North Carolina Agriculture and Technical University
Arwin D. Smallwood
Professor and Chair, Department of History and Political Science

Dr. Arwin D. Smallwood embodies North Carolina A&T’s intentional commitment to service and community engagement through participation in teaching, research, and outreach activities that strengthen relationships with community partners and civic organizations. He is an award-winning historian, a noted historical speaker, and is a member of various boards. As a professor with over 25 years of teaching experience, Dr. Smallwood is known for his ability to connect students with their community at large. By doing so, students expand their knowledge of historical traditions and culture and both students and community members learn ways to create their own historical narratives. At North Carolina A&T, he established the Annual Warmoth T. Gibbs Conference and Lecture, where hundreds of students, faculty, and members of the Greensboro community have demonstrated a commitment to lifelong teaching and learning through lectures and seminars. Dr. Smallwood is also the recipient of numerous prestigious fellowships and grants at state and national levels. He was nominated for the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission and was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper as a commissioner for the prestigious Tryon Palace Commission.

North Carolina State University
Jane Hoppin
Professor and Environmental Epidemiologist

Dr. Jane Hoppin has a career of nearly four decades as an environmental epidemiologist. She has worked to advance understanding about the effects of exposure to environmental contaminants on communities in North Carolina specifically, but also in regions throughout the world. She has established herself as an outstanding scientist, educator, and leader in public service through her research that aims to protect the lives of North Carolinians and global citizens, many who are part of underrepresented populations. Dr. Hoppin has committed her career to protecting populations in agricultural and rural settings who are often exposed to harmful chemicals (e.g., pesticides) without satisfactory protections. She was instrumental in establishing the longstanding Agricultural Health Study (AHS), which is funded by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health. The AHS has enrolled more than 89,000 farmers and their spouses in Iowa and North Carolina which led to identifying associations between pesticide exposures and human disorders, and helped to inform and facilitate safer practices to protect agricultural communities. Dr. Hoppin’s foundational work in agricultural communities has been expanded to global agriculture and rural areas.