CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD



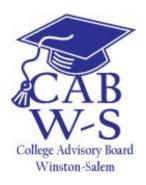






ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2024-2025





Staff Administrator: DR. RONNIE CHRISTIAN, Director Human Relations Department

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COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD

PURPOSE



The purpose of the CAB is to serve as an advisory council to the City Council regarding areas such as economic development projects, transit advocacy, and student housing issues (and other issues the group may suggest) that will encourage students to remain in Winston-Salem post-graduation.

MISSION

The CAB serves as a body that represents the needs, interests, and concerns of college students and recent college graduates by engaging them in relevant community projects, programs, and issues.

HISTORY

In June 2010, the Winston-Salem City Council unanimously approved a resolution to establish the College Advisory Board. Spearheaded by Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery, the group was created to communicate the needs of college students to the City of Winston-Salem.

DUTIES

- (a) Suggest and contribute ideas to economic development projects that will appeal to college students and young professionals;
- (b) Advocate for public transit availability and accessibility at various colleges and universities;
- (c) Voice concerns and resources pertaining to off-campus student housing issues involving landlords, property managers, and fair housing matters;
- (d) Actively engage in learning about community leadership opportunities that will encourage and foster partnerships with colleges and universities, as well as young professionals; and
- (e) Encourage college students to remain in Winston-Salem after graduation.

THE BOARD'S RELATIONSHIP TO CITY GOVERNMENT

The government of the City of Winston-Salem and the general management and control of all its affairs are vested in the City Council and the Mayor. The City Council appoints the City Manager who is the administrative head of City government and is responsible for the administration of all departments of City government. The City Council is also the appointing authority for members of the College Advisory Board.

The Board keeps the City Manager, and the City Council informed of its activities. To further that communication, the chairperson or a designated member of the Board shall appear annually before the City Council to provide them with information on the pulse of the college/university student community and a yearly progress report on Board programs and projects. The Board makes recommendations to the City Council concerning projects and programs relevant to the college/university student population of Winston-Salem.

THE BOARD'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE STAFF

The Board's relationship with the Human Relations staff involves advising staff regarding programs, concerns, and issues relating to college/university students. During the process of initiating programs and investigating complaints and problems, the Board calls on the staff for technical assistance and research into matters that are brought to the Board.

THE BOARD'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY

The College Advisory Board is the body through which college/university students' concerns can be relayed to City officials. The College Advisory Board brings information to its peers on the programs and activities of city government that pertain to college/university students.

COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD 2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

College	First Name	Last Name
WSSU	Taylor	Davis
WSSU	Laila	Johnson
WSSU	Jordan	Moore
WSSU	Jacob	Taylor
FTCC	Jeremiah	Washington
UNC School of		
Arts	Trey	Mazza
UNC School of		
Arts	Jacob	Burnette
Salem College	Joella	Cleary
Salem College	Sky	Sykes
Salem College	Gala (Nanu)	Aurora Pardo

MANAGEMENT'S COMMENTS

RONNIE CHRISTIAN, HUMAN RELATIONS INTERIM DIRECTOR



We are very excited to serve as the administering department for the Winston-Salem College Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB was created in June 2010 by the Winston-Salem City Council. The administrative duties in support of the CAB were assigned to the Human Relations/Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department. The purpose of the CAB is to advise the City Council regarding matters that are of interest to students who are enrolled in colleges and universities in Winston-Salem, which, in turn, will

encourage the retention of college graduates in Winston-Salem.

Since its inaugural year, the College Advisory Board has been actively establishing the foundation of its service to the community. Each member has engaged in 40 hours of learning about our community by participating in themed months throughout the year that focused on topics such as the environment, civics, government, transportation, and housing.

The College Advisory Board is a welcome addition to our administrative duties. Its members have been charged with laying the foundation for future lines of communication between the growing college student community and local government, specifically, the City Council. Despite the historic global COVID-19 pandemic, CAB continued holding virtual monthly meetings; being awarded a National League of Cities joint in-kind grant opportunity (with Winston-Salem State University) to create a city-post-secondary partnership to address food and housing insecurities that serve as graduation barriers to college students.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- I. Goal: Education
- + Gain better knowledge of community issues, organizations, and services.
 - II. Goal: City Government Participation
- + Gain knowledge of city government by interfacing with city government officials.
 - III. Goal: Community Service/Volunteerism
- → Participate in 40 hours each of community activities and service.

2024-2025 MAJOR PROGRAM /PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- → Governor's Mansion Trip, International Village & NDO Commercial
- **★**Bi-annual Newsletters: The College Advisory Board authored a bi-annual newsletter reflecting accomplishments and activities throughout the year.

→ Community Outreach: The College Advisory Board (CAB) partnered with Twin City Harm Reduction Collective to assist with their annual project. They learned about harm reduction efforts within the city and statewide initiatives as well. CAB students also assisted the Human relations department with their Student Relations Banquet and International Village.

2024-2025 OUTLINE OF GOALS

For fiscal year 2024-2025, the College Advisory Board will focus on the following goals:

- 1. To grow and solidify internship opportunities within the City of Winston-Salem;
- 2. To educate students on appropriate steps to take when they feel victimized or discriminated against on campus;
- 3. To recruit student members from colleges/universities that have been unable to participate; and
- 4. To develop an end of year project for the 2024-2025 school year.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL

The College Advisory Board makes the following recommendations to the City Council following their harm reduction presentation:

- 1. Healthcare Access and Quality
 - Educate residents on affordable health insurance options in Winston-Salem.
 - Improve access to preventive care in underserved communities.
- 2. Neighborhood and Built Environment
 - Install more Narcan and prescription drop boxes in parks and public areas.
 - Use local data to target vulnerable neighborhoods for outreach and support.
- 3. Economic Stability
 - Integrate harm reduction services with job training and housing assistance.
 - Support investment in programs that address poverty-related addiction risks.
- 4. Social and Community Context
 - Promote community-based harm reduction that meets people "where they are."
 - Strengthen local partnerships with groups like NCHRC and FROST.
 - Collaborate with schools and universities to expand harm reduction education.