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Leadership North Carolina Class 34

Orientation Session

October 6-8, 2026

Speaker Directory

Jesse Hamilton McCoy II

Associate Clinical Professor of Law

Duke University School of Law

Durham, NC

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LNC Class 33 Alumnus

LNC Class 34 Program Chair

J. Hamilton McCoy II is Associate Clinical Professor of Law at Duke University, where he directs the Duke Civil Justice Clinic, teaching a seminar course, mentoring students in developing and improving basic civil litigation skills, and overseeing their handling of cases for indigent clients who are often unable to obtain adequate representation in the traditional civil justice system through the clinic's partnership with Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC). Jesse also directs Duke's Prelaw Fellowship Program that exposes rising college sophomores and juniors to law school and the legal profession.

Jesse is a native of Durham, NC, and a proud graduate of Florida A&M University and North Carolina Central University School of Law. His primary legal focus has been on expanding the security and protection of housing rights for tenants in private and public housing. Outside of teaching and litigating, McCoy is a mentor for underserved youth with 100 Black Men of the Triangle East Inc. He is an African-American History enthusiast, a writer, a creative, and a zealous community advocate.

Jaz Tunnell

Director, US State Government Affairs

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LNC Class 17 Alumnus

Chair, LNC Board of Directors

Jaz Tunnell serves as Director of US State Government Affairs at Corning Incorporated, where he leads engagement on state and local public policy, legislative, regulatory, and economic development matters across Corning's footprint in North Carolina, Kentucky, Arizona, Texas, and Virginia. Since joining Corning in July 2022, he has represented the company's interests before key government, business, and community stakeholders, helping advance priorities that support Corning's operations, investments, and long-term growth.

Before joining Corning, Jaz held government affairs and economic development leadership roles at Duke Energy Corporation, a Fortune 150 electric power company, and Piedmont Natural Gas. Over a 15-year tenure, he assumed positions of increasing responsibility, including more than a decade representing Duke Energy's interests before the North Carolina General Assembly, the United States Congress, and government agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.

Jaz earned a Bachelor of Social Work from Johnson C. Smith University, a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and a Master of Business Administration from Winthrop University.

Dr. Karl E. Campbell

Professor of History
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Dr. Karl Campbell is a professor of history at Appalachian State University where he teaches North Carolina and recent United States history. Originally from Ohio, 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.

He is a member of the College of Arts and Sciences Academy of Outstanding Teachers and the recipient of the AppState Transforming North Carolina Research Award and was named to the Bell Ringers Society in 2020 for outstanding contributions to the university's history. His publications have won both the North Caroliniana Society Book of the Year Award and the annual Connor Award for the best article published in *The North Carolina Historical Review*.

Karl is presently working on a biography tentatively titled *Governor Luther H. Hodges: Carolina at the Crossroads*. Karl's wife, Kathy, is the pastor of Crossnore Presbyterian Church, and his daughter, Joanna, is a research scientist in the Research Triangle Park.

Dr. Margaret A. Brunson

LNC Class 28 Alumna

Special Advisor, Organizational Health, North Carolina Office of State Human Resources
Chief Executive Officer/Founder, Illumined Leadership Solutions
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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.

In 2025, Dr. Margaret joined the State of North Carolina as the Special Advisor for Organizational Health, where she is providing leadership and organizational development advising, coaching, and thought partnership to state government leaders. She 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.

Dr. Margaret 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. She is a product of the village, a daughter, sister, aunt, friend, published author, writer, and speaker.