

Vince Moore, Director  
News and Media Relations  
vince.moore@furman.edu  
864.294.3107

## **RILEY INSTITUTE AT FURMAN'S DIVERSITY LEADERS INITIATIVE SELECTS 8<sup>TH</sup> CLASS OF FELLOWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GREENVILLE, S.C.—Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative Selects 8<sup>th</sup> Class of Fellows

Poised to join more than 1400 Riley Fellows from across the state, 40 leaders from the Midlands have been selected to participate in the Riley Institute at Furman's Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI). "DLI and the Riley Fellows have matured into a potent force to help move South Carolina forward," said Dr. Don Gordon, executive director of the Riley Institute. "The members of this class will add considerably to the conversations and lasting partnerships that form among Riley fellows and it is the strength of these bonds that truly produces progress across the state."

Class members meet over the course of five months in a format driven by timely, relevant case studies and other experiential learning tools designed to maximize interactions and productive relationships among program participants. DLI is expertly facilitated by Juan Johnson, an independent consultant and former Coca-Cola Vice President. "DLI is unique among South Carolina's leadership programs. In addition to the opportunity to develop new relationships and take part in positive action in their communities, participants gain deep knowledge of how to effectively manage and lead increasingly diverse workers, clients and constituents," said Johnson. As part of the program, leaders also work in cross-sector groups to respond to real issues and opportunities in their communities through capstone service projects.

Participants reflecting South Carolina's demographics and representing the corporate, nonprofit, education, faith-based and government sectors are chosen by nomination and application. "The frames of reference and skills that DLI graduates share provide a remarkable platform for working together to help South Carolina compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," Gordon said.

These are the Riley Fellows for Midlands Class 8:

**Amanda Adler**

Staff Attorney, Education  
SC Appleseed  
Columbia

**Beryl Bachus-Keith**

Medical Director  
HopeHealth, Inc., HopeHealth Pediatrics-Manning  
Manning

**Danny Black**

President and CEO  
Southern Carolina Regional Alliance, Inc.  
Barnwell

**John Busch**

Trustee  
College of Charleston  
Chapin

**Kelly Callahan**

Vice President & Chief Operating Officer  
United Way Association of South Carolina  
Columbia

**Alvin Caughman**

Chief Communications Officer  
South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy  
Columbia

**Curtis Chow**

Attorney  
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C.  
Columbia

**Carter Clark**

President and CEO  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Midlands  
Columbia

**Shenequa Coles**

Principal  
Richland School District One  
Columbia High School  
Columbia

**Stephanie Cooper-Lewter**

Senior Research Director  
Sisters of Charity Foundation  
Columbia

**Marvin Davis**

Executive VP, R&D Facilities  
SCRA  
Columbia

**Rich Fletcher**

President and CEO  
I-77 Alliance  
Richburg

**Ana Gallego**

Program Director, SC Health Coordinating Council  
SC Hospital Association  
Columbia

**Vincent Goggins**

Lieutenant  
Richland County Sheriff's Office  
Columbia

**Scott Graves**

President and COO  
BlueChoice HealthPlan of South Carolina  
Columbia

**Lindsay Hawkins**

Area Personnel Manager  
Michelin North America  
Lexington

**Stephen Hefner**

Superintendent  
School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties  
Irmo

**Tina Herbert**

Director, Office of Business Opportunities  
City of Columbia  
Columbia

**Jennifer Hollingsworth**

Attorney  
Nexsen Pruet LLC  
Columbia

**Sam Johnson**

Special Assistant to the Mayor  
City of Columbia  
Columbia

**Thornton Kirby**

President and CEO  
South Carolina Hospital Association  
Columbia

**Roy Laney**

Attorney  
Riley Pope and Laney, LLC  
Columbia

**Amelia McKie**

Principal/President  
Nfusion, LLC  
Columbia

**Michael Mikota**

Executive Director  
Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments  
Sumter

**Mark Moore**

Member, Business Litigation/Governmental Investigations Practice Group  
Nexsen Pruet LLC  
Columbia

**Gail Morrison**

Deputy Director & Director of Academic Affairs and Licensing (ret.)  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
Columbia

**Tammy Pawloski**

Professor of Education; Director, Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty  
Francis Marion University  
Florence

**Lucia Pirisi-Creek**

Professor  
University of South Carolina School of Medicine  
Columbia

**Uvette Pope-Rogers**

Chief Financial Officer  
The Children's Trust of South Carolina  
Columbia

**Al Reid**

Plant Manager  
PPG Industries, Fiber Glass Products, Inc.  
Chester

**Tricia Richardson**

Executive Director

SC Thrive  
Columbia

**Tabitha Safdi**

Digital Media Manager/Producer  
South Carolina Educational Television  
Columbia

**Sarah Sherwood**

Mayor; Community Relations Liasion  
City of Abbeville; Hospice Care of South Carolina  
Abbeville

**Kevin Smith**

Partner  
Riggs Partners  
West Columbia

**Ann Timberlake**

Executive Director  
Conservation Voters of South Carolina  
Columbia

**Breon Walker**

Attorney  
Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.  
Columbia

**Craig Washington**

Principal  
Southside Middle School/Florence School District One  
Florence

**Kelvin Washington**

Councilmember  
Richland County Council  
Columbia

**Isvara Wilson**

Vice President & General Counsel  
AgFirst Farm Credit Bank  
Columbia

**Herman Yoos**

Bishop of the SC Synod of the ELCA  
The SC Synod  
Columbia