

DATE: July 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Recommendations for Appointments to the Advisory Board for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Success

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Tenn. Code. Ann. § 49-7-217(f) allows for the creation of an advisory board for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Success, which may provide recommendations and guidance to the Commission in the following areas:

- Improvement of the identity, visibility, and distinctive capabilities and overall competitiveness of HBCUs;
- Engagement of the philanthropic, business, government, military, homeland security, and education communities in a dialogue regarding new HBCU programs and initiatives;
- Improvement of the ability of HBCUs to remain fiscally secure institutions that can assist the state in reaching its educational goals;
- Elevation of the public awareness of HBCUs; and
- Encouragement of public-private investments in HBCUs.

The board shall be appointed by the Commission and include representatives of a variety of sectors, including philanthropy, education, business, finance, entrepreneurship, innovation, and private foundations, as well as sitting HBCU presidents. The HBCU presidents will be ex-officio members of the advisory board.

Ex-officio members include:

- Dr. Forrest Harris (American Baptist College),
- Dr. Vann Newkirk (Fisk University),
- Mr. Leonard Adams (Knoxville College),
- Dr. Logan Hampton (Lane College),
- Dr. Vernell Bennett-Fairs (LeMoyne Owen College),
- Dr. James Hildreth (Meharry Medical College), and
- Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover (Tennessee State University).

Commission staff is recommending the reappointment of two members and the appointment of seven new members to the Advisory Board for HBCU Success beginning on August 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

Reappointments:

1. **Ms. Laschinski Emerson, Director - A1 Learning Connections**
Serves as a representative of the education and entrepreneurship sectors. Represents East Tennessee.
2. **Dr. Doug Magee, Associate Head of High School, Ensworth School**
Serves as a representative of the education sector. Represents Middle Tennessee.

New Appointments:

1. **Dr. Andre Churchwell, Professor and Senior Dean for Diversity Affairs, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine**
Serves as a representative of the education sector. Represents Middle Tennessee.
2. **Officer Shelley Clemmons, Community Outreach Coordinator, Knoxville Police Department**
Serves as a representative of the law enforcement sector. Represents East Tennessee.
3. **Dr. Carol Johnson Dean, retired**
Serves as a representative of the education sector. Represents West Tennessee.
4. **Ms. Ashley Northington, Vice President and Managing Director, RW Jones Agency**
Serves as a representative of the education and public policy sectors. Represents Middle Tennessee.
5. **Ms. Brandi Smith, Global Customer Experience & Operations Senior Director, Asurion**
Serves as a representative of the business sector. Represents Middle Tennessee.
6. **Ms. Elaine Stallworth-Washington, Director of Benefit Finances and Investments, Eastman Chemical Company**
Serves as a representative of the business and finance sectors. Represents East Tennessee.
7. **Mr. Ernest Strickland, President and CEO, Black Business Association of Memphis**
Serves as a representative of the business and entrepreneurship sectors. Represents West Tennessee.