



smart.

AUGUST 20 – 21, 2014
Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst, NC

2014

Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

Summer Leadership Conference

    @raleighchamber
#SLC14

The
Chamber
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda.....	2 - 3
2014/15 Planning Process Overview.....	4 - 5
Schedule.....	6
Chamber Lines of Business	7
Organizational Chart	8
Staff Organizational Chart	9
2014/15 Executive Committee	10 - 11
2014/15 Board of Directors	12 - 15
2014/15 Executive Committee Bios	16 - 19
Speaker Bios	20 - 23
Major Events for 2014/15	24
Conference Map	26

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AGENDA

as of 8.6.14 ::: subject to change

Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014

- 8 a.m.** Registration
- 9 a.m.** Welcome
Ed Willingham, First Citizens Bank, Chair, 2014 Summer Leadership Conference
- 9:20 a.m.** Keynote Address: **The State of Wake County Public Schools**
Dr. Jim Merrill, Superintendent, Wake County Public School System
Christine Kushner, Chair, Wake County Board of Education
- 10 a.m.** **The Impact and Outlook for Private Higher Education**
Dr. Everett Ward, Interim President, Saint Augustine's University
Dr. Debra Townsley, President, William Peace University
J. Rich Leonard, Dean, Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law
Dr. Hope Williams, President, NC Independent Colleges and Universities
- 10:45 a.m.** Break
- 11 a.m.** **The Next Generation Power Electronics National Manufacturing Innovation Institute - Exploring our Newest Frontiers**
Dr. Randy Woodson, Chancellor, North Carolina State University
- 12:15 p.m.** Lunch
- 12:45 p.m.** **Modernizing Redistricting**
Chris Fitzsimon, Founder and Executive Director, NC Policy Watch
John Hood, President and Chairman, John Locke Foundation
- 1:30 p.m.** Break
- 1:45 p.m.** **Breakout 1**
Selling a Smart Market
Adrienne Cole, Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development
- Big Times for Big Data**
Dr. Terri Lomax, Vice Chancellor, Office of Research, Innovation & Economic Development, NC State University
Denny Edwards, President and CEO, Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Finding the Smart Money**
Joan Seifert Rose, President, Council for Entrepreneurial Development
- Breakout 2**
Planning the Next Phase of Downtown
David Diaz, President, Downtown Raleigh Alliance
- Gigabit Internet Service in the Triangle**
Gail Roper, CIO, City of Raleigh
Robert L. Doreauk, Regional Director, External Affairs, AT&T North Carolina
- Changing With the Times**
Nick Tennyson, Chief Deputy Secretary, North Carolina Department of Transportation
- 3:15 p.m.** Healthy Break
- 3:30 p.m.** **Meet the Candidates**
Wake County Board of Commissioners
North Carolina General Assembly
- 5:30 p.m.** Adjournment
- 6 p.m.** **Dinner and Networking Evening**
Featuring heavy gourmet hors d'oeuvres and cocktails

Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014

Breakfast on Your Own

- 8:15 a.m.** **Wake Tech as Your Smart Business Partner**
 Dr. Stephen Scott, President, Wake Technical Community College
- 9 a.m.** **Board of Directors Meeting**
 Ed Willingham, First Citizens Bank, Chair, 2014 Summer Leadership Conference
- 9:15 a.m.** **2014/15 Department Action Plans and Budget**
- Small Business and Member Services**
 Joel Graybeal, Triangle Rock Club
- Membership Development/Campaign 2015**
 Gary Greene, Greene Resources, Inc.
- Communications**
 Mike Hughes, Duke Energy
- Government Affairs**
 Sheila Ahler, Cherry Bekaert, LLP
- Education**
 David Liberatore, BBH Design, PA
- Regional Transportation Alliance**
 Randy Lickey, Williams Mullen
- Economic Development**
 Skip Hill, Highwoods Properties, Inc.
- Budget Presentation**
 Greg Winkler, Wells Fargo
- 10:30 a.m.** **Adjournment**
- 11 a.m.** **Golf Tournament**
- 3 p.m.** **Golf Awards**

2014/15 PLANNING PROCESS OVERVIEW

Overview

Each year the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce produces an Action Plan to guide its activities. This plan is developed by reviewing our mission, vision, last year's Action Plan, and membership input, and then a new plan is created based on expected needs or opportunities.

Our process challenges the organization to focus on our vision and strategic goals. We involve our membership in determining the future of the Chamber through our department boards and Summer Leadership Conference.

We ask these questions:

1. Does the plan relate to our mission?
2. Is it important to our membership?
3. Will it attract leadership and membership support?
4. Is it a duplication of another organization's effort?
5. Can it be funded?
6. Is it measurable?

Advancing the Mission

To advance our mission, we develop plans that turn our mission into specific action steps.

We follow this simple formula:

1. Understand our mission

We ask ourselves whether our plan is consistent with who we are and what our job is.

2. Prioritize our strategic goals

As our community evolves, needs and opportunities change; therefore, we reassess our priorities each year.

3. Identify tactical objectives

We achieve our goals by establishing annual tactical objectives. These objectives are measurable tasks that can be accomplished in one year. They must be measurable if the Chamber is to be accountable to its membership.

The Three Steps

Planning is a three-step process. Since the Chamber is often called upon to do many things, it is easy to lose focus. Therefore, each step in the planning process increases the focus of the Chamber and, in turn, improves its effectiveness.

Step one

Conduct the Executive Committee Retreat in June. Review the previous Action Plan and determine which strategic goals should have attention in the upcoming year and what tactical objectives should be a priority.

Step Two

Establish five department boards (Economic Development, Government Affairs/Community Development, Small Business and Member Services, Membership Development, and Communications) made up of approximately 30 members each. Participants on each board will include: approximately one-third Chamber Board of Directors members, one-third members who have been active in the department in previous years, and one-third new members in the department. Appointment to a department board will be made by the department vice-chairman.

Department Boards are chaired by the member of the Chamber's Executive Committee who is responsible for that department's portfolio for the year. These boards meet at least once during July and August to:

1. Review the suggestions of the Executive Committee
2. Review the Chamber's current Action Plan
3. Establish a draft Action Plan for the department

Step Three

In late August, department boards, Board of Directors, and Board of Advisors meet at the Summer Leadership Conference to adopt the new Action Plan and budget.

In September, the Annual Meeting is held and the new program is shared with the membership.

On Oct. 1, the new program year begins.

SCHEDULE

Input Gathering

June 11, 2014

Executive Committee Retreat

Business Plan Formulation

July/August 2014

Department Boards prepare draft of 2014/15 Action Plan

August 19 – 21, 2014

**Summer Leadership Conference—
Adopt 2014/15 Action Plan**

Preparing for Implementation

September 16, 2014

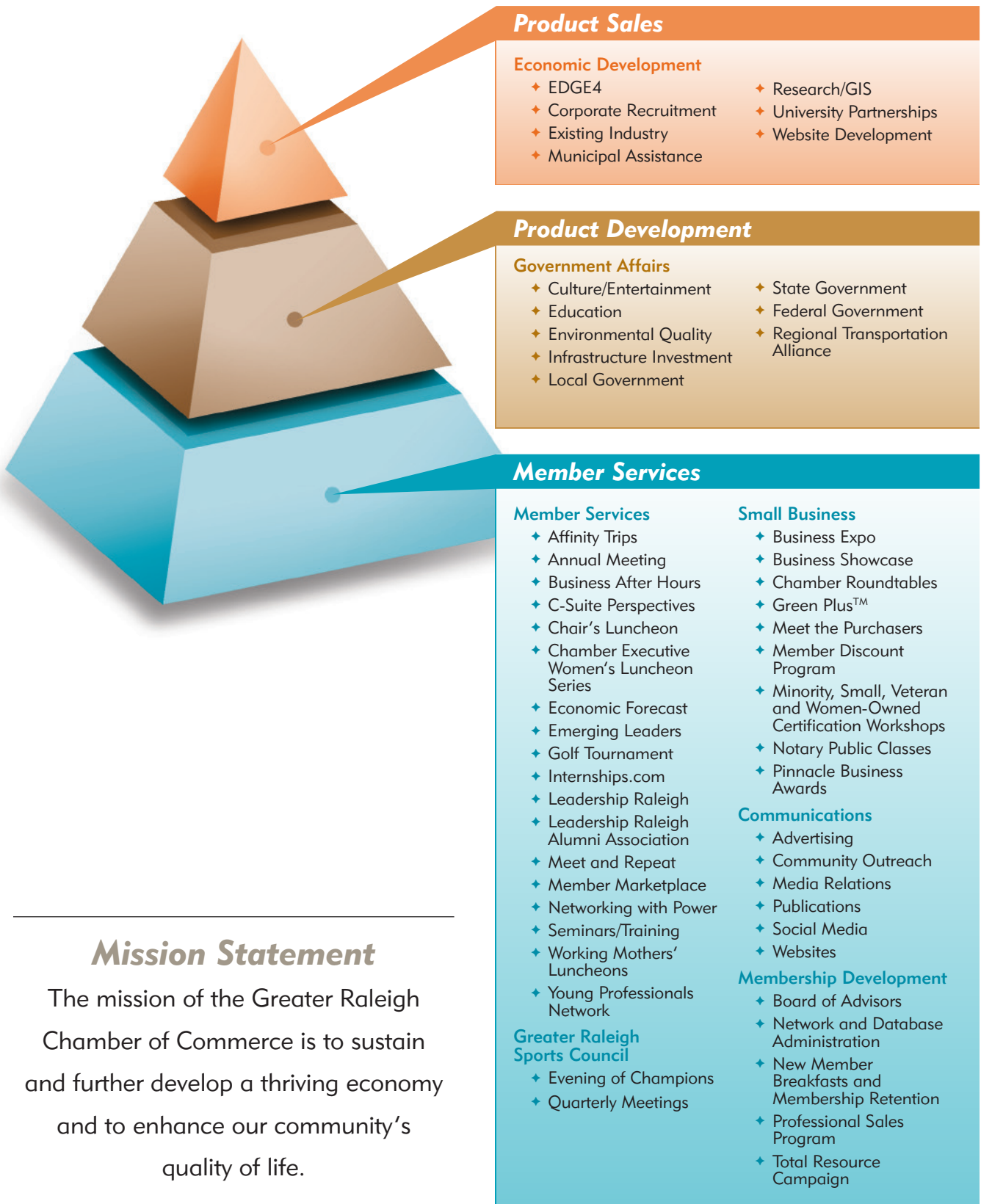
Annual Meeting

October 1, 2014

Implement Action Plans



2014/15 Program Year



Product Sales

Economic Development

- ✦ EDGE4
- ✦ Corporate Recruitment
- ✦ Existing Industry
- ✦ Municipal Assistance
- ✦ Research/GIS
- ✦ University Partnerships
- ✦ Website Development

Product Development

Government Affairs

- ✦ Culture/Entertainment
- ✦ Education
- ✦ Environmental Quality
- ✦ Infrastructure Investment
- ✦ Local Government
- ✦ State Government
- ✦ Federal Government
- ✦ Regional Transportation Alliance

Member Services

Member Services

- ✦ Affinity Trips
- ✦ Annual Meeting
- ✦ Business After Hours
- ✦ C-Suite Perspectives
- ✦ Chair's Luncheon
- ✦ Chamber Executive Women's Luncheon Series
- ✦ Economic Forecast
- ✦ Emerging Leaders
- ✦ Golf Tournament
- ✦ Internships.com
- ✦ Leadership Raleigh
- ✦ Leadership Raleigh Alumni Association
- ✦ Meet and Repeat
- ✦ Member Marketplace
- ✦ Networking with Power
- ✦ Seminars/Training
- ✦ Working Mothers' Luncheons
- ✦ Young Professionals Network

Small Business

- ✦ Business Expo
- ✦ Business Showcase
- ✦ Chamber Roundtables
- ✦ Green Plus™
- ✦ Meet the Purchasers
- ✦ Member Discount Program
- ✦ Minority, Small, Veteran and Women-Owned Certification Workshops
- ✦ Notary Public Classes
- ✦ Pinnacle Business Awards

Communications

- ✦ Advertising
- ✦ Community Outreach
- ✦ Media Relations
- ✦ Publications
- ✦ Social Media
- ✦ Websites

Membership Development

- ✦ Board of Advisors
- ✦ Network and Database Administration
- ✦ New Member Breakfasts and Membership Retention
- ✦ Professional Sales Program
- ✦ Total Resource Campaign

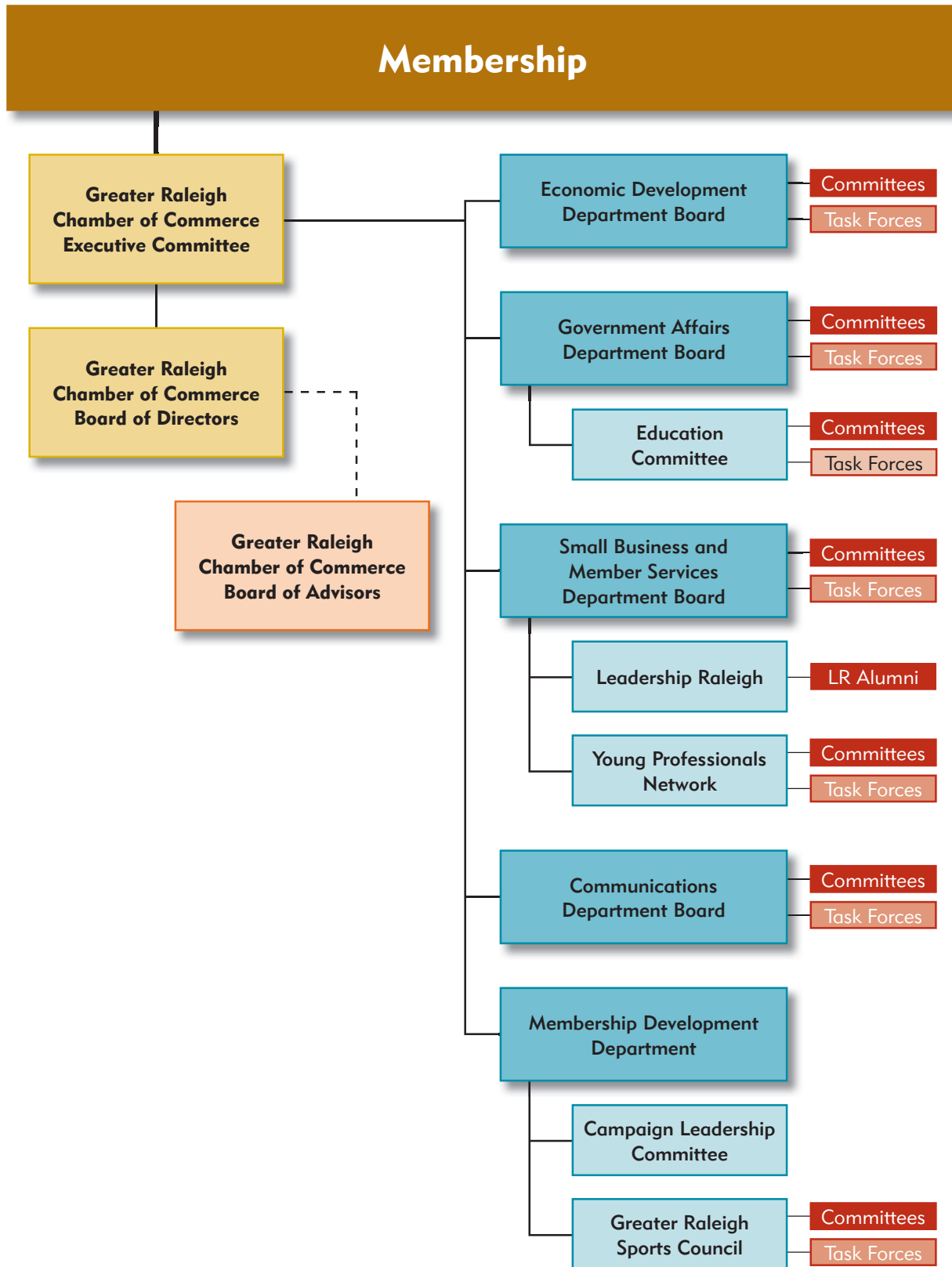
Greater Raleigh Sports Council

- ✦ Evening of Champions
- ✦ Quarterly Meetings

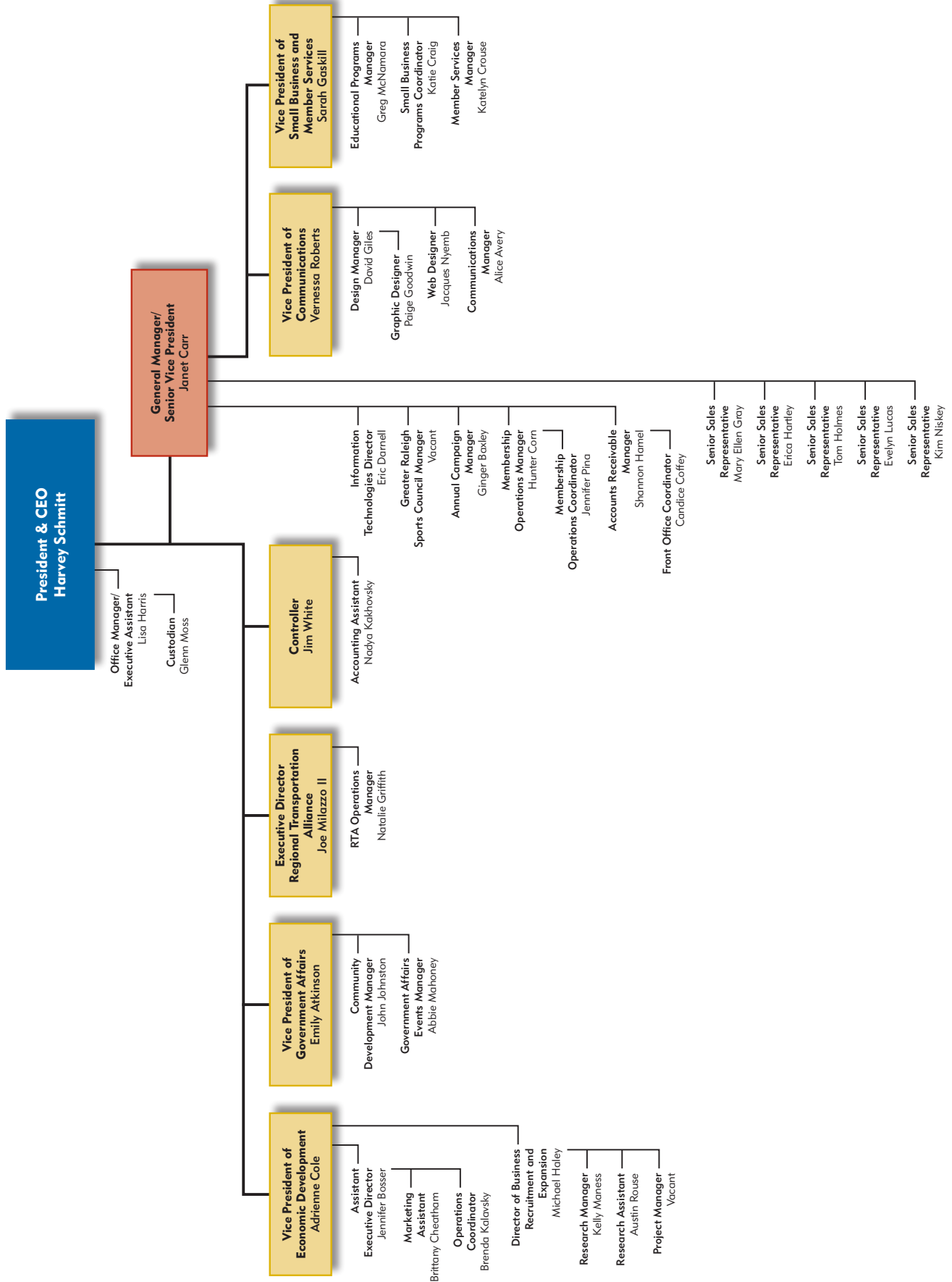
Mission Statement

The mission of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce is to sustain and further develop a thriving economy and to enhance our community's quality of life.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2014/15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
Chairman	Ed Willingham President First Citizens Bank PO Box 29550 Raleigh, NC 27626	919.716.2697 919.716.2737 ed.willingham@firstcitizens.com	2018
Treasurer	Greg Winkler Regional Business Banking Manager Wells Fargo 150 Fayetteville St., Suite 600 Raleigh, NC 27601	919.881.6442 fax: 919.881.6449 gregory.a.winkler@wellsfargo.com	2016
Chair-elect	Jill Heath President and CEO Mulkey Engineers & Consultants PO Box 33127 Raleigh, NC 27636	919.836.4800 fax: 919.836.4801 jheath@mulkeyinc.com	2019
Immediate Past Chair	Richard Urquhart Chief Operating Officer Investors Management Corporation 5151 Glenwood Ave., Suite 300 Raleigh, NC 27612	919.781.9310 fax: 919.881.5261 rurquhart@investorsmanagement.com	2017
Past Chair	Jim Captain Managing Director – Raleigh Site Executive Credit Suisse PO Box 110047 RTP, NC 27709	919.994.4742 fax: 919.994.6130 jim.captain@credit-suisse.com	2016
Past Chair	Jim Beck President and CEO TrustAtlantic Bank 4801 Glenwood Ave., Suite 500 Raleigh, NC 27612	919.844.1699 fax: 919.844.1679 jbeck@trustatlantic.com	2015
General Counsel	Richard Stevens Counsel Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett Mitchell & Jernigan, LLP 150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1000 Raleigh, NC 27601	919.821.6774 fax: 919.821.6800 rstevens@smitlaw.com	2015
Vice Chair Communications	Mike Hughes Vice President Local Government and Community Relations Duke Energy PO Box 1551 NCRH-12 Raleigh, NC 27602	919.546.7274 Fax: 919.546.6615 mike.hughes@pgnmail.com	2017
Vice Chair Economic Development	Skip Hill Vice President and Division Manager Highwoods Properties, Inc. 3100 Smoketree Court Raleigh, NC 27604	919.875.6670 fax: 919.876.25448 thomas.hill@highwoods.com	2015

2014/15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTINUED

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
Vice Chair Education	David Liberatore Architect/Principal BBH Design, PA 8208 Brownleigh Drive Raleigh, NC 27617	919.460.6700 fax: 919.460.6733 dliberatore@bbh-design.com	2016
Vice Chair Government Affairs	Sheila Ahler Partner Cherry Bekaert LLP 2626 Glenwood Ave., Suite 200 Raleigh, NC 27608	919.719.4213 fax: 919.783.0976 sahler@cbh.com	2016
Vice Chair Membership Development	Gary Greene President Greene Resources, Inc. 805 Spring Forest Road, Suite 400 Raleigh, NC 27609	919.862.8602 fax: 919.862.8601 gary@greeneresources.com	2016
Vice Chair, Small Business and Member Services	Joel Graybeal Managing Partner Triangle Rock Club 102 Pheasant Wood Court Morrisville, NC 27560	919.463.7625 fax: 919.463.7626 joel@trianglerockclub.com	2015
At Large	Amy Baker Managing Partner Ernst & Young LLP 4130 Park Lake Ave., Suite 500 Raleigh, NC 27612	919.981.2919 fax: 919.981.2997 amy.baker@ey.com	2016
At Large	Ravila Gupta President and Legal Counsel Umicore USA, Inc. 3600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27612	919.874.2126 fax: 919.874.7195 ravila.gupta@am.umicore.com	2016
At Large	Terrence Holt President Holt Brothers Construction, LLC 8801 Fast Park Drive, Suites 105 & 107 Raleigh, NC 27617	919.787.1981 fax: 919.787.8666 terrence@holtbrothersinc.com	2016
President	Harvey Schmitt, CCE President and CEO Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce PO Box 2978 Raleigh, NC 27602	919.664.7020 fax: 919.664.7099 hschmitt@raleighchamber.org	

2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
	Karen Albritton President Capstrat 1201 Edwards Mill Road, Suite 102 Raleigh, NC 27607	919.863.1962 fax: 919.834.7959 kalbritton@capstrat.com	2016
	DeLisa Alexander Executive Vice President/Chief People Officer Red Hat, Inc. 100 E. Davie St. Raleigh, NC 27601	919.754.4448 fax: 919.754.3712 delisa@redhat.com	2017
Young Professionals Network Chair	Ginny Allen Chief Business Development Officer Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog, LLP 5420 Wade Park Blvd., Suite 300 Raleigh, NC 27607	919.863.8750 fax: 919.828.2277 cell: 919.619.3433 gallen@cshllaw.com	2015
	Brooks Bell Owner Brooks Bell 711 Hillsborough St., Suite 200 Raleigh, NC 27603	919.521.5280 brooks@brooksbell.com	2015
	Randy Brodd Managing Member – Eastern Region Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP 2501 Blue Ridge Road, Suite 500 Raleigh, NC 27607	919.875.4967 fax: 919.301.6799 randy.brodd@dhgllc.com	2017
	Steve Burriss Chief Operating Officer Rex Healthcare 4420 Lake Boone Trail Raleigh, NC 27607	919.784.3111 steve.burriss@rexhealth.com	2017
	Leon Cox General Manager Sheraton Raleigh Hotel 421 S. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27601	919.256.9900x414 cell: 919.256.1464 leon.cox@sheratonraleigh.com	2017
	Heather Denny President McDonald York Building Company 801 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605	919.832.3770 fax: 919.839.2307 hdenny@mcdonaldyork.com	2017
	Jennifer Dunleavy President Accuro 1330 St. Mary's St., Suite 350 Raleigh, NC 27605	919.851.9880 fax: 919.851.9884 jennifer@theaccurogroup.com	2016
	James "Jake" Fehling Jr. Vice President KFA Search 4208 Six Forks Road, Suite 1000 Captrust Tower, 10th Floor Raleigh, NC 27609	919.474.8721 fax: 919.474.8822 jake@kfasearch.com	2016

2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTINUED

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
	Tom Fritsch Managing Director CB Richard Ellis-Raleigh LLC 4208 Six Forks Road, Suite 1220 Raleigh, NC 27609	919.831.8200 cell: 919.856.2530 tom.fritsch@cbre.com	201
	Martha Frye Regional Vice President Nationwide Insurance 4401 Creedmoor Road Raleigh, NC 27612	919.781.3322 fax: 919.881.3387 fryem2@nationwide.com	2017
	Bill Gant Regional Vice President of Operations Concord Hospitality Company 11410 Common Oaks Drive Raleigh, NC 27614	919.455.2900 fax: 919.571.8993 bill.gant@concordhotels.com	2015
	Jimmy Goodman Vice President/General Manager CBC New Media Group Capitol Broadcasting Co., Inc. 2619 Western Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27606	919.821.8605 fax: 919.821.8733 jgoodmon@cbcnewmedia.com	2015
	Alan Hughes Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina 5901 Chapel Hill Road Durham, NC 27707	919.765.4140 fax: 919.765.7590 alan.hughes@bcbsnc.com	2015
	Malay Jindal Owner The Goddard School 6600 Creedmoor Road Raleigh, NC 27613	919.787.5002 jindalm@earthlink.net	2017
	David Jones President and COO Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston 1001 Wade Ave., Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27605	919.789.5204 fax: 919.645.9123 david.jones@hwp.com	2015
	Lisa Jones CEO Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines 6901 Pinecrest Road Raleigh, NC 27613	919.719.0800 fax: 919.719.0910 ljones@nccoastalpines.org	2015
	Christine Kushner Chair Wake County Board of Education 5625 Dillard Drive Cary, NC 27518	919.431.7329 fax: 919.841.4377 ckushner@wcpss.net	2015
	Sandi MacDonald President and CEO North Carolina Symphony 3700 Glenwood Ave., Suite 130 Raleigh, NC 27612	919.733.2750 cell: 919.789.5454 smacdonald@ncsymphony.org	2017

2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTINUED

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
	Phil Matthews Chairman Wake County Board of Commissioners PO Box 550 Raleigh, NC 27602	919.772.5876 fax: 919.856.5699 phil.matthews@wakegov.com	2015
	Steven McCarthy Vice President Fidelity Investments 5411 Page Road Durham, NC 27703	877.236.9340 fax: 617.598.9305 steven.mccarthy@fmr.com	2017
	Nancy McFarlane Mayor City of Raleigh PO Box 590 Raleigh, NC 27602	919.996.3050 fax: 919.996.7622 nancy.mcfarlane@raleighnc.gov	2015
	Chris Moore Triangle Regional President VantageSouth Bank 4711 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC 27609	919.881.1637 fax: 866.224.0926 chris.moore@vsb.com	2015
	Tesa Oechsle Vice President, Finance, and Treasurer LORD Corporation 111 Lord Drive Cary, NC 27511	919.468.5980 fax: 814.860.3937 tesa.oechsle@lord.com	2015
RTA Chair	Ed Paradise Vice President Engineering Global Government Solutions Group and RTP Cisco Site Executive Cisco Systems, Inc. PO Box 14987 RTP, NC 27709-4987	919.392.7939 fax: 919.392.5600 paradise@cisco.com	2015
	Steve Parrott President Wake Education Partnership 706 Hillsborough St., Suite A Raleigh, NC 27603	919.821.7609 fax: 919.821.7637 sparrott@wakeedpartnership.oorg	2015
	Kyle Prairie Vice President, Ticket Sales Carolina Hurricanes 1400 Edwards Mills Road Raleigh, NC 27607	919.861.2300 fax: 919.861.6238 kylep@carolinahurricanes.com	2016
	Bill Roberts Chairman, Northern Division Belk, Inc. 4325 Glenwood Ave. Raleigh, NC 27612	919.832.5851 fax: 919.785.2816 bill_roberts@belk.com	2015

2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTINUED

BOARD TITLE	NAME/COMPANY/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
	Jason Smith Owner and Executive Chef 18 Seaboard Restaurant 18 Seaboard St., Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27604	919.961.4318 jsmith@18seaboard.com	2016
	Dr. Juan Torres Senior Vice President, Global Quality Biogen Idec PO Box 14627 RTP, NC 27709	919.993.1401 fax: 919.941.1112 juan.torres@biogenidec.com	2015
President, Leadership Raleigh Alumni Association	Amy Watkins Broker York Properties 801 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605	919.645.2771 fax: 919.833.1363 amywatkins@yorkproperties.com	2015
	Caroline Welch President/General Manager ABC-11 Eyewitness News (WTVD) 411 Liberty St. Durham, NC 27701	919.687.2242 fax: 919.682.7225 caroline.f.welch@abc.com	2017
Sports Council Chair	Rebecca Quinn-Wolf Vice President Director of Client and Community Relations PNC 301 Fayetteville St., 21st Floor Raleigh, NC 27601	919.788.5478 fax: 919.755.0644 rebecca.quinn-wolf@pnc.com	2015
	Terry Yeargan Client Sponsor DPR Construction, Inc. 2000 Aerial Center Parkway, Suite 109 Morrisville, NC 27560	919.337.9400 terry@dpr.com	2016

2014/15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BIOS

Sheila Ahler

Sheila Ahler is a certified public accountant with more than 35 years of experience providing tax, attest, and consultation services to businesses and individuals. In November 2005, she transferred from Hilton Head Island, SC, to the firm's Raleigh office, where she continues to serve as a client development partner. Ahler is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and previously served on the national council. She is a past president of the South Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants and founding member of the Board of the South Carolina Administrative and Regulatory Law Association. In Hilton Head, Ahler actively served the community as the chair of the Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and the Board of Governors of Hilton Head Regional Medical Center. She held many leadership positions at the St. Andrew By-the-Sea United Methodist Church, and served as chair of the Church Council. Since moving to Raleigh her professional affiliations include membership in the North Carolina Association of CPAs and the Administrative Section of the NC Bar Association. She currently serves as chair-elect of the Board of the Association for Corporate Growth, member of the Board of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, past chair of the Circle of Red for the American Heart Association, member of the Meredith College School of Business Advisory Board.

Amy Baker

Amy Baker is the Ernst & Young LLP office managing partner for Raleigh and Greensboro. She has more than 21 years of experience with Ernst & Young LLP serving both privately held and publicly owned companies. In her current role, her primary focus is in insurance and asset management, as well as emerging growth companies in life sciences and manufacturing. She has held significant leadership roles within Ernst & Young LLP, including Carolinas strategic growth markets leader, campus coordinating partner for all activities at UNC Chapel Hill, resource production leader for Raleigh/Greensboro, campus and experienced hire leader for Raleigh/Greensboro, member of Southeast Area Diversity Steering Committee, and executive sponsor of the Professional Women's Network and Working Mother's Network. Baker served as treasurer for Kids Voting and Women's Institute, completed the Cary Leadership Program, and organized office outings to serve at the Soup Kitchen. She is active with United Way Leadership Counsel, the Tocqueville Society, and the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She served for many years in the youth ministry and as adjunct professor at UNC Chapel Hill Master of Accounting Program in intermediate accounting and auditing.

James (Jim) Beck

James (Jim) Beck serves as the founding president and CEO of TrustAtlantic Financial Corporation and its subsidiary, TrustAtlantic Bank. After acquiring the \$30 million asset Millennia Community Bank in June 2007, he and his team recapitalized and repositioned it as TrustAtlantic Bank, growing it to over \$330 million in assets in just two years. TrustAtlantic now has total assets of approximately \$400 million and five banking offices serving Raleigh, Cary, and Greenville. Beck has more than 35 years of banking and financial services experience. A seasoned bank executive and entrepreneur, he founded and built three successful banking companies. Prior to TrustAtlantic, he was founding president and CEO of Capital Bank Corporation, which, under his leadership, grew from a startup in 1997 to a thriving operation in 2003 with \$900 million in total assets, 21 banking locations, and more than 250 employees. As chairman, president, and CEO of SouthTrust Bank of North Carolina, N.A., he led the first successful entry of a major out-of-state bank holding company into North Carolina, and grew that bank to more than \$200 million in total assets in five and a half years. Throughout his career, Beck has been active in leadership roles in various civic, charitable, and professional organizations, including the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, the Triangle United Way, his church, and NC State University. He helped found and currently serves on the board of the Daniel Center for Math and Science.

Jim Captain

Jim Captain is a managing director with Credit Suisse and is responsible for the Raleigh Center of Excellence, which houses more than 1,300 staff supporting the firm's investment banking activities around the world. He is a financial services professional with more than 35 years of experience, the past 11 with Credit Suisse. His career has included leadership positions in Operations, IT, Project, and Client Management. Beck was a member of Mortgage Backed Securities Clearing Corp Board that led the elimination of physical mortgage securities in the U.S. markets; represented two major South African banks and worked with the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to establish the Central Securities Depository; managed the deployment of 600 roles within Citibank's Custody Division from New York to Tampa; and managed the deployment of more than 1,300 roles within Credit Suisse's Investment Banking operations, Accounting, and IT groups from New York to Raleigh. He is a member of the Greater Raleigh Chamber's Executive Committee, the Research Triangle Regional Partnership board, and the NC State Poole School of Management Advisory Board. He is past chair of the Regional Transportation Alliance and past board member of the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

Joel Graybeal

Joel Graybeal is a managing partner at Triangle Rock Club, North Carolina's premiere indoor climbing and fitness centers. In 2014, Graybeal was named the Small Business Person of the Year for North Carolina by the Small Business Administration, CFO of the Year by the Triangle Business Journal, Community Steward of the Year by both the Morrisville and Cary chambers of commerce. Triangle Rock Club won a Pinnacle Business Award in 2013 and 2014. Prior to Triangle Rock Club, Graybeal worked as a mortgage banker and aerospace engineer. He currently serves on the boards of the Morrisville Innovation Foundation, Triangle Aquatics Center, and Durham Ronald McDonald House.

Gary Greene

Gary Greene is president of Greene Resources, Inc., an employment solutions company based in Raleigh that designs and delivers specialized recruiting solutions for businesses from a wide variety of industries across the nation. Greene Resources' recognitions include: Entrepreneur Magazine's 100 Hottest Companies in America, Triangle's Top Entrepreneurs, eight years as a Triangle Fast Fifty, Wake Tech Community College Business Champion, Pinnacle Business Award for Entrepreneurship, and the Chamber's Integrity in Business Award (premier recipient). Greene's community involvement includes serving as a Rotarian, outgoing chair of Wake Education Partnership's Board of Directors, chair-elect of Friends of Arts NC State, board member of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, and advisory board member of the YMCA. He is also a member of the American Staffing Association, National Association of Personnel Services, North Carolina Association of Staffing Professionals, and Society of Human Resource Management.

Ravila Gupta

Ravila Gupta, president of Umicore USA, leads the organization responsible for providing corporate services to all Umicore business units located in North America. Umicore is a global materials technology group focusing on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry, and metallurgy makes a real difference. Gupta joined Umicore USA in 2008 as legal counsel and assumed the position of president in 2011. During her tenure as legal counsel, she was responsible for, among other items, commercial, intellectual property, environmental, trade, and certain employment matters. Prior to joining Umicore USA, Gupta worked as a process/environmental engineer for various government agencies and corporations. After obtaining her Juris Doctor, Gupta joined the Ogletree Deakins law firm and then worked as an in-house counsel for an engineering consulting firm. She is a member of the Association of Corporate Counsels, National Association of CEOs, Admitted to NC, and NC Board of Professionals Engineers.

Jill Wells Heath, LEED® AP

Jill Wells Heath is president and chief executive officer of Mulkey Engineers & Consultants, one of the top civil and environmental engineering companies in the Southeast. As CEO, Heath sets the strategic direction for the firm, executes the company's vision, and fosters a company culture that cultivates and expands business relationships and alliances. She works closely with Mulkey's leadership team in championing the firm's initiatives. She's been named one of Triangle Business Journal's Fifth to Watch in Business, Business Leader Magazine's Movers & Shakers, and a Real Estate Impact Leader, among other distinctions. Heath's list of community involvement positions is lengthy, including past chair of the Wake Technical Community College Foundation Board of Directors and the Downtown Raleigh Alliance Board of Directors, and board of directors member for the John Rex Endowment and Triangle YMCA. She is chair-elect of the Greater Raleigh Chamber.

Skip Hill

Skip Hill is vice president and division head, Triangle Division, Highwoods Properties, Inc. A 27-year commercial real estate veteran, Hill is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Highwoods Properties' Triangle division, which includes operations in Raleigh, Cary, and Durham. His role includes the oversight of all leasing, property management, acquisition/disposition, and development activities for Highwoods' 5.5 million square foot Triangle office portfolio. Previously, Hill was Highwoods' corporate vice president of leasing where he was responsible for overseeing the company's leasing activities nationally. Hill will serve as vice chair of the Raleigh Chamber's Economic Development Board. He currently serves as the 2014 chair of the Board of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance; is serving on the Board of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau; and recently joined the Board of Advisors for the UNC Children's Hospital. In the past, Hill has served on the Cary Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors where he also was vice chair of economic development; was board member and past president of the Triangle chapter of NAIOP, and past on the National Board of Directors for NAIOP; and was NC State Chapter president and ex officio board member of the North Carolina chapter of CCIM.

Terrence Holt

As president of Holt Brothers, Inc., Terrence Holt is responsible for creating, communicating, and implementing the mission, vision, and overall direction of the company. Holt Brothers, Inc. consists of Holt Brothers Construction, Holt Brothers Development, Holt Brothers Football, and the Holt Brothers Foundation. Under Holt's leadership the past year, Holt Brothers Construction doubled in size, significantly increased its revenue, and expanded its client base to include the city of Raleigh, Wake County, and WakeMed. The Holt Brothers Foundation also held its first ever Playoff Party, raising \$90,000 to support children who have a parent with cancer. The Holt Brothers Football Camp grew 25 percent in 2014, serving 350 children. Holt serves on the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors. He is also on the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at NC State and last year served as chair of the Wake Education Partnership's Annual Campaign.

Mike Hughes

Mike Hughes is vice president, North Carolina community relations, at Duke Energy, a position he has held since 2012. He previously held various positions, including corporate director of media relations, for Progress Energy/Carolina Power & Light. Prior to that, he was a newspaper reporter, columnist, editor, and general manager at the Washington Daily News and Apex Herald. He has received numerous awards from the North Carolina Press Association and International Association of Business Communications. Hughes serves on the board of visitors for East Carolina University, the Nuclear Energy Institute Communication Advisory Committee, and is a member of Leadership North Carolina Class XXI.

David Liberatore

During the last 33 years, David Liberatore has refined his expertise in the programming, design, and construction of environments through his development of multiple project types and his active participation in professional organizations. He has been a presenter at state, regional, and national professional conferences and his work has received various recognitions. Liberatore is a principal with BBH Design and is a licensed NCARB certified architect in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and New York. He has held numerous leadership positions, including president, in the American Institute of Architects, is a LEED accredited professional BD+C, and is a Recognized Educational Facility Planner. Liberatore's community involvement includes the Council of Educational Facility Planners International, Society for College and University Planning, National Association for the Education of Young Children, and North Carolina Business Committee for Education.

Harvey Schmitt, CCE

Harvey Schmitt is president and CEO of the Greater Raleigh Chamber, a position he has held since 1994. Prior to this role, Schmitt was president of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, general manager of the Jacksonville Chamber, and executive vice president of the Dubuque Chamber. Schmitt has served on a number of professional and civic boards, including American Chamber of Commerce Executives, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the Research Triangle Regional Partnership Executive Board, and many more. Some of Schmitt's awards include John B. Ross Leadership Award from the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau (2009); Supporter of Public Education Award from the Wake Education Partnership (2008); and Business Leader of the Year Award for the Triangle Region from Business Leader Magazine (2002). Schmitt received an Honorary Doctorate of Business from William Peace University in 2012.

Richard Stevens

Richard Stevens joined Smith Anderson in September 2012 after serving as a senator in the North Carolina General Assembly since 2003. Before stepping down from this role, he was ranked as the Senate's third most effective member, according to a survey by the nonpartisan North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research. For the past two years, Richard was co-chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and served as a budget leader under both Republican and Democratic majorities. An attorney and management consultant, he was manager of Wake County from 1984 to 2000. Before that, he served as assistant Wake County manager and held numerous positions with the city of Durham, including director of finance and assistant city manager. He's served in leadership positions on a number of boards, including the Centennial Authority, Institute for Emerging Issues, National Association of County Commissioners, and UNC – Chapel Hill.

Richard Urquhart III

Richard Urquhart III is chief financial officer at Investors Management Corporation, a company that partners with businesses by investing capital in their growth and helping them achieve their future goals. Before joining IMC in 1985, Urquhart had worked as a partner with Arthur Andersen & Co. since 1965. Urquhart is active in his community, providing leadership on numerous boards including the Wake Education Partnership, the NC New Schools Project, the NC Public Schools Forum, Capstone Bank, Boys & Girls Club of Raleigh, and Meredith College. He also received the Wake Education Partnership "Friend of Education Award 2007."

Edward L. Willingham

Ed Willingham is president of Raleigh-headquartered First Citizens BancShares Inc. and its First Citizens Bank subsidiary. Willingham joined First Citizens Bank in October 1987. He brought 11 years of banking experience to his duties at First Citizens, where he initially served in corporate business development for Wake County. In 1988, he was promoted to Raleigh city executive and in 1991 to regional executive in charge of central North Carolina, where he was responsible for management of all facets of bank operations in 22 counties. In February 2009, he was elected president as a result of his leadership as regional executive. Willingham was elected to a three-year term beginning Jan. 1, 2012 on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. He also serves on the boards of directors of the American Bankers Association, the North Carolina Bankers Association, and UNC Health Care. He is a longstanding member of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and is a past director and advisor. In 2006/07, Willingham served as chairman of the Regional Transportation Alliance. He is a former board member and past president of YMCA of the Triangle and past campaign chairman, executive committee member, and director for the United Way of Wake County.

Greg Winkler

In his role as Wells Fargo's Triangle East Business Banking manager, Greg Winkler is charged with boosting the bank's market share with a focus on lending, deposits, and brand recognition. In his dual role as Wells Fargo's Raleigh Market president, he leads more than 80 business banking direct reports spread across the eastern half of the state. He began his professional career as a CPA at a regional firm prior to coming on board at Wells Fargo. Winkler currently serves on the Raleigh Board of Directors, the NC Rural Center Board of Directors, the United Way Executive Leadership Committee, and the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Board. In 2013, he led the Chamber's Total Resource Campaign on time and on budget. He serves as chair of the Wells Fargo Raleigh Advisory Board of Directors and the Wake County Economic Development Board and also serves on the NC Rural Center Board, the United Way Board, and the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Board and Executive Committee.

SPEAKER BIOS

Adrienne Cole

Adrienne Cole began her economic development career in Eastern North Carolina, serving as the economic development director in both Pamlico and Carteret counties before moving to Raleigh. In 2004, she joined the Greater Raleigh Chamber as the executive director of Raleigh Economic Development, where she successfully recruited and retained companies such as MeadWestvaco, Headway Corporate Resources, PRA International, and Red Hat, Inc. Cole was also successful in bringing Campbell University's law school to downtown Raleigh. Cole joined Lend Lease as their Business Development director in 2011, where she cultivated relationships with clients in key industry sectors and served as a liaison for those clients to identify the best teams and construction solutions to fit their needs. Cole joined Wake County Economic Development as executive director in January 2014. As the lead economic development agency for Wake County, Cole and her team work with the county's 12 municipalities, county and community leaders, and state and regional partners to recruit new business, support existing industries, and help companies attract the talent they need to thrive. She serves on the boards of Marbles Kids Museum, the RDU Airport Authority, the Research Triangle Regional Partnership, and the budget committee of the Economic Development Action Committee for RTRP.

David Diaz

David Diaz is president and CEO of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance. In 2013/14, the DRA attracted more than 175,000 visitors to downtown Raleigh through its movie series, farmers market, and Winterfest. The organization launched the downtown Raleigh gift card program with more than 100 participating merchants, attracted more than 1,000 attendees and 60 corporate sponsors to its annual downtown awards event, and raised \$250,000 to partner with the city of Raleigh in developing a 10-year vision plan for downtown. Diaz serves as board treasurer of the International Downtown Association, large cities director of the North Carolina Downtown Development Association, and board director of Wake County Economic Development. He has 12 years of executive experience leading downtown organizations in Raleigh and Roanoke, Va.; five years as assistant to the city manager and as city planner, and 20 years in the Army and Army Reserves.

Robert Doreauk

Robert Doreauk, regional director of External Affairs at AT&T, is a 16-year veteran of the communications industry, with a background in the network organizations of AT&T and its predecessor company, BellSouth, most recently as an engineering specialist. For several years, he has filled leadership roles in the Triangle Council of the AT&T Pioneers, the volunteer service organization made up of active and retired employees and is the current vice president of the North Carolina Chapter 35.

Denny Edwards

Denny Edwards is president and CEO for the Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau. The GRCVB, which has a staff of 26 and a current annual budget of \$5.2 million, sells and promotes greater Raleigh as destination to visit and hold meetings and sporting events. Prior to joining the GRCVB, Edwards served as senior vice president for the Greater Fort Lauderdale CVB for 10 years. A 31-year veteran, Edwards was also the director of Sales for the Greater Houston CVB and the Palm Springs Desert Resorts CVB. He serves on numerous boards including the American Society of Association Executives, Destination Marketing Association of North Carolina, North Carolina Travel and Tourism Coalition, North Carolina Travel & Tourism Board for the Office of Tourism, and the East Carolina University Hospitality Management Advisory Board.

Chris Fitzsimon

Chris Fitzsimon is the founder and director of NC Policy Watch—a progressive public policy think tank that is a special project of the N.C. Justice Center. Fitzsimon writes the daily Fitzsimon File, delivers a daily radio commentary that is broadcast statewide on the North Carolina News Network, and hosts News and Views. Prior to NC Policy Watch, Fitzsimon served as the spokesman of the Campaign to Protect America's Lands, a national, nonpartisan advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C. Previously Fitzsimon was the founder and for nine years the executive director of the Common Sense Foundation in Raleigh. He is also a frequent speaker across North Carolina on government and politics. Fitzsimon has been quoted in scores of national publications and appears weekly on "NC SPIN." He was an award-winning TV news reporter for nine years. In 1991 he became special assistant for Policy and Communications for House Speaker Dan Blue. In 1994, he founded the Common Sense Foundation.

John Hood

John Hood is president and chairman of the John Locke Foundation, a North Carolina think tank that issues policy studies, hosts dozens of events and training sessions each year, produces broadcast programs, and publishes Carolina Journal, a newspaper, website, and radio program with a monthly audience of nearly 200,000. Hood helped to found JLF in 1989. Hood is a syndicated columnist for newspapers in more than 50 North Carolina communities and writes a monthly column, "Free & Clear," for Business North Carolina magazine. Hood is a frequent guest on talk radio and serves as a weekly panelist on "NC SPIN." He created "Carolina Journal Radio," a weekly newsmagazine broadcast on 18 radio stations, is the author of six books, and writes and comments frequently on politics and policy issues for national media organizations. At JLF, Hood created the E.A. Morris Fellowship for Emerging Leaders, a yearlong program that prepares young North Carolinians for leadership roles in government, business, and nonprofits. Hood currently serves as chairman of the Carolina Liberty Foundation, an independent nonprofit that provides financial support to conservative and libertarian student groups at Chapel Hill.

Christine Kushner

Christine Kushner is a professional policy analyst and freelance writer. She previously served as vice president and the N.C. Foundation for Advanced Health Programs, working in public health and health care access. She began her career as a newspaper reporter, including part-time work for the News & Observer while in college. Kushner currently serves as chair of the Wake County Board of Education and was first elected to the Board in District 6 in November 2011. She has been active in several PTAs, has served on school improvement teams, has served as a facilitator in the YWCA Study Circles program, and volunteers as a tutor and mentor through Communities in Schools. She is a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Raleigh and is a William Friday Fellow for Human Relations through the Wildacres Leadership Initiative.

Dr. Terri Lomax

As vice chancellor of the Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development at NC State University, Dr. Terri Lomax is responsible for research policy, private and governmental partnerships, and planning and administration for research, innovation, and economic development efforts. An award-winning researcher, she is also a professor of plant biology at the University. Lomax, who served as interim vice chancellor from 2008 through 2009, arrived at NC State in the fall of 2006 as dean of the Graduate School and associate vice chancellor for Research. Before arriving at NC State, she was on assignment from Oregon State University to NASA Headquarters in Washington D.C., where she served as division director of the Fundamental Space Biology programs, acting deputy associate administrator for Research in the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate, senior policy analyst for the NASA Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation, and senior education advisor to NASA's Office of Education. A member of the faculty at Oregon State University from 1987 until 2006, Lomax rose from assistant to associate to full professor of Botany and the Center for Gene Research and Biotechnology. Among her honors, Lomax has been named a Fulbright Fellow, Carnegie Fellow, National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Monsanto Research Fellow, and Aldo Leopold Leadership Program Fellow. She has published more than 60 articles, given more than 100 invited presentations, and received grant and contract support totaling over \$8 million for her work on 23 projects from the National Science Foundation, USDA, and NASA.

J. Rich Leonard

J. Rich Leonard, former United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, assumed the role of dean at Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law on July 15, 2013. He served as a United States bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina from 1992 to 2013, acting as chief judge from 1999 through 2006. Prior to that time, he was a United States Magistrate Judge and Clerk of Court of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. For more than a decade Leonard also acted as a consultant to the U.S. Department of State, working with judiciaries in many developing countries, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa. Leonard received the Robert B. Yegge Award for Outstanding Contribution to Judicial Administration in 2011 and the Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Federal Judiciary in 1992.

Dr. James Merrill

Dr. James Merrill was named as the ninth superintendent of the Wake County Public School System on June 18, 2013. Merrill previously served as superintendent of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, the third largest school division in Virginia. As superintendent, he spearheaded the creation and implementation of a strategic plan emphasizing 21st century skills that will define successful students in VBCPS. Prior to his service in Virginia Beach, Merrill served six years as superintendent of the Alamance-Burlington School System. Previously, he spent 16 years in the Wake County Public School System, last serving as associate superintendent for Administration and Finance. He began his career in 1973 as an English teacher.

Paul Newton

Paul Newton is president of Duke Energy's utility operations in North Carolina, serving approximately 3.2 million electric retail customers. He is responsible for advancing the company's rate and regulatory initiatives and managing state and local regulatory and governmental relations, economic development, and community affairs. He assumed his current position in January 2013. Newton previously served as senior vice president and special advisor to Duke Energy's chairman, president, and CEO. Prior to that, he served as senior vice president of strategy, rates, wholesale customers, commodities, and analytics for Duke Energy. Before that, he had more than 18 years of experience serving as legal counsel for the company's utility operations. Newton currently serves on the executive committee of the North Carolina Chamber Board and is a member of the CEO Advisory Council for the NC Center for Nonprofits. He has served in a number of industry leadership posts, including past chair of the Southern Chapter of the Energy Bar Association. He is a past member of the Planning Committee of the Edison Electric Institute Lawyers Committee, the Nuclear Energy Institute, and the American Corporate Counsel Association. He was named to Business North Carolina Legal Elite in 2006, 2007, and 2008.

SPEAKER BIOS

Gail Roper

Gail Roper has more than 30 years' experience in the technology industry in the public and private sectors. She has participated in national and international speaking engagements and conferences on technology strategy and innovative solutions for the government sector. Roper served as chief information officer for the cities of Raleigh, Kansas City, Mo., and Austin, Texas, and has been a C-level executive for more than 17 years. In 2006, Roper joined the city of Raleigh as Raleigh's first CIO. In 2009, Roper was promoted to the Raleigh City Manager's Office as Raleigh's chief information and community relations officer. She currently has responsibility for the IT, Human Resources, and Community Services departments. Roper is the founder and fundraiser for the Raleigh Digital Connectors Program. In 2009, her efforts secured \$1.5 million in federal stimulus funding to bring broadband access to underserved homes in Raleigh and to provide a youth program that promotes 21st century digital literacy and leadership skills. She has received distinguished awards in the area of technology innovation including the Distinguished Professional of the Year and The Administrator of the Year award from the American Association of Public Administrators. Public CIO magazine noted her as one of the top women CIO leaders in the nation.

Dr. Stephen Scott

On Oct. 15, 2003, Wake Technical Community College welcomed the third president in the college's 50-year history: Dr. Stephen Scott. His personal focus at Wake Tech is on value-added education and on leadership development for faculty, staff, and students. With a career spanning more than 40 years, Scott has served as president of Lenoir Community College and Southeastern Community College. He has also served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of the North Carolina Community College System. Scott began his career in South Carolina, teaching high school mathematics and physics. He served in several administrative positions for community colleges in South Carolina before moving to North Carolina in 1988. In 2008, Dr. Scott was named President of the Year by the NC Board of Community Colleges. Other honors include the 2009 I.E. Ready award from the NC State University Department of Adult and Higher Education, the 2009 Business Leader of the Year Award from Business Leader magazine, and the 2013 Pacesetter of the Year Award from the National Council on Marketing and Public Relations, District 2. Under Scott's leadership, Wake Tech became the largest of North Carolina's 58 community colleges. In 2007, the college opened its Northern Wake Campus as the first campus in the nation to be completely LEED® certified by the U.S. Green Building Council, and three years later purchased land in Morrisville for its future RTP Campus. In 2012, voters passed a \$200 million bond referendum to enable Wake Tech to build new classrooms to meet the growing demand for higher education and training in Wake County. In 2013, Wake Tech was named the fastest-growing large community college in the U.S. by Community College Week.

Joan Seifert Rose

Joan Seifert Rose joined the Council for Economic Development in August 2008 as president. Her responsibilities include overseeing programming and services, fundraising, strategic planning, and community outreach for the nation's oldest and largest entrepreneurial support organization. Rose led a strategic initiative to reorganize and rebrand CED, which coincided with the organization's 25th birthday in 2009. She has formed alliances with regional entrepreneurial and economic development groups, including the entrepreneurship programs at UNC, Duke, NC State, and NC Central. Rose spent more than 30 years in broadcasting as a radio manager, journalist, and talk show host, winning the DuPont-Columbia award and the George Foster Peabody award, broadcast journalism's top honors. She served as general manager of North Carolina Public Radio in Chapel Hill for seven years prior to joining CED, and previously held positions at commercial and public radio stations in Raleigh, Charlotte, Detroit, and Ann Arbor, Mich. She worked for several years in health care planning and marketing.

Nick Tennyson

Nick Tennyson's role combines the two previous chief deputy secretary positions to provide stronger oversight and integration across all North Carolina Department of Transportation's operational and support functions. He previously served as chief deputy secretary of Support and interim chief deputy secretary of Operations since Jim Trogdon retired in October 2013. Tennyson also served as interim NCDMV commissioner for three months. He is a valuable leader in the areas of strategic planning, information technology, fiscal, and intergovernmental affairs. Tennyson served four years as mayor of Durham and co-founded the Metropolitan Coalition of Mayors with Gov. Pat McCrory, then mayor of Charlotte, and former Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf. Prior to joining the NCDOT, Tennyson was executive vice president for the Home Builders Association of Durham, Orange, and Chatham county. Tennyson worked as vice president of government relations for the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce and served as executive director of Triangle Advocates for Citizens of Tomorrow Inc. Before that, he was a home builder and developer.

Debra Townsley, Ph.D.

Dr. Debra Townsley began as the 10th president of William Peace University (Peace College) in August 2010. As president of William Peace University, Townsley oversees a student body of more than 1,000 full and part-time students enrolled in Peace's undergraduate day, evening, Saturday, and online programs and an alumni body of more than 9,000. Under Townsley, WPU administration, faculty, and staff have increased enrollments by 30 percent; added six majors and three minors; and invested in new technology, labs, buildings and grounds, and Seaboard Station retail center. Townsley's career began in the private sector with IBM and with Booz, Allen & Hamilton. In 1980, Townsley transitioned into higher education at Marymount University of Virginia. She then joined the administration of Northern Virginia Community College. From 1987 until 1997, Townsley was director of undergraduate and graduate management studies at St. Michael's College in Vermont. In 1997, Townsley accepted the position of dean of Academic Affairs at Nichols College and a year later was named president. Townsley has held a number of professional positions on the state and national level including serving on the board of directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and the NCAA Division III President's Council.

Everett Ward, Ph.D.

Everett Ward is the interim president at Saint Augustine's University. Ward previously served as the director of the Historically Black Colleges and University/Minority Institutions of Higher Education Program for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, the NCDOT's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary for Environment, Planning, and Local Government. In recognition of his service to the department of transportation's diversity efforts, Ward received the NCDOT Extra Mile Award. In 1983, Ward was named special assistant to the chairman of the North Carolina Democratic Party and subsequently was named political director. He made history in 1989 as the first African-American executive director of the North Carolina Democratic Party. In addition, Ward has served on and chaired two university advisory boards. He was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees at Saint Augustine's College, and from 2009 to 2011, he was chairman of the Board of Trustees of Saint Augustine's College. Ward serves on several national, regional, and statewide boards to advance opportunities for citizens throughout the nation. He is a member of the Democratic National Committee, where he serves as vice chairman of the DNC Black Caucus, and a member of the State Capitol Foundation.

Dr. Hope Williams

Dr. Hope Williams is president of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, the statewide advocacy and public policy organization for the 36 private, nonprofit colleges and universities in the state. The office addresses state and federal issues for private higher education, provides research and information, raises corporate and foundation funds, works in partnership with other education sectors, and provides collaborative and student enrichment programs. Since becoming president in 1992, Williams has led public policy efforts including more than doubling state student financial aid for North Carolinians attending independent colleges and universities. She has initiated College Access/Success program assistance to campuses resulting in increased retention, has reached successive record years in fundraising for scholarships and programs and has developed a collaborative initiative providing savings for campuses on product and services as well as new programs designed specifically to benefit NCICU campuses. She is a member of the Governor's Education Cabinet, board of directors member and state funds presiding officer of the Council of Independent Colleges and Universities, and board of trustees member of the College Foundation, Inc. She serves on a number of other professionals and civic boards.

Dr. Randy Woodson

Dr. Randy Woodson, the 14th chancellor of NC State University, is a nationally recognized scholar and academic leader and oversees the largest university in North Carolina with more than 34,000 students and a budget of \$1.4 billion. Under his leadership, NC State has built upon its reputation as a preeminent research institution and has witnessed many transformative changes—the opening of the James B. Hunt Jr. Library on Centennial Campus, the launch of the College of Sciences, and the completion of the Lonnie Poole Golf Course. Even in the face of unprecedented financial challenges, these advances were made possible thanks to Woodson's Strategic Plan, which aligned the university for greater effectiveness, efficiency, and most importantly, greater student success. Woodson has extensive experience as a member of university faculty and administration with a reputation for consensus building throughout his 30-year career in higher education. He came to NC State from Purdue University, where he most recently served as executive vice president for Academic Affairs. Woodson is an internationally renowned plant molecular biologist specializing in reproductive processes in agricultural crops.

MAJOR EVENTS FOR 2014/15

Details are subject to change. Check www.raleighchamber.org closer to the event.

Aug. 19 – 21, 2014.....	Summer Leadership Conference Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst, NC
Aug. 21, 2014	Board of Directors and Board of Advisors Meeting Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst, NC 8 a.m.
Sept. 16, 2014.....	126th Annual Meeting Duke Energy Center – Meymandi Concert Hall 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 19, 2014.....	First Responders Appreciation Breakfast North Ridge Country Club 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Oct. 20, 2014	Golf Tournament Prestonwood Country Club and Brier Creek Country Club All Day
Nov. 19, 2014.....	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors Meeting City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.
Dec. 3, 2014.....	Elected Officials Holiday Reception TBD 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 11, 2014.....	State of Mobility Embassy Suites Raleigh-Durham/Research Triangle, Cary
Jan. 9, 2015	2015 Economic Forecast 7 – 10 a.m.
Jan. 28, 2015	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.
March 25, 2015.....	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.
May 27, 2015	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.
June 4, 2015.....	Campaign Victory Celebration TBD
Aug. 18 - 20, 2015	2015 Summer Leadership Conference Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst, NC All Day
Aug. 20, 2015	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst, NC 8 a.m.
Sept. 23, 2015.....	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.
Nov. 18, 2015.....	Board of Directors/Board of Advisors City Club Raleigh 8 – 9:30 a.m.

2014 SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MAP

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