



Leadership North Carolina Class 31

Orientation Session

October 3-5, 2023

Speaker Directory

Dr. Sara Imhof

Senior Director

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**LNC Class 30 Alumna
LNC Class 31 Program Chair**

Sara is an interdisciplinary and collaborative leader; a catalyst and opportunity creator; a strategic organizer; an impactful messenger and facilitator; and a health and life sciences policy advocate. Professionally, Sara serves as Senior Director and a leader of the Focused Initiatives Team (FIT) for the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. Her primary responsibilities include conducting Federal Affairs Outreach and Engagement, leading interdisciplinary and multi-institutional collaborations, and leading the North Carolina Precision Health Collaborative (NCPHC).

Critical recent Federal Affairs efforts include successfully leading a multistakeholder Coalition to receive \$25M federal dollars under the Economic Development Administration's Build Back Better Regional Challenge. Sara also secured the advancement by both Senators Burr and Tillis of a Directed Congressional Spending request for NCBiotech's Military Outreach & Veterans Engagement (MOVE) program. Finally, Sara is facilitating a multistakeholder effort to house the newly created federal Advance Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) in North Carolina. With the NC Precision Health Collaborative, Sara champions a growing statewide precision health ecosystem that delivers leading technology innovation and proven thought-leadership in the field, across North Carolina and the U.S.

Sara formerly served as Director of Education and Grassroots Advocacy for The Concord Coalition, Senior Analyst, Health Care, at the Government Accountability Office, Executive Director of the Iowa Counties Public Health Association, and Assistant to the Director for the Center for Macular Degeneration at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Sara earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing, a Master of Arts degree in Health Promotion, and a Doctorate in Health Management and Policy, at the University of Iowa. She is a graduate of Leadership North Carolina Class 30, program chair for Leadership North Carolina Class 31, and a member of the Leadership North Carolina Board of Directors.

Dr. Karl E. Campbell

Professor of History
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Karl Campbell is a professor of history at Appalachian State University, where he teaches North Carolina and recent United States history. Karl received his B.A. degree in history and political science from Warren Wilson College in Asheville and his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from UNC Chapel Hill. Dr. Campbell's book *Senator Sam Ervin, Last of the Founding Fathers* won the North Carolinian Society Book of the Year Award for 2007. He has also published articles on civil rights, civil liberties, and North Carolina political culture. In 2002 one of his articles won the Connor Award for the best article published in the North Carolina Historical Review.

Karl is completing work on a biography tentatively titled *Governor Luther Hodges: Carolina at the Crossroads*. He has also recently completed two articles: "The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Plutocracy: Tar Heel Politics in the Twentieth Century" and "The Impact of World War I on Two Generations of North Carolina Leaders." In 2009 Dr. Campbell was inducted into the ASU College of Arts and Sciences Academy of Teachers. In 2012 he won the ASU Transforming North Carolina Research Award, and in 2020 he was named to the ASU Bell Ringer Society (for outstanding contributions to the history of the university). Karl's wife, Kathy, is the pastor of Crossnore Presbyterian Church, and his daughter, Joanna, is a chemist in Research Triangle Park.

Dr. Margaret A. Brunson

Chief Executive Officer/Founder
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LNC Class 28 Alumna

Dr. Margaret A. Brunson is a leader and luminary who considers brunch a verb, wellness a priority, dance floors sacred, and music one of life's greatest treasures.

After a successful administrative leadership career in healthcare and the nonprofit & public sector, she founded Illumined Leadership Solutions, a consulting and coaching firm that leads people to and through transformation. As a thought leader, scholar, + practitioner, Dr. Margaret's passion is guiding leaders, executives, entrepreneurs, organizations, and businesses to and through transformative leadership practices and solutions that will lead to holistic success.

Dr. Margaret earned a BA in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Master of Public Administration from North Carolina Central University, and a Ph.D. in leadership studies from North Carolina A&T State University.

She serves on the Board of Directors for Blackspace, a digital makerspace for Black and Brown youth (Afronauts) to manifest their dreams and Knox St. Studios, an organization dedicated to helping people navigate a clear and forward path to economic mobility. Dr. Margaret is a product of the village, a daughter, sister, aunt, friend, published author, writer, and speaker. In 2016, she was named one of the North Carolina Central University 40 Under 40 outstanding alumni and has been recognized for her thought leadership in communities across the globe.

Ken Burton

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**LNC Class 21 Alumnus
Chair, LNC Board of Directors**

Ken Burton collaborates with leaders and business partners across the US to equip relationship managers to deliver a consistent, high quality experience to clients and prospects via value-added engagement, thoughtful needs assessment, and proactively acquainting them with BofA's world-class suite of solutions.

Prior to his current position, Ken worked in Corporate Treasury as the Governance & Control Senior Manager, where he was responsible for ensuring appropriate oversight of critical Treasury functions including: Transaction Management, Guarantee Management, and Liquidity Risk and Control. He previously served as the Senior Manager of Securities Administration, where he supported the domestic and international capital raising activities of Bank of America Corporation and Bank of America, N.A. Ken also spent eight years in Bank of America's Global Corporate Investment Bank.

Ken resides in Charlotte with his wife, Aneta, and their three children, Kayla, Kamryn, and Trey. He is a graduate of Leadership North Carolina Class 21 and currently serves as Chair of the LNC Board of Directors.