Board of Trustees
A strong and dedicated Board of Trustees is McMurry University’s most vital guarantee of strategic success.

The Board of Trustees appoints and directs the President who, in turn, manages the University. It provides vital policy leadership and oversight in critical areas as well as oversees the financial performance of the University. Its members are long-range planners who help define the philosophy of the University. They offer their knowledge and experience as well as financial support to help ensure the success of the University in its mission and commitment to Christian higher education.

McMurry University is fortunate to have an exceptionally gifted and dedicated Board of Trustees. Each individual member has contributed in significant ways to make McMurry University the wonderful institution it is today.

The role of a trustee involves serious work and a significant time commitment. The Board meets four times a year for 1 ½ to 2 days, usually on campus, in October, January, March and June. A strong committee structure provides the framework for the Board to oversee the important functions for which it is responsible.

The trustees are a highly accomplished, dedicated, and energetic group of people who share an uncommon loyalty for, and commitment to, McMurry University and its status as one of the best universities of its kind in the country.
**GORDON “DOC” ARNOLD, JR., J.D.**

*Lobbyist*

**Board Member: 2014 to present**

Doc Arnold is a former Texas state legislator now employed as a lobbyist in Austin, Texas.

He served as Texas State Representative for District 4 from January 1983 until August 1985, when he resigned from House to be executive assistant to Speaker Gib Lewis.

Arnold received his undergraduate and law degrees from Baylor University. Arnold’s son, Jeff Arnold ’14, is a graduate of McMurry.

---

**BISHOP W. EARL BLEDSOE, D.MIN.**

*Bishop, United Methodist Church, Northwest Texas/New Mexico Episcopal Area*

**Board Member: 2013 to present**

W. Earl Bledsoe is the resident bishop of the Northwest Texas/New Mexico Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church. Following his election to the episcopacy in July 2008, he served four years in the Dallas area. He received a B.A. from West Texas State University, 1982; Master of Divinity, Perkins School of Theology, 1985; and Doctor of Ministry, Drew University, 1991.

Prior appointments include: superintendent of the Bryan/West District; pastor of Spring Woods UMC, Houston; and Cypress UMC director of Teaching Ministries, Texas Conference. Pastoral appointments include Bear Creek UMC, Houston; Hanham Methodist Church, Bristol, England; St. Andrews UMC, Ft. Worth; Wyatt Memorial UMC, Amarillo, and Anahuac Circuit, Anahuac, Texas.

Bishop Bledsoe serves on the General Board of Church and Society and is Chair of Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC21). He was a jurisdictional member of the Connectional Table, 2004-2008; Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee representative, 2004; and General Conference delegate, 1992-2008. Additionally, he is a member of the Boards of Trustees of Southwestern University, McMurry University, Texas Methodist Foundation, and ex-officio on the New Mexico Methodist Foundation Board. He also serves on the Central Conference Coordinating Committee.

Bishop Bledsoe is married to Leslie Jean (Bray), and they have six adult children.
PHIL BREWER ’76, J.D.
Attorney

Board Member: 1993 to present

Phil Brewer ’76, is an attorney in Roswell, New Mexico, specializing in the oil and gas industry. He earned his J.D. degree from The University of Texas School of Law in 1979 and his B.A. degree in history and English in 1976 from McMurry. He is a member of both the Texas and New Mexico State Bar and has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America and listed on Southwest Super Lawyers, NM Specialist - Oil & Gas Law. He is a Board Certified Specialist in Natural Resources Law by the New Mexico Board of Legal Specialization. Brewer was named a McMurry University Distinguished Alumnus in 2002.

STEVEN BRISTOW ’96, M.P.P.A.
Public Affairs Counsel, FleishmanHillard

Board Member: 2014 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
North Texas Commission,
Leadership Dallas
Mary Immaculate School Parent Teacher Council
MIS Auction Chair,
Volunteer sports coach
Cub Scout den leader

Steven Bristow ’96, recently accepted the position of public affairs counsel for FleishmanHillard, a global communications firm, having spent the last 14 years in health care advocacy at major health systems in the Dallas Fort Worth Metroplex. In his new role, he advises clients across a variety of industries on government affairs, advocacy and regulatory matters. He previously worked on Capitol Hill for two Members of Congress where his portfolio of issues included agriculture, appropriations, education, health and transportation.

Bristow holds a B.B.A. degree in marketing and public relations from McMurry University and a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from Baylor University. He is the president of the McMurry University Alumni Association Board of Directors and a member of the McMurry University Board of Trustees. He is also a member of the North Texas Commission and has served on several national trade associations’ advocacy boards. He is married to the former Shana Norman ’92 and father of Carter and Peyton.
WELDON S. CROWLEY ’57, PH.D.
Professor of History, Emeritus, Southwestern University

Board Member: 2006 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Georgetown Festival of the Arts
Senior University
Georgetown Parks Classical Composers and Music Concerts
Supports Southwestern University
Works with people dealing with drug and alcohol addictions
Speaks to various community service and special interest groups
Writes Op-ed articles

Weldon S. Crowley ’57, was born in Kerens, TX and received a B.A. degree in English from McMurry College in 1957. Following that degree Weldon received a M.Div. degree in Church History and Philosophy from Drew University in 1961, followed by a M.A. in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1966 in European Intellectual History from the University of Iowa. He studied, lived and taught in Iowa, California, India, New Jersey, Florida and Texas. He is deeply committed to undergraduate liberal arts education and always taught his courses with a passion for the “venture in self-understanding. Weldon categorically rejects any notion that education of the “whole person” is an outdated pedagogy. He believes intensely that each of us should give back to family, school, society with the best we have. He has no doubt whatsoever that McMurry was a “life-changer” for him.

Crowley is married to Patricia Bennett Crowley ’58. They have two children, Lisa who is married to Elliot and Greg who is married to Holly as well as two grandchildren, Ethan and Ben.
District Superintendent – Lubbock District of the Northwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Board Member: 2013 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
- Lubbock Methodist Hospital Systems Board
- Texas Tech Wesley Foundation Board
- Providence Place Board of Directors,
- Kings Manor Hereford Board

Richard Edwards was born in Plainview, TX in 1951, raised in Tulia, TX, where he was a member of First UMC, and graduated from Tulia High School in 1969. After receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Texas Tech University in 1973, he attended Perkins School of Theology, SMU graduating with a Master’s of Theology in 1978. Before being appointed Superintendent of the Lubbock District, Edwards appointments have included: Booker UMC: First UMC, Olton; First UMC, Muleshoe; First UMC, Dumas and St. Luke's UMC, Midland.

Reverend Edwards has served on numerous conference committees/boards and responsibilities including the Conference Council on Finance and Administration for 8 years including 4 years as chairperson, the Board of Ordained Ministry for 8 years - serving as chairperson of the continuing education committee and treasurer, the Conference Committee on Insurance for 8 years, the Conference Board of Higher Education for 6 years - serving as chairperson for 2 years, the Ceta Canyon Board of Trustees including serving as chairperson, and the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits during the past 4 years. In addition he has served as chairperson for the Conference Committee on Worship, served on the Conference Ministry Team, the Bishop’s Dream Team, the Conference Committee on Nominations, the Bold New Directions Incubator and numerous district offices and as Alternate Delegate to General Conference and a delegate to Jurisdictional Conference.

Richard is married to Jo Beth, a registered nurse, who works with Hospice of Lubbock. They were married in 1972 and have three children: Chris ’99, an orthodontist in Ft. Worth, TX and graduate of McMurry, his wife, Alison and son Turner; Kevin, a computer software architect in Ft. Worth, TX, his wife, Sally and sons Derrick and Nolan; and Kimberly ’09, a teacher at a University prep high school in Corpus Christi and her husband, Josh Poorman ’09 both who graduated from McMurry.

DID YOU KNOW?
McMurry received a Lilly Fellows grant for “Ubuntu: Scholarship and Pedagogy (the art of educating) in Christian Community.
HOLLAND B. EVANS, JR. ’66, M.B.A.
International Logistics: Evans and Wood & Co., Inc.

Board Member: 1996-1999, 2001-2010, 2013 to present;
Chairman of the Board 2008-2010.

Civic, professional and volunteer activities:
McMurry Business Advisory Council, 2005 - 2014
Adjunct Professor LeTourneau University, Houston, TX
International Business 1996-2004
Houston District Export Council 1980-2000
Appointed by the US Secretary of Commerce to advise local businesses on export growth opportunities
Member CEO Roundtable #27, Greater Houston Partnership, 1996-2012
Member of Christ the King Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX
Fair Haven Food Pantry, volunteer 1998 - Present

Holland B. Evans, Jr. '66, completed a B.B.A. at McMurry University and a M.B.A. at Texas Tech University and then served in the US Army in Germany and Vietnam (1968-1971). He then graduated from the Thunderbird School of International Management in 1973 and worked as a Trade Specialist with the US Department of Commerce in Oklahoma City, OK (1973-1978) and as International Marketing Administrator with Hydril Company in Houston, TX (1979-1983). He married Floy Wood in 1976. They founded Evans and Wood & Co., Inc. in Houston and he served as its President from 1983-2012. E & W primarily provides international logistics services to exporters and importers in the U.S. They have two sons and six grandchildren. Now retired, Holland and his wife Floy live in Waco, TX.

DID YOU KNOW?

The McMurry War Hawks Marching Band has received an invitation to march in the 2016 London New Year's Day Parade. The London New Year's Day Parade is the largest New Year's Day parade in the world, annually drawing a street audience of more than a half million people and a worldwide television audience of nearly 300 million viewers. Set in downtown London, the two mile parade passes the city's iconic landmarks, ending in the famed Parliament Square.
CHUCK FALLON ’85, M.B.A.
CEO, FirstService Residential

Board Member: 2008 to present

Chuck M. Fallon ’85, is the chief executive officer of FirstService Residential. As CEO, he guides FirstService Residential’s 13,000 plus employee workforce to support and drive overall growth of the company’s client portfolio of 6,500 properties and 1.5 million residential units in markets throughout North America.

An advocate of superior customer service, Fallon has a strong track record of delivering success for multi-brand conglomerates within competitive service industries. Throughout his 25-year career with globally recognized Fortune 500 companies, he has consistently employed his brand of distinctive and attentive customer care to strengthen client and employee retention, leading to new business growth. For Fallon, being CEO at FirstService Residential also means upholding an open and positive culture for associates who share a “people first” philosophy to deliver first-class levels of property management service and build on the company’s legacy of going the extra mile every day to make a difference for each resident served.

Prior to joining the FirstService family he served as president of Terminix International; was President, North America for Burger King Holdings, Inc. and held various senior level positions at Cendant Corporation including Executive Vice President, Revenue Generation for AvisBudget Group and Chief Operating officer of Cendant Membership Services among other roles at the organization whose brands also included, Ramada, Days Inn, Century 21 and Coldwell Banker. Prior to that Fallon spent over 13 years as a corporate finance professional in New York City and London with Prudential-Bache and Solomon Smith Barney. He received his M.B.A. in Finance from Columbia University in 1987.

SARA HERNANDEZ HUDMAN GRAHAM ’63, B.A.
Trustee of Graham McAlister Co.

Board Member: 1998 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Served as President of Abilene Board of Realtors
Served as President of Abilene Boys and Girls Club
Served on the Human Relations Board and the Tax Increment Finance Board for the City of Abilene
Sustaining member of the Junior League of Abilene
Officer of P.E.O.
Serves on the leadership team at Wylie Christian Church as an Elder Emeritus

Sara Graham ’63, works with her husband Paul in the ranching and cattle business, the self-storage business and the oil and gas industry. She is the mother of Victor Hudman ’92, M.D., a McMurry graduate, and Linda Aldrich, a teacher. She has five grandchildren, one of whom is a freshman at McMurry.
HOPE HARMON ’55, PH.D.

Board Member: 2014 to present

Hope Harmon ’55, a valedictorian from Lydia Patterson, earned a McMurry B.A. ‘Cum Laude’ in English literature and a certificate to teach high school. She was offered a job to teach high school, and concurrently obtained an M.A. in Modern Languages at the University of Texas at El Paso. As university fellow, while studying for a Ph.D., at the University of Iowa she taught French and Spanish literature. Harmon taught at Jennings High School and Ladue High School in Missouri. She then went to Washington, DC to study Simultaneous Interpretation; and during this time she volunteered at the Lyndon B. Johnson Inaugural Committee. With a staff of five she was responsible for dispatching 5000 automobiles, chauffeured each by two West Point and/or Annapolis, to transport the foreign dignitaries invited to attend inaugural activities.

Harmon received a scholarship to study French culture at the University of Tours, France. Later, as University Fellow she earned a M.S. in Theoretical Linguistics and a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics from Georgetown University, Washington, DC. While finishing the dissertation she worked as Deputy Director of the “Right to Read” Program at the department of Health, Education and Welfare. Soon after, she became Director of Education at the President’s Cabinet Committee on Opportunities for Spanish Speaking People, with offices at the Executive Office of the President under President Richard Nixon. During evenings, week-ends and summer vacations she studied at the Universities of Vienna, Innsbruck, Oxford (UK), Universidad Nacional de Mexico, Johns Hopkins, and others. She also worked as a Senior Research Scientist at George Washington University, Academic Coordinator of World Instruction and Translation, and volunteered 14 years as Vice-President of the World Population Society. She participated as a speaker at city, state, national and international conferences, wrote over twenty articles on linguistic science, women’s health and other issues. Hope was a consultant on child development at five universities in the US and prepared over 200 winning contract proposals during 18 years she was President of HOPE Associates Inc., a Washington, DC, Virginia and Huntington Beach, CA., consultant management corporation she founded April 1977.

Ten years after graduating from McMurry, she was honored as “Outstanding Young Woman of America” in St. Louis, Missouri. In June 2008 she was awarded The Congressional Medal of Distinction in Washington, DC for meritorious service to the nation.

She has been trying to retire since 1995, volunteering as President of the Garden Club, International Lyons Club, Junior Warden at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, as well as putting ten students through college. She lives in San Miguel de Allende, GTO, Mexico, San Antonio, and El Paso, Texas, where she has family.
Dr. Sandra Harper, a native of Dallas, Texas, began serving as the President of McMurry University on October 1, 2013. Prior to her McMurry appointment, Dr. Harper served as the President of Our Lady of the Lake College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from 2006-2013 and as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Communication at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi from 1998-2006. Harper's other administrative posts included serving as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Oklahoma City University and as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at McMurry University. Harper served as a faculty member in the communication and theater department at McMurry University from 1985-1995.

Harper received her B.S. degree from Texas Tech University and her M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of North Texas. Harper also completed the Harvard Management Development Program and the Governor’s Executive Development Program at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas. Dr. Harper is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges and serves as its chair of the Compliance and Reports Committee on Substantive Change. She is the treasurer of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT) and chairs the Board of Directors for the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Consortium. She also serves on the boards of the National Association of Schools and Colleges of The United Methodist Church, the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, the Abilene Industrial Foundation, and the Grace Museum.

In 2011, Harper was named a Distinguished Alumna by the Texas Tech University College of Education. She is listed in Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who of American Women, and Who’s Who in American Education. Harper has received the Management Excellence Award from the Society for the Advancement of Management, the Y Women in Careers Award from the Corpus Christi YWCA, and the Outstanding Faculty Award and the Outstanding Administrator Award from McMurry University.

She is married to Dave Harper, who coached at Abilene High School for nine years and other high schools in Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. The couple has two sons, who spent most of their childhood in Abilene. Justin Harper, a major in the United States Army, recently moved his wife and four children to Ft. Riley Kansas, where he is on the division staff of the First Infantry Division. Jonathan Harper is the Assistant Director of Equipment Operations in the athletics department at the University of North Texas.
C. GIRVIN HARKINS ’60, PH.D.
Retired University Professor and Industrial Scientist

Board Member: 2006 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Southwest Texas Annual Conference
National Eagle Scout Association
Hill Country Mission for Health

C. Girvin Harkins ’60, a third-generation native Texan, Harkins was born and raised in Mitchell County. After McMurry, he earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in physical chemistry from Johns Hopkins University, and pursued postdoctoral fellowships in chemical engineering at UC Berkeley, Stanford, and Rice Universities. From assistant professor of materials research at Southwest Center for Advanced Studies (now UT Dallas), he then returned to Rice as Senior Research Scientist and Adjunct Professor in Materials Science, and founded the Rice M.A./Ph.D. program in corrosion science and engineering. In parallel, he taught over 100 short courses for the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. Girvin joined Hewlett-Packard Laboratories (H-P) in 1978 to establish lab and field corrosion testing in support of the first commercial thin film disk drive. He then was appointed project manager for surface mount technology in H-P’s Manufacturing Research Center, and later returned as Thin Film Department project manager for magnetic recording development. In parallel, Girvin was elected Visiting Fellow of Wolfson University, then Linacre University, at Oxford University where he coordinated the research of three H-P postdocs.

Upon early retirement from H-P, he joined Agilent Labs as principal project engineer in optical switching technology. He has been honored by McMurry as a Distinguished Alumnus, Cross and Flame awardee, and Science and Math Wall of Honor member.

JOHN T. HENDRICK ’73, B.B.A.
Certified Public Accountant

Board Member: 2013 to present

John T. Hendrick ’73, has primarily been engaged in monitoring his private equity investments since July 2001. From July 1996 to December 1999 he was Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer of The Cassidy Companies, Inc., one of the largest government affairs and public affairs firms in Washington, DC. He was also a Managing Director of Galway Partners, LLC, a Washington, DC-based merchant bank from July 1996 to June 2001. Prior to joining Cassidy and Galway in 1996, Hendrick was a general partner with Avalon Ventures, a San Diego-based venture capital firm, from 1987 to 1996. In addition, Mr. Hendrick co-founded and served on the investment committee of Innova Capital (formerly Poland Partners), a Warsaw-based private equity fund, from April 1994 to May 2012. Hendrick is a CPA and earned a B.B.A. degree in accounting from McMurry University in 1973.
CARL HUBBARD ’68, PH.D.
Retired professor of finance; forensic economist

Board Member: 2002 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Chair, Board of Directors – South Texas Children's Home
Institutional Advisory Panel – Baptist Foundation of Texas

Originally from Abilene, Carl Hubbard ’68, graduated from Abilene Cooper High School in 1964. He then enrolled in McMurry and in 1968 graduated with a B.B.A. in Finance. After a 20-month sojourn in the army, he continued his education by completing an M.B.A. degree at Hardin-Simmons University in 1972 and then a Ph.D. in Economics from Texas Tech University in 1975. The success in completing both graduate degrees was strongly supported by his education at McMurry. In June 1975, he began a 37-year career on the faculty of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas where he taught mostly undergraduate courses in business financial management and investment analysis.

In 1979 Dr. Hubbard became a Chartered Financial Analyst. Over his career Carl has published 60+ articles, conference papers, and case studies on subjects in economics and finance. Since 1976, he has served as an economic consultant and expert witness. In the early 1990’s, Dr. Hubbard was asked to serve on the Alumni Association Board of Directors at McMurry and later was invited to serve on the Board to Trustees.

MELODY HUNT ’79, B.B.A.
President and owner, Hunt Direct Marketing, Inc.

Board Member: 2013 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
The Grace Museum, Board Chair
Abilene Education Foundation, Board Member
The Historic Paramount Theater, Board Secretary
Abilene Area United Methodist Board of Missions
McMurry University, School of Business Advisory Board
Alliance for Women and Children, Advisory Board

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Foundation Board & Finance Committee
Melody Hunt ’79, is President of Hunt Direct Marketing, Inc., which she founded in January 2005. Hunt Direct Marketing, Inc. is a database and direct response marketing firm that specializes in the Broadway (New York) and performing arts community. While Hunt DMI’s specialty is theater, she works with performing arts organizations of all genres. Prior to creating Hunt Direct Marketing, Inc., Hunt was the President and COO of Target Solutions, a Colorado based company from 2001 to 2004. From February 1993 thru June 2001, she was Vice President of the Arts and Entertainment Division of MSGI Direct in New York City. She has also worked at the Dallas Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony and the Honolulu Symphony.

In 1979, Hunt earned a B.B.A. degree, with a concentration in Marketing from McMurry University.

Hunt is very active in the Abilene community. She is a member of the St. Paul United Methodist Church and is a long-time volunteer at the Methodist Food Pantry.
**AUSTIN PITTMAN ’91, M.H.C.D.S.**  
*Health Insurance Executive*

**Board Member:** 2008 to present

**Civic and volunteer activities:**
- Board of Directors Inclusive Health
- Board of Directors the National 4-H organization
- Board of Managers at SharedClarity

Austin Pittman ’91, is the chief executive officer of UnitedHealthcare Community and State, a $29 billion division of UnitedHealth Group. He leads the nation’s largest health benefits company delivering quality health care for 25 state governments. He previously was president at UnitedHealthcare Networks. He also served as chief growth officer for UnitedHealthcare Employer & Individual, the largest business division within UnitedHealthcare Group.

Pittman has worked in the healthcare industry for more than 20 years. He earned a B.S. degree from McMurry and a M.S. degree from Amberton University in Dallas, Texas, and a Master of Health Care Delivery from Dartmouth University Austin also served in the United States Marine Corps.

---

**DAVID M. SHOUP ’91, B.B.A.**  
*CEO of Constructors, Inc., and Roswell Ready Mix General Partner of TDM Leasing*

**Board Member:** 2012 to present

David M. Shoup ’91, is the major stockholder and C.E.O. of Constructors, Inc. and its Subsidiaries and Affiliates in Carlsbad, New Mexico and Southeastern New Mexico. His companies are heavily involved in the construction, trucking, material supply, and oilfield industries in Southeastern New Mexico and West Texas areas.

Shoup is a graduate of McMurry’s Business School. Following his graduation he joined the family business founded by his grandfather George Shoup, Sr. in 1958. In 1997, he assumed control of the businesses and from then to the present he has overseen and managed growth of his company from a small local construction and material supply company to a regional presence.

Shoup also serves as a Bank Director for the Carlsbad National Bank, in Carlsbad New Mexico, as a board member of the Carlsbad Department of Development, a Trustee of Epworth United Methodist Church, an active member of the Carlsbad Rotary Club, and many other civic organizations. David and his wife Christy have three children.
SID STREBECK, B.S.
Farmer, Rancher, Entrepreneur

Board Member: 2010 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
President AG 50 of Eastern New Mexico
2015 Conference Lay Leader of the New Mexico Annual Conference, United Methodist Church
Board Member Texas Methodist Foundation
Vice President, Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, New Mexico Annual Conference

Sid Strebeck graduated from New Mexico State University with a B.S. degree in agricultural economics. He is a lifelong member of The United Methodist Church. He and his wife of 41 years, Selena, have four sons: Ryan, a pastor at Lakeview United Methodist Church in Dalhart, Texas; Brent a building contractor in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Jordan, an oil and gas businessman in Midland, Texas; and Layne, a farmer and rancher in Sedan, New Mexico. They have eight grandchildren.
ANTHONY WILLIAMS ’93, B.S.
Chief Business Services Officer, Abilene Christian University

Board Member: 2008 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Executive Committee Member West Central Texas Council of Governments
President Community in Schools
CAC Advisory Committee
CAC Advisory Committee Board
Christian Homes
Board Member ACU Credit Union
Board Member American Red Cross Big Country Chapter
Board Member Big Brothers Big Sisters
President Abilene Human Relations Committee
Director Abilene Late Night Basketball
Deacon and Sunday School Teacher, Minda Street Church of Christ
Former member West Central Texas Council of Governments
Former City of Abilene Mayor Pro Tempore
Former Texas Municipal League

Anthony Williams ’93, was elected to a six-month term on the Abilene City Council to fill the unexpired term of Victor Carrillo in 2001. He has been re-elected since, and his current term expires in 2017.

Williams helped form the Abilene Neighborhood Initiative, a partnership between the city and pastors in lower-income neighborhoods, including some that are predominantly black, to lower crime and improve quality of life. He has won numerous civic and government awards including the Abilene Youth Sports Authority Volunteer of the Year, the Black History Community Award, the N.A.S.W. (Taylor County) Elected Official of the Year, Abilene Reporter News Top Business Professional under 40, Abilene Christian University Unsung Hero Award, Big Brother of the Year, and the Pride of Abilene Award. He is a graduate of Leadership Abilene and the Abilene Citizens Police Academy.

He and his wife Lynette have three children.
STEVE WILSON, B.A.

Insurance and Financial Services

Board Member: 2010 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Border Business Association
United Way
Lions Club
Chamber of Commerce
NM Annual Conference
FEAPAC
Make a Wish

Steve Wilson grew up in New Mexico and moved to El Paso when he graduated from New Mexico State University with a degree in advertising and public relations. He spent 10 years in the advertising business working with retail stores and healthcare institutions. In 1998, Steve started a property and casualty insurance agency growing the business to included life, health and financial products. He has seven employees and is licensed in both Texas and New Mexico.

DID YOU KNOW?

On the London trip in January, McMurry Business students and faculty made site visits to several leading companies. Students heard about the challenges presented by a domestic company expanding into an international market, and how Whole Foods has confronted issues such as price sensitivity and brand loyalty. At British Airways a portion of the discussion was related to the airline's recent extension of direct service between London and Austin, Texas, and the factors that entered into that decision. With the assistance of Dr. Mark Fish, former McMurry Marketing faculty member who currently resides in the UK, students and faculty visited the offices of Acorne, PLC, a company located outside London that specializes in experience marketing. With their license to use the Virgin name in the United Kingdom, they have developed business to business and consumer markets for gift cards and vouchers that are redeemable for experiences, such as hot-air ballooning, cooking classes with celebrity chefs, and driving exotic cars. Principals in the company described their business model for students. Lloyd's, the largest insurance market in the world is an outstanding opportunity for students to experience a 325 year old business that operates as a syndicate to provide insurance coverage, often for the types of risks that no one else will insure.
M. LYNN VARNER YEARWOOD ’70, M.A.
Retired Health Insurance Executive

Board Member: 2010 to present

Civic and volunteer activities:
Board President and Board Member of Ready Readers St. Louis, MO
Volunteer of the Year and Partner of Social Venture Partners, St. Louis, MO
Governance Chair of St. Louis Charter School
Alzheimer’s Association Volunteer Junior League Volunteer of the Year, Alton, IL
United Way Allocation Committee, St. Louis, MO
Trainer for United Way BoardLink, St. Louis, MO
Lead Volunteer for College Bound, St. Louis, MO

M. Lynn Yearwood ’70, began her career as a high school teacher at East Alton-Wood River Community High School in Wood River, Illinois. She taught a wide variety of English, speech, and theater classes for 13 years. During that time, she also served as English Department Chairperson and later as Humanities Division Chair. She transitioned out of education in 1986 and led both single and multi-site organizations for over 16 years in Health Insurance management. While her career began in training and development, it then migrated to organizational planning and development shortly after joining General American Life Insurance Company. She transitioned again to operations management and served in increasingly senior and broad assignments including Vice President of Operations at General American Life Insurance (later Great West) and later as Chief Operations Officer and Vice President of Technology at HealthLink, a subsidiary of Anthem. She has held management and budget responsibility for multiple office locations across the country, including over 1,000 employees and $70M budgets. Functional accountabilities included: Provider Data Base; Health, Dental, and FSA Claims and Customer Service; Compliance; Information Technology; Project Management; Training and Development; Process Improvement and Auditing.

She holds a B.A. in English and Speech from McMurry University; an M.A. in Organizational Communications and certification in Educational Supervision and Leadership from Southern Illinois University. She completed post-graduate studies in University Educational Administration at Saint Louis University. Lynn has been married to her husband Darrell for 43 years. They make their home in suburban St. Louis, MO. They have one adult son who lives in Portland, ME.