

YEAR IN REVIEW 2024-25

NC COLLEGE

NC COLLEGE



THE CIVIC IMPERATIVE

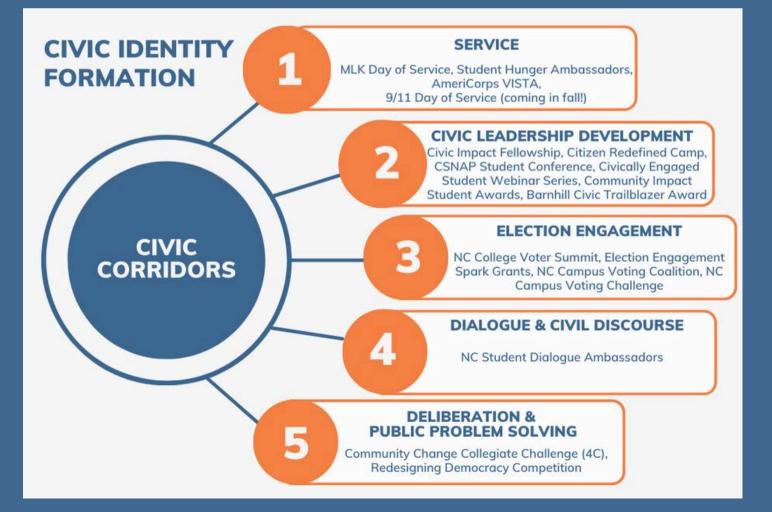
During the COVID pandemic one word that was most often repeated was "unprecedented." That word continues to be especially fitting to describe the barrage of events and transitions that the world, nation, and college campuses have faced during the 2024-25 academic year. Despite these changes and challenges, NC Campus Engagement has continued our 31-year commitment to supporting our member institutions in preparing students for civic and social responsibility, partnering with communities for positive change, and strengthening democracy. While we continued supporting administrators, faculty, and staff - by equipping them with information, resources, and training opportunities to learn and share best practices in community-engaged teaching, research, and practice - we

"Democracy isn't a process, it is a personal and collective way of life, and we need to help people see that and make it part of our everyday. If we don't help people build their civic muscle every day, we risk moments of crisis when those muscles are needed most.

- Richard Young, CivicLex

have deepened and expanded our commitment to student civic engagement and civic learning. The graphic below outlines NCCE's new "Corridors" framework to outline our approach to helping students develop their civic identity and exercise their civic muscles. This current moment in our nation requires that we all show up as powerful, responsible, civic catalysts to imagine and create a more perfect union and a better future for all.

- Leslie Executive Director



PRESIDENTIAL ENGAGEMENT

Save Date

16th Annual Presidents Forum February 11, 2026

2025 Presidents Forum

February 12, 2025 at The Conference Center at GTCC

Twenty-one presidents and chancellors participated in the 15th annual Presidents Forum, hosted by President Anthony Clarke of Guilford Technical Community College. Highlights include:

• Presentation of the 2025 Leo M. Lambert Engaged Leader Award to Chancellor Randy Woodson, NC State University (*Scan the QR code for Woodson's acceptance video*)



• Keynote Addresses: "Publicly Engaged Scholarship in 21st Academe: Beware the Shrinking Imagination!" by Dr. Timothy K. Eatman, Rutgers University-Newark and "Engage to Survive" by Dr. Byron White, UNC Charlotte

For NCCE member presidents, Dr. Clarke and his wife hosted a pre-Forum dinner and tour of GTCC's innovative E-Sports Arena.



CAO & CSAO ENGAGEMENT

We hosted several sessions for Chief Academic Officers and Chief Student Affairs Officers related to community and civic engagement.

Preparing your Campus for the November Election: A Deep Dive into the National Student of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) Data and Overview of the Elon University Approach

September 17, 2024

Featured Duy Trinh, NSLVE Program Manager, and Victoria Tse, Outreach and Data Analysis Specialist

Election Scenario Planning: Preparing and Responding October 9, 2024 Facilitated by NCCE Executive Director, Leslie Garvin

Complete College, America: Harnessing the Power of Higher Education to Renew American Democracy Report Overview & Discussion January 14, 2025 Featured Dr. Yolanda Watson Spiva, President, Complete College America













PARTNERSHIPS

Alliance for Campus Community Engagement (ACCE)

NCCE is connected to a network of similar state and regional place-based organizations across the country dedicated to supporting the public purposes of higher education. Together, our membership includes nearly 400 schools in the following states: CA, Hawaii/Pacific Islands, IA, IN, KY, MN, Mid-Atlantic (DC, DE, MD, WV, Northern VA), MT, NJ, OH, PA, NY, and WA.

2025 was the 2nd year of a joint three-year AmeriCorps Day of Service Grant to engage students across 11 states to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through service. NCCE grantees mobilized 1708 students who partnered with 84 organizations and agencies during the week of the 2025 MLK holiday.





NC Grantees

Alamance Community College – \$1K High Point University – \$5K Methodist University – \$2K NC Central University – \$1K UNC-Chapel Hill – \$2K UNC Greensboro -\$1K UNC Pembroke – \$5K Warren Wilson College – \$1K William Peace University – \$1K Winston-Salem State University – \$2,500 Queens University of Charlotte – \$5K

Community-University Engagement: Recognizing the Contributions of Professional Practitioners

October 15, 2024, NCCE partnered with the University of Technology Sydney, Australia and UNC Charlotte's urbanCORE to host a panel exploring how to best recognize, legitimize and share the contributions of professional community engagement scholar-administrators, especially within scholarly spaces.

Panelists: Dr. Margaret Malone, Executive Editor of *Gateways: International Journal of Community Research and Engagement*; Dr. Byron P. White, Associate Provost for Urban Research and Community Engagement at UNC Charlotte; Dr. Emily M. Janke, Director of the Institute for Community and Economic Engagement (ICEE) and an associate professor in the Peace and Conflict Studies department, UNC Greensboro; and Dr. Dennis McCunney, Center for Student Success, East Carolina University



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Community Engagement Administrators Conference (CEAC)

Hope in the Face of High Waters and Headwinds: Deepening Engagement in Challenging Times

On June 13, 2024 at Elon University we convened 75 administrators from 21 campuses for learning, networking, and facilitated conversations to support community engagement professionals as they carry out the work. The day included an opening panel conversation featuring Leslie Garvin (NCCE) and Dr. Nancy Thomas (AAC&U). The afternoon plenary session: "Balancing Act: Nurturing Empathy and Resilience in Community-Engaged Endeavors" was facilitated by Allison Walker, Director of the Service Learning program and the Civic Responsibility in the Center for Community Engagement at High Point University.

Workshop and roundtable topics included community partnerships, food insecurity, high-impact practices, research collaboration, and free speech. The agenda also included a focus on civic joy.

2024-25 Engaged Faculty Scholar

In July 2024, we welcomed our newest EFS. Scholars receive \$2000 in funding and support to carry out a project to expand and strengthen community engagement on their campus.

Amanda Lewis, MSN, RN, CNE-cl Wake Tech Community College

EFS project: Engaging Nursing Students: Developing Deeper Community Partnership with Vulnerable Wake County Populations



Lewis is expanding opportunities for nursing students to volunteer with local organizations and agencies to help them recognize the impact of social determinants of health, assess holistic needs, and strengthen their ability to advocate for vulnerable individuals in the clinical setting.



Carnegie in Action Workshop

On June 12, 2024, at Elon University, NCCE partnered with the American Council on Education (ACE) to host a workshop designed to assist campuses in preparing for the 2026 Elective Classification for Community Engagement. The session included an orientation to both the classification and reclassification frameworks, an explanation of additions and revisions to the documentation framework, a review of the documentation framework and complete application, and a discussion of strategies that have been effective for successful applications. A panel of classified institutions featured Elon University and East Carolina University.

Fifty-five administrators from 23 campuses in 11 states attended. To date, 17 North Carolina institutions have been classified in previous cycles.





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Network Meetings

August 2024 (hosted at Elon University) & January 2025 (virtual)

Fifty-five community engagement professionals, from 26 campuses, participated in the 2024-25 regional meetings. We marked the 6th and final year of the professional development curriculum NCCE developed and implemented based on *The Community Engagement Professional in Higher Education: A Competency Model for an Emerging Field*

book. We featured the chapter author of the final topic "Envisioning and Leading Institutional Change," Dr. Romy Huebler, director of the Office of Civic Engagement & Social Responsibility at Towson University. We also heard presentations by expert community engagement professionals Dr. Jaime Russell, UNC Wilmington; Lynne Watts, Davidson-Davie Community College; Kyle Anderson, Elon University; and Calleen Herbert, NC Central University. Dr. Jon Dooley, Vice President for Student Life, welcomed the participants to Elon.

Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) Conference

February 12, 2025

The Conference Center at Guilford Technical Community College

The 26th PACE Conference convened over 200 participants representing 29 institutions from 5 states for a vibrant day of reflection, learning, and civic joy. Administrators, faculty, students, and community partners gathered to recommit to the "civic mission" of higher education, and our collective responsibility to strengthen the civic health of our local communities. Through celebration and workshops, keynotes and artistic expressions, participants imagined how they can strengthen America by investing fully in civic and community engagement at the local level. The agenda featured 3 plenary sessions, 27 workshops, 40 door prizes, and networking opportunities.























ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

We presented the annual Engagement Awards on February 12, 2025 during the opening session of the PACE Conference and Presidents Forum. Special thanks to the 2025 Awards Sponsor, GivePulse.

uring GivePulse

Civic Engagement Professional of the Year



Kate Johnson, Ed.D. Director, Key Center for Community Engaged Learning UNC Asheville

Engaged Faculty Award



Phillip Motley, M.F.A. Director of Graduate Programs, School of Communications & Faculty Fellow for Community-Based Learning *Elon University*

Community Partner Award

R.N. Harris Elementary School Campus Partner: NC Central University





STUDENT ELECTION ENGAGEMENT

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Over 100 students, staff, and faculty from 20 colleges and universities and 18 democracy organizations convened on September 13, 2024 at Elon University to get energized and ready to mobilize their campuses for the upcoming election! The Summit is organized by the NC Campus Voting Coalition, a network of democracy organizations that NCCE coordinates.

Highlights:

- The student panel discussed the state of student voting on campuses, including voter engagement challenges and strategies. Panelists: Jada Muhammad (NC A&T State University), Charmaine Cheng (UNC-Chapel Hill), Shiva Rajbhandari (UNC-Chapel Hill), and Emily Stuart (Elon University). Moderator: Miles Beasley (Common Cause NC).
- Vote-Tank Competition This "Shark Tank" style competition challenged students to design an innovative initiative to mobilize or educate students to vote. Teams presented their ideas to a panel of "sharks" who scored the teams and awarded prizes. The winning idea "#BreakTradition," proposed a campaign to motivate students from non-civically-engaged families to "break tradition" and get involved.
- **Guest Speakers:** Rachel Gita Karp, Unstoppable Voters Program Director, Center for Artistic Activism, "Making Every Action Count: Ways to Level Up your Campus Election Engagement" & Kate Fellman, Founder and Executive Director, You Can Vote, "What's on your Ballot?"
- **Spirit Cup Winners** (selected based on energy, enthusiasm, and campus pride): Appalachian State University & Rowan-Cabarrus Community College



During the Summit, we presented the 2024 NC Campus Voting Challenge awards based on student voter participation in the November 2022 election. NCCE collaborates with the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge and You Can Vote for the Challenge. *Not Pictured: Meredith College, winner of Highest Voter Turnout and Most Improved Voter Turnout (four-year institution).*



UNC Asheville Highest Voter Registration (four-year institution)

Davidson-Davie Community College Highest Voter Registration & Voter Turnout (two-year institution)

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2024 Election Engagement Spark Grant Recipients \$1000

Davidson-Davie Community College Elizabeth City State University Greensboro College Guilford Tech Community College Lenoir-Rhyne University UNC Asheville UNC School of the Arts Western Carolina University

DIALOGUE & CIVIC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Student Dialogue Ambassadors Program

2024-25 Student Dialogue Ambassadors host campuses:

- Duke University
- Greensboro College
- NC A&T State University
- Queens University of Charlotte



We trained student Ambassadors and their faculty/staff mentors in five dialogue models: Braver Discussions; Civil Dialogue; Living Room Conversations; National Issues Forum Deliberative Dialogue; and L.E.A.R.N Dialogues (new from William Peace University's For Students, By Students team). Each campus team facilitated four campus dialogues and one peer training in the Spring 2025 semester. Campuses received a \$500 activity fee and each Ambassador received a \$750 stipend.

Social Cohesion Impact Measurement (SCIM)

To assess the impact of the SDA program, we utilized the Social Cohesion Impact Measurement (SCIM) tool to measure the impacts of dialogue and bridging methodologies. Ambassadors conducted pre and post-surveys of dialogue participants. Students who participated in the dialogues led by the Ambassadors demonstrated significant growth in listening, intellectual humility, self-efficacy, and openness & sharing.





Citizen Redefined Camp (CR Camp) is a week-long civic leadership experience where student leaders gather to explore what it means to boldly show up for their campuses and communities as powerful, responsible citizens. In May 2024, 18 inspiring student leaders representing 11 campuses across North Carolina graduated from the inaugural CR Camp cohort.

Students explored concepts of critical thinking, reading and practicing power, moral reflection and courage, service, and more. Highlights from the camp included:

- · Musical and theatrical productions about power
- Competitions, games, and prizes
- Immersive practices to reflect on and visualize hope for America's future
- A powerful ceremony to mark graduation into "civic life" featuring individual declarations of renewed civic identity through poetry, personal stories, drama, music, and digital arts

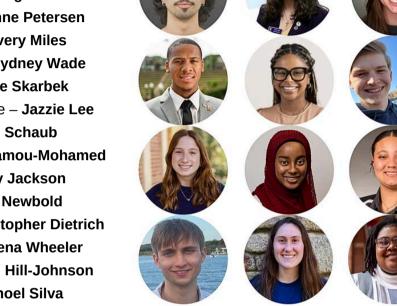


CIVIC LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

2024 Community Impact Student Awards (CISA)

During a virtual Engagement Matters Awards Ceremony in November 2024 we recognized the 16 students selected by their campus for inspiring and impactful community and civic engagement leadership. Scan the OR code to view the ceremony and hear each winner share why civic engagement matters now, more than ever.

Appalachian State University – Asher Fazal East Carolina University – Caramia Landis Elon University – Lillian Argabrite Greensboro College - Sloanne Petersen High Point University - Avery Miles NC A&T State University – Sydney Wade NC State University – Jake Skarbek Oueens University of Charlotte - Jazzie Lee UNC-Chapel Hill - Elise Schaub UNC Greensboro – Zainab Adamou-Mohamed UNC Pembroke – Felicity Jackson UNC Wilmington – Eden Newbold Wake Forest University - Christopher Dietrich Warren Wilson College – Elena Wheeler William Peace University - TJ Hill-Johnson Wingate University - Manoel Silva



2024 Barnhill Civic Trailblazer

Jaya Dayal, UNC-Chapel Hill

This award is presented annually to a student who has demonstrated exceptional innovation in civic engagement. The winner receives a cash award, half of which NCCE donates to a nonprofit selected by the student. Jaya selected the Community Empowerment Fund.

Jaya was recognized during the virtual Engagement Matters ceremony and at the 2025 PACE Conference and Presidents Forum on February 12, 2025.

Jaya, a senior at UNC-Chapel Hill majoring in Public Health, has built a reputation as a dedicated service leader committed to building bridges and connecting across differences. During her time at UNC, she served as an AmeriCorps City Year member, Global Gap Year Fellow, UNC Violence Prevention and Advocacy Services Volunteer & Peer Educator, Community Empowerment Fund Advocate, and NC Student Dialogue Ambassador. She also held multiple internship roles.

Jaya was foundational in developing the annual UNC Y Dialogue Series, which hosts a series of five dialogues on campus each semester about topics relevant to the UNC community. She is also the Co-Founder of the UNC Democracy & Dialogue Fellows Program, a year-long initiative empowering students to use dialogue as a tool to have challenging yet necessary conversations while developing civic skills.





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CIVIC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

NC Civic Impact Fellowship

Launched in 2024, the NC Civic Impact Fellowship (NC-CIF) is an 18-month program that empowers outstanding civic-minded student leaders from NCCE member campuses to develop a project that will have a lasting positive effect on campus civic life. Fellows are nominated by their college/university President or Chancellor, and campus mentor, and receive ongoing professional and leadership development as their projects are implemented.

2024-25 Cohort



Magally Ortiz-Rojas **UNC Pembroke** Project Focus: Empowering Latine and Spanish-Speaking Students & Families



Trinitee Smith Elizabeth City State University Project Focus: Improving Student Voter Engagement



Christopher Simmering William Peace University Project Focus: Cultivating Opportunities for Student Dialogue



Osliany Mora-Morejon High Point University Project Focus: Growing & Improving Student Service Initiatives



Xypher Pino Greensboro College Project Focus: Building Civic Education, Leadership & Service Opportunities

Welcome to the 2025-26 Cohort!

The 2025-26 Cohort of NC Civic Impact Fellows will implement their Impact Projects in Fall 2025.



Aarav Dagar Duke University



Madison Lee NC Central University

Donavan Hankins Elizabeth City State University

Anya Bratić

Elon University



Jazzie Lee Oueens University of Charlotte



Charvi Kavadekar **UNC-Chapel** Hill



Payton Bell Greensboro College



Laila Watson UNC Pembroke



2025 Civically Engaged Student Webinar Series

The webinar series (hosted during oddnumbered years) highlights community and civic engagement programs, projects, skills, and insights from civically engaged student leaders representing campuses within the NCCE network. Now more than ever, young leaders are needed to address the pressing issues facing our nation and world.

Student presenters:

Xypher Pino, Greensboro College TJ Hill-Johnson, William Peace University Zainab Adamou-Mohamed, UNC Greensboro Aynsley Szczesniak, UNC-Chapel Hill Jailah Lytch, UNC-Chapel Hill Christopher Dietrich, Wake Forest University Reagan Smith, Wake Forest University



Scan the QR code to watch the series!

AMERICORPS VISTA



AmeriCorps VISTA members go where they are needed with passion and perseverance to be a catalyst for change. National service is a critical component of the strength of communities, which is why NCCE has sponsored AmeriCorps projects since 2003! We currently host VISTA members through NC Afterschool Corps, NC Hunger Corps, and Communities Thriving, a partnership with IKONC (Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio). NCCE member campuses serve as host sites for our VISTA members to complete their year of service in the communities in and around our campuses.

During the 2024-2025 project period we were able to host 6 NC Afterschool Corps VISTAs, 6 Hunger Corps VISTAs, 2 Communities Thriving VISTAs, and one VISTA Leader (15 total). These individuals dedicate a year to serve in the program, with most starting in August of 2025, and have served tirelessly to build capacity. Their work is reflected through some of the accomplishments highlighted below:





Value of Cash Resources Leveraged





Value of In-Kind Resources Leveraged





Value of volunteer labor from VISTAS and volunteers they recruited

Pictured below: VISTA members Alice (VISTA Leader), Domonica (Hunger Corps), Emma (Hunger Corps, Sydney (Afterschool Corps), and Kristina (Hunger Corps) attend the Eastern NC Volunteer Conference in Greenville, March 2025.





Pictured above: VISTA members Jill (Hunger Corps), Domonica (Hunger Corps), Lauren (Afterschool Corps), Saskia (Hunger Corps), Jacob (Afterschool Corps), Elijah (Afterschool Corps), and Madison (Afterschool Corps) attend the NCCE 2025 PACE Conference.

AMERICORPS VISTA

HUNGER

CORPS

ommunities

Thriving

NCCE VISTA - Hunger Corps

TERSCHOOL

CORPS

The NC Hunger Corps VISTAs Kristina (Alamance Community College), Emma (NC State University), Nick (Duke University), Lulu (Porch Chapel Hill), Kim (NC Central University) and Saskia (Warren Wilson College) are driving change on their campuses by strengthening food pantries and

emergency services. Through fundraising, volunteer recruitment, and hands-on support, they're ensuring every student who needs access to essential resources, can get it. Beyond campus borders, NC Hunger Corps builds strong community partnerships and tailors its approach to meet the unique needs and demographics of each school with creativity, compassion, and impact at the heart of everything they do.

NCCE VISTA - Afterschool Corps

The NC Afterschool Corps VISTAs Lauren (Juntos at NC State), Sydney (Elon University), Madison (UNC Pembroke), Elijah (Duke University), and Jacob (Warren Wilson College) are making a lasting impact by expanding access to educational opportunities in their communities. From developing programs

and designing orientations to onboarding and recruiting student volunteers, these VISTAs are building sustainable solutions that fight poverty through education. Their dedication strengthens both campus and community connections and helps pave the way for brighter futures.

IKONC VISTA - Communities Thriving

Through our IKONC partnership with Community-Engaged Alliance (IN), Engage KY, and Community Campus Coalition (OH), we launched the Communities Thriving AmeriCorps VISTA program. Member campuses apply to host one or more AmeriCorps members for a one-year term to fight poverty

through indirect service activities in the areas of education, economic opportunity, healthy futures, environmental stewardship, and Veterans and Military Families.

Due to the generous ongoing support of Food Lion, which sponsored the host site administrative fees, we welcomed the first Communities Thriving VISTA members in the fall: Jill West at Randolph Community College (RCC) and Domonica Langley at Piedmont Community College (PCC). "This experience has helped me transition from simply identifying problems to actively organizing and finding solutions."

KRISTINA TORAIN HUNGER CORPS ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



ADDRESSING STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY

In 2024, twenty-one member campuses benefited from the NCCE/Food Lion partnership to address student food insecurity in North Carolina. More than 13,500 college students and campus staff were directly impacted by these events, and hundreds more through pantry services and indirect impact.

Spring 2025 Food Pantry Capacity Grants

\$1000 Grantees

Central Piedmont Community College UNC School of the Arts Western Carolina University William Peace University Winston-Salem State University



Community College Sector Prize (\$5K) Davidson-Davie Community College



4-Year Public Sector Prize (\$5K) Elizabeth City State University

Grand Prize Winner

Greensboro College

(2nd vear in a row)

\$10K





Alamance Community College Central Piedmont Community College Davidson-Davie Community College Duke University Greensboro College High Point University Methodist University North Carolina A&T State University North Carolina Central University Piedmont Community College Queens University of Charlotte UNC Pembroke UNC Asheville Warren Wilson College

4-Year Private Sector Prize (\$5K) High Point University (2nd year in a row)



Student Hunger Ambassadors hosted 141 events and amplified awareness by sharing more than 2,000 social media posts. They also collected over 40,000 items through various food drives. We awarded the prizes during the 2025 Presidents Forum & PACE Conference in February.





















NCCE Office & Fiscal Sponsor

The NC Campus Engagement state office is hosted at Elon University, who also serves as our fiscal sponsor. While we raise our own funds, the back-office support they provide (from office space to payroll management) is invaluable. We are truly grateful for this partnership that supports the mission and sustainability of NCCE. We especially appreciate the guidance and support we receive from President Connie Book and Dr. Jon Dooley, Vice President for Student Life.

In the summer of 2024, with the assistance of several Elon University offices, we moved to a new office space adjacent to the Elon campus. We invited representatives from the NCCE network to celebrate the move with an Open House in July.





2024-25 NCCE Executive Board

Kelli Brown, Board Chair, Western Carolina University Connie Book, Elon University Rhett Brown, Wingate University J.B. Buxton, Durham Tech Community College Anthony Clarke, Guilford Tech Community College Robin Cummings, UNC Pembroke Damián J. Fernández, Warren Wilson College Pamela Senegal, Piedmont Community College Ex Officio: Jon Dooley, VP for Student Life, Elon University



Executive Board at the 2025 Presidents Forum

NCCE Team

Executive Director Leslie Garvin



Program Assistant Kelli Russell



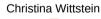
Program Coordinator Sam Delap



AmeriCorps VISTA Leader Alice Chesley-Akhtar



AmeriCorps VISTA Program Manager





Practitioner-Scholar-In-Residence Patti Clayton



2024-25 MEMBERS

Ken Ingle Alamance Community College

Heather Norris Appalachian State University

Suzanne Walsh Bennett College

David P. Nelson Catawba College

Kandi Deitemeyer A Central Piedmont Community College M

Douglas A. Hicks Davidson College

Jenny Varner Davidson-Davie Community College

Vincent Price Duke University

J.B. Buxton * Durham Tech Community College

Philip Rogers East Carolina University

Catherine Edmonds (Interim) Elizabeth City State University

Connie L. Book * Elon University

Darrell T. Allison Fayetteville State University

Lawrence D. Czarda Greensboro College Jean Parvin Bordewich (Acting) Guilford College

Anthony Clarke * Guilford Technical Community College

Nido R. Qubein High Point University

Frederick K. Whitt Lenoir-Rhyne University

Anthony Floyd Mars Hill University

Stanley T. Wearden Methodist University

James R. Martin II NC A & T State University

Karrie G. Dixon NC Central University

Hope Williams NCICU

Randy Woodson NC State University

Kenneth Boham (Interim) Piedmont Community College

Daniel G. Lugo Queens University of Charlotte

Shah Ardalan Randolph Community College

Kimberly van Noort UNC Asheville Lee H. Roberts UNC-Chapel Hill

Sharon L. Gaber UNC Charlotte

Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. UNC Greensboro

Robin Cummings * UNC Pembroke

Brian Cole UNC School of the Arts

Aswani Volety UNC Wilmington

Susan R. Wente Wake Forest University

Scott Ralls Wake Tech Community College

Damián J. Fernández * Warren Wilson College

Kelli R. Brown * (Board Chair) Western Carolina University

Lynn Morton William Peace University

Rhett Brown * Wingate University

Bonita J. Brown Winston-Salem State University

Executive Board Member 2024-25 *