



## Leadership North Carolina

### Class 30 Environment Session

April 11-13, 2023  
Asheville

[#LNC30]

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# Leadership North Carolina

## Class 30 Environment Session

April 11-13, 2023  
Asheville

### Base Hotel

Renaissance Asheville Hotel  
31 Woodfin Street  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 252-8211  
[Hotel Website](#)

### Session Goals

1. Present the who, what, and how of North Carolina's environment and opportunities for individual and collective action.
2. Provide an overview of North Carolina's conservation efforts and the challenges and opportunities created for the state.
3. Explore competing interests and viewpoints in the development of environmental policy and provide creative examples of finding common ground.
4. Examine the roots of the environmental justice movement in North Carolina and how historical racial and income disparities have created inequitable practices and current policy responses to environmental issues.
5. Define sustainability and showcase innovations in sustainable practices.
6. Illustrate how the environment connects to government, education, economic development, and health and human services in North Carolina.

### Planning Committee

#### **Dr. Shakira Henderson, Program Chair**

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Clinical Research, UNC-CH  
Clinical Research Integration Officer, UNC School of Medicine  
System Vice President Research Officer, UNC Health  
*Pitt*

**Rachel Page, Co-Chair** *Durham*  
Deputy Director  
Go Global NC

**John Tartt, Co-Chair** *Mecklenburg*  
Assistant Vice President  
Atrium Health

**Manju Bhat** *Forsyth*  
Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, Business  
and Education  
Winston-Salem State University

**Pierre Bynum** *Alamance*  
Director Men's Programs  
TROSA

**Dean Drescher** *Wake*  
Account Executive  
Larson Communications

**Michelle Fortune** *Polk*  
Chief Executive Officer  
St. Luke's Hospital

**Brian Heslin** *Mecklenburg*  
Deputy General Counsel  
Duke Energy/Piedmont Natural Gas

**Danika Mills** *Wake*  
State Director, North Carolina and Arkansas  
Unite Us

**Jim Musilek** *Wake*  
Vice President, Innovation and Business  
Development  
North Carolina Electric Membership  
Corporation

Each planning committee for the Class 30 program year is made up of members from LNC Class 29.

## Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Optional Tour: French Broad Chocolate Factory & Cafe, 821 Riverside Drive, #199, Asheville.

Optional Reception: Center for Craft, 67 Broadway Street, Asheville.

2:00 – 4:00 pm	French Broad Chocolate Factory Tour (Optional) Advance RSVP required. Business casual attire.	French Broad Chocolate Team
5:30 – 7:00 pm	Session Reception at the Center for Craft (Optional) Advance RSVP required. Business casual attire.	

## Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Breakfast and Meeting: Ingles Mountain View Room in the Sherrill Center/Kimmel Arena, University of North Carolina at Asheville, 227 Campus Drive, Asheville.

Parking pre-registration and printed parking pass required for each day at UNCA. See [directions page](#) for details.

Optional Tour of New Belgium Brewery: 21 Craven Street, Asheville.

Dinner: Century Room at Pack's Tavern, 20 South Spruce Street, Asheville.

8:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast (Optional) Advance RSVP Required	UNC Asheville
8:30 – 9:00 am	Setting the Stage	Dr. Shakira Henderson <i>Assistant Vice Chancellor of Clinical Research, UNC-CH Clinical Research Integration Officer, UNC School of Medicine System Vice President Research Officer, UNC Health LNC Class 29 Alumna and Class 30 Program Chair</i>  Rachel Page <i>Deputy Director Go Global NC LNC Class 29 Alumna and ENV Session Co-Chair</i>  John Tartt <i>Assistant Vice President Atrium Health LNC Class 29 Alumnus and ENV Session Co-Chair</i>
9:00 – 9:10 am	UNC Asheville Welcome	Dr. Kimberly van Noort <i>Interim Chancellor University of North Carolina at Asheville</i>
9:15 – 10:15 am	Environment 101	Dr. Amy Knisley <i>Professor of Environmental Policy and Law Warren Wilson College</i>
10:15 – 10:35 am	Morning Break Snack and beverages will be provided	
10:35 – 10:55 am	Class Business	
10:55 – 11:55 am	The Impact of National Policies on North Carolina	Jennifer Weiss <i>Co-Director North Carolina Clean Energy Fund</i>  Schumata Brown <i>Town Manager Town of Maysville LNC Class 27 Alumnus</i>

11:55 am – 12:10 pm	Introduction to En-ROADS Global Climate Simulator	Danika Mills <i>State Director, North Carolina and Arkansas Unite Us LNC Class 29 Alumna</i>
12:10 – 12:55 pm	Lunch	
12:55 – 1:40 pm	Environmental Advocacy in NC	Brian Buzby <i>Executive Director North Carolina Conservation Network</i>
1:45 – 2:15 pm	Agriculture and the Environment	Kaleb Rathbone <i>Assistant Commissioner, Western NC Agricultural Programs and Small Farms North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</i>
2:15 – 2:35 pm	Afternoon Break	
2:35 – 3:50 pm	Leading with the Environment	Brad Ives <i>Executive Director, Center for the Environment Catawba College</i>
		Tiffany King <i>Regional Sustainability Director and Senior Construction Manager Samet Corporation</i>
		Charlie Schwarze <i>Director – Sustainability Keurig Dr Pepper</i>
3:50 – 4:00	Wrap-Up and Adjourn	
4:00 – 7:00 pm	Free Time	
4:30 – 6:00 pm	Optional Tour of New Belgium Brewery <i>Advance RSVP required. Carpool—parking is limited.</i>	New Belgium Brewery <i>21 Craven Street</i>
7:00 pm	Class Dinner <i>5-minute walk from Renaissance</i>	Century Room at Pack’s Tavern <i>20 South Spruce Street</i>

## Thursday, April 13, 2023

Breakfast and Meeting: Ingles Mountain View Room in the Sherrill Center/Kimmel Arena, University of North Carolina at Asheville, 227 Campus Drive, Asheville.  
 Parking pre-registration and printed parking pass required for each day at UNCA. See [directions page](#) for details.

8:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast (Optional) <i>Advance RSVP Required</i>	UNC Asheville
8:30 – 8:50 am	Morning Reflections	Dr. Shakira Henderson <i>Assistant Vice Chancellor of Clinical Research, UNC-CH Clinical Research Integration Officer, UNC School of Medicine System Vice President Research Officer, UNC Health LNC Class 29 Alumna and Class 30 Program Chair</i>

8:50 – 9:50 am	Environmental Justice	Dr. Courtney Woods <i>Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering UNC Gillings School of Public Health</i>
9:50 – 10:10 am	Morning Break <i>Snack and beverages will be provided</i>	
10:10 – 11:10 am	Leadership Profile	John F.A.V. “Jack” Cecil <i>President Biltmore Farms</i>
11:20 am – 12:35 pm	Navigating Trade-Offs	Bill Rhyne <i>Senior Director of Operations Support Harris Teeter LNC Class 14 Alumnus</i>  John Gant <i>Director of Sustainability Glen Raven, Inc.</i>  Brian Heslin <i>Deputy General Counsel Duke Energy/Piedmont Natural Gas LNC Class 29 Alumnus and ENV Planning Committee Member</i>  Brian Etheridge, Moderator <i>President Leadership North Carolina</i>
12:35 – 1:20 pm	Lunch	
1:20 – 2:20 pm	Connecting the Dots	Jennifer Mundt <i>Assistant Secretary for Clean Energy Economic Development North Carolina Department of Commerce LNC Class 27 Alumna</i>
2:20 – 2:30 pm	LNC Closing and Adjourn	