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GEORGIA GRANTMAKERS ALLIANCE
2013 SUMMER MEETING
MACON, GA
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KRISTIN BERNHARD
Education Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Nathan Deal

As Education Policy Advisor to Governor Nathan Deal, Kristin manages the Governor’s policy initiatives from pre-kindergarten through post-secondary education. Through budget analysis, legislative advocacy, research support, and program management, she works to advance his vision of a more educated Georgia. Her responsibilities include representing the Governor on Georgia’s Alliance of Education Agency Heads, serving as the Governor’s lead on implementation of Georgia’s $400M Race to the Top federal grant, and assisting with “Complete College Georgia,” an initiative to produce an additional 250,000 postsecondary credentials in the state by the year 2020. Prior to her appointment to her current role, Kristin worked for Governor Sonny Perdue in both his policy and communications offices. A graduate of the University of Georgia, Kristin resides in Atlanta.

ANN CRAMER
Trustee
Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta

Ann Wilson Cramer, a native of Jacksonville, Florida, graduated from Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina with a degree in mathematics. She is serving as a Senior Consultant with Coxe Curry & Associates after retiring from a long and successful career at the IBM Corporation, where she started as a Systems Engineer in Jacksonville and retired as its Director for IBM Corporate Citizenship and Corporate Affairs for the Americas. Ann and her husband, Jeff, live in Inman Park and are active at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, where Ann has served as Senior Warden of the Vestry. They are the proud parents of two adult children, Megan and Wil and his wife Lauren.

Ann’s commitment to and involvement with children and youth has been a lifelong journey. Ann currently serves as chair of the Atlanta Partners for Education and as the past chair of the following - Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education (GPEE), the Carter Center Board of Councilors, Communities in Schools-Georgia, the Georgia Chamber’s Education Committee, Voices for Georgia’s Children, Georgia Shakespeare Festival and the Georgia Chapter of the International Women’s Forum. Ann is on the boards of the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, the Metro Atlanta Chamber Education Committee, the Governor’s Office of Workforce Development and the Georgia Public Education Foundation. She serves on several non-profit organization boards including the Woodruff Arts Center, the Alliance Theatre Company, Public Broadcasting Atlanta (PBA), UGA Board of Visitors, the Hands-on-Atlanta Advisory Board and the Atlanta Cities of Service board. And currently chairs the Advisory Councils for the Alliance Theatre and Imagine-It the Children’s Museum of Atlanta. And she recently rotated off the boards of the Georgia Center for NonProfits, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Project GRAD, and Year-Up Atlanta.
Likewise, she has served on the Executive Committee of the Council on Foundations as chair of both the Policy and Corporate Committees, chair of the United Way of America’s National Corporate Leaders Council, chair of the Conference Board’s Business Education Council, the Executive Committee of both the US Chamber’s Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC) and the Institute for Competitive Workforce, the Independent Sector’s Membership Committee, the Center for Corporate Citizenship Advisory Board at Boston College and the Southeastern Council on Foundations Communications Committee. BCLC awarded Ann with its first Lifetime Achievement Award in Corporate Citizenship.

In support of children, youth and education, Ann most recently chaired the Workforce Development Task Force for the Governor’s Commission for a New Georgia. Ann has chaired the Governor’s Child Protective Services Task Force, served as Chairman of the Governor’s Commission on Children and Youth and co-chaired the Governor’s Welfare Reform Task Force, the Governor’s Policy Council for Children and Families and the Grady Foundation, the Governor’s Action Council for Safe Kids and led a team developing Voices for Georgia’s Children.

**Dr. Houston Davis**

Executive Vice Chancellor & Chief Academic Officer  
University System of Georgia

As the executive vice chancellor/chief academic officer, Dr. Davis is responsible for meeting the academic needs of more than 318,000 students and approximately 13,300 University System faculty members. He also provides leadership to a division at the University System Office that includes academic programs and planning, faculty affairs, student affairs, teacher-education initiatives, strategic research and analysis, and information and instructional technology.

Prior to joining the Oklahoma system in 2007, Davis served as associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Tennessee Board of Regents (2005-2007). He worked in the field of academic leadership and on the faculty for Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tenn., (2001-2005).

Davis has also worked in the areas of fiscal and academic affairs for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (1997-2001) and as a regional student recruitment and advancement representative for the University of Memphis (1995-1997).

In addition to his professional duties, Houston Davis has served as director for the National Educational Needs Index project from 2004-2011, an initiative measuring educational, economic, and population pressures in the 50 states that influence policy and planning at local, regional, and national levels.

Dr. Davis is involved in research projects and writing in the areas of higher education access, governance, economic development, and accountability issues in higher education and serves on several national advisory groups on higher education policy, degree completion, academic preparation, and accountability.

A native of Clarksville, Tennessee, Davis received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University, Nashville.
MATHEW HAUER
Applied Demographer
Carl Vinson Institute of Government

Matt Hauer leads the Institute’s Applied Demography Program, which provides state and local leaders with current demographic data and detailed population projections so that they can more effectively address issues and plan for the future. He also instructs officials on the use of demographics in public decision making. He has worked with Florida State University, and the Atlanta Regional Commission and most recently with the U.S. Census Bureau as a statistician and in field operations.

DR. VALERIE HEPBURN
Visiting Professor
University of Georgia

Dr. Valerie Hepburn currently serves as visiting professor in the Office of the Provost at The University of Georgia. In this role, she is helping lead several policy and research initiatives including the redesign of the University System of Georgia’s health benefits plan. She has more than 30 years of senior public policy and educational leadership experience. Her areas of specialization include health planning and policy, health professions education; strategic planning; policy analysis, development and implementation; budgeting and financial management; and organizational and leadership development.

Dr. Hepburn stepped down as president of the College of Coastal Georgia in June 2013, a position she held for five years. She was recruited to the position to provide the strategic leadership necessary to transform a small junior college into a nationally-recognized, comprehensive undergraduate institution. Her work at Coastal Georgia has been praised by colleagues, competitors and accreditors. During her tenure, she held a faculty appointment as professor of public policy and served as chair-elect of the Southern States Athletic Conference. Dr. Hepburn was recognized as one of four 2011 Power Women by Georgia Trend Magazine.

Previously, Dr. Hepburn served as an administrator and faculty member in health policy and management and public administration at both The University of Georgia and Georgia State University. In 2006, Hepburn was awarded a prestigious Packer Policy Fellowship from the Australian Government and the Commonwealth Fund. During her time in Australia, Dr. Hepburn conducted research and developed programming related to health professions education and regulation with both The Australian National University and the Australian Department of Health and Ageing. She has served as invited convener for the International Medical and Health Workforce Collaborative and American Public Health Association.
Prior to her academic service, Dr. Hepburn spent more than two decades in senior leadership positions with state health, financing and regulatory agencies. She continues to work with public officials and research colleagues on strategic planning, health and education policy and resource allocation issues.

In July 2014, Dr. Hepburn will assume the role of CEO of the Communities Foundation of Coastal Georgia. She and her husband, David Hayes, reside in Glynn County, Georgia.

DR. KENT McGUIRE
President & CEO
Southern Education Foundation

Kent McGuire is the President and CEO of the Southern Education Foundation headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. The Foundation focuses on public policy and educational practice from pre-K to higher education in the southern United States. Through a variety of programs and services, SEF has been particularly concerned with questions of equal access to quality education for children and youth and to the participation and success of poor and minority students in postsecondary education.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Dr. McGuire was the Dean of the College of Education at Temple University and a Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Before this, Dr. McGuire was Senior Vice President at MDRC, where his responsibilities included leadership of the corporation’s Education, Children, and Youth division. From 1998 to 2001, Dr. McGuire served in the Clinton administration as Assistant Secretary of Education, where he served as the senior officer for the department's research and development agency. As the education program officer for the Philadelphia-based Pew Charitable Trusts from 1995 to 1998, he managed Pew's K–12 grants portfolio. From 1991 to 1995, Dr. McGuire served as education program director for the Eli Lilly Endowment.

Dr. McGuire received his doctorate in public administration from the University of Colorado, his master's degree in education administration and policy from Columbia University Teacher's College, and his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan.

DR. MARK MILLIRON
Co-Founder & Chief Learning Officer
Civitas Learning

Dr. Mark David Milliron is known as a champion for education opportunity and a catalyst for conversations on innovation and the road ahead. He is an awarding winning leader, author, speaker, and consultant who has worked with universities, community colleges, K-12 schools, foundations, corporations, associations, and government agencies across the country and around the world. He is the Co-Founder and Chief Learning Officer of Civitas Learning. Civitas Learning brings together the best of education, technology, and...
analytics in a community of forward-thinking higher education institutions to help college students learn well and graduate on time.

In previous roles, Mark served as the founding chancellor of WGU Texas; the Deputy Director for Postsecondary Improvement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Endowed Fellow, Senior Lecturer, and Director of the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development in the College of Education at The University of Texas at Austin; Vice President for Education and Medical Practice with SAS; and as President and CEO of the League for Innovation in the Community College.

He also serves on numerous corporate, nonprofit, and education boards and advisory groups, including the Global Online Academy, a not-for-profit educational partnership serving independent schools nationally and internationally and the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME), the parent organization of the Big Ideas Fest.

In 1999, The University of Texas at Austin’s College of Education named Mark a Distinguished Graduate for his service to the education field. In 2007, the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) presented him with its National Leadership Award; In 2011, the National University Technology Network (NUTN) named Mark the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award; and in 2013 he was inducted into the United States Distance Learning Association’s (USDLA) Hall of Fame.

**DR. JOSEPHINE REED-TAYLOR**
Deputy Commissioner
Technical College System of Georgia

Josephine Reed-Taylor is the Deputy Commissioner for the Technical College System of Georgia. Prior to this position, she served as Assistant Commissioner for TCSG and State Director for Adult Education. Before joining the Technical College System of Georgia in 2006, Reed-Taylor was the Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

Reed-Taylor’s professional career includes administrative positions in higher education, including Interim President, vice president for academic affairs, dean of instruction, and dean of students. She holds a doctorate in educational administration and a Master’s Degree Counseling & Student Personnel Psychology, both from the University of Minnesota, as well as a bachelor’s degree from Spelman College in Atlanta. Other educational experiences include the completion of educational management institutes at Bryn Mawr College and Harvard University.

Under her leadership as Deputy Director of TCSG, the system has converted from quarters to semesters, merged several colleges and increased transfer and articulation agreements with the University System of Georgia and the Georgia Association of Independent Colleges. The system is also a partner in Complete College Georgia, the America Diploma Project and other efforts to increase collaboration between preK-12 and postsecondary education.
Reed-Taylor has served in leadership roles at the national, regional, state and local levels for a variety of professional organizations including The American Council on Education’s Network of Women Administrators including a term as Chair of the Executive Board, service on the Board of the National Council of Instructional Administrators (AACC), Trustee for the Higher Learning Commission, and member of the 2010 class of Leadership Atlanta. She volunteers with Covenant House Georgia, a program for homeless teens and young adults and serves as a member of several civic and non-profit organizations as well as service on various boards of directors in support of access, education, and economic development.

**TOM SUGAR, SR.**  
Vice-President  
Complete College America

Tom is responsible for Complete College America’s external and legislative affairs. As former chief of staff to a U.S. senator and nearly 25 years working in government and political campaigns, Tom brings a wealth of experience building grassroots initiatives and engaging with a variety of stakeholders at state and federal tiers of government.

As senior vice president, Tom oversees engagement with federal policy initiatives, monitors legislative activity relevant to the college completion agenda at both the federal and state levels, and manages Complete College America’s relationships with external partners in state and federal policy venues.

As a Chief of Staff, Tom was the senior strategic and tactical advisor, directed political operations and communications, and engineered successful election campaigns. Tom also served as director of communications and planning in a governor’s office, where he established numerous new government initiatives to further public policy goals.

**SUZANNE WALSH**  
Senior Program Officer  
Postsecondary Success, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Suzanne Walsh is a senior program officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation where she leads the Foundation’s institutional redesign strategies. Before joining Gates, Suzanne worked at two other foundations: The Lumina Foundation for Education in Indianapolis where she managed the Making Opportunity Affordable initiative, which was aimed at increasing college productivity by bringing about fundamental change in the way higher education does business; and, The Heinz Endowments in Pittsburgh where her diverse portfolio included community colleges, universities, workforce development, tech commercialization and transfer, city/county consolidation, immigration and regional economic
development. She got her start in community college work as the Coordinator of Special Projects at Cuyahoga Community College. Suzanne has her juris doctorate and masters in social work from Case Western Reserve University, a bachelor’s of science from Cornell University, and an associate’s degree in applied science from Hudson Valley Community College. She is a member of the Grantmakers for Effective Organizations board and on the advisory boards for Roadtrip Nation, as well as education start-ups Uncollege and Sokanu. She is also a proud judge for Dance Your PhD.

**DR. JOHN WILSON, JR.**

President  
Morehouse College

As a scholar, an educator, a consultant, a strategist and a fundraiser, Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr. has moved universities and organizations forward with his efforts and vision. In January 2013, Dr. Wilson took office as the 11th president of Morehouse College, the nation’s only private, liberal arts institution dedicated to the education of African American males.

Prior to that position, Dr. Wilson was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as the executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). There, Dr. Wilson promoted HBCU excellence, innovation and sustainability. He worked to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal programs; fostered private-sector initiatives and public-private partnerships; improved the availability and dissemination of information on HBCUs to inform public policy; shared best practices within the HBCU community; and explored ways to improve the relationship between HBCUs and the federal government.