

South Carolina Diversity Leaders Initiative (SC DLI)

Spring Upstate Class XIII



Michael Allen is the Architecture Project Manager at Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood. He has helped build the SC offices of the firm from the ground up.

Michael is a 2010 Leadership South Carolina graduate and serves on the boards for Leadership South Carolina and the Greenville Technical College Foundation. A former member of the United Way of Greenville's After School Strategic Plan steering committee and the YWCA development committee Spartanburg, Michael is active with the Greenville and SC chapters of the American Institute of Architects and the National Organization of Minority Architects.

Michael is a graduate of Clemson University, graduating with his bachelors degree in architecture.



Christy Bergman is the Business and Development Support Manager for OE Technical at the Michelin America Research Company.

Her responsibilities are to ensure the support of the Development of tires for the Original Equipment Manufacturers. This includes: Business Management, Government Regulations, Compliance Testing, Markings and Specifications, the Prototype Shop, IS Systems, Engineering Services, and Administration.

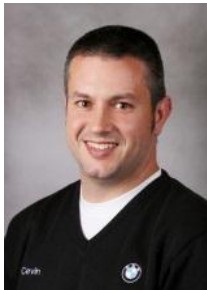
Christy graduated in 1996 from the University of Montana with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science.



G. Robert Binnicker is the Principal of Wren High School in Anderson School District One.

Robbie serves on the South Carolina Association of School Administrators as the 3rd District Representative. He is also a member of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Robbie earned his B.S in Biological Science and Master's in Administration and Supervision, both from Clemson University.



Cevin Bryant is the Finish and Special Vehicle Manager of the Assembly Department at BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC. in Spartanburg South Carolina.

Cevin is a graduate of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

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Jada Charley is the Language Access Attorney for South Carolina Legal Services.

Jada is active in the Upstate community, using her fluency in Spanish to aid Spanish-speakers both in and out of the legal arena. Jada currently sits on the board of the Alianza para la Colaboración en la Comunidad Hispana (Alliance for Collaboration in the Hispanic Community) and is attaining her certification as a SC court interpreter. Jada is also a board member for the West End Community Development Center and a part of the Interpreters for the Deaf and Language Access workgroups in the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission.

Jada received a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Emory University and a J.D. from Georgetown University.



Cynthia Eason is Vice President, Corporate & Economic Development for Greenville Technical College in Greenville, SC. In this capacity, Cynthia leads the college's economic development efforts in Greenville and South Carolina's Upstate and works with other strategic organizations in the area to support development of a workforce to meet the needs of current and future employers.

Cynthia is vice chair of the Greenville County Workforce Investment Board, secretary of the Greenville Region Workforce Collaborative, a member of the Greenville Regional Education Center advisory board, and a member of United Way's Financial Stability Community Impact Council.

Cynthia holds a B.A. in English from Clemson University and an M.A. in Adult Education Administration from the University of South Dakota.



Calder Ehrmann is a partner at Cuzdey, Ehrmann, Wagner, Stine, Sansalone & Bobe, LLC.

Calder is a member of the Georgia Bar Association. He also serves the Workers Compensation Section of the Atlanta Bar Association.

Calder is a graduate of the University of Georgia. He later earned his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law.



Jacob Ehrmann is the principal attorney at Ehrmann Law Office, PA.

Jacob is active in the North Carolina Bar Association and serves as a board member of a local rape crisis center.

Jacob received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he majored in Public Policy Analysis with an emphasis in race and gender issues. Jacob then received his JD from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

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Werner Eikenbusch is the Manager for Apprentice & Associate Training at BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC.

Werner holds a Master's Degree in Engineering Management from New Jersey Institute of Technology and a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Applied Sciences in Bielefeld, Germany.



Gally Gallivan is Senior Vice President of Investments and Senior Managed Accounts Consultant at UBS Financial Services, Inc.

Gally is an active member of the Upstate community and a fervent supporter of his alma mater, Furman University. He serves on Furman's Strategic Planning Committee and as an Executive Committee Member on the Board of Trustees. Gally has also served on the Palmetto Society Board of the United Way and the Advisory Board for St. Joseph's High School.

Gally is a cum laude graduate of Furman University, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree. He then earned his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Georgia. Gally also attended Louisiana State University and the University of Oklahoma for further graduate studies in Commercial Banking.



Alfred Haas is a Department Manager for Material and Transportation Control, Delivery Assurance at BMW. He originally joined the BMW family in the Logistic Department at a plant in Regensburg, Germany.

Since moving to South Carolina, Alfred has been a strong member of the Upstate community.

Alfred holds a B.A. in Business Studies from VWA Academy University Regensburg.



Brooke Holloway is the Director of Community Development and Corporate Compliance for Carolina Health Centers, Inc.

Brooke serves on the boards of Healthy Greenwood Neighborhoods, Eat Smart Move More Greenwood, and the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce's "Connect Young Professionals" initiative. She is also on the Advocacy Committees of the SC Association of Non-Profit Organizations and the SC Primary Health Care Association.

Brooke graduated with honors from Wofford College with a dual Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Government. She then attended law school at the University of South Carolina School of Law. Brooke recently earned a Graduate Certificate in Health Care Corporate Compliance from George Washington University in Washington, DC.

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Jeanne Howard is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of South Carolina. At present, she serves in the Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force in Greenville.

Jeanne is involved in numerous civic and professional organizations, having recently served on the boards of the Mental Health Association of Greenville, Emrys Foundation, Downtown Symphony Club, Furman University Alumni Board and Federal Bar Association. Jeanne is currently a member of the executive committee of the Greenville County Bar Association, Greenville Women Giving and the Junior League of Greenville.

Jeanne is a graduate of Furman University and the University of South Carolina School of Law.



Dean Hybl is the Executive Director of Ten at the Top.

Since arriving in the Upstate, Dean has demonstrated a commitment to the development of the community. He has directed the effort to create a Shared Upstate Growth Vision for the 10-county Upstate region and is currently coordinating the development of task forces focused on Human Potential; Economic & Entrepreneurial Vitality; Sustainable Growth; Natural Beauty & Resources and Community Vibrancy. Dean is also coordinating initiatives focused on environmental preservation, improvement in science and math education, arts and culture, economic development and social services.

Dean is a graduate of James Madison University.



Holger Illman is the Manager of Product Engineering at BMW Manufacturing Company, LLC.

Holger is a graduate of Fachhochschule Ulm where he earned a degree in Automotive Engineering.

Edna Johnson is the Vice President of Communication and Brands for Michelin North America, Inc.

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Paul Johnson is President of the Greenville Memorial Medical Center Campus of the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center.

Paul is a member of the Georgia Hospital Association and a Fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives. Paul is also a lifelong Rotarian.

Paul graduated with honors from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Arts. He then earned his Master of Health Administration from Duke University.



Don Koonce is the Producer and Director for Ferncreek Creative, Inc. He has produced over 300 films and videos for organizations, museums, schools, companies and communities throughout the country and created special documentaries on many subjects including productions for NASA, and The National Air and Space Museum.

Demonstrating a keen interest in the Carolinas, Don has devled extensively into the history of the textile industry in North and South Carolina. This has led to a series of guided tours of textile mills in the Upcountry for school groups, tourists, leadership classes and government officials. This year, Don begins conducting tours for visitors to Greenville, sponsored by the Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

Don is a graduate of The Citadel and a former U.S. Navy pilot.



Deborah McKetty is the President and CEO of CommunityWorks Carolina, formerly the Greenville Housing Fund.

Deborah is regularly engaged in efforts to uplift the community. Most recently, she is working on a regional effort supported by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, and the Opportunity Finance Network to increase the capacity of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) in the Southeast. She has also served on several nonprofit boards in the Upstate, including the Community Foundation of Greenville, United Way Financial Stability and Community Impact Cabinets, and the Urban League of the Upstate.

Deborah attending the University of South Carolina for her undergraduate work. She later earned her Master's in Urban Planning from Texas Southern University.



Fred Miller is the Chief Information Officer at Furman University. In this capacity, Fred leads the University's information technology services and lends support to administrative systems, instructional technology, and voice, video and data communications.

Fred is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He completed his graduate studies at Boston College's Wallace E. Carroll Graduate School of Management.

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Chrissy Mobley Executive Director of the Union County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. In this role, Chrissy provides leadership and direction to all major business processes, communication initiatives, and community outreach for Union County.

With a strong belief in the transformative power of communication and human relations, Chrissy uses her professional interests to serve the Upstate community.

Chrissy is a graduate of the College of Charleston where she studied psychology. She received a Master of Counseling from Webster University.



Stephanie Monroe Tillerson is the City Manager for the City of Woodruff. She is a strong advocate for smart codes, sustainable growth policies, and for bikeable and walkable communities.

Stephanie is very involved in her community, where she is a member of Junior League of Spartanburg, Women Giving of Spartanburg, Spartanburg Regional Foundation Heart Division Board, USC Upstate Foundation Board of Director and Animal Allies Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Urban Land Institute.

Stephanie attended Michigan State University where she earned both a Bachelor's degree in Public Affairs Management and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Stephanie holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of South Carolina.



Ken Peterson is the Vice President Human Resources and Diversity for BI-LO Food Stores, headquartered in Mauldin, SC.

Of his many accomplishments, Ken is most humbled by his ability to help others. He actively serves on boards for the YWCA of Greenville and the Urban League of the Upstate. He is also a member of the Business and Industry Cluster at South Carolina State University.

Ken is a graduate of South Carolina State University where he obtained B.S. in Marketing. He later earned a M.A. in Human Resource Management from Webster University.



Alex Sands is the founding Pastor of Kingdom Life Christian Center in Mauldin, SC. Under his leadership the congregation has grown from a core group of 12 members to over 300 regular attenders in its 8 years of existence.

Alex has served as the moderator of the Greenville Baptist Association and currently serves on the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Alex graduated Summa Cum Laude from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering, and he then earned a Master of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Georgia Tech. More recently, Alex earned his Master of Divinity degree from Gardner-Webb University.

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Pete Selleck is the Chairman and President of Michelin North America, Inc. He is responsible for the coordination of all operations of the Michelin Group in North America.

While Pete has spent a number of recent years overseeing operations in Europe, he has a long and steady history of involvement in the Upstate community. He has served on a number of local boards, including those of the United Way of Greenville, the Greenville Tech Foundation, and Junior Achievement of Greenville.

Pete earned a B.S. in Engineering and Applied Sciences from the US Military Academy at West Point. He also earned his M.B.A. from Clemson University.



Amy E. Shelley is an immigration attorney with Shelley Immigration Law, LLC in Greenville, South Carolina. She practices exclusively immigration law, representing individuals, families and businesses with a wide variety of immigration matters.

Amy is a member of the Board of Directors of ACCH, the Alliance for Collaboration with the Hispanic Community, in Greenville and serves as a member of the legal committee, often giving know-your-rights presentations to both Spanish- and English-speaking audiences. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of Ten Thousand Villages, a non-profit fair trade retail store in Greenville.

Amy graduated from The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, with a Bachelor's degree in Latin American Studies and from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, with a juris doctor degree.



George W. Singleton is the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Upstate Circle of Friends.

George is a "go to" person who has gained respect in the Upstate community for his scholastic, professional and with community involvement. Notably, George's service includes Director of the Inner City Youth League, and mentoring at-risk and disadvantaged youth. George also serves as board member for Central Community Ministries, Greenville Family Partnerships, Furman University Paladin Club, Heritage Foundation at Furman University, Piedmont Athletic Association, Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Greenville Technical College Advisory Board, Simpsonville Rotary Association, and Furman YMCA Youth Learning Institute.

A graduate of Furman University, George holds a B.A. in Political Science. He later earned his national Certification as Career Development Facilitator for the Educational Development Act. George also holds an M.A. in Management and Leadership from Webster University, Greenville Metropolitan Campus.

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Stan Smith is the principal owner of W. Stanton Smith LLC. He is an author, featured speaker, Human Resources executive, consultant, seminar leader and coach in a variety of people-related areas. He is a recognized expert in generational issues in the workplace.

Stan received a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and an M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin.



Kelvin Standard is the Manager for the Machine Testing of Tires for Michelin North America.

Kelvin enjoys being active in the Upstate community and being involved with the youth. He serves as a coach for recreational baseball and as a leader in a local Boy Scout troop. Stan also plays an active role at this home church.

Stan graduated from Georgia Tech with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering,



Daniel Sulton is an attorney with Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart, P.C. He focuses his practice in the area of employee benefit plan compliance and litigation.

Daniel earned his Bachelor's of Arts from Wofford College and his Juris Doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law.



Mary Thomas is the Executive Vice President of The Spartanburg County Foundation. She manages the day to day operations of the Foundation and works to build national and statewide alliances.

Mary is active in her community and serves on a number of boards, including the Southeastern Council of Foundations Board of Directors. Mary also sits on the BMW Manufacturing Community Advisory Panel and the Community Foundation Alliance of South Carolina. Mary is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated, a public service sorority.

Mary earned her B.A. from Winthrop University in French and Communications.

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Crystal Todd is the Customer Service Associate Director at Verizon Wireless.

Crystal holds a Bachelor of Science in Project Management and a Master's degree in Management.



Aaron von Frank is the President of bitTyrant, LLC., a brand identity & implementation firm

Aaron gives a fresh perspective to the Upstate community as he works to create dialogue and build community. He is a founder and board member for TEDxGreenville, the first independently organized TED event in the state. Aaron also helps to organize and create the first "PechaKucha Greenville" event.

Aaron is a graduate of Furman University.



Whitney Walters is the Executive Director of The International Center of the Upstate, a non-profit organization devoted to promoting cross-cultural understanding among local and international residents of Upstate South Carolina.

Whitney is a talented singer/songwriter who has used her talents to uplift the community. She is a founder of The Reedy River Jazz & Wine Festival and regularly performs throughout the region with one of her three bands. Whitney also sits on the Steering Committee for the Chamber's Non-Profit Alliance, the International Task Force committee for Greenville Forward, the MLK Dream Weekend Diversity committee, and the International Diversity Summit Committee in alliance with Michelin, Clemson University and the City of Greenville.



Benjamin B. Waters, III is the Principal in Construction at Problem Resolution, LLC, a professional consulting company providing technical advice and problem litigation to the legal profession, banks and construction companies.

Buddy serves as a Trustee for Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center. He is a member and committee chair of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. He is also a member of the Upstate Workforce Investment Board.

Buddy graduated from The Citadel with a B.A. in English. He also earned a degree in Civil Engineering Technology Greenville Technical College.

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Courtenay Williams is Project Director for the Riley Institute's Center for Education Policy and Leadership. Recently, she has assumed the role of South Carolina Director of the New Tech Network, a project undertaken with KnowledgeWorks Foundation and funded by the competitive federal Investing in Innovation (i3) grant. In this capacity, Courtenay is responsible for directing the implementation of transformative New Tech High Schools in high poverty, historically low-performing schools in South Carolina.

Courtenay earned both her undergraduate and her M.A. in School Leadership and Administration from Furman University.



Donald Wiper is the Chairman/Medical Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center.

Don serves on a number of professional associations, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists. Don is also serves on the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology for the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics.

Don earned his Doctor of Medicine from Case Western Reserve University Medical School in Cleveland, Ohio.



Kimberly Witherspoon is an attorney at Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., where she works on public finance, intellectual property and employments matters.

Outside of law practice, Kimberly is deeply committed to a number of civic activities. She is a board member for both the Urban League of the Upstate and Greenville Chautauqua. Kimberly also serves on the African American Leadership Council with the United Way of Greenville. Kimberly is also a member of the Junior League of Greenville.

Kimberly is a magna cum laude graduate in History and Political Science from Furman University. She then earned her J.D from Georgetown University Law Center.