds a bachelor's in economics and an master's of landscape architecture from North Carolina State University.



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance May 26, 2021

### **AGENDA ITEM**

Situation: UNC Press currently has three vacancies on its board of governors with five-year terms

beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2026. For this meeting, the committee will

consider nominees to fill two of the three vacancies.

**Background:** The UNC Press Board of Governors has 15 elected members who serve five-year terms

and may be re-elected for successive terms up to a service limit of three full terms. Fourteen of the current members actively hold academic positions at universities, including Appalachian State University, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

According to its bylaws, the UNC Press Board of Governors creates a nominating committee and submits a slate to the chancellor of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who transmits it to the president of the UNC System, who presents it to the

Board of Governors.

Assessment: Following the recommendation of UNC Press and UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor

Guskiewicz, President Hans nominates for reappointment Elizabeth Engelhardt and Linda Hanley-Bowdoin. Biographical information for each is included in the materials.

**Action:** This item requires a vote by the committee and a vote by the full Board of Governors.

### Elizabeth S. D. Engelhardt

Elizabeth S. D. Engelhardt is the John Shelton Reed Distinguished Professor of Southern Studies and the senior associate dean for Fine Arts and Humanities at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her most recent book is "The Food We Eat, the Stories We Tell: Contemporary Appalachian Tables (2019)." She is also the author of "A Mess of Greens," "The Larder," and "Republic of Barbecue;" she is currently working on a book about the lost stories of southern boardinghouses. She also co-directs the Southern Futures Initiative at UNC-Chapel Hill.

### Linda Hanley-Bowdoin

Linda Hanley-Bowdoin is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry, Genetics, and Plant Biology at North Carolina State University. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry, summa cum laude, from the University of California-Riverside and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 1971. After pursuing research in mammalian systems at Harvard and Johns Hopkins medical schools, she began her research career in plant molecular biology as a Connaught Fellow at the University of Toronto, earning an Master of Science degree in biochemistry in 1980. She continued her graduate studies at the Rockefeller University in New York City and received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in molecular biology in 1986. She then joined the research staff at Monsanto Company in 1987 before coming to NC State as an assistant professor in 1990.

Hanley-Bowdoin is currently a principal investigator on multiple National Science Foundation (NSF) grants that focus on nuclear processes during the plant cell cycle and in response to viral pathogenesis. She was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and awarded the NC State Distinguished Alumni Research Award for her research using geminiviruses as models for plant DNA replication, transcription and cell cycle regulation. She has been a member of numerous NSF and USDA grant review panels and the editorial board of the *Journal of Virology*. She is a past associate editor for *Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions* and an active associate editor for *Plant Molecular Biology*.



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance May 26, 2021

### **AGENDA ITEM**

Situation: The Board of Governors established the Liability Insurance Trust Fund (LITF) in 1978 and

makes appointments to the Liability Insurance Trust Fund Council that administers the fund as part of the UNC Health Care System. UNC Health requests the appointment of

Will Bryant, chief financial officer of UNC Hospitals, to the LITF Council.

**Background:** Chapter 116, Article 26, of the North Carolina General Statutes empowered the Board

of Governors to authorize the creation of self-insurance trusts to provide individual health care practitioners with coverage against claims of personal tort liability based on conduct within the course and scope of health care functions undertaken by such individuals as employees, agents, or officers of any constituent institution of the University, and any health care institution affiliated with the University. The Board of Governors established the Liability Insurance Trust Fund (Trust Fund) as an unincorporated entity through a resolution adopted on June 9, 1978, to provide professional medical malpractice liability covering the University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill (the hospitals) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Faculty Physicians (the faculty practice plan for the School of Medicine). The Trust Fund provides coverage for program participants and individual health care practitioners working as employees, agents, or officers of program participants. The Trust Fund is exempt from federal and state income taxes, and is not subject to regulation by the North Carolina Department of Insurance. Coverage is self-funded by contributions from participating entities and investment income. Contributions are based on the actuarially determined funding level for a given plan year. The Trust Fund is administered by the Liability Insurance Trust Fund Council, which is composed of not more than 13 members. The attorney general, the insurance commissioner, the director of the Office of State Budget and Management, and the state treasurer appoint one member each. The

remaining nine members are appointed by the Board of Governors.

**Assessment:** With the approval of the Board of Governors, Will Bryant will replace the former UNC

Hospitals CFO, Chris Ellington, on the LITF Council. Biographical information is included

in the materials.

**Action:** This item requires a vote by the committee and a vote by the full Board of Governors.

### Will Bryant

Will Bryant serves as the associate chief financial officer for the UNC Health Care system and the chief financial officer for UNC Hospitals. In his current role, Bryant is accountable for the financial performance of UNC Health's owned entities, comprised of an academic medical center, a network of four community hospitals, and an integrated multispecialty physician practice. Bryant has been with UNC Health Care since 2016 and has served in several CFO positions during his tenure. He is a 2006 graduate of North Carolina State University.



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Committee on University Governance May 26, 2021

### **AGENDA ITEM**

Situation: Every two years, one-half of the Board of Governors-appointed board of trustee

positions require either new appointments or reappointments.

Background: The Committee on University Governance, working with the institutions and the

members of the Board of Governors, identifies candidates, reviews candidates, and makes recommendations to the full Board of Governors for election. At the April meeting, the committee approved appointments to the boards of trustees for Appalachian State University, East Carolina, two partial-term appointments for Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Western

Carolina University, and Winston-Salem State University.

**Assessment:** To complete the appointments for 2021, the committee will consider candidates for the

boards of trustees of Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, and the University of North Carolina at Asheville. The list of

candidates is attached along with their biographical information.

**Action:** This item requires a vote by the committee and a vote by the full Board of Governors.

# May 2021 Boards of Trustees Appointments and Reappointments

Name Current Board Notes
Member

### **Elizabeth City State University**

Phyllis N. Bosomworth	Yes	
Stephen Friedrich	Yes	
Stephanie D.B. Johnson	Yes	
•		
Tiffany Jones	No	

### **North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics**

Warwick Arden	Yes	UNC Institution Provost, Ex-Officio Appointment
		,
Stephanie Bass	Yes	Congressional District 7
Eric J. Bergevin	No	Bd. mem. of the NC of. of Com. of Banks; Cong. Dist. 3
Garikai Campbell	No	UNC Provost, Ex Officio Appointment
Michelle Ellwanger	No	Congressional District 10
Genevia Fulbright	Yes	Congressional District 4
Christina Hammock Koch	No	No residency required.
Sally Kornbluth	Yes	Private NC Inst. Provost, Ex-Officio Appointment
Erin Locklear	No	No residency required.
Beryl McEwen	Yes	NC Institution Provost, Ex-Officio Appointment
Scott Millar	No	Congressional District 5
Ursula Dudley Oglesby	No	Congressional District 6
Nathan Ramsey	Yes	Off-cycle appt., term ends 6.30.23, Cong. redistricting; C.D. 11
Ray V. Spain	No	Congressional District 1
Erik Troan	Yes	Off-cycle appt., term ends 6.30.23, Cong. redistricting; C.D. 2

**Current Board Member** 

**Notes** 

### **University of North Carolina at Asheville**

Karen K. Brown	Yes	
Stephen G. De May	No	
George Groome	No	
Patrice A. Harris	No	

### **2021** Board of Trustees Nominations – May Meeting

### **Elizabeth City State University**

### Phyllis N. Bosomworth

Phyllis N. Bosomworth is a native of North Carolina. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in political science. Her designations include Certified Residential Specialist, Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager, Accredited Buyer Representative, and Senior Real Estate Specialist. She is a seasoned veteran in the real estate business with Long and Foster. She is active in the Local Realtors Association, having served as past president of the board.

Bosomworth believes in giving back in order to preserve the beauty of the region and the people that live in it. Bosomworth serves on the Foundation Board for the College of the Albemarle, Rotary Club of Elizabeth City, Albemarle Literary Guild, and the Advisory Board for Albemarle Hopeline. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church, and previously served as president of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Stephen Friedrich**

Stephen Friedrich is the chief commercial officer for Embraer Executive Jets, and has a history of success working in the aviation and aerospace industry. He currently serves as the chief commercial officer, tasked to deliver innovative products and service solutions with superior value to customers in the business aviation market. In his present role, he oversees sales, client and industry relations, and business development for a company that prides itself on manufacturing internet-enabled "flying offices" to facilitate increased production among executives of Fortune 500 companies and managers of middle-market firms.

Prior to joining Embraer, Friedrich led global sales efforts and marketing activities at Rolls-Royce Civil Aerospace Business Aviation as the company's vice president of Sales and Marketing. His previous banking and aviation finance experience include key leadership positions as vice president at Summit Bank of New Jersey and assistant vice president at United Jersey Bank. Friedrich has a BA in economics and business from Lafayette College, and an MBA from New York University.

#### Stephanie D.B. Johnson

Stephanie D.B. Johnson is the coordinator of the MA Program in Educational Leadership at Hampton University, College of Virginia Beach. She is the Mid-Atlantic regional director of the Elizabeth City State University National Alumni Association and a 1974 graduate of ECSU. Johnson also holds an MS in elementary education from Old Dominion University, a Certificate of Advanced Studies in elementary education from Old Dominion University and a doctorate in administration and policy from The George Washington University.

### **Tiffany Jones**

Tiffany Jones leads the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's team responsible for using postsecondary data, measurement, learning, and evaluation to help reach the Postsecondary Success strategy's goals of dramatically increasing student success and advancing racial and socioeconomic justice.

Prior to joining the foundation, Jones led the higher education teams at The Education Trust and the Southern Education Foundation (SEF), where she promoted policies to improve college opportunity and affordability and partnered with Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions,

and Community Colleges to advance student success. Prior to SEF, Jones was a dean's fellow at the Center for Urban Education at the University of Southern California, where she helped advance the equity scorecard for minority-serving institutions and urban high schools. She uses research to advance solutions to higher education's most pressing equity problems, and in her book *Can Equity be Bought? Outcomes Based Funding for Racial Equity*, she introduces a framework for prioritizing racial equity in higher education accountability systems. She is a leading voice on issues like free college, higher education attainment, and student debt. She has supported coalitions across the nation, partnering with experts on postsecondary education and intersecting issues like criminal justice, student activism, and immigration. She has been published by *CNN* and *The New York Times* and is a regular contributor to national news stories on equity and higher education from outlets like *NPR*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Atlantic*. She holds a Ph.D. in Urban Education Policy from the University of Southern California, a master's degree in Higher Education Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a bachelor's degree in Family Studies and English from Central Michigan University.

### **North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics**

### **Warwick Arden**

Warwick Arden is North Carolina State University's executive chancellor and provost and has been in the position since December 2010. From July 2014 to February 2015, Arden concurrently served as interim senior vice president for the University of North Carolina System. Previously, Arden served as interim provost since 2009, and as dean of NC State's College of Veterinary Medicine from 2004 to 2009. As provost, he is NC State's chief academic officer and collaborates with vice provosts, executive officers, college deans, and others in the administration of all academic and student affairs. He has led numerous key campus initiatives, including the development and implementation of "The Pathway to the Future: NC State's 2011-2020 Strategic Plan," along with the university's recent reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Arden received a Bachelor of Science in veterinary sciences (DVM equivalent) and a diploma of veterinary clinical studies from the University of Sydney, Australia; an MS in physiology from Michigan State University; and a Ph.D. in physiology and biophysics from the University of Kentucky. He has extensive experience in veterinary surgery, having served as department head and professor for the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; associate professor of surgery and physiology and director of the Surgical Research Program at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine; and as assistant professor of surgery at both the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Arden has led a National Institutes of Health-funded vascular biology research program and has published more than 100 scientific articles, abstracts and book chapters. He has given approximately 60 scientific and invited presentations and has been a visiting professor at nine institutes. Arden has also maintained an active interest in educational research. He is a member of several professional veterinary organizations and served as president of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

### **Stephanie Bass**

Stephanie McLellan Bass, a native of Lumberton, graduated from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in 1991 as part of the tenth graduating class. She then earned a BS in business administration from Northeastern University, graduating summa cum laude. After graduation, she returned to North Carolina to begin her career in financial services. A financial advisor for over twenty years, Stephanie Is a private wealth financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors in Raleigh, NC, where she develops, implements and manages financial plans for successful individuals and families. Bass, who is a certified financial planner professional as well as a certified financial wealth advisor designee, was recognized as a Best-In-

State Wealth Advisor by Forbes in 2020 and as a Top Wealth Advisor Mom by Working Mother magazine in 2019.

Bass is committed to giving back to the community, and in honor of her grandparents, established the Baker Endowment for Nursing Excellence at Southeastern Health, Lumberton, NC, which provides annual continuing education for the nursing staff as well as recognition of a Baker Nurse of the Year. Bass serves on the Finance Committee of Dress for Success of the Triangle, an organization that supports women entering and re-entering the workforce. Bass was appointed to the NC School of Science and Mathematics Board of Trustees in 2017.

### Eric J. Bergevin

Eric J. Bergevin Eric is both president and CEO of West Town Bank & Trust and its parent company, Integrated Financial Holdings, Inc. ("IFH" formerly known as West Town Bancorp, Inc). In his roles, Bergevin establishes the overall vision and strategic direction of IFH and all of its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Bergevin is a member of the North Carolina State Banking Commission which supervises, directs, and reviews the activities of the Office of the Commissioner of Banks and serves as a member of the Board of Directors at Dogwood State Bank. Bergevin's prior experiences include advisory board member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, CEO of Morehead City-based Sound Bank, president and CEO of New Vision Mortgage, president of Anova Financial Corporation, and senior vice president and chief operating officer of OBA Bank. Bergevin earned a BA and MA in business from the University of Alabama.

### **Genevia Gee Fulbright**

Genevia Gee Fulbright has been engaged in the financial services community for over 30 years. She currently serves as president and chief operating officer of Fulbright & Fulbright, CPA, PA., and enjoys serving her unique clients from athletes to attorneys; educators to emergency room physicians; movie directors to microbiologists; restaurant operators to real estate brokers, and many others. With Fulbright's diverse training and experience as an accountant, board and business advisor, she is a strategic thinker with the ability to understand the perspectives of a cross section of stakeholders. Fulbright earned a BS from San Francisco State University.

### **Garikai Campbell**

Garikai Campbell joined the University of North Carolina at Asheville as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs in June 2019. Prior to joining UNC Asheville, Campbell was provost and dean at Knox College. He also previously served as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, and as associate dean for academic affairs at Swarthmore College.

Campbell received his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Swarthmore, where he was a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow and an Academic All-American wrestler. He returned to Swarthmore as a Consortium for Faculty Diversity Fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and upon completion of his PhD in mathematics from Rutgers University, earned an appointment to the faculty. While at Swarthmore, Campbell held several leadership positions, including associate dean for academic affairs, acting dean of students, and associate vice president for strategic planning and special assistant to the president.

In 2013, Campbell was appointed provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Morehouse, where he facilitated the first change to the general education program in nearly three decades, enhanced the culture of shared governance, and reshaped the academic leadership. He played an instrumental role

in securing resources for academic programs and broader institutional needs, including a \$2.5 million gift to support STEM programs; a \$1.2 million grant from the Gates Foundation to develop and evaluate innovative student success initiatives; and a \$1.25 million Lilly Endowment grant to strengthen career pathways for students through improved curricular and co-curricular programming, structured internship opportunities, and enhanced advising.

Campbell's work in his field of mathematics has focused predominantly on exploring particular properties of elliptic curves and exploiting those properties to solve select problems in number theory. He is the recipient of many awards for his teaching and research, including the Minority Graduate Fellowship from the National Science Foundation; the Lindback Minority Junior Faculty Grant; the Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship; and the Henry Alder Award for Distinguished Teaching from the Mathematical Association of America.

He is also recognized for his innovative work to shape programs designed to engage and retain students underrepresented in STEM disciplines. In particular, he has worked with the Professional Development Program at the University of California, Berkeley to increase enrollment and improve the success of African American, Latinx, and Native American students in graduate mathematics programs; helped design and administer alternative assessments for the Vanguard Scholarship Program of the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME); and taught and consulted for the Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE) Program to strengthen women's success in graduate mathematics programs. In addition, he has served on the advisory boards for the *Math is Power* and *Figure This!* campaigns, promoting math and science literacy to elementary and middle school-aged children and their parents. In addition, he has served as a Scholar in Residence at the New York University Tisch School of the Arts in the Interactive Telecommunications Program, where he investigated, wrote, and served as a thought partner on topics at the intersection of technology, identity, art, and higher education.

### Michelle Ellwanger

Michelle Ellwanger lives and works in Hickory, NC. Her formal education includes a BS in psychology from Virginia Tech and an MA in counseling from Appalachian State University. She is a licensed professional counselor (LPC), a nationally certified counselor (NCC), and a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA). Michelle's diverse counseling experience has been in multiple settings including private practice, public and continuing education, programing for under-privileged youth, and prison ministry.

Ellwanger focuses on being an executive coach, training facilitator and public speaker. She is a founding member for Board Certified Coaching (BCC) and belongs to the International Coach Federation (ICF). Her specialty areas include conscious leadership, emotional intelligence and personal strategy. In addition to working directly with clients, Ellwanger provides staff development, motivational speaking and intensive retreats for individuals and companies seeking wellness.

### **Christina Hammock Koch**

Christina Hammock was selected as an astronaut by NASA in 2013 and completed training in 2015. She most recently served as flight engineer on the International Space Station for Expeditions 59, 60, and 61. Koch set a record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman with a total of 328 days in space.

Prior to becoming an astronaut, Koch's career spanned two general areas: space science instrument development and remote scientific field engineering. Her career began as an electrical engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics, where she contributed to scientific instruments on several NASA space science missions. Koch then became a research associate

in the United States Antarctic Program from 2004 to 2007, which included a yearlong stay w at the Admunsen-Scott South Pole Station and a season at Palmer Station. While in this role, she served as a member of the Firefighting and Search and Rescue Teams. From 2007 to 2009, Koch returned to space science instrument development as an electrical engineer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics laboratory's Space Department. In 2010, Koch returned to remote scientific field work with tours including Palmer Station in Antarctica and multiple winter seasons at Summit Station in Greenland. In 2012, Koch continued work at remote scientific bases with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) where she served as a field engineer at NOAA's Global Monitoring Division Baseline Observatory in Utqiagvik, Alaska, and then as station chief of the American Samoa Observatory. Throughout her career, she was involved in in technical instructing, volunteer tutoring, and educational outreach.

Koch attended North Carolina State University, where she earned a BS in electrical engineering, a BS in physics, and an MS in electrical engineering. Koch also attended high school at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and received an honorary Ph.D. from NC State University in 2020.

### **Sally Kornbluth**

Sally Kornbluth was appointed Duke University Provost on July 1, 2014, and reappointed to a second five-year term to begin July 1, 2019. Kornbluth served as vice dean for Basic Science at Duke University School of Medicine from 2006-14. In this role, she served as a liaison between the dean's office and the Basic Science Department chairs and faculty, including oversight of the biomedical graduate programs in the School of Medicine, implementation of programs to support the research mission of the basic science faculty, and oversight of new and existing core laboratories.

Kornbluth received a BA in political science from Williams College and a BS in genetics from Cambridge University, England where she was a Herchel Smith Scholar at Emmanuel College. She received her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University in molecular oncology and went on to postdoctoral training at the University of California, San Diego. She joined the Duke faculty in 1994 and is currently the Jo Rae Wright University Professor.

Kornbluth's research interests include the study of cell proliferation and programmed cell death, areas of central importance for understanding both carcinogenesis and degenerative disorders. She has published extensively in these areas, studying these problems in a variety of model organisms.

#### **Erin Locklear**

Locklear is from Fairmont, in Robeson County, NC, where her mother and father still live in the house where she grew up. Erin is a member of the Lumbee Tribe and attended Fairmont Elementary, Middle, and High Schools before graduating from the NC School of Science and Math in 1993. Erin has an AB in sociology from Princeton University, cum laude, and a JD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law.

Locklear is general counsel for the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority, which operates the RDU International Airport. In that role, she provides legal advice on matters involving the airport and the authority. Her areas of practice include state and federal legal and regulatory compliance, land use, employment, airline and concessions agreements, public art, ground transportation, contracts, and first amendment issues. Locklear also manages the procurement, FAA civil rights, business diversity, ADA, risk management, and safety functions.

Locklear has been a part of the Airport Authority since 2007. Prior to that, she practiced law with Newsom Graham then Kennon Craver, two law firms in Durham, NC. While attending law school, she also gained

experience working with North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services and Triangle Residential Options for Substance Abusers (TROSA).

### **Beryl McEwen**

Beryl McEwen is the provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. McEwen's responsibilities include reviewing, evaluating, and recommending changes in academic policies and programs.

A recognized leader in business, strategic planning, academic accreditation, and classroom teaching, McEwen has served in multiple roles at North Carolina A&T over the past 23 years, including chair of the Department of Business Education, vice provost for strategic planning and institutional effectiveness, dean of the College of Business and Economics, and most recently, interim provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs.

As dean, McEwen managed a business college that serves more than 1,400 undergraduate and graduate students. Under her leadership, the college earned reaffirmation of its accreditation and successfully launched both the MBA and MBA Online programs. Her work has been recognized by such organizations as the National Business Education Association, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Business Education Hall of Fame, and the Triad Business Journal, which honored her with an Outstanding Women in Business Award in 2017.

McEwen holds a bachelor's degree in business education from the University of Technology, Jamaica, and a master's degree and doctorate in business education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

### **Scott Millar**

Scott Millar has served the Catawba County Economic Development Corporation since 1993 and as its president since November 1997, resulting in new investments of over \$6 billion dollars and more than 8,000 jobs being announced during that time. He is a current member of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance board of directors, the current chair of the Alliance Economic Developer's Advisory Council, a member of the Economic Development Partnership of NC's Advisory Council, and is past president of the North Carolina Economic Developer's Association. He was named NCEDA's Economic Developer of the year in 2009-10 and has served on the North Carolina Economic Development Board. Millar received the professional designation of Certified Economic and Community Developer in 1996. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee.

### **Ursula Dudley Oglesby**

Ursula Dudley Oglesby is president and recruiter-in-chief of Dudley Beauty Corp. LLC. Oglesby is a well-respected business leader and humanitarian. As part of the second generation of Dudley, she has taken the responsibility of catapulting the Dudley company and the Dudley brand. Oglesby is responsible for developing and executing all of the company's long-term growth strategies, launching new brand initiatives, recruiting, and defining Dudley as the premier beauty company for the multi-cultural market. Oglesby received a BA in psychology from Harvard College and JD from Harvard Law School.

#### **Nathan Ramsey**

Nathan Ramsey is the director of the Mountain View Area Workforce Development Board with Land of Sky Regional Council, serving Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties. Prior to the director role, Ramsey was a business services representative for the North Carolina Department of Commerce. Ramsey served in the North Carolina General Assembly, representing House District 115 from

2013-14, and as chairman of the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners from 2000-08. Ramsey grew up in Buncombe County and is a graduate of UNC Asheville and the University of Tennessee College of Law. Ramsey is currently a member of the NC State Bar.

### Ray V. Spain

Ray V. Spain is a retired educator with over 45 years of public school experience. He has extensive experience with innovative programs and educational initiatives in North Carolina public schools and has served in many positions that include teacher assistant, teacher, program coordinator, and principal. He began his district administrative work as assistant superintendent in Bertie County, associate superintendent in Lenoir County, and superintendent in Petersburg, VA, and Warren County, NC.

Spain has received many recognitions during his tenure as a superintendent. Honors include the Central RESA 2006 Superintendent of the Year and induction in the East Carolina University Educator's Hall of Fame. He served in leadership positions on several Advisory Boards including Teach for America, NC Virtual Public Schools, NC New Schools Project, and the East Carolina University College of Education Professional Advisory Board.

Spain holds a doctor of education degree from Virginia Tech University, a master's degree in school administration from North Carolina Central University, and a bachelor's degree in history from North Carolina Wesleyan College.

#### **Erik Troan**

Erik Troan is founder and chief technology officer of Pendo.io, Inc., a venture-backed software company designed to help companies measure and elevate customer experience within their applications. Troan was the first engineer at Red Hat who built and led the engineering team through Red Hat's public offering. He later led product-marketing at Red Hat before founding rPath, another venture-backed company which created the virtual appliance concept and developed automation technology around virtual machine deployment and management.

After graduating from the NC School of Science and Mathematics in 1991, Troan went onto North Carolina State University where he received his BS in computer science and computer engineering. Troan received his MA in economics from the University of Virginia in 2003.

### **University of North Carolina at Asheville**

### Ms. Karen K. Brown

Karen K. Brown is a proud alumna of UNC Asheville, having graduated in 1981 with a BA degree in fine art. Brown is a full-time artist specializing in landscape oil paintings and her studio, Pink Dog Creative, is located in the Asheville River Arts District. She enjoys connecting UNC Asheville arts students and faculty with the downtown Asheville art community and hosting alumni studio art strolls.

Originally from New Jersey and raised in Western North Carolina, Karen has been a professional artist for over 30 years. She has experience in commercial art and as an art teacher in the school system for over 10 years. She has participated in numerous art exhibitions around the country, with her art work in private and cooperate collections throughout the United States. Her artwork was recently purchased for the main lobby at the Mission Health hospital, North Tower, in Asheville, NC.

As an active member in her community, Brown donates her art work to many local charities, serves as an advisor on the Asheville Area Arts Council Board, Collectors Circle member of the Asheville Art Museum,

The Downtown Gallery Association, and River Arts District Artists (RADA). Her passion is working with Arts for Life, a non-profit supporting children and families with art programs that encourage the spirit of children dealing with serious illnesses. Karen received the National Alumni Thomas D. Reynolds award in 2019 from the UNC Asheville National Alumni Board.

#### Stephen G. De May

Stephen De May is the North Carolina president of Duke Energy, serving approximately 3.4 million electric retail customers and 746,000 natural gas customers. He is responsible for the financial performance of Duke Energy's regulated utilities in North Carolina and managing state and local regulatory and government relations, and community affairs. He also has responsibility for advancing the company's rate and regulatory initiatives, water strategy, hydroelectric licensing and lake services. De May previously served as senior vice president, tax, and treasurer for Duke Energy, He joined the company in 1990 as a director of the company's former real estate development business, Crescent Resources, where he had responsibility for managing the finance and accounting functions. Before joining Duke Energy, De May worked in the tax practices of Deloitte & Touche and Price Waterhouse in Raleigh and Charlotte.

De May graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a BA degree in political science and an MBA from the McColl Graduate School of Business at Queens University of Charlotte. He is a certified public accountant in North Carolina. In 2010, he completed the Advanced Management Program at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

### **George Groome**

George Groom is the former president and CEO, and now board chair, of Colton Groome & Company, a financial advisory firm. Groome earned his BS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in business administration and MS in financial services from The American College. Groome has served on the UNC Asheville Board of Trustees (1996-2005), Foundation Board (1991-98), and Department of Management & Accountancy Advisory Board (2015-19). He received the 2014 Tocqueville Society Award from United Way of Asheville & Buncombe County.

#### Patrice A. Harris

Patrice A. Harris, president of the American Medical Association and leading international medical expert, was the featured speaker at UNC Asheville's spring commencement. Harris also received an honorary degree from UNC Asheville and will be awarded the Chancellor's Medallion, the University's highest distinction, given to recognize individuals who demonstrate the highest commitment to community service, national leadership and enhancement of the University.

Harris is a native Appalachian, born and educated in West Virginia, and a pioneer as the first African American woman to lead the AMA. Harris became AMA president in June 2019 and has led the national conversation for a science-based approach to COVID-19 and she has also led the AMA's efforts to end the nation's opioid epidemic. She has been chair of the AMA Opioid Task Force since its inception in 2014, with its goal of working "across every state to eliminate barriers to treatment, provide patients with access to affordable, non-opioid pain care, and fight the stigma faced by those with substance use-disorders," according to the AMA website. Beyond the AMA, she has held positions of leadership with the American Psychiatric Association, the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association, the Medical Association of Georgia, and The Big Cities Health Coalition, where she chaired this forum composed of leaders from America's largest metropolitan health departments.

Harris earned a BA in psychology, an MA in counseling psychology, and a medical degree in 1992, all from West Virginia University. It was during this time that her passion for helping children emerged, and she completed her psychiatry residency and fellowships in child and adolescent psychiatry and forensic psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine. Harris also specializes in children's mental health and childhood trauma, and has led efforts on both local and national levels to integrate public health, behavioral health and primary care services with supports for employment, housing and education. In addition to consulting with public and private organizations about health service delivery and emerging trends, Harris continues her private practice, is an adjunct assistant professor in the Emory Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and serves as an adjunct clinical assistant professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Morehouse School of Medicine.