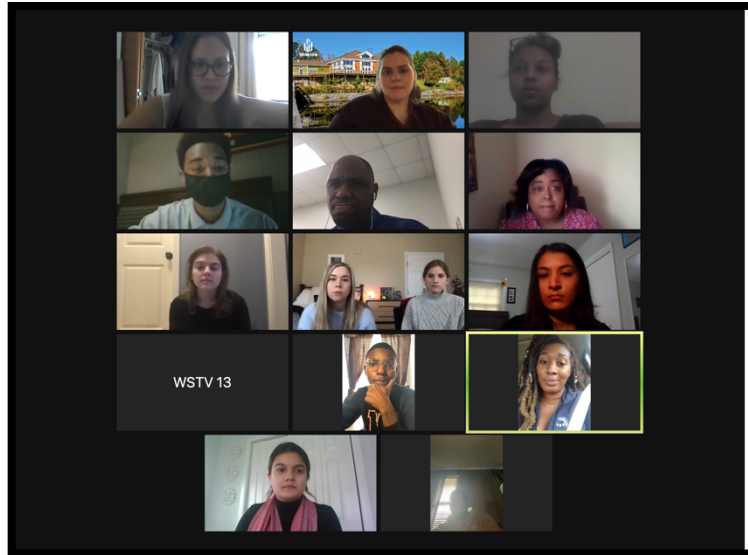


# CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD



## ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2020-2021



Staff Administrator:  
Wanda Allen-Abraha, JD  
Human Relations Director

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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

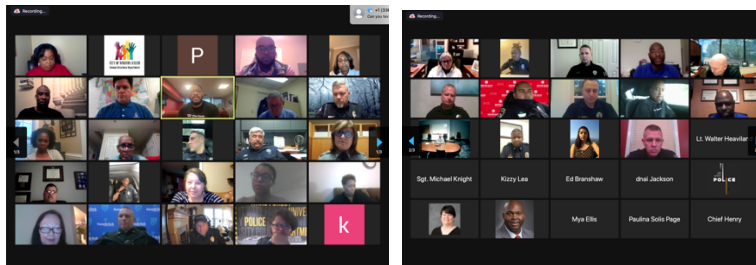
The CAB serves as a body that represents the needs, interests, and concerns of college students and recent college graduates by engaging them in relevant community projects, programs, and issues.

### 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 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

College	First Name	Last Name
FTCC	Ian	Brewster
FTCC	Paulina	Solis Page
FTCC	Faith	Springs
FTCC	Curtis	Walker
Salem College	Mayra	Ramirez Manriquez
UNCSA	Kayli	Kimerer
WF	Cameron	Allen
WF	Ali	Morton
WFU	Sophie	Brown
WSSU	Jadavian	King
WSSU	Bruce	Williams III

**MANAGEMENT’S COMMENTS**

WANDA ALLEN-ABRAHA, HUMAN RELATIONS DIRECTOR



We are very excited to serve as the administering department for the Winston-Salem College Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB was the brain child of former Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward. The CAB was created in June 2010 by the Winston-Salem City Council; therefore, this has been the inaugural year. The administrative duties in support of the CAB were assigned to the Human Relations 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; and hosting the annual Collegiate Trust Talks.

**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

MONTHLY FOCUS/PRESENTATIONS	
September – Orientation and Planning	January-Race Relations
October – Civic Engagement	February –Black History Month Human Relations Month
November-December – Homelessness Project Hope	March-April- End of Year Service Project Conclusion and City Council Presentation

- III. Goal: Community Service/Volunteerism
- Participate in 40 hours each of community activities and service.
    - Estimated Total: 150 hours
  - Connect to college/university student population through newsletter.

### 2020-2021 MAJOR PROGRAM /PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- **National League of Cities Community of Practice Grant:** The College Advisory Board is a partner in the National League of Cities (NLC) Community of Practice two-year grant award (2020-2022). The Winston-Salem cohort is focused on housing and food affordability and access for college students, particularly students at our local historically Black college/university (HBCU). The College Advisory Board has worked hard this year to put together a survey that will be sent out to college students on each campus to gauge support the work of the going forward.
- **Collegiate Trust Talks:** The 2021 Collegiate Trust Talks was held virtually through Zoom. The College Advisory Board took a role in supporting and leading the joint Collegiate Trust Talks as facilitators for the small group discussions between college students and WSPD/University Officers. All local colleges and universities participated in this great event. In addition to College Advisory Board, this event was sponsored by the Winston-Salem Police Department and Human Relations Department.
- **Community Outreach:** The College Advisory Board has partnered with the Human Relations Commission and Youth Advisory Council on a few projects this year. The College Advisory Board feels it is important to support the outreach events that are already in place by strengthening the presence of the college community. 2020-2021 College Advisory Board specific examples include:
  - Student Race Relations Forum
  - Collegiate Trust Talks
  - College/University Outreach Programs

### 2021-2022 OUTLINE OF GOALS

For fiscal year 2021-2022, the College Advisory Board will focus on the following goals:

1. To assist the Wake Forest University Law School in conducting mediations and find eligible cases for the mediation program;
2. To grow and solidify internship opportunities within the City of Winston-Salem;
3. To educate students on appropriate steps to take when they feel victimized or discriminated against on campus;
4. To recruit student members from colleges/universities that have been unable to participate; and
5. To develop an end of year project for the 2019-2020 school year.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

The College Advisory Board makes the following recommendations to the City Council:

1. Expand group members to four members per school.
2. To gain traction on city/university partnerships, the College Advisory Board recommends that City Council reach out directly to college/university officials and appropriate local citizens to become involved in the College Advisory Board's meetings, efforts, and programs. The College Advisory Board recognizes the importance of building and maintaining effective lines of communication between city government, colleges/universities, and the community. By improving the dialogue with our diverse community groups, city government can ensure that the City of Winston-Salem fosters an environment that is conducive to an atmosphere in which the voices of college and university students, college/university officials, and local citizens can come together to form effective and useful partnerships.
3. In carrying out its goals, the College Advisory Board will increase its outreach efforts and seek input from the City Council on issues or concerns in the respective wards. We ask that the City Council support the Board's goals in this effort.
4. The College Advisory Board requests that the City Council support the Board's goal of building a stronger relationship with City officials.

The College Advisory Board appreciates the City Council's ongoing support.

# City of Winston-Salem College Advisory Board



## WHO WE ARE

### 20-21 CAB MEMBERS

#### Forsyth Technical Community College

Ian Brewster, Paulina Solis Page (Secretary), Faith Springs (Vice Chair), Curtis Walker (Chair)

#### University of North Carolina School of the Arts

Kayli D. Kimerer

#### Wake Forest University

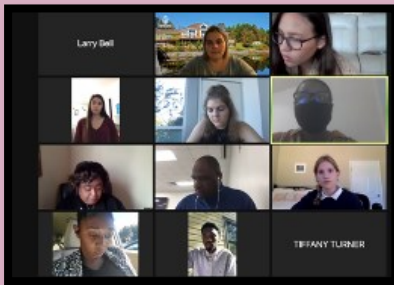
Cameron Allen, Sophie Brown, Ali Morton

#### Winston-Salem State University

Jadavian King, Bruce Williams III

#### Salem College

Mayra Ramirez Manriquez (Historian)



## 2020 Fall Newsletter

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. This is my second term serving on this board, and I look forward to working on the initiatives we have planned for this year. Though we are challenged with a nationwide pandemic, which places some restrictions on us, it also presents a unique opportunity for us to diversify our leadership and communication skills. Thus, on behalf the entire C.A.B., I feel confident in stating that our group comprised from various institutions in the Winston Salem area, is extremely eager to put our best foot forward in representing the best interests of the City of Winston Salem, and the students in our communities.

## National League of Cities

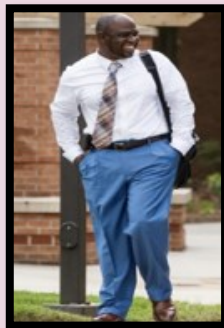
by Cameron Allen



## A Letter From the Chair

by Curtis Walker

My name is Curtis Walker, and I am privileged to serve as the Chair of the College Advisory Board of the City of Winston-Salem. I appreciate my fellow colleagues bestowing upon me this honor, and it is our aim, collectively, to continue in the tradition of service, leadership, and community involvement that the C.A.B. is recognized for. At present I am completing an Associate Degree in Supply Chain Management at Forsyth Technical Community College, where I serve as the SGA President and Vice President of Fellowship of the Alpha Mu Rho Chapter of



The City of Winston-Salem, in partnership with Winston-Salem State University, has been chosen as one of thirteen cities to partake in a National League of Cities Initiative. The initiative, formally referred to as the Community of Practice on Addressing the Basic Needs of Post-secondary Students, is seeking to address housing and nutritional insecurity experienced by college students within the city. The two-year partnership will include programmatic and operational assistance to execute short-term projects and long-lasting support. Members of the College Advisory Board will provide informative perspectives, contribute their knowledge of existing campus support systems, and put forward proposals for improvement. Such strategies and resources are instrumental to the well-being of students and the great Winston-Salem community, especially in the era of coronavirus.



## March to the Polls

by Bruce Williams III



On October 26th, 2020, Winston–Salem State University held a “March to the Polls” event which featured NBA superstar and current student Chris Paul. This event prompted individuals across the city to vote utilizing the polling site on campus. In total, this event brought together 2,500 people to understand the importance of our voice. While also emphasizing social distancing measures. In essence, the event truly spoke to individuals who felt like their vote won’t make a difference while showcasing the true vibes that come with attending “Old State U”. As a whole strive to “Enter to Learn & Depart to Serve”. This event served to truly shed light on the things we take for granted such as voting.

## Leading The Conversation on Race

by Cameron Allen

On Thursday, September 24, high school students across Forsyth County participated in the Student Race Relations Forum. The students discussed their personal experiences, views regarding racial attitudes, and reconciliation for the future. The annual forum took place virtually this year, an unprecedented presentation of ideas in the 18-year history of the event. Moderators of the Student Race Relations Fo-



rum included Council Chair Porsche Smith and Vice Chair James Taylor III of the Winston-Salem Youth Advisory Council. Welcoming the students was Mayor Allen Joines, along with Kerry Wiggins, the vice-chair of the Human Relations Commission. “They are the future, they are our emerging leaders,” described Dr. Wanda Allen-Abraha, director of the Human Relations Department, when commenting on the ongoing initiative of young people to address social justice and equity. Students carried the conversation back to their campus community in an effort to continue the dialogue and spark substantive change.

## College Students Coping with COVID-19

by Cameron Allen

Greater media exposure, socioeconomic pressure, and cultural shifts have been evaluated as contributors to growing mental health



concerns amongst college students. As most coronavirus restrictions stretch into its eighth month, many students and their families are grappling with the effects of loss, loneliness, and self-isolation. Data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that by the end of June, nearly 41% of adults in the United States reported the pandemic as having an adverse impact on their mental health. Navigating their education alongside disruptions to outlets like sports, experiences such as employment opportunities or commencement ceremonies, and familiar routines have proven to be challenging for college students. Nonetheless, the implementation of CDC guidelines for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 on college campuses and surrounding communities is necessary for maintaining a safe environment. Mental health professionals are urging academic institutions to provide easier access to resources, asking students to be mindful of their media exposure, and promoting a daily routine with embedded self-care practices for overall improved health outcomes.



Winston-Salem

### City Council

Mayor Allen Joines; Denise D. Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John C. Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Morticia “Tee Tee” Parmon, Northeast Ward; Annette Scippio, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity

### Human Relations Department Staff

Wanda Allen-Abraha, JD, Human Relations Department Director; Adolfo Briceño, Specialist/Hispanic Outreach; Iris McKnight, Specialist; Jayme Waldeck, Specialist/Outreach; Karlyn Duncan, Admin. Asst./Intake

# City of Winston-Salem College Advisory Board



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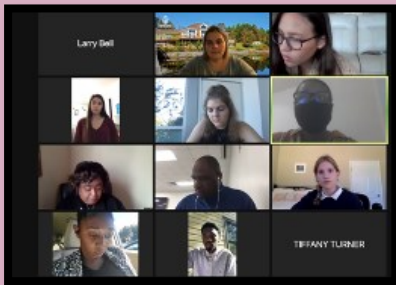
Cameron Allen, Sophie Brown, Ali Morton

#### Winston-Salem State University

Jadavian King, Bruce Williams III

#### Salem College

Mayra Ramirez Manriquez (Historian)



## 2021 Spring Newsletter

sents into consideration. It cannot be a monopoly when it comes to group dynamics.

The third point, though there are many to discuss, is: try to recognize the gifts and talents of those around you. I have learned that no man or woman is an island. Humility dictates that if someone has a skill set in which they can do something better than you, then great leaders allow them to flourish in their element. There is no harm in delegating responsibilities to someone more competent in a task. As they say pride comes before destruction. If we are attempting to build something, then do not let YOU get in the way of US! Encourage your team and build a dynamic where each member can excel in their gift or talent. Simply put, there may not be an “I” in team, but there definitely can be plenty of ‘YOU’s.”

I realize that this is not an exhaustive piece, and there can be many approaches to effective leadership. For the time and space constraints, these are a few points I find helpful in my development as a leader and builder in life.

## National League of Cities

by Bruce Williams III

The ongoing goal of the National League of Cities two-year grant is to provide



assistance with housing and food insecurity among college students. Particularly our local HBCU, Winston – Salem State University. As of now, we are in the process of diligently working on our blueprint to tackle this issue and create avenues so that we can effectively serve with the intention to help in every way and provide adequate assistance for the future.

## Collegiate Trust Talks

by Bruce Williams III

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the College Advisory Board hosted our annual Collegiate Trust Talk. The premise of the event was to engage in healthy dialogue discussions to gain an understanding of the motivations, fears, and concerns among students and law enforcement



## A Message From CAB Leadership

by Curtis Walker



As the current Chair of the College Advisory Board, I get to experience leadership from those around me, as well as my own attempt.

How does leadership affect the way we go about our business? I believe that there are a couple of points that I try to emphasize.

First, be present. There is no greater way to impact your group than to be there. You may have the charisma, the intellect, the verbal mastery, and all the enthusiastic gifts to inspire your team, but if you are not present, no one gets to benefit from it.

Second, give your ear to others. Effective communication is a two-way street. I realize that the best leaders are probably the best listeners. If you strive to gain the confidence and trust of your peers, you must respect their voice, and give it importance. They must feel that you take their opinions and dis-

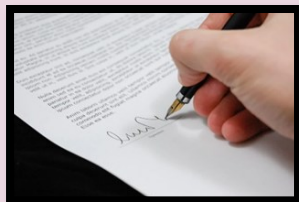
from the five universities in our city. As a collective, we were able to uncover the truths and dispel stereotypes that are placed upon students and the officers.

## Community Building: Winston-Salem City Council Meeting

by Cameron Allen

Members of the College Advisory Board (CAB), led by its Committee on Government Affairs, attend the March 22nd, Regular Meeting of the Winston-Salem City Council. Recognized for their attendance by Mayor Allen Joines, CAB members were given the opportunity to virtually interact with the live-streamed event by proposing recommendations for future meetings and learning more about the legislation that shapes resident affairs. One of the first items on the agenda was Item C-15, a resolution to establish a Pre-K task force following the founding of the Winston-Salem Pre-K Coalition in 2014 to expand public and private Pre-K access in Forsyth County. Item C-15 passed with unanimous consent. This investment in early childhood education is supported by CAB members who have used their collegiate experiences to provide tutoring and community outreach initiatives for the city's youth.

Moreover, the City of Winston-Salem City Council passed Phase 1 of the LGBTQ+ nondiscrimination ordinance to create more inclusive protections for city workers and contractors, suggested guidance to local businesses to update their discrimination policies and established the new Nondiscrimination Study Subcommittee. This impactful committee aims to present a final report and action plans to the council following 18 months of research. Though the meeting was socially distanced, it created space for the community to come together.



## Spring Break

by Cameron Allen

This year, many colleges and universities took a different approach to semester breaks to attempt to limit the spread of coronavirus across their campus communities. Although alternative options for student respite were supplied, like allocating set wellness days and ac-

tivities that promote healthy living, some students are feeling the pressure. Finding a balance between school, work, extracurriculars, and self-care was already difficult for many students prior to the pandemic. Increased availability through Zoom and other virtual platforms while navigating this difficult time has proved taxing. Results from a student survey led by the University of Michigan across multiple schools showed 83% of students indicating their mental health having a negative impact on their academic performance (Eisenberg et. al 2020). Actions taken by students, faculty, staff, and community members to continue to reach toward their goals and navigate safety and life during the pandemic are, nonetheless, commendable.



## Tuition Free College

by Cameron Allen, WFU & Bruce Williams III, WSSU

A pressing issue that will affect college students worldwide is the concept of free college tuition. As the Biden Administration evaluates a plan to cancel a set amount of student loan debt, other members of Congress have taken action to reduce the financial burden of post-secondary education by introducing the College for All Act. The passage of this bill would provide free college for all students who attend community colleges, four-year colleges, HBCUs and even trade schools that come from a family earning less than \$125,000 can qualify. The bill would also increase Pell Grant funding and invest more capital, programming, and services for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

## Wake Forest Campus Kitchen

by Ali Morton, WFU

The Campus Kitchen at Wake Forest University functions as a student-led non-profit against food insecurity within Forsyth County. With nearly a dozen community partners, the organization relocates otherwise-wasted food resources to areas in the community where residents have limited access to nutritious, affordable meals. There are three types of shifts run by Campus Kitchen which include cooking shifts, redistribution shifts, and delivery shifts. Volunteering possibilities within the organization are reopening soon as the conditions of the pandemic are leveling out. All members of the community are encouraged and invited to get involved in the fight against food insecurity!



Winston-Salem

### City Council

Mayor Allen Joines; Denise D. Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore, North Ward; Kevin Mundy, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John C. Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Barbara H. Burke, Northeast Ward; Annette Scippio, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity

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## NLC Community of Practice Blueprint and Action Plan for Winston-Salem

**Goal:**

As a National League of Cities (NLC) Community of Practice two-year grant awardee (2020-2022), the Winston-Salem cohort is focused on housing and food affordability and access for college students, particularly students at our local historically Black college/university (HBCU).

**Lead Partners:** City of Winston-Salem Human Relations Department and Winston-Salem State University (WSSU)

**Community Collaborative Partners:** City of Winston-Salem (City), City of Winston-Salem College Advisory Board (CAB), Piedmont Triad Apartment Association (PTAA)

**Housing Affordability and Access**

Identified Barrier	Policy or Practice?	Method of Identifying Barrier	Proposed Solution(s)	Lead Solution Partner/Authority	Status*
Lack of Student Feedback of Barriers	Practice	Student Surveys	Disseminate surveys on each college campus	CAB	Pending Priority 1
Off-Campus Student Housing Close to College Campuses	Practice	Existing Issue, Student Surveys	Partner with Existing Private Properties	WSSU	Pending Priority 3
Availability of Off-Campus Student Housing for Student Income Needs	Practice	Past Feedback, Student Surveys	Housing Justice Act New Private Developments Housing Subsidy	City City WSSU	Pending Priority 2
Zoning Laws Complicating Off-Campus, Purposely-Built Student Housing Development	Policy	Existing Issue	Supportive Planning Approval Considerations	City	Pending Priority 3
New Purposely Built Affordable Student Housing	Practice	Affordable Housing Study, Student Surveys	Tax Incentives Opportunity Zones	City, PTAA, WSSU	Pending Priority 3

## Food Insecurity

Identified Barrier	Policy or Practice?	Method of Identifying Barrier	Proposed Solution(s)	Lead Solution Partner/Authority	Status*
Lack of Student Feedback of Barriers	Practice	Student Surveys	Disseminate surveys on each college campus	CAB	Pending Priority 1
Access to Off-Campus Healthy Food	Practice	Existing Issue	Explore affordable and accessible transportation options for students	WSSU, City	Pending Priority 2
Affordable Off-Campus Healthy Food	Policy	Existing Issue	Create Partnership with Local Privately-Owned Restaurants	WSSU	Pending Priority 3
Knowledge of Food Access Resources	Practice	Existing Issue	Add Food Resources to Student Survey	CAB	Pending Priority 1
Student Food Access to Liberty Street Farmer's Market	Policy	WSSU Policy, City of Winston-Salem Finance	Allow Ram Card and/or student food voucher	WSSU, City	Pending Priority 3
Quarantined Students' Food Access	Policy	WSSU Policy	Aramark waiver of exclusivity Food Delivery	WSSU WSSU, City	Pending Priority 1

**\*Status** reflects the urgency and projected time needed for completion:

Priority 1= Short-term (three-to-six months)

Priority 2= Mid-term (six-to-nine months)

Priority 3= Long-term (nine-to-12 months)

## NLC Survey Questions

### Hunger:

1. **Do you have access to three meals a day if you want them?**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say
  
2. **In the past three months have you skipped a meal or slept to alleviate hunger due to lack of access to food?**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say
  
3. **What direct barriers do you face that affect your access to food? (Short answer)**
  
4. **Do you feel comfortable using free resources in the community? Ie. Food banks, food pantries.**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - a. Prefer not to say
  
2. **Have you ever paid for a meal for a friend or classmate due to lack of financial resources on their part?**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say

### Housing:

1. **Have you ever had trouble paying rent? If so, what did you do? (short answer)**
  
2. **Has someone you know had to take a break from school due to housing insecurity?**

*\*According to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), "Housing insecurity" is an umbrella term that encompasses several dimensions of housing problems people may experience, including affordability, safety, quality, insecurity, and loss of housing."*

  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say
  
3. **As a college student, have you or anybody you know experienced housing insecurity?**
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say
  
4. **What are the primary barriers to keep you from your affordable and accessible housing?**
  - a. Transportation
  - b. Income

- c. Location
- d. Family Responsibilities
- e. I do not have barriers

**5. Have you ever experienced housing accessibility barriers based off your socio-economic status, disability, race, etc? (short answer)**

**Demographic Questions**

1. What is your school level at your current institution?
  - a. Undergraduate
  - b. Graduate
  - c. Other (with a box to fill in for other status)
  
2. What is your current student status?
  - a. Full-time
  - b. Part-time
  
3. How many dependents do you have?
  - a. None
  - b. 1
  - c. 2-4
  - d. More than 4
  - e. Prefer not to say
  
4. Are you Hispanic or Latino/a?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Prefer not to say
  
5. Please indicate your race. Select one or more options.
  - a. Black or African American
  - b. American Indian or Alaska Native
  - c. Asian
  - d. White/Caucasian
  - e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - f. Other (with a box to fill in for other status)
  - g. Prefer not to say

# City of Winston-Salem Collegiate Trust Talks:

## A Human Relations Approach to Police and Community Dialogue

### Mission:

To bring together members of diverse communities and  
its police officers to improve community and police relations.

**April 8, 2021**  
**6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**

Virtual Event via Zoom

Pre-Registration required with the QR code below.



<https://cityofws-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclcO-ppj8pEtT2UGezLKKTV869Hu01wuok>

Trust Talks is facilitated by the City of Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission & Department

