

NORTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

NCICU Annual Meeting Features State and National Education Leaders



JO ALLEN



RHETT BROWN



PAULETTE DILLARD



NIDO QUBEIN



NCICU presidents gathered for their annual meeting in Raleigh this spring. Elected to continue their service as officers on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors is **Chair Jo Allen**, President of Meredith College, **Vice Chair Rhett Brown**, President of Wingate University, **Secretary Paulette Dillard**, President of Shaw University, and **Treasurer Nido Qubein**, President of High Point University.

We were also honored to have Governor **Roy Cooper** (pictured here with NC Wesleyan University president, **Evan Duff**) and a number of State Legislators join us and share their insights into the current legislative session. They included **Sen. Lisa Barnes** of the 11th District, **Sen. Amy Galey** of the 25th District, **Rep. Jon Hardister** of the 59th District, **Rep.**

Zack Hawkins of the 31st District, **Rep. Donny Lambeth**, of the 75th District, **Rep. Lindsey Prather** of the 115th District, and **Rep. Frank Sossamon** of the 32nd District.



LISA BARNES



AMY GALEY



JON HARDISTER



ZACK HAWKINS



DONNY LAMBETH



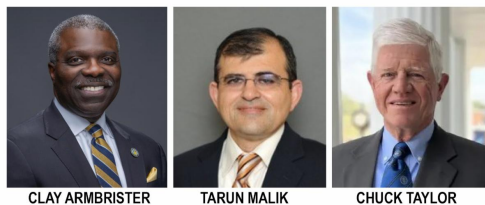
LINDSEY PRATHER



FRANK SOSSAMON

Under Secretary of the US Department of Education, **James Kvaal** (pictured with NCICU President **Hope Williams**), Council of Independent Colleges President **Marjorie Hass**, and **Andrea Poole**, executive director of NC State Education Assistance Authority each shared updates on legislation that impacts our campuses. The meeting also included reports on special grant-supported projects including the Science of Reading, iBELONG Male Mentoring, and Faculty/Student STEM Mentoring.





CLAY ARMBRISTER

TARUN MALIK

CHUCK TAYLOR

NCICU Welcomes two new presidents and says farewell to another. Johnson C. Smith University president, **Clay Armbrister**, will retire in June. St. Andrews University named **Dr. Tarun Malik** president. Dr. Malik took office on March 1. **Charles E. "Chuck" Taylor** was appointed to serve as interim president of Chowan University effective April 1.



Ethics Bowl Competition

Germline editing, food and energy shortages, artificial intelligence, and mental health were among the topics that were debated under the umbrella of Ethics in Contemporary Society as part of NCICU's 12th Annual Ethics Bowl. Students from 16 campuses participated in the event on February 10 and 11 at the North Carolina Legislative Complex in Raleigh. Queens University of Charlotte (pictured above) was named champion after facing Wingate University in the final round debating the topic of voting rights for convicted felons. Queens had faced Campbell University in the semifinals, as Wingate met Montreat College. The case for that round considered the ethics of removing Russia from the Security Council of the United Nations. At a banquet held Friday evening at the NC Museum of History, **Leslie Garvin**, executive director of North Carolina Campus Engagement, told participants that to be a citizen of the United States is to choose to live ethically.

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iBELONG MALE MENTORING PROGRAMSM Student Conference Held

Nearly 90 students, mentors and campus project directors attended the iBELONG 2023 Student Conference held at Livingstone College on March 31 and April 1. The event included networking and etiquette tips, mental health and mindfulness sessions, and community outreach opportunities. Event sponsors included Coca-Cola Consolidated, Brown Edwards, FORVIS, HRP, TIAA, and Thomas Mentor Leadership Academy. The iBELONG initiative was made possible by a grant from the Council of Independent Colleges, the VF Foundation, and Wells Fargo and was designed to increase persistence, retention and graduation rates of male students of color on campus. Twelve campuses participate in the program.

[Learn more about this program.](#)



THOMAS VARNADORE



TIM SMITH



ALLAN BURROWS

Undergraduate Research Symposium

More than 400 students from colleges, universities and community colleges in North Carolina participated in the State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (SNCURCS) which was held Saturday, December 3, on the campus of UNC-Wilmington. The annual symposium showcases NC undergraduate student research and creative work. It provides undergraduate scholars in all fields a forum to share the results of their work through posters, presentations, performances, and

Independent College Fund Raises \$2 Million

The Independent College Fund of North Carolina, a division of NCICU, is pleased to announce that \$2 million was raised this year for scholarships, student enrichment programs, and in-kind support - an achievement that would not have been possible without our corporate and foundation partners.

Varnadore Elected Chair

Thomas Varnadore, GM and Sales Operations, Coca-Cola Consolidated, has been elected chair of the ICFNC, succeeding Margaret Wren de St. Aubin of the Wren Foundation. The Fund also welcomed new members Tim Smith, USI Insurance Services, and Allan Burrows, CAPDEV.

NCICU Receives Capacity Building Grant

The Fund has been awarded a \$10k Capacity Building Grant from the Council of Independent Colleges to produce videos to support advancement efforts to increase contributions from both existing and prospective donors.

Establish a Named Scholarship

For a gift of \$2,000 or more per student, you can create a named scholarship at the NCICU institution(s) of your choice and provide input into the selection criteria. The following are named scholarships that have been established and will be awarded for the 2023-2024 Academic year:

ICFNC Advisory Board Scholarship

Bridgestone Scholarship

Broyhill Family Foundation Scholarship

Dominion NC Power

Jeff and Jan Stoddard Scholarship for Hope

Thomas & Ashley Varnadore Scholarship of Optimism

CIC/UPS Scholarship

Clancy & Theys Scholarship

works of art. NCICU awarded stipends to seven students to support the research that they showcased at the symposium. The stipends ranged from \$400-\$600.

Administrative Group Meetings

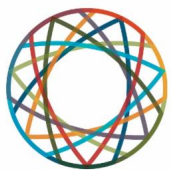
NCICU hosted meetings with the following campus administrative groups this year:

Information Technology, Health Services, Non-Traditional/Online Learning, Academic Affairs, Academic Advising, Human Resources, Student Affairs, Institutional Research, Chief Financial Officers, Library Directors, Library Resources, Purchasing, Financial Aid, Registrars, Admissions, Development, and Communications and Marketing.

Counselors Tour

NCICU will host its annual Counselors Tour June 25-30, 2023. Each year, one-third of NCICU's 36 campuses are visited and tour participants learn about the diversity and wealth of programs and opportunities provided by our independent colleges and universities. This year the group will be visiting campuses in the western part of the state.

Welcome New Business Affiliates!



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