# **Biographies - 2022 Boards of Visitors Orientation**



#### The Honorable Glenn Youngkin, Governor of Virginia

Governor Glenn Youngkin is a homegrown Virginian who grew up in Richmond and Virginia Beach. As his father changed jobs, Governor Youngkin learned that moving around didn't equal moving up – nothing was handed to him. From his first job washing dishes and frying eggs at a diner in Virginia Beach, he embraced hard work and responsibility to help his family when his father lost his job. His determination to succeed earned him multiple high school basketball honors in Virginia and an athletic scholarship to college.

After earning an engineering degree at Rice University, and his MBA at Harvard Business School, Governor Youngkin and his wife Suzanne moved to Northern Virginia. He landed a job at The Carlyle Group, where he spent the next 25 years. Working his way to the top of the company, Governor Youngkin played a key role in building Carlyle into one of the leading investment firms in

the world. His efforts have helped fund the retirements of teachers, police officers, firefighters and other frontline public servants and supported hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

Married for over 27 years to his amazing wife Suzanne, Governor Youngkin is a dedicated father of four wonderful children. Their family journey has been and continues to be guided by their faith.



# Suzanne Youngkin, First Lady of Virginia

In 2021, Suzanne S. Youngkin joined her husband on the campaign trail traversing the entirety of the Commonwealth while also leading Women for Glenn (W4G) – a coalition that grew to include more than 27,000 women across Virginia.

In addition to visiting small businesses and nonprofits, the First Lady joined her husband in listening to the concerns of Virginians and promoting a lower cost of living, improved education for Virginia's children, safe communities and unity among Virginians.

In 2020, the Governor and Mrs. Youngkin founded the Virginia Ready Initiative (VA Ready), a nonprofit organization established in response to the economic hardships created by COVID-19. The organization marries Virginia's top businesses with VA Community Colleges and financial incentives to retrain and

equip Virginians for careers in high-demand sectors.

As of October 2022, VA Ready has had over 6,000 scholars actively testing in VA Ready-supported fast forward classes. The cumulative total of scholars who have attained their credential awards is 3,415. The organization has approximately 100 scholars signing up weekly and is directly impacting many Virginians seeking affordable training to set out on new career paths.

Mrs. Youngkin currently serves as President of the Phos Foundation, a private, charitable foundation, and is the founder of Normandy Farm LLC, an equine training facility located in Great Falls, VA. She has served on the advisory council at Virginia Tech's Marion DuPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg, Virginia and on the Board of Directors of the Shakespeare Theatre Company and is Director Emeritus of Meadowkirk at Delta Farm Retreat Center in Middleburg, Virginia.

Previously, Mrs. Youngkin was a VP at a leading global communications firm. She also earned a Bachelor of Arts from Southern Methodist University in University Park, Texas.

Governor and Mrs. Youngkin, married for 28 years, have four young adult children. They are founding and active members of Holy Trinity Church (HTC) in McLean, Virginia.



#### The Honorable Kay Coles James, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Secretary Kay Coles James has an extensive background in crafting public policy and in leading nearly every sector of America's economy. She has worked at the local, state and federal levels of government under the administrations of former U.S. President George H. W. Bush (served twice between 1989-1993), Secretary of Health and Human Resources under Virginia Governor George Allen (1994-1996), and former U.S. President George W. Bush (2001-2005); and she has also served dozens of organizations in the corporate and nonprofit arenas. In 2001, Mrs. James was appointed as Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) by President George W. Bush and led a department of 3,600 employees. As director, she served as the President's principal advisor in matters of personnel administration for the 1.8 million members of the federal civil service and was responsible for the stewardship of more than \$650 billion in federal employees' assets.

Secretary James has also worked at senior levels in education and the nonprofit world, as the chief operating officer of a national organization for mentoring programs and the dean of the Robertson School of Government at Regent University. She is the founder and Chairwoman of the Gloucester Institute, which offers leadership training to African American college students.

Secretary James is a former board member of PNC Financial Services Group, the National Board of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America, the Magellan Health Services Board, and Amerigroup Corporation. Mrs. James is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and has done continuing board education at the Harvard School of Business.



#### The Honorable Aimee Guidera, Secretary of Education

Aimee Rogstad Guidera was named Secretary of Education by Governor Glenn Youngkin in December 2021. In this Cabinet position, she oversees education from Pre-K through postsecondary in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Before joining the Youngkin administration, Secretary Guidera was a strategic consultant helping states, foundations, companies and nonprofit organizations strengthen their efforts to improve student learning and outcomes. Prior to launching her consultancy, she was founder, president and CEO of the Data Quality Campaign (DQC), a national, nonprofit advocacy organization leading the effort to ensure that students, parents, educators, and policymakers have the right information to guide their actions so that every student can excel.

A respected thought leader in education, Secretary Guidera was named one of TIME's 12 Education Activists of 2012. She has also been cited as an expert on education policy and the value of education

data by publications such as Business Week, NPR, and Education Week. She is a Pahara-Aspen Education Fellow, American Enterprise Institute Fellow and an alumna of the Institute for Educational Leadership's Education Policy Fellowship Program. She has served on the board of directors of the American Succeeds, Institute for Educational Leadership, Policy Innovators in Education Network, the Friends of the Hennepin County Library, Minnesota Comeback, Conservative Leaders for Education, and on the advisory board for the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard.

Before founding DQC, Secretary Guidera served as the director of the Washington, DC, office of the National Center for Educational Achievement. She previously served as vice president of programs for the National Alliance of Business (NAB), worked in the education division of the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices, and taught for the Japanese Ministry of Education.

With the firm belief that parents, students, and teachers need to be equally strong legs of the stool of academic success, Secretary Guidera has always been engaged in her local schools. She was an active supporter of her daughters' public schools and has served as a classroom volunteer, parent-teacher organization leader, and advisory committee member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and has done continuing board education at the Harvard School of Business.



# The Honorable Stephen Cummings, Secretary of Finance

Stephen Cummings took the oath of office to serve as Secretary of Finance on January 15, 2022. He oversees the four main Finance agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia: Department of Accounts, Department of Planning and Budget, Department of Taxation; and Department of the Treasury – along with the Virginia Resources Authority and Virginia Board of Accountancy.

Secretary Cummings is a leader in the domestic and international financial services industry – most recently serving as president and chief executive officer of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG) in the Americas, one of the five largest banks in the world and the largest foreign bank operating in the United States. Prior to his role at MUFG, he served as chairman of UBS's Investment Banking division in the Americas; global head of corporate and investment banking at Wachovia Bank; and as chairman and chief executive officer at Bowles Hollowell Conner & Co. Secretary Cummings has an MBA from

Columbia University Graduate School of Business and a bachelor of arts degree from Colby College.



# The Honorable John Littel, Secretary of Health and Human Resources; Member, Board of Visitors, William and Mary

John Littel is the Secretary of Health and Human Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia. He brings 30 years of public policy experience to the Administration, developing private sector solutions for Medicaid, advocating for independent living for seniors and people with disabilities, and leading mental health and substance use disorder programs.

Twenty-six years ago, John was the Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources. Since then, John has held senior roles at Magellan Health, Anthem, and Amerigroup, as well as at both the federal and state government levels. He has taught government, politics and communications at the graduate level, and has also served as a member of the William & Mary Public Policy Board of Advisors. Mr. Littel earned his bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Political Science from the University of Scranton and

J.D. from The Columbus School of Law at Catholic University.

In 2012, John was appointed to the Board of Visitors of the College of William & Mary and has served as Rector since 2018. He also serves on the board of The Gloucester Institute, a leadership initiative for young African-Americans based at Robert Russa Moton's historic home. He previously served as the chair of the Virginia Health Care Foundation and on the boards of the Family and Children's Trust Fund, Virginia's family violence prevention agency, and ForKids, a program for homeless families in Hampton Roads.



# The Honorable Sarah Spota, Deputy Secretary of Education Sarah Huang Spota was appointed Deputy Secretary of Education by Governor Clopp N

Sarah Huang Spota was appointed Deputy Secretary of Education by Governor Glenn Youngkin in January 2022. Sarah joins the Administration with a wealth of state and federal legislative and budgetary experience from her many years working with Congress and the Virginia General Assembly.

Prior to her appointment, Sarah served as the Associate Director of State Government Relations at George Mason University. At Mason, Sarah worked closely with the University's leadership team to lead the strategy development and execution of Mason's legislative and budget priorities. She successfully increased Mason's budget by more than \$120M annually to support the university's initiatives, financial aid and accessibility. Sarah built and maintained relationships between the university and the Commonwealth's executive offices, state agencies and the General Assembly. She worked closely with non-governmental organizations with special interests in higher education, workforce development and

economic development.

Before joining Mason, Sarah spent many years working in the state and federal levels of government. She served as House Majority Leader Eric Cantor's District Representative and assisted with constituent services and legislative matters. She worked for Virginia Lieutenant Governor William T. Bolling where she handled legislative concerns and worked as a liaison with the Virginia General Assembly. Sarah also previously worked at Alliance Group, a government relations and public affairs firm in Richmond, whose clients include state agencies and Fortune 500 companies across the mid-Atlantic.

Sarah is a graduate of the University of Richmond with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. In addition to her role as Deputy Secretary, she is pursuing a Master of Business Administration from George Mason University.

#### Makola Abdullah, President, Virginia State University

Dr. Makola Abdullah began his career at Virginia State University in February 2016. Under his leadership and guidance, VSU experienced the single largest year-to-year increase in enrollment in more than a decade and the highest retention rate in more than 20; increased the four-year graduation rate to the highest recorded rate in the University's history; extended its academic offerings with newly added undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees; and established fully online programs/degrees and a free tuition program for students from area high schools. VSU's year-end financial reserves have more than tripled. The University also received a \$30 million gift—the largest single donor gift in the University's history—growing the VSU endowment from \$40 million to \$80 million. VSU also has newer infrastructure happening concurrently than at any point in its 140-year history. President Abdullah is a Chicago native. He earned his undergraduate degree in civil engineering from Howard University and his doctorate and master's degrees in civil engineering from Northwestern University.

# Armand Alacbay, Chief of Staff & Senior Vice President of Strategy, American Council of Trustees & Alumni (ACTA)

Armand Alacbay oversees ACTA's trustee and government relations projects and coordinates priorities across the organization's programmatic portfolio. His research on higher education policy issues has been featured in outlets including The Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press, Fox News, and Forbes. Prior to joining ACTA, he worked in private practice as a trial attorney and later managed an educational services startup company. Armand received a B.A. in economics and English from the University of Virginia and a J.D. from George Mason University School of Law, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal. He is a past president of the alumni association for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

#### Ken Ampy, Chair, SCHEV Council

In addition to serving as SCHEV's Council chair, Ken Ampy is chief executive officer of Astyra Corp., a technology consulting and staffing firm based in Richmond. Ken attended Old Dominion University where he received a bachelor's degree in computer science. In addition, he has attended executive management programs at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern, the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and the Darden School of Business at University of Virginia. Ken served on the boards of ODU, the Virginia Biotech Research Park Authority, Science Museum of Virginia, Metropolitan Business League, American Red Cross of Virginia, Bon Secours St. Mary's Community Foundation, Venture Richmond, Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Virginia Early Childhood Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Richmond, the Virginia High-Tech Partnership and Team Up Richmond. Ken has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Oliver R. Singleton Humanitarian Award, Team Up Richmond Vision Award, Metropolitan Business League Distinguished Community Service Award, Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council Entrepreneurs of the Year (two times), Metropolitan Business League Entrepreneurs of the Year (two times), Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council Lasting Impressions Award (three times). He has been a finalist for the Tayloe Murphy Resilience Award and as Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

#### **Peter Blake, Director, SCHEV**

Peter Blake joined SCHEV as interim director in 2011 and became director in January 2012. Blake previously worked at SCHEV as an associate director overseeing higher education analyses in the areas of faculty and staff compensation, higher education funding policies, academic libraries, distance learning and instructional technology, and student financial aid. Peter also has served as the legislative fiscal analyst for the Virginia General Assembly's House Appropriations Committee, deputy secretary of education and secretary of education and the vice chancellor of workforce development services for the Virginia Community College System. Peter has served on boards of organizations including LEAD Virginia, the Virginia Commonwealth University Alumni Association, the Richmond Public Library, the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation and the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Blake completed the Virginia Executive Institute and LEAD Virginia programs, as well as the Associates program through the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education and The Executive Program at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. He holds B.A. and M.S. degrees from Virginia Commonwealth University. In July 2022, Blake was honored with the "Exceptional Leader Award" from the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) organization.

# Qian Cai, Director, Demographics Research Group, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia

Qian Cai (pronounced "chien tsai") is director of the Demographics Research Group at the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. Drawing on her extensive knowledge of population statistics, and national reputation in applied demography, Qian oversees the group's data production and research, ensures top quality publications and client service, and maintains an ambitious agenda for improving population data for Virginia and the nation. A native of China, she received a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in demography, both from Peking University. She received a Ph.D. in sociology from Brown University.

#### Whitt Clement, Rector, University of Virginia Board of Visitors

Whitt Clement is a former legislator, having spent 14 years in the House of Delegates representing the Danville area. He also served 10 years on the SCHEV Council, including two as chairman. He is also a former president of the Virginia Bar Association and of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. A graduate of the College and the Law School at the University of Virginia, he was appointed by Gov. McAuliffe to the UVA board in 2015, reappointed by Gov. Northam in 2019 and was elected by his fellow board members in 2020 as the University's rector. He's a former partner and now special counsel in the Richmond offices of the law firm of Hunton Andrews Kurth.

# Joe Cohn, Director, Legislative and Policy Department, Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)

As director of the legislative and policy department at the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), Joe oversees a team of attorneys and staff tasked with monitoring and engaging on legislation and regulatory matters. Under his leadership, FIRE has secured numerous victories for free speech and due process at the state and federal level. Joe is a 2004 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and the Fels Institute of Government Administration, where he earned his juris doctor and master's degree in Government Administration. As legislative and policy director, Joe spearheads FIRE's advocacy at all levels of government. He has testified before Congress and in state legislatures across the country and has drafted numerous bills that have been enacted into state law.

### JJ Davis, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, University of Virginia

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Jennifer (J.J.) Wagner Davis is the University of Virginia's chief administrative, business, and operating officer and has been a member of the President's executive leadership team at UVA since November 2018. Her portfolio includes finance, human resources, capital planning, facilities management, business operations, emergency management, safety and security, information technology services and security, organizational excellence, audit, compliance, risk management, state government relations, and economic development. Davis sets financial policy and oversees the financial affairs of the University, including its schools and the Medical Center. Along with her talented team, she keeps the University's physical plant and services running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Prior to coming to UVA, Davis held similar roles at George Mason University and the University of Delaware, as well as Cabinet-level positions in Delaware state government. She serves on the boards of several university-affiliated organizations and the WSFS Financial Corporation. Davis earned both her bachelor's degree in political science and her master's degree in policy analysis from Pennsylvania State University.

# The Honorable James "Jim" Douglas, Governor's Council, Bipartisan Policy Center

Governor Douglas served Vermont for more than 35 years as a legislator, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Governor. He advanced groundbreaking health reforms that have made Vermont a national model. Douglas chaired the National Governors Association, and President Obama appointed him co-chair of the Council of Governors. He now teaches at Middlebury College, his alma mater. He serves on several corporate boards and has worked on several task forces at the Bipartisan Policy Center.

# Ed Feulner, Chair, Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments

Dr. Ed Feulner is the Founder of The Heritage Foundation and Chairman of its Asian Studies Center. He was president of The Heritage Foundation (1977-2013) and again in 2017. He received his BS from Regis University; MBA, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; Richard Weaver Fellow, London School of Economics; Graduate Fellow, Georgetown University; Ph.D., University of Edinburgh and is the recipient of 12 honorary degrees, as well as the Presidential Citizens Medal from Ronald Reagan; The Bradley Prize; the William F. Buckley Prize for Leadership in Conservative Thought; and the Clare Boothe Luce Medal, the highest award

presented by The Heritage Foundation. He is the author of nine books, has held positions in the Nixon, Ford, Reagan, and Bush (41) Administrations, as a member of four Congressional Commissions, the board of visitors of George Mason University and of Regis University. He has been decorated by several foreign governments. Dr. Feulner has served as the chairman of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute and president of both The Mont Pelerin Society and The Philadelphia Society, of which he is a Distinguished Member. He currently serves as trustee of the Sarah Scaife Foundation, as chair of the Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments, as visiting professor of American Studies at Hanyang University in Seoul, as senior member of the Committee of the Institut d' Etudes Politiques-Liechtenstein, and as chairman of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

#### Alan Gernhardt, Executive Director, Virginia FOIA Advisory Council

Alan Gernhardt is the executive director of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory (FOIA) Council. He began working with the Council as a staff attorney in 2004, and became executive director of the Council in 2017. The Council issues formal and informal advisory opinions, publishes educational materials, provides training presentations and serves as a legislative forum regarding access to public records and meetings under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Gernhardt earned a B.S. degree from Indiana University and a J.D. from the University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law.

#### Janet Gullickson, President, Germanna Community College

Dr. Gullickson was appointed the first woman president of Germanna Community College in 2017. She previously held leadership positions with the Colorado Department of Higher Education and Community College System, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and Community Colleges of Spokane. While president, Germanna was twice named one of the top 150 community colleges in the country by the Aspen Institute and the top community college in Virginia and 24th in the country in terms of career outcomes by the personal finance website, Wallet Hub. Dr. Gullickson holds a doctor of leadership and policy in higher education degree from the University of Minnesota and a master of science degree in rural sociology and planning from South Dakota State University. She has completed the Lean Enterprise certification and the Lean Six Sigma Enterprise certification.

#### Jimmy Hazel, Member, George Mason University Board of Visitors

Jimmy Hazel is on his fourth term on the board of visitors at George Mason University. He just completed a two-year term there as Rector and has two years left on his current term. In addition to serving on the BOV, he has served as a member of the board of trustees of the GMU Foundation and was chairman of the George Mason Foundation for six years. During his time on the Foundation board, Jimmy chaired the successful "Faster Farther" capital campaign. In addition to these two significant boards, he has also been on the board of the GMU Alumni Association and was president of the alumni association while on the board. He has been awarded The Mason Medal in recognition of his volunteer activities on behalf of GMU. He has also participated in three presidential searchers at GMU over a period of 30 years, as well as the appointment of an interim president to provide leadership while a national search was conducted. Jimmy received his undergraduate degree from Harvard and his law degree from GMU.

# Maribeth Herod, Rector, James Madison University Board of Visitors

Maribeth Herod is a retired senior vice president of Bank of America. Over the course of her career, Maribeth has served in a variety of risk-related capacities most recently as the enterprise strategic risk executive. She also served the senior risk executive covering the prevention, detection and evaluation of controls of fraud for the bank. Prior to joining Bank of America, Maribeth served as a vice president of Freddie Mac and as a partner with Arthur Andersen. She graduated from James Madison University with a BBA, double majoring in management and MIS. She is currently serving her second term as a member of the board of visitors at JMU and has previously served as Rector from 2018-2020.

# Frances Keene, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Virginia Tech

Dr. Frances Keene currently serves as the interim vice president for student affairs at Virginia Tech. Included in her portfolio are health and well-being, dining, housing, residential well-being, living-learning programs, international student services, student engagement and student conduct, among other student programs and services. In her two decades at Virginia Tech, Dr. Keene has served in numerous other leadership roles, most recently as assistant vice president and chief of staff to the vice president for student affairs. She also served as chief of operations for the associate vice president for student affairs, interim director for housing and residence life, director of student conduct, and assistant director of long range planning. Dr. Keene earned degrees from three universities in the Commonwealth, including a bachelor's degree in psychology from the College of William and Mary, a master's degree in counselor education from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. in higher education from Virginia Tech.

#### **Judi Lynch, Member, Longwood University Board of Visitors**

Dr. Judi Lynch serves as chief of staff to Delegate Jason Ballard, 12th House District, Virginia General Assembly. Judi graduated from Longwood University with a bachelor of arts, followed by Virginia Tech, where she received a master of arts in education and doctor of philosophy (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies). Judi has worked at both alma maters as a Longwood admissions counselor followed by Virginia Tech student and alumni programs coordinator, College of Engineering director of undergraduate recruiting, and director of special initiatives for the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; additionally, Judi has worked for several members of the Virginia General Assembly (both House and Senate). In 2022, Governor Glenn Youngkin appointed Judi to a four-year term on the Longwood University Board of Visitors, which followed a previous appointment to the Longwood BOV by former Governor Bob McDonnell (2010-2014), during which time Judi served as Vice Rector for two years and Secretary for one, along with a second appointment by Governor McDonnell to serve on the Virginia Taskforce on School and Campus Safety.

#### Michael Maul, Director, Department of Planning and Budget (DPB)

Michael Maul is the director of Virginia's Department of Planning and Budget (DPB). He has worked at DPB for over 37 years, serving under 11 Governors. Working as a budget and policy analyst for over 10 years, Michael went on to serve as a DPB associate director for over 25 years, overseeing nearly every division at DPB at one time or another and touching most every element of Virginia state government. Over the last eight years, Michael has also been responsible for overseeing DPB's capital outlay budget process. He has been an active participant in activities of the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO) since 1997 and has served as an instructor at NASBO's "Introduction to State Budgeting Seminar" since 2002. In addition, he has served as an international instructor for the Financial Services Volunteer Corps. Michael received his bachelor of science degree in environmental resource management from Allegheny College, and his master of environmental management and master of business administration degrees from Duke University.

#### Mike Melis, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

Mike Melis is a senior assistant attorney general in the Office of the Attorney General. He has more than 20 years of experience and proven success in higher education, government and private practice.

#### Michael Poliakoff, President, American Council of Trustees & Alumni (ACTA)

Dr. Poliakoff became part of the ACTA team in March 2010 as the vice president of policy, and became ACTA's third president on July 1, 2016. He previously served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and research at the University of Colorado and in senior roles at the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Council on Teacher Quality, the American Academy for Liberal Education, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. He has taught at Georgetown University, George Washington University, Hillsdale College, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Wellesley College. He received his B.A. magna cum laude from Yale University and went on to study at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and the University of Michigan, where he earned a Ph.D. in classical studies. He has been a junior fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies, and his research has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst, and the Alexander Von Humboldt Stiftung. He is the author of numerous books and journal articles in classical studies and education policy and has received the American Philological Association's Excellence in Teaching Award and the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Distinguished Service to Education Award.

# Michael Rao, President, Virginia Commonwealth University

Michael Rao, Ph.D. serves as president of Virginia Commonwealth University and VCU Health System, and is a professor inHealth Professions. Under President Rao's leadership, VCU and VCU Health are modeling what a truly public research university and health system should be, by putting the changing needs of students and patients first with a focus on accessibility of education and healthcare. During President Rao's tenure, VCU has raised graduation rates by 47 percent; increased student financial aid from \$3 million to \$70 million; raised patient satisfaction rates; and brought to Richmond a comprehensive children's hospital with inpatient beds due to open next spring. With rising graduation rates, increasing research funding, and a nod as one of the most innovative public universities in the country, VCU is a unique mix of high-performing research, academics and health care, paired with a diverse student population. President Rao is chair of the nonprofit American Council on Education and the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities, for whom he serves as representative for the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities.

# Davis Rennolds, Chair, Administration, Advancement, Finance and Facilities Committee, University of Mary Washington Board of Visitors

Davis C. Rennolds served previously on UMW's Board of Visitors from 2015 to 2019. He is a senior vice president in the Virginia government relations group of McGuireWoods Consulting in Richmond, where he represents clients before the Virginia General Assembly. Among other political posts, Rennolds served during the McDonnell administration as an Inaugural Committee member and as a Department of Transportation special policy adviser. A Board member for the Sorensen Institute, he holds a bachelor's degree in historic preservation from Mary Washington. He is active with Toys for Tots and was named to *Style Weekly*'s "Top 40 under 40" in 2011 for his work with Richmond-area food banks and Share Our Strength, a national organization working to end childhood hunger and poverty.

#### **Taylor Reveley IV, President, Longwood University**

Since 2013, W. Taylor Reveley IV has served as the 26th president of Longwood University, the Commonwealth's third-oldest public university. During his time as president, he has emerged as a leading national voice championing the value of the college experience, and the liberal arts in particular, in preparing graduates for democratic citizenship, with articles and opinion pieces featured in The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Newsweek and TIME, among others. A graduate of Princeton University, where he played football, President Reveley also received a master's degree from Union Presbyterian Seminary and a J.D. from the University of Virginia. Prior to Longwood, he served as managing director of UVA's Miller Center, a nonpartisan institute focused on the U.S. presidency, policy and political history, under former Governor Gerald L. Baliles. He also previously served as coordinating attorney for the National War Powers Commission, co-chaired by former U.S. Secretaries of State James Baker and Warren Christopher, and as an attorney with the law firm Hunton & Williams. President Reveley is a third-generation college president. His grandfather, W. Taylor Reveley II, was president of Hampden-Sydney College from 1963-1977. His father, W. Taylor Reveley III, was president of the College of William & Mary.

#### **Alvin Schexnider, Member, SCHEV Council**

Dr. Alvin Schexnider earned a Ph.D. in political science from Northwestern University where he held Ford Foundation and Woodrow Wilson Foundation fellowships. He was a senior administrator at VCU over a 14-year period prior to accepting an appointment as chancellor of Winston-Salem State University. He returned to Virginia in 2002 and subsequently led two public institutions. He is the author of Saving Black Colleges, and he has written extensively on higher education leadership and board governance. He is a senior consultant and senior fellow at the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

# Henry Stoever, President and CEO, Association of Governing Boards (AGB)

As the president and CEO of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Henry brings to AGB a deep understanding of the importance of strategic board governance and a wealth of experience building member-focused organizations. In collaboration with the AGB Board of Directors, Henry is responsible for developing and leading the execution of the Association's strategy. Henry champions AGB's educational and advocacy mission including AGB Search - a wholly-owned private company of AGB, with its 40,000 members who serve on the boards of 2,000 colleges, universities, and institutionally related foundations. After graduating from the United States Naval Academy with a B.S. in economics, Henry served in the United States Marine Corps as an infantry officer. Subsequently, he earned an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management.

# Katharine Webb, Vice Chair, SCHEV Council

Katharine "Katie" Webb has worked in health care for over 42 years, the majority of her career as senior vice president of the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association. Prior to her service at VHHA, she worked at the Virginia Department of Health and Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital and was on the faculty of the University of Virginia Medical Center. Katie previously served on the SCHEV Board as a member and secretary from 2009-2013. Her additional current and past community activities include service on the St. Paul's Church Property Committee and every Member Canvas Community; Rx Partnership Board member and treasurer; Senior Connections, board member and chairman; VCU Foundation, board member; Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work, former member of the advisory board; and the Virginia Public Access Project. In addition to community service, Katie received several recognitions and awards, including the 2012 Award of Excellence from the American College of Healthcare Executives, inaugural class of the Influential Women of Virginia in 2009; VHHA Meritorious Service Award in 2003, and VCU Alumni Star in 2001. Katie matriculated at Sweet Briar College in American Studies and received her master's in social work from VCU.

### Timothy Zick, Professor, William & Mary Law School

Timothy Zick is the John Marshall Professor of Government & Citizenship at William & Mary Law School, where he teaches courses on constitutional law, the First Amendment and the Second Amendment. He is currently teaching a seminar on Academic Freedom, Free Speech and the University. Professor Zick is the author of numerous articles on freedom of speech and five university press books on the First Amendment. His most recent manuscript, *Managed Speech: The Law of Public Protest*, is forthcoming with Cambridge University Press. Professor Zick has testified before the U.S. Congress regarding First Amendment issues. He is also a frequent commentator on First Amendment issues in local, national and international media.