

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD



ANNUAL REPORT Fiscal Year 2021-2022



Staff Administrator:
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Human Relations/Diversity Equity and Inclusion

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Attachments: Fall Newsletter, NLC Community of Practice Blueprint, NLC Survey Questions.



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

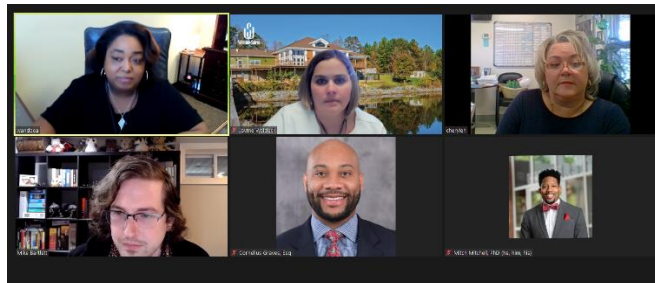
The CAB serves as a body that represents the needs, interests, and concerns of college students and recent college graduates by engaging them in relevant community projects, programs, and issues.

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
UNCSA	Kayli	Kimerer
FTCC	Patricia	Springs
Salem College	Kelly Jo	Curry
WF	Amir	Bird
WF	Sid	Subramanian
WF	Hannah	Coates
WSSU	Mekhi	Harris
WSSU	Kaitlynn	Farrior

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 brainchild of former Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward. 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.

This year, CAB's focus was on being one of the leaders of the Winston-Salem cohort's efforts with the two-year grant that was awarded to the City of Winston-Salem from the National League of Cities. As a part of the grant's purpose, the College Advisory Board worked closely with Winston-Salem State University, as the grant's lead post-secondary institution. The objective of the grant concerns addressing food and housing insecurities that pose graduation barriers to college students.

CAB's primary focus was to create a housing and hunger survey for college students. The purpose of the survey was to learn, directly from college students, what the perceptions, gaps, and concerns were with respect to housing and food accessibility. This data will be used to further address ways in which municipal government, Winston-Salem State University can partner to remove barriers that hinder college students' access to healthy food choices and affordable, safe off-campus housing. Areas for such potential partnerships include working with the City's farmer's market and local restaurants on student food accessibility and working with Winston-Salem State University to identify apartment complexes that are willing to set aside units specifically for affordable student housing.

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; Cultural Outreach	January-Race Relations
October – Civic Engagement	February –Black History Month Human Relations Month
November-December – Speakers/Planning for End-of-Year Service-Learning Project	March-April- End-of-Year Service-Learning 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 this year with their respective institutions to help gather information in a college student housing and hunger survey to better identify gaps and potential areas for partnership.
- **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. 2021-2022 College Advisory Board specific examples include:
 - Student Race Relations Forum
 - College/University Outreach Programs

2022-2023 OUTLINE OF GOALS

For fiscal year 2022-2023, the College Advisory Board will focus on the following goals:

1. To partner with the Wake Forest University School of Law in conducting eviction diversion mediations, including those involving college students;
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 2022-2023 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.