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Greater Access and Equity in Education*

2020 VIRGINIA EDUCATION & WORKFORCE CONFERENCE

 VIRTUAL EVENT | OCTOBER 27, 2020 | WWW.VACHAMBER.COM

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Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation
Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges
Virginia School Boards Association

AGENDA

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| 9:30 AM | WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS Barry DuVal , President & CEO, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Paige Clay , Senior Partner, Mercer and Chair, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors |
| 9:35 AM | SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA (SCHEV) Barry DuVal |
| 9:40 - 9:55 AM | KEYNOTE REMARKS Dave Henderson , President, United States Operations, Commercial & State Government, CGI <i>Introduced by: :Aaron Mathes</i> , Vice President and Richmond Metro Leader, CGI |
| 9:55 - 10:35 AM | PANEL DISCUSSION - CREATING DIVERSE PATHWAYS FOR IN DEMAND CAREERS Moderated by: Peter Blake , Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia Panelists: Makola Abdullah, Ph.D. , President, Virginia State University John Downey Ph.D. , President, Blue Ridge Community College The Honorable Siobhan Dunnavant , Senate of Virginia |
| 10:35 - 11:15 AM | PANEL DISCUSSION - TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON VIRGINIA'S ECONOMY Moderated by: Stephen Moret , President & CEO, Virginia Economic Development Partnership Panelists: Greg Gartland , Chief Product Officer, S&P Global Glenn Youngkin , Chairman and Co-Founder, Virginia Ready Michel Zajur , President & CEO, Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce |
| 11:15 AM | SPECIAL REMARKS J.D. Myers, II Senior Vice President & Virginia Region Manager, Cox Communications |
| 11:20 AM - 12:00 PM | PANEL DISCUSSION - IMPROVING ACCESS AND EQUITY IN VIRGINIA EDUCATION Moderated by: Maria Tedesco , President, Atlantic Union Bank Panelists: Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston , President, Norfolk State University The Honorable Lamont Bagby , Virginia House of Delegates Elizabeth Creamer , VP, Workforce Development & Credential Attainment, Community College Workforce Alliance Dr. James Lane , Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commonwealth of Virginia |
| 12:00 PM – 12:10 PM | SPECIAL REMARKS William “Ed” Trumbull , Vice President, Workforce Innovation, ICF CLOSING & ADJOURNMENT Barry DuVal |

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2020 VIRGINIA EDUCATION & WORKFORCE CONFERENCE

Speaker Biographies



Barry DuVal **President & CEO** **Virginia Chamber of Commerce**

Barry DuVal was named president and CEO of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce on April 28, 2010.

Under his leadership, the Chamber has become Virginia's largest business advocacy group, growing from 847 members in 2010 to more than 26,000 members today. In 2013, the Chamber produced Blueprint Virginia – the Commonwealth's first comprehensive business-led initiative to provide direction and long-term economic development planning for Virginia. In 2017, the Chamber released an update to the original Blueprint, Blueprint Virginia 2025, which engaged over 6,000 business and community leaders from around the Commonwealth to build an action plan for strengthening Virginia's economic competitiveness and getting Virginia back to the top of business climate rankings.

Barry's public service began in 1988 when he was elected to the Newport News City Council. In 1990 he was elected mayor of the city. He served as mayor from 1990 through 1996, when he stepped down to become the president and CEO of a regional economic development organization representing Southeast Virginia's 1.6 million citizens.

From 1998 through 2002 Barry served as the Secretary of Commerce and Trade for the Commonwealth of Virginia. During his term as Secretary, Virginia attracted a record-setting 1,500 economic development projects representing 156,850 new jobs and \$13.7 billion in private investment.

His private sector experience includes serving as president and CEO of DuVal Associates, Inc, a diversified real estate firm, from 1983-1996. Upon the completion of his term as the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, he served as president and CEO of Kaufman & Canoles Consulting, LLC, an economic development consulting firm specializing in public-private partnerships and strategic planning for business and government agencies.

Barry holds a Master's (MLS) from American University Washington College of Law and a BS from James Madison University.



Paige Clay **Senior Partner, Mercer** **Chair, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors**

Paige is a Mercer Senior Partner and leads the Mid-South market inclusive of Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas, and Virginia. She manages a number of the firm's largest clients with representation in the following industries: insurance and financial services, manufacturing, retail/distributors, healthcare, higher education, energy, and government contracting. Mercer is a global consulting leader in advancing the health, wealth, and careers of over 115 million people around the world and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies (NYSE: MMC), the leading global professional services firm in the areas of risk, strategy, and people.

Paige has more than 23 years of financial services experience as a senior executive in finance, operations, call centers, and human resources. Prior to joining Mercer, Paige was SVP, Global Human Resources at Encore Capital Group and Chief People Officer at Capital One Bank where she demonstrated success with acquisition integration, strategy creation, talent assessment and development, project management, and process improvement.

Before Paige's career shift to human resource roles, she was VP of Operations running large customer service/sales call centers in Virginia and Florida for Capital One. She started her career at Signet Bank as a management trainee, later was a retail bank district manager, a small business lender and account manager, and led sales on the leadership team for Signet's small ticket leasing business.

(Paige Clay Continued..)

Paige currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce Board as Chair for 2020 and on the Advisory Board of SingleStone Consulting. She is past Treasurer of the Board of Family Lifeline and served on the Virginia Advisory Board of South State Bank.

Paige obtained her bachelor's degree in finance from Virginia Tech and a master's degree in business administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is certified by the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR).

Paige enjoys leisure reading, international travel, snow skiing, water sports, and time with friends and family. She spends her time between Richmond, Virginia and Treasure Island, Florida.



Aaron Mathes
Vice President & Richmond Metro Leader
CGI

Aaron serves as CGI Vice President and Richmond Metro Leader. He leads a world class team focused on serving CGI's commercial and public sector clients across the Mid-Atlantic States. He also serves on several boards including the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Liberty University's School of Business, Board of Advisors and the Chesterfield County Committee on the Future (past).

Prior to joining CGI in 2013, Aaron M. Mathes served as Deputy Secretary of Technology for Governor McDonnell, Commonwealth of Virginia. In this capacity, Mathes oversaw workplace productivity and efficiency solutions based on CRM technology, BYOD, cyber-threat preparedness, government transparency and citizen services. His projects included, supporting technology related economic development efforts in the areas of innovation, entrepreneurship and the growth of the datacenter footprint in the Commonwealth. In this deputy cabinet role Aaron also acted in a role of overseeing the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA). Prior to his service to the Governor, Mathes served as CIO for the Virginia Office of Attorney General. Aaron has also held several operational and senior information technology leadership positions at Liberty University including Deputy CIO and interim CIO, experience that totals more than 20 years in IT management and leadership.



Dave Henderson
President, U.S. Commercial and State Government Operations
CGI

Dave Henderson serves as President for CGI's U.S. commercial and state government operations, which delivers a broad range of technology and business services to clients. Mr. Henderson leads the strategy and growth of this U.S. business portfolio that plays a prominent role in CGI's global position across several industries including financial services, energy, utilities, manufacturing, health, communications and state and local government. In addition to his U.S. operations role, Mr. Henderson also leads the company's Intellectual Property (IP) growth strategy.

With a 35-year career helping clients in their transformation to secure, customercentric digital enterprises, Mr. Henderson today leads the talents of a 6,000+ member workforce in the U.S. He has a passion for helping clients drive business outcomes through flexible, secure, cost-efficient, and innovative delivery of technology enabled business solutions.

Additionally, as the head of CGI's IP portfolio growth strategy, Mr. Henderson leverages his proven history of guiding multi-industry IP development and growth to help further strengthen the connection between CGI's IP strategy and operations globally.

Joining CGI in 2006, Mr. Henderson led the Dallas Metro, eventually leading one of CGI's largest and fastest growing business units, U.S. Central-South. Prior to CGI, he spent four years building North American consulting practices for a global IT services firm. In prior years, he was a consulting practice leader at American Management Systems in the company's telecom and utilities industry groups, focusing on customer experience, enterprise architecture, and service-oriented architectures. He spent the early part of his career at EDS, leading software development and client delivery teams across multiple industries in the U.S.

Mr. Henderson graduated from Oklahoma State University with Bachelor of Science degree in Computing and Information Sciences. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Greater Washington Catalogue for Philanthropy.



Peter Blake
Director
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Peter Blake has been SCHEV's director since January 2012. He served as interim director from April 2011 to January 2012. He has worked in Virginia higher education for 30 years, beginning at SCHEV as a research analyst. He subsequently became a legislative analyst for the House Appropriations Committee. Mr. Blake was the deputy secretary of education and secretary from 2002 to 2005 and secretary of education from 2005 to 2006. Before returning to SCHEV in 2011, he was the vice chancellor for workforce development services for the Virginia Community College System.

Mr. Blake has served on several boards, including the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation, the Richmond Public Library, Lead Virginia, the Virginia Commonwealth Alumni Association, Virginia Humanities and others. He holds degrees in history and mass communications from Virginia Commonwealth University. He completed The Executive Program at the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia and leadership programs through Lead Virginia and the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.



Makola Abdullah, Ph.D.
President
Virginia State University

On February 1, 2016, Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D. became the 14th President of Virginia State University (VSU). In his remarks during his introduction to the Trojan family, President Abdullah outlined his four core beliefs: I believe in God. I believe in family. I believe in the transformative nature of education. I believe in Virginia State University.

President Abdullah also emphasized several focus areas to sustain VSU as an 1890 Land-Grant University. The areas of focus include providing a transformative experience for students, strategically investing in academic programs, partnering with others as a university to tell the VSU story, embracing the University's Land Grant Mission and embracing VSU's role as Virginia's Opportunity University.

President Abdullah is an academic administrator committed to excellence. He is also an internationally-renowned educator recognized for outstanding research. Prior to his appointment as president of Virginia State University, Dr. Abdullah served as provost and senior vice president at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Fla. (2013-2016), provost and vice president for academic affairs at Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens, Fla. (2011-2013), and dean and director of 1890 land grant programs at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, Fla (2008-2011).

Dr. Abdullah is a Chicago native. He earned his undergraduate degree from Howard University in civil engineering and his doctorate and master's degrees in civil engineering from Northwestern University. He is the youngest African American to receive a Ph.D. in engineering.

Dr. Abdullah is a very active member with various organizations. In August of 2018, Dr. Abdullah was elected a member of the Board of Trustees for the Virginia Historical Society, which owns and operates the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. He also serves as a member of the executive committee for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, as a Board of Trustee member for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and the 5000 Role Models of Excellence. He is the vice chair for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Board of Directors. In 2017, he was inducted into the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Alumni Hall of Fame. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

He and his wife, Ahkinyala Cobb-Abdullah, Ph.D., are the proud parents of a son, Mikaili, and a daughter, Sefiyetu, who both are graduates of HBCUs.



John Downey, Ph.D.
President
Blue Ridge Community College

Dr. John A. Downey became the fifth President of Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, Virginia, in 2009. Prior to being named president, he served as the Vice President for Instruction and Student Services and in various other roles at the College since 1992. Before arriving at Blue Ridge, Dr. Downey worked in student services offices at Bunker Hill Community College in Boston, Massachusetts.

Downey received his Bachelor of Arts degree from LeMoyne College in Syracuse, New York, and a Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology from Boston College. He completed his doctoral program in Higher Education Administration at the University of Virginia, where he was awarded the Annette Gibbs Research Publication Award.

(John Downey Continued...)

Downey chaired the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) 2021 Strategic Initiatives Task Force, where he led that group's efforts to create the next VCCS six-year strategic plan, focused on credential attainment. He currently serves as the Chairperson of the Harrisonburg Rockingham Chamber of Commerce and the immediate past chairperson of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership, the regional economic development authority for the region. He also serves on the executive committee of the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board, as a Board member for the Harrisonburg City Rotary Club, and was appointed by the Virginia Governor in Fall 2014 to the GenEdge Alliance Board of Trustees (formerly the A.L. Philpott Manufacturing Extension Partnership). Dr. Downey has served previously as the past chair of the Board of Directors for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and as the chair of the Daily News Record Leadership Award Committee in Spring 2017. Dr. Downey also served as the co-chair of the Higher Education Policy Advisory Committee for the newly elected Governor of Virginia in the Fall of 2017.

Under his leadership, BRCC has garnered recognition from around the state for its progressive workforce initiatives and partnerships. In 2010, he was recognized as the most supportive president of the year at the Enactus (formerly SIFE) National Exposition. Throughout the past decade, Blue Ridge Community College has consistently been recognized on the Honor Roll of the Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges to Work For" program. In 2018, Downey was awarded the Business Leadership Award by the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce, and in 2019 he received the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction from the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society for his support of the BRCC Alpha Xi Xi chapter.

John and his wife, Sandy, have 3 daughters and live in Harrisonburg, VA. Wesleyan University and Vizient, Inc.



The Honorable Siobhan Dunnivant Senate of Virginia

Dr. Siobhan Dunnivant proudly represents the people of western Henrico and Hanover Counties with practical solutions that keep the cost of government low and the quality of government services high. Since her election to the state Senate in 2015, she has advanced initiatives and reforms to improve education, healthcare, our economy, and the environment.

As a native Virginian, Siobhan is deeply attentive to the issues affecting our community and our Commonwealth. Her philosophy is that politics belong to the people, not the parties. She believes that every law making decision – its impacts, equality, and expense - must be accountable to her constituents and the people of our state.

Siobhan practices medicine as an OB-GYN and is the only medical doctor serving in the Virginia Senate. Her medical expertise is well regarded by her patients and peers, as well as by her fellow elected officials. In nearly 20 years of private practice, she has led innovation in patient care and risk reduction, including forming an independent business to augment hospital physician staffing for women's health. As the daughter of a career Naval officer, Siobhan's extraordinary appreciation for military families inspired her to launch Patriot Babies, a special digital program to connect deployed dads to the delivery room during the birth of their children.

The mother of four grown children who each graduated from public schools and then Virginia universities, Siobhan is passionate about the quality of Virginia education and student access to opportunity for academic and career success. Promoting family values and service to the community have been lifelong priorities for Siobhan and her husband Lloyd. Married for 32 years, they are dedicated members of Saint Bridget Catholic Church and frequent volunteers with Little Sisters of the Poor.

Siobhan Dunnivant delivers valuable leadership to our district through clear priorities and common-sense proposals. She welcomes your voice on any issue and is honored to serve on your behalf.



Stephen Moret President & CEO Virginia Economic Development Partnership

Stephen Moret has served as President and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) since January 2017. Before joining VEDP, Moret served as chief executive of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC) and Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED), as well as the LSU Foundation and its real-estate development arm.

At VEDP, Moret has collaborated with state, regional, and local partners to craft an ambitious vision focused on several transformational goals, including accelerating employment growth; enabling every region to grow; and moving back to the top of national business climate rankings. He led Virginia's successful state-and-local team bid for Amazon's HQ2 and is launching a world-class, custom workforce program along with the Virginia Community College System

(Stephen Moret Continued...)

For seven years, Moret served as secretary of LED, transforming it into one of America's top state economic development agencies. While there, he led business development efforts and built higher ed partnerships that helped secure a wide variety of projects in urban and rural areas, including software/IT centers (e.g., CGI, CSC, GE, IBM), food/agricultural processing facilities, and a few of the largest FDI projects in U.S. history. Collectively these projects totaled more than \$62 billion in capital investment. He also established LED FastStart, which The Economist called "probably the most notable statewide workforce-development initiative [in America]." During his tenure, Louisiana rose to its highest-ever position in every national business climate ranking.

Prior to LED, Moret was CEO of BRAC, which he and his team transformed into a nationally competitive, regional economic development organization. He also served as a consultant with McKinsey & Company; a public policy fellow with the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana; and a consultant to Harvard Business School.

Moret earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from LSU, where he was elected president of the student body, and an MBA from Harvard Business School (2001), where he was elected co-president of the student body and received the Dean's Award for exceptional leadership and service. He earned a doctorate in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania, with distinction for dissertation, where his research focused on linkages between higher education and the labor market.

Moret lives in Richmond with his wife and their four young children.



Greg Gartland **Chief Product Officer** **S&P Global Market Intelligence**

Mr. Gartland is Chief Product Officer at S&P Global Market Intelligence, where he oversees all products including desktop, mobile, feed/API, and credit solutions as well as customer-segment focused product teams. He has been with S&P Global for 14 years, and is a member of the Market Intelligence division's Operating Committee.

Greg joined S&P Global as part of the acquisition of SNL Financial, which he joined in 2005. While with SNL Greg led the firm's global expansion of its flagship financial institutions product line which quickly became the leading provider of information on the global banking and insurance sectors, and also oversaw the firm's Real Estate vertical. Prior to joining SNL's product management group in 2013, Greg was Managing Director and Principal of SNL's Knowledge Center joint-venture business. Before SNL, Greg helped launch a startup in the e-learning space and spent several years in management consulting. Greg started his career as a product manager at Greenwich Associates.

Greg serves on the Board of Directors of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. He received an MBA from the Darden School at the University of Virginia and an undergraduate degree in finance from Villanova University.



Glenn Youngkin **Co-Founder and Chairman** **VA Ready**

Glenn Youngkin is Co-Founder and Chairman of VA Ready (www.vaready.org), a dynamic 501(c)(3) focused on retraining Virginians who are out-of-work or do not have steady employment due to COVID19 and promoting a more resilient workforce. A native Virginian, Glenn is a seasoned business leader, and he and his wife Suzanne are service-minded philanthropist.

Glenn was previously Co-CEO of The Carlyle Group, a Washington, D.C.-based global investment management firm. During his 25-year career with Carlyle, Glenn held a number of leadership positions, including President and Chief Operating Officer, and he played a key role in building Carlyle into one of the leading global investment firms in the world, working from Washington, DC and from Carlyle's London office for six years.

Prior to joining Carlyle, Glenn worked as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company, and in investment banking at CS First Boston.

Glenn serves on the boards of various non-profit organizations, including the Rice Management Company (Rice University's endowment), the Dean's Advisory Board at Harvard Business School, the Museum of the Bible, the Meadowkirk Retreat Center and as Church Warden for Holy Trinity Church in McLean. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Business Council and the American Enterprise Institute's National Council.

Glenn holds a BS in mechanical engineering and a BA in managerial studies from Rice University and an MBA from the Harvard Business School, where he was a Baker Scholar.

Glenn and his wife, Suzanne, have four children and live in Great Falls, Virginia.



Michel Zajur
President & CEO
Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Michel immigrated from Mexico to the United States as a child and attended Virginia Commonwealth University. He has established various businesses the most recognized of these businesses was La Siesta Restaurant, which became an iconic eatery in Richmond Va. In 2000 Michel founded the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to build bridges to opportunity for Hispanic businesses and the Virginia Hispanic Foundation to empower Latinos with education, information and resources to help them build their American dream.

Michel has served on multiple Boards and Commissions helping to assist them with their inclusion and outreach efforts to the Hispanic community. Some of the many awards and recognitions Michel has received have included: The National Conference of Community Justices Humanitarian Award, the Minority Small Business Champion Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Global Excellence Award from the Virginia International Business Council. recognized as "One of the 25 People You Need to Know in the State" by Virginia Business Magazine and acknowledged as one of the most influential and inspiring people by Boomer Magazine, Richmond Times-Dispatch newspaper named Michel as Person of the Year in 2018 and he was inducted into the RTD's Richmond Hall of Fame. He was listed as one of the El Tiempo Latino newspaper's Nation's Capital Powermeter 100. Michel is also a recipient of the Ohtli Award which is the highest award bestowed by the Mexican government upon a non-Mexican citizen.



J.D. Myers, II
Senior Vice President & Virginia Region Manager
Cox Communications

J.D. Myers, II, serves as the Senior Vice President & Virginia Region Manager for Cox Communications. He leads nearly 2,400 employees across four markets - Hampton Roads, Northern Virginia, Roanoke, and Currituck, North Carolina.

Myers, the son of a military veteran, learned the value of respect, loyalty, and hard work at an early age, which influenced his decision to later serve his country by joining the Army. With a professional career spanning more than 30 years, his core principles are deeply rooted in that military experience.

Myers was named the board chair for the Virginia Cable and Telecommunications Association (VCTA) in 2018 and was responsible for leading industry executives, ensuring Virginia remains a worldwide leader in broadband and telecommunications. Today, he continues to serve on the VCTA Board of Directors. His role on the Hampton Roads Regional Board for GO Virginia positions the region for job creation and economic growth. Myers' other notable board involvements include the Virginia Business Council, the Hampton Roads Business Roundtable, and the Virginia Chamber of Commerce Blueprint Virginia 2025 Steering Committee.

His three daughters inspire his commitment to nurturing tomorrow's business leaders. He has been involved with the Hampton Roads Chamber's tHRive group, helping young professionals through real-world career advice. Myers' involvement with Fairfax CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) helps to protect our community's children during a critical time in their lives. And, as the executive sponsor of the Cox Virginia Millennial Council, he is ensuring the next generation of leaders have the necessary experience to successfully drive Virginia's future.

Myers has been recently named in the 2020 Top 100 people to meet in Virginia, named in the 2020 Inside Business Power List, was also recently listed in the Virginia Business Magazines 2020 Virginia 500, a power list of the Commonwealth's top business leaders, and he is among CableFAX's Most Influential Minorities in Cable for the past 5 four years. He reaffirmed his commitment to diversity by serving as a board member of the Mid-Atlantic chapter of the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC) and as the executive sponsor for the Virginia Chapter of the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC). Under his direction, NAMIC-Virginia supports communications professionals in reaching their diversity and inclusion goals in the Hampton Roads and Richmond regions.

Myers holds an MBA in Business Administration and an MBA in Finance and Marketing from American University, as well as a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration from American University, and an Associate of Arts, Electrical Engineering Technology from Regis University.

He currently resides in Virginia Beach with his wife, Gillian, and their daughters.



Maria Tedesco
President
Atlantic Union Bank

Maria Tedesco is President of Atlantic Union Bank and leads the commercial banking, business banking, consumer banking, wealth management and mortgage teams, as well as enterprise-wide functions of marketing, digital strategy, product management, business line risk and customer experience.

Prior to Atlantic Union Bank, Maria was Chief Operating Officer for Retail at BMO Harris Bank based in Chicago and was responsible for retail products, segments, customer experience, indirect auto, consumer lending, small business lending, business banking strategy, channels and risk. Prior to that she served as Senior Executive Vice President and Managing Director of the Retail Bank at Santander Bank, N.A. where she was responsible for leading the US retail strategy and business channels, including branch network, online, mobile, investments, mortgage, call centers, ATMs, marketing, product marketing, customer experience and program management office. Before Santander, Maria spent 20 years at Citizens Financial Group, Inc. ultimately becoming Group Executive Vice President and Executive Director of Retail Banking and Business Banking for the company.

Maria was named one of Most Powerful Women in Banking Team Award by American Banker in 2012 and 2017. In 2015, she was named one of the Most Powerful Women to Watch by American Banker. Maria was named one of the Bold Women of Richmond by Richmond Magazine in July of 2020. She received an M.B.A from Northeastern University and her B.S. from Ithaca College.

Maria currently serves on the boards of the Better Housing Coalition, Venture Richmond, Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Virginia Bankers Association and Consumer Bankers Mid-Tier Group. She serves as a chair of the Government Relations Committee for Virginia Bankers Association and is a member of the Government Relations Committee of the American Banker Association. She is both the Finance Chair and a member of the DEI Committee for the Richmond Chamber of Commerce. Maria serves on the Virginia Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee for the Workforce and Education Industry Council. She is also member of the Independent Community Bankers Association, Virginia Business Council and Greater Richmond Partnership.



Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston
President
Norfolk State University

Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston is the seventh President of Norfolk State University. She began her tenure on June 24, 2019. As President, Dr. Adams-Gaston is committed to ensuring that Norfolk State University fulfills its mission as an HBCU for the Modern World, a university grounded by its heritage, focused on the future, and deeply committed to student success. Her vision is student success, opportunity access and affordability, and

growth and sustainability. A strong advocate for collaboration and developing strategic partnerships with local, regional and state stakeholders, Dr. Adams-Gaston is committed to cultivating strong connections with alumni and the community.

President Adams-Gaston is committed to building meaningful, productive relationships that lay the foundation for community building, progress, and accomplishment. She is dedicated to making decisions that are guided by data, informed by vision, and responsive to the needs of the community. Dr. Adams-Gaston endorses an achievement-oriented approach to creating excellence, producing genuine and robust support for programs that advance the academic community. She is a champion of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

During her first year at Norfolk State University, the COVID-19 pandemic created multiple challenges for the nation and the world. President. Adams-Gaston worked together with her team to continue to move the institution forward despite the issues created as a result of the pandemic. This led to the university achieving multiple successes. The goals of access, opportunity and success for NSU students remained her focus even during these unprecedented times.

Under President Adams-Gaston's management, Norfolk State University has successfully achieved the status of a U.S. News and World Report 2021, Top 20 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) designation. Additionally, attaining 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation by its major accrediting body, The Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Reaffirmation underscores the University's strength, stability, and forward momentum. Enrollment increased to a six-year high last year, to 5,600 students. This included the largest freshman class in many years, 1,200 freshmen (FY20). The university has realized record high operating revenues 104% above projection, the highest in the history of Norfolk State. A new 740-bed state of the art residence complex was opened.

Dr. Adams-Gaston has guided Norfolk State University through expansion of online academic programs to include a Master of Science Degree in Cybersecurity. Cybersecurity education and research continues its trajectory as a leader nationally, having been designated a Department of Defense Center of Excellence in Cybersecurity and the Department of Energy Cybersecurity Consortium Leader. Additionally, the university created the first online Master of Science Degree in CyberPsychology. President Adams-Gaston's direction has been supportive, and the university has received national recognition and visibility for hosting the International CyberPsychology Conference, the first time this conference has ever been hosted by an HBCU.

(Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston Continued...)

President Adams-Gaston signed the Norfolk State University Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth Virginia for the Tech Talent Pipeline initiative. This partnership includes 11 Virginia institutions of higher education and has a goal of producing 31,000 computer science graduates over the next 20 years. The NSU Innovation Center in Downtown Norfolk is a learning space, which integrates pedagogy and technology to help grow and serve as a channel for minority entrepreneurs. Dr. Adams-Gaston demonstrates her commitment to the center as a member of the Board of the NSU Research Innovation Foundation.

The Center for African American Public Policy at Norfolk State University is first of its kind in Virginia. It serves to educate the public, empower communities of color and assist lawmakers in developing effective policies to address issues impacting communities of color. Norfolk State University and the Center for African American Public Policy collaborated with several state and local entities to host the U.S. Senatorial Debate between Senator Mark Warner and Dr. Daniel Gade, another first in the history of the university. The event was covered by over 200 media outlets and was live streamed and later televised in multiple states.

President Adams-Gaston is a higher education professional and scholar with more than 30 years of experience at nationally known research universities. Prior to joining Norfolk State University, Dr. Adams-Gaston served as senior vice president at The Ohio State University and led the operations of the Office of Student Life. She was part of the university's senior administration, which developed and implemented the university strategic plan. In the Office of Student Life, Dr. Adams-Gaston had leadership responsibility for over 40 operations, affecting over 66,000 students' learning and development outside of the classroom. The staff included 1,100 staff, 5,500 student staff and 70 graduate assistants. She had responsibility for numerous student services and programs. Under her leadership, Student Life was honored for five consecutive years as one of the Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*.

With her selection in 2009, Dr. Adams-Gaston became Ohio State's first female African-American Vice President for Student Life. She came to Ohio State from the University of Maryland, where she served in a variety of administrative and faculty positions. Her experience included serving at University of Maryland, College Park as associate dean of academic affairs, faculty member, executive director of the Career Center, equity administrator, psychologist and first UMCP African-American assistant athletic director (Division 1). She also served as an Athletic Certification Peer Reviewer for the NCAA. Trained as a psychologist, Dr. Adams-Gaston spent more than 25 years in private practice. She also served as a member of the graduate faculty at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University. She was an affiliate assistant professor at The Ohio State University.

Dr. Adams-Gaston is the recipient of numerous awards: the 2020 Virginia Business, Virginia 500 Power List - Education; the Pillar of the Profession Award from NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education; the Diamond Honoree Award, the highest honor of the American College Personnel Association, which recognized her transformative contributions to the field; Alumnus of Distinction-Hall of Fame by the University of Dubuque; the President's Distinguished Service Award and the Outstanding Woman's Award from the University of Maryland. She has been inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa Society, Mortar Board Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Dr. Adams-Gaston serves on The Board of Trustees, University of Dubuque; the Greater Norfolk Council, the Hampton Roads Chamber. She previously served on the Board of President's for the Association of Land-grant Universities; the Board of Governors, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals; the Board of Campus Partners for Community Redevelopment; the Board of Directors, American Red Cross, Central Ohio; the NASPA Foundation Board; the Board of the YWCA Columbus; the Chair of the Church Council and the Director of Sunday School for Peoples Congregational Church, UCC in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Adams-Gaston earned a bachelor's degree in biology, psychology and general science, at the University of Dubuque; a master's degree in psychology at Loras College; and a Ph.D. in psychology at Iowa State University. She practiced as a psychologist in private practice for over 25 years.

President Adams-Gaston considers her greatest achievement to be her family. She hails from Washington, D.C. She is married to Mr. Dmitri Gaston, MCRP, from New Orleans, Louisiana. He served as a planner and management analyst for the city of Washington, D.C. for over 25 years. He then served in the roles of planner and senior manager for diversity and inclusion education at The Ohio State University. They have three adult children, and they are extremely proud of them.



The Honorable Lamont Bagby Virginia House of Delegates

The Honorable Lamont Bagby serves as the chair of the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus. He earned his bachelor's degree from Norfolk State University and Master of Education from Virginia Commonwealth University. Prior to being elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, Delegate Bagby was the Fairfield representative to the Henrico County School Board and was appointed to serve on the Norfolk State University Board of Visitors. In addition to serving in the House of Delegates, he is the director of operations at the Peter Paul Development Center. Delegate Bagby is committed to breaking cycles of poverty and dismantling the school to prison pipeline.



Elizabeth Creamer
Vice President for Workforce Development and Credential Attainment
Community College Workforce Alliance

Elizabeth Creamer is Vice President for Workforce Development and Credential Attainment, Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA). CCWA is the shared workforce division of Reynolds and John Tyler Community Colleges. CCWA teams are dedicated to closing the skills gap through industry sector strategies, occupational training and credentialing, apprenticeship related instruction and incumbent worker training, and career coaching.

Previously, Elizabeth served as the Advisor for Workforce Development in Governor Terence R. McAuliffe's administration and as Director of Education and Workforce Development in Governor Bob McDonnell's administration. Additional experience includes: Assistant Vice Chancellor of Career Pathways and Workforce Development Programs for the Virginia Community College System; and academic administration positions at Thomas Nelson and Paul D. Camp Community Colleges.

Creamer is a current member of the Board of Directors for ChamberRVA, the Workforce Development Boards for the Capital and Crater Regions, and the Activation Council of Virginia's Bio+Tech Park. She has previously served on the National Career Pathways Network Board, the Southern Region Education Board's Career and Technical Education Commission, and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development. Elizabeth holds a B.A. from Christopher Newport University and a M.A. from Old Dominion University.



Dr. James Lane
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Commonwealth of Virginia

Dr. James F. Lane was appointed Virginia's 25th superintendent of public instruction by Governor Ralph S. Northam, effective June 1, 2018.

As state superintendent, Dr. Lane serves as the executive officer of the Virginia Department of Education, which is the administrative agency for the commonwealth's public schools. He also serves as secretary of the state Board of Education.

Prior to his appointment as the commonwealth's chief school officer, Dr. Lane served as a division superintendent in Chesterfield County, Goochland County and Middlesex County. He was recognized as the 2017 Virginia Superintendent of the Year for his leadership in Goochland County.

Dr. Lane was one of 100 superintendents in the nation selected to attend the 2014 ConnectEd Superintendents Summit at the White House in recognition of his leadership in the use of instructional technology by his schools.

In 2015, the national Data Quality Campaign awarded its annual Flashlight award to Goochland County in recognition of the division's achievements under Lane's leadership in using data to empower educators and communicate with parents and the public.

Dr. Lane holds a doctorate in education from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in school administration from North Carolina State University, and master's and bachelor's degrees in teaching from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Lane and his wife, Sarah, are the parents of two elementary school students in Chesterfield County.



William "Ed" Trumbull
Vice President, Workforce Innovation
ICF

Ed Trumbull is ICF's Vice President for Workforce Innovation. He is known for creating impactful workforce solutions and conducting insightful analysis. During his 30-year public and private sector career, he served as an executive advising a Maryland Governor on education reform and workforce innovation, staffed Maryland's Workforce Development Board, lead a local Workforce Development Board, provided consulting services for the leadership of the U.S. Departments of Labor and Commerce, and served as an executive of several national workforce organizations. He is currently leading a U.S. Department of Labor funded disaster recovery and workforce innovation initiative in the U.S. Virgin Islands and a subject matter expert for ICF's national cybersecurity youth registered apprenticeship initiative. His MPM is from the University of Maryland and BA from Claremont McKenna College.



THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

Recordings from the Virginia Education & Workforce Conference will be made available to registered participants following the event.