

## May 2023 Boards of Trustees Appointments and Reappointments



**Name** **Current Board Member** **Notes**

**Appalachian State University**

James K Reaves	Yes	
Mark Edward Ricks	Yes	
Robert Thomas Sofield	Yes	
Anita Greene	Yes	

**Elizabeth City State University**

Chris Evans	Yes	
Johnny Tillett	Yes	
Kathryn Holding	No	
Patricia Norman	No	

**Fayetteville State University**

Joyce Adams	Yes	
Glenn Adams	Yes	
John McFayden	Yes	
Donald Moore	No	

**NC State University**

Ghazale Johnston	No	
Edwin (Ed) J. Stack, III	Yes	
Derick S. Close	No	
David Powers	No	

**UNC Asheville**

David Luck	No	
Catherine Mitchell	No	
Michael Meguiar	No	
Kelly Davis	No	Filling unexpired term of Patrice Harris
Roger Aiken	Yes	

**UNC Charlotte**

Christine Katziff	Yes	
Geoffrey D. Gray	No	
Hugh L. McColl	No	
Michael Smith	No	

**UNC School of the Arts**

Jerri Lynn Jones Irby	No	
John David Wigodsky	No	
Jonah Bokaer	No	
Thomas D. Neill	No	

**Winston Salem State University**

Laura Gerald	No	
Alex Johnson	No	
Pamela Oliver	No	
Carlos Pauling	No	Filling William Harris term effective June 10, 2023
Matthew Cullinan	Yes	

## 2023 Boards of Trustees – May Nominees

### Appalachian State University

#### **James K. Reaves (Current BOT member)**

James K. Reaves currently serves as senior vice president at Truist Bank. Reaves serves or has served as a community volunteer for the Winston-Salem Foundation, Winston-Salem Estate Planning Council, Greensboro Society of Financial Planning Professionals, Appalachian State University Alumni Association, Appalachian State University Foundation, and the Yosef Advisory Board. Reaves was named as the Bill Franklin Volunteer of the Year for Appalachian State University. Reaves established the J.K. Reaves Financial Planning Scholarship for students pursuing a degree in Financial Planning program in the Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University. He has provided the James K. Reaves Scholarships for deserving students at Hillside High School in Durham and the James K. Reaves Scholarships for deserving students at Union Baptist Church in Durham since 1998. Reaves is a 1993 graduate of Appalachian State University's Walker College of Business with a degree in Finance and Risk Management. Mr. Reaves graduated as a scholar athlete and was a two-year team captain of the App State football team. In 2005, Reaves graduated from American College with a master's degree in financial service.

#### **Mark E. Ricks (Current BOT member)**

Mark Ricks is a 1989 graduate of Appalachian State University and holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the university's College of Arts and Sciences. Upon graduating from Appalachian State University, Ricks embarked on a 28-year career in the protective service industry. He is the owner of Double Wood Farm, an equestrian sanctuary for retired show horses, in Bluemont, Virginia. He was the director of global protective operations at Mars Inc. in the Washington, DC metro area from 2005-17. Ricks has run protective operations in over 80 countries on six continents. He served as a lead training instructor in firearms, self defense, tactical driving, and CPR/first aid and has trained federal and local law enforcement along with several corporate and private security protection teams.

#### **Robert T. Sofield (Current BOT member)**

Tommy Sofield grew up in Virginia Beach, VA and attended Appalachian State University from 1971-75, where he played football and was a captain of the 1975 team. Sofield supports App State through his service on various boards including a current term on the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees. He has served the local community as a board member of the Watauga County Economic Development Council and the Board of Directors with First Citizens Bank.

#### **Anita Greene (Current BOT member)**

Anita Greene graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in mechanical engineering. In 2005, she opened Artisanal Restaurant in Banner Elk. In 2019, Greene opened the restaurant, Peppervine, in Charlotte. Before owning restaurants, Greene had a career working as an engineer in Charlotte.

### Elizabeth City State University

#### **Chris Evans (Current BOT member)**

Chris Evans is the director of State Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for Blue Cross Blue Shield North Carolina where she monitors and responds to legislative and regulatory issues that impact the company through direct lobbying and development of internal and external networks. She was previously associate counsel for Blue Cross Blue Shield North Carolina. Evans began her career as a high school

social studies teacher before entering the practice of law. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law with a Juris Doctor with Honors in 1996. She earned a Master of Arts in education from Columbia University in 1990, and a Bachelor of Arts in economics with High Honors from Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

**Johnny Tillett (Current BOT member)**

Johnny Tillett is the senior vice president of state government relations with the McGuire Woods Consulting firm in Raleigh. He specializes in energy and utilities, health care, environmental interest, transportation, and education. Prior to joining McGuire Woods in 2007, Tillett led his own lobbying firm in Raleigh. Before opening his lobbying firm, he served in key positions with Dare County and the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. Tillett has been recognized as a top lobbyist at the North Carolina General Assembly. He was ranked as the 9<sup>th</sup> Most Influential Lobbyist of the 2013-14 legislative session by the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research.

**Kathryn Holding**

Kathryn Holding is the vice president of philanthropic services at the North Carolina Community Foundation. Prior to her time with the North Carolina Community Foundation, Holding was director of development and communications at Alliance Medical Ministry and an associate at Fletcher, Toll, and Ray, LLP. Holding earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was a Morehead-Cain Scholar. She earned her Juris Doctor from Wake Forest University School of Law and is a licensed attorney in the state of North Carolina.

**Patricia Bond Norman**

Patricia Norman worked at the Office of the Secretary of State for over 30 years, having served in various positions in the Securities Division. She retired as a securities analyst and during her tenure in that division, she represented the department with service on the North American Securities Administrators Association. Norman earned the Cardinal Award, for public servants who have spent 30 or more years in state or local government. At the end of her tenure at the Office of the Secretary of State, she earned the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest award for state service granted by the Office of the Governor. She currently serves on the State Employee Advisory Board of her branch of the State Employees Credit Union.

**Fayetteville State University**

**Joyce Adams (Current BOT member)**

Joyce Adams is the vice president of strategic plans and programs for AEVEX Aerospace in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Prior to joining AEVEX, Adams served as a federal government civilian for 34 years, most of her tenure as part of our nation's most elite Special Operations Forces. Since 2009, Adams has served with the Department of the Army, Joint Special Operations Command, and Joint Special Operations Command Intelligence Brigade (JIB). Before assuming duties at the JIB, Adams served as an intelligence operations specialist and counterintelligence special agent for United States Army Special Operations Command. Adams currently serves on the advisory board of the Center for Defense and Homeland Security at Fayetteville State University. Adams holds a Bachelor of Science from Capella University and is pursuing a Master of Arts in industrial organizational psychology. Additionally, she has completed advanced leadership and organizational certification programs at Harvard University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Kenan-Flagler Business School, NC State University, and the University of Louisville.

**Glenn Adams (Current BOT member)**

Glenn B. Adams is a senior partner with Adams, Burge and Boughman, P.L.L.C. He has served as the director of recruitment and placements at the North Carolina Central University School of Law and clerk for the Honorable Clifton Johnson, N.C. Court of Appeals. Adams has been involved in various professional and civic organizations throughout his career, including being elected to the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners as a District 1 representative in 2014. He earned his Juris Doctor from NCCU School of Law, his Bachelor of Arts from NC State University, and attended Oxford University in the summer of 1978. He is a member of the Cumberland County Bar Association and served as the Cumberland County Bar Association President in 2001-02. Additionally, he is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina State Bar, the North Carolina Advocates for Justice, and Fayetteville Area Minority Lawyers Association.

**John McFadyen (Current BOT member)**

John McFadyen's experience working in the banking industry spans over 30 years. Currently, he is the senior vice president for the Select Bank & Trust in Fayetteville. Prior to this work, McFadyen served as vice president for First Citizens Bank and the State Bank of Fayetteville from 1988 to 2003. McFadyen serves as a board member for the Sandhills Chapter of the Red Cross. His previous board experience consists of Care Clinic, Methodist University Board of Visitors, Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, and the First Presbyterian Church.

**Donald Moore**

Donald Moore is the senior pastor at the historic Mount Carmel Baptist Church (MCBC) in West Philadelphia. Moore is the founder and CEO of The Voice of Leadership, LLC, where he provides strategic leadership consulting for many organizations. Prior to becoming pastor at MCBC, Moore worked for 23 years as a clinical speech pathologist in hospitals and rehabilitation centers throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Moore currently teaches undergraduate courses in anatomy and physiology at LaSalle University. Moore earned his Bachelor of Arts in speech communication from Fayetteville State University and a Master of Education in speech language pathology from North Carolina Central University. Moore has his Doctor of Education in organizational leadership from Wilmington University.

**NC State University****Ghazale Johnston**

Ghazale Johnston is the founder and principal of Joon Solutions. Previously she served as chief operating officer for Daymaker, and she also worked for 20 years at Accenture as a partner and managing director in the financial services practice. Johnston serves as the chair of the NC State University Foundation Board and is a member of the Wolfpack Investor Network, Wolfpack Women in Philanthropy, and the alumni association. Johnston has a Bachelor of Science in textile and apparel management and textile manufacturing and a Bachelor of Arts in multidisciplinary studies with a minor in Spanish from NC State.

**Edwin (Ed) J. Stack (Current BOT member)**

Ed Stack is vice president of administration and development for Jarrett Bay Boatworks in Beaufort, North Carolina. He was previously the associate executive director of the NC State Student Aid Association, where he worked for 16 years. As vice president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Ed has served as its representative on the NC State University Foundation Board and the NC State University Investment Fund Board. Ed graduated from NC State's Wilson College of Textiles with a Bachelor of Science in textile apparel and management in 1992, and he served two terms as student body president from 1990 to 1992.

**Derick Close**

Derick Close is chairman and CEO of Springs Creative in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Close serves as the chairman of Springsteen Capital and the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation. He serves on the executive board of the Springs Companies, the Carolina Regional Business Authority, the Charlotte Regional YMCA Board, the UNC Global Board, the Executive Committee Palmetto Business Forum, the NC Executive Leadership Group, and the South Carolina Chamber. He is a member of YPO Gold and CEO. Close formerly served on the boards of trustees of Johnson and Wales University and NC State University, and was a member of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors. Close is a past partner in the Carolina Panthers (NFL) and current partner of the Winston Salem Dash (AAA Baseball). Close graduated with a Bachelor of Science from NC State University and earned an MBA from UNC-Chapel Hill Kenan-Flagler Business School.

**David Powers**

David Powers is the managing principal of Powers Strategies LLC, a full-service government relations firm in Raleigh, NC. He has been involved in the political arena and at the highest levels of corporate government affairs. He spent over 20 years managing public affairs for Reynolds American, eight of those at the helm of the company's state government relations efforts. After retiring from Reynolds American in 2015, Powers joined the Winston-Salem based law firm of Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice as the senior government relations consultant before venturing out to form his own public affairs firm in 2017. Powers was appointed by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2011 and reappointed in 2015 and 2019 to serve on the University of North Carolina Board of Governors. His term ended in 2023. During his time on the Board of Governors, he served as chair of the Committee on University Governance and the Committee on Strategic Initiatives. Powers graduated from NC State University with a bachelor's degree in economics and earned an MBA from Campbell University.

**University of North Carolina at Asheville****David Luck**

David Luck retired in 2015 from ABC Supply Company headquartered in Beloit, Wisconsin, where he served as CEO, president and director. Prior to joining ABC, Luck was president of the Bridgestone/Firestone Retail Store Operations Company where he was responsible for the national chain of 1,700 company-owned "Firestone Tire and Service Centers." Luck received a Bachelor of Science degree in management from Auburn University.

**Catherine Bell Mitchell**

Catherine Bell Mitchell is an attorney and partner at Fox Rothschild, LLP in the real estate group, where she works closely with the banking and finance groups representing developers, borrowers, and lenders in commercial real estate transactions. Prior to joining Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP (Fox's predecessor) in 2013, she represented lenders in real estate litigation matters at McGuireWoods. An Asheville native, Mitchell serves on the North Carolina Bar Association (NCBA) Real Property Section Council, where she serves on the Commercial Committee and contributes to drafting and commenting on proposed state legislation and regulations. She is a member of the Charlotte chapter of Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW), which offers professional and personal advancement opportunities to women in the commercial real estate industry. Mitchell is also active within her firm's Women's Initiative, where she moderates and participates in monthly meetings intended to encourage and promote female attorneys. She is also a member of the firm's Real Estate CLE Committee where she plans and leads CLE programs for the firm's real estate group. She earned her Juris Doctor, cum laude,

from Mercer University School of Law and Bachelor of Arts in history from Sewanee: The University of the South.

**Michael Meguiar**

Michael Meguiar is the vice president of global operations at Thermo Fisher Scientific in Asheville. He currently serves as the immediate past chair of the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Meguiar is from western Kentucky and a graduate of Murray State University. Prior to joining Thermo Fisher in January 2019, he worked for General Electric for over 20 years and most recently served as executive operations manager and general manager at GE Aviation in Asheville. He began his career with GE Industrial Systems in Murfreesboro, TN, completing a graduate internship. In 1998 he joined GE Aviation in Madisonville, KY as part of the Turbine Airfoils Center of Excellence where he held leadership roles. In 2005 he relocated to Chicago, IL and became plant leader for the GE Transportation Global Distribution Center. In 2008, when GE Transportation invested in a new manufacturing facility in Las Vegas, NV, Meguiar was asked to go start the business. In 2011 he came back to GE Aviation and became the general manager of Propulsion Technologies International.

**Kelly Davis**

Kelly Davis currently serves as the vice president of mortgage lending at Park National Bank. Prior to joining Park National, she was a mortgage loan manager at Forest Commercial Bank, an area manager at Suntrust, and a wealth manager at Wells Fargo. Her first role in banking was in 1984 at First Union as a branch manager. Davis has served as president of the North Buncombe High School PTSO, the coordinator of the Y&B Breast Cancer Support Group, and the event chair of UNC Asheville's Our Turn to Play. She has also been active in the Lions Club of Black Mountain. A native of Waynesville, NC, Davis attended Western Carolina University and graduated from the CBA Executive Banking School at the University of Virginia and Furman University. She has served on the boards of Haywood Street Congregation Church, North Buncombe High School, Smart Start of Buncombe County, and founded the WNC Down Syndrome Alliance.

**Roger Aiken (Current BOT member)**

Roger Aiken has over three decades of experience in the financial services industry. Aiken also holds the CFP® certification as a financial professional. He has written a biweekly op-ed column for The Asheville Citizen-Times, and for 10 years provided the morning business report for WLOS-TV in Asheville. He served as a member of and vice chair for the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, and currently serves on the Eblen Charities Board of Directors. Aiken previously served on the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, and on the Buncombe County Board of Education, including two terms as chairman. Roger earned a Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts degree at Appalachian State University, with majors in both marketing and management.

**University of North Carolina at Charlotte****Christine Katziff (Current BOT member)**

Christine Katziff serves as Bank of America's chief audit executive and is a member of the company's executive management team. She joined the bank in 2004 and has held leadership positions in corporate audit, supporting nearly all of the major business segments that comprise the enterprise. Additionally, Katziff is the executive sponsor for the bank's vast engagement in Charlotte, including philanthropy, civic engagement, and liaison to key stakeholders in the public and private sectors. She serves on the boards of directors for Novant Health, the American Heart Association's Corporate Operations Coordinating Committee, and the National Go Red Leadership Council. She serves on the Board of Trustees of Bryant University and served on the successful Campaign Committee for Central



Piedmont Community College. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and management from Bryant University and an MBA from the University of Hartford.

**Geoffrey D. Gray**

Geoff Gray possesses over 30 years of sales, business development, management, and leadership expertise within the Information Technology staffing industry. He joined Signature Consultants in 1997, the year it was founded, and has played a major part in organically growing the company into one of the nation's largest privately held firms. Gray is also involved in the greater Charlotte community, serving on the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance Executive Committee. He has served on the executive committee of both the 2017 PGA Championship and 2022 PGA President's Cup held at Quail Hollow Club. Gray attended University of North Carolina at Charlotte and has been engaged with the university in several capacities. Most recently, Gray joined the UNC Charlotte Foundation Board of Directors and has provided strategic counsel to the athletics department.

**Hugh McColl**

Hugh McColl is co-founder and chairman-emeritus of Falfurrias Capital. Prior to founding the firm, McColl was chairman and CEO of Bank of America. In 2021, McColl founded Bright Hope Capital to invest in minority firms and provide financial, as well as social, capital to the enterprises. McColl has also served on the Queens University of Charlotte Board of Trustees for 19 years and has actively supported UNC-Chapel Hill and the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

**Michael Smith**

Michael J. Smith is the president and CEO of Charlotte Center City Partners, an organization that envisions and implements strategies and actions to drive the economic, social and cultural development of Charlotte's Center City. He has held corporate roles at AT&T Communications, First Union's Capital Markets Group, and By-Products Interactive. Prior to his role as CEO of CCCP, Smith was the chief financial officer at the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. Smith holds his MBA from Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and his undergraduate degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.

**University of North Carolina School of the Arts****Jerri Irby**

Jerri Irby has most recently served as the chair of the human resources workforce practice at Mayo Clinic, based out of its headquarters in Rochester, Minnesota. Prior to joining Mayo, Irby served as the vice president of human resources at Wake Forest Baptist Health, leading the talent acquisition, employee relations, employee assistance, HR compliance, and HR business partnerships teams. Irby has a degree in mathematics from Spelman College, a master's in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech, and an MBA from Stanford University. She is a proud member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

**John David Wigodsky**

John Wigodsky is retired from Fruit of the Loom where he served as executive vice president of sales and marketing. Wigodsky also worked in marketing for Hanes Knitwear in Winston-Salem. In 2012, he became a member of the Giannini Advisory council, which he co-chaired in 2016-20. In 2015, Wigodsky joined the University of North Carolina School of the Arts Foundation, becoming president of the foundation board in 2015. He and his wife fund two scholarships at UNCSA, one for music and one for

dance. Wigodsky received an A.B. in management science from Duke University and a Master of Science in marketing from the Sloan School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

#### **Jonah Bokaer**

Jonah Bokaer is the owner of Jonah Bokaer Choreography and has authored 67 original works. Bokaer's innovations consistency receive prizes, philanthropic support, and humanitarian acknowledgment internationally, with increasing program alignment and recognition from the global south. Bokaer also has an arts foundation that oversees the work of his choreography. Bokaer is an alumnus of UNC School of the Arts and has received the Alumni Achievement Award from UNCSCA.

#### **Thomas D. Neill**

Thomas Neill is president of Bob Neill Inc. Neill currently serves on the boards of Novant, Reynolda House of Art, Greater Winston-Salem Inc., UNC Shuford Program in Entrepreneurship, Winston-Salem Alliance, Hopeway Advisory Board, and the Piedmont Triad Partnership. In the past, Neill has also served on the Winston-Salem Foundation board, Twin City Soccer Association, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utilities Commission, and the Kaleideum Capital Campaign. In addition, Neill is a member of the Rotary Club of Winston-Salem and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He is a 1983 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill.

#### **Winston Salem State University**

##### **Laura Gerald**

Dr. Laura Gerald is president of the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. Gerald previously served as the executive director of the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission. In 2014, Gerald was appointed to be the North Carolina state health director and the director of the Division of Public Health. She went on to work with Evolent Health to assist health systems. Gerald holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and Radcliffe College, a medical degree from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and a Master of Public Health from Harvard University School of Public Health. She is active in the nonprofit and medical community, serving on numerous boards, including Grantmakers in Health, Southeastern Council of Foundations, and the North Carolina Network of Grantmakers. She is a board-certified pediatrician and fellow in American Academy of Pediatrics and an adjunct assistant professor at UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health.

##### **Alex Johnson**

Alex Johnson had a 40-year career in higher education. Johnson recently retired as president of Cuyahoga Community College. Johnson also served as president of the Community College of Allegheny County and chancellor of Delgado Community College. Johnson served on the boards of the United Way of Greater Cleveland, Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Ideastream, Playhouse Square, MAGNET, Team NEO, and the Greater Cleveland Partnership. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including The Frank G. Jackson Visionary Award, The Pittsburgh Business Times CEO of the Year, and the Simon Green Atkins Distinguished Alumnus Award from Winston-Salem State University. Johnson earned a doctorate from The Pennsylvania State University, a master's degree from Lehman College and a bachelor's degree from Winston-Salem State University.

##### **Pamela Oliver**

Dr. Pamela Oliver is executive vice president and president of Novant Health Physician Network. Oliver is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist and has been practicing at Novant Health WomanCare since 2005. She has served Novant Health in various leadership roles, including as submarket leader for specialty practices in the greater Winston-Salem market, physician service line leader of women's



services for the greater Winston-Salem market, and senior physician executive for Novant Health Physician Network, supporting clinical and business strategy across the system. Oliver received her undergraduate degree in biology and her medical degree from the UNC-Chapel Hill, where she was a Morehead Scholar and UNC Board of Governors' scholarship recipient. She also earned her master's degree in public health (maternal and child health concentration) from the UNC School of Public Health while enrolled in medical school.

**Carlos Pauling**

Calos Pauling is an executive director in the partner practice group at Major, Lindsey, and Africa legal executive search firm. Pauling joined Major, Lindsey, and Africa in 2017 as a director in their law firm management practice. Prior to joining Major, Lindsey, and Africa, Pauling worked as an associate general counsel at Wells Fargo and as an associate attorney at Moore & Van Allen, PLLC. Pauling has previously served on the Board of Visitors for the UNC-Chapel Hill and the Board of Trustees for Davidson Day School. Pauling graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science in business administration, and he graduated from Duke University with his Juris Doctor.

**Matthew Cullinan (Current BOT member)**

Matthew Cullinan has spent nearly three decades in leadership positions in higher education at Wake Forest University, the University of Notre Dame, and most recently, the University of Denver. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Winston-Salem State University and vice chair of Project Impact. Matt was previously chair of the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy Board of Visitors, board chair at Summit School, trustee of Be The Change, and on the advisory council of the University of Notre Dame College of Arts and Letters. Cullinan was the vice president at Baker and Associates LLC, a higher education executive search firm. He also worked at Wake Forest University in various roles, including as senior lecturer, vice president for strategic initiatives, and vice president for administration. He worked as the executive assistant to the president of the University of Notre Dame, and as the senior program officer for education policy at the J. Paul Getty Trust. Cullinan earned a bachelor's degree in history and government from Notre Dame, a master's in public policy from Duke University, and a doctorate in history from Notre Dame.