SAMPLE\(^1\)
ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER
(to be read by the Chair or his or her designee at the beginning of each meeting)

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every [Board] member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.

Does any [Board] member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the [Board] today?

If so, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from any undue participation\(^2\) in the particular matter involved.

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\(^1\) N.C.G.S. §138A-15 (e): “At the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under [Chapter 138A].” There is no set language required by the Act. Specific language can and should be tailored to fit the needs of each covered board as necessary.

\(^2\) “A public servant shall take appropriate steps, under the particular circumstances and considering the type of proceeding involved, to remove himself or herself to the extent necessary, to protect the public interest and comply with this Chapter, from any proceeding in which the public servant’s impartiality might reasonably be questioned due to the public servant’s familial, personal, or financial relationship with a participant in the proceeding.” See N.C.G.S. §138A-36 (c). If necessary, the Chairman or individual member involved should consult with his ethics liaison, legal counsel, or the State Ethics Commission to help determine the appropriate response in a given situation.
2018 Board of Visitors New Appointments

Johnny Barnes

Johnny Barnes is president of Farm Pak/Barnes Farming, which is the United States' largest sweet potato producer. Barnes Farming, which was started by Johnny's parents in 1961, is still family owned and operated. Johnny graduated from NC State University in 1987 with a degree in Business-Agricultural Economics and is a board member of the Agricultural Foundation. He is married to Lisa. They have three children-- Bethany, Joshua, and Jacy and are active members of Ridgecrest Worship Center.

Marcus Belvin

Marcus Belvin serves as a Digital Marketing Leader, managing a team of IBM Hybrid Cloud Digital Marketers. His responsibilities include leading the team's effort to increase digital marketing effectiveness of Hybrid Cloud solutions in support of a multi-million dollar portfolio. Marcus started his career with IBM as a Software Engineer and has since expanded his business expertise through a number of roles spanning marketing (i.e. demand generation, category, product), worldwide Offering Management (for PureApplication platform, Patterns), as the Technical Assistant to z Systems Software Vice President Mike Perera, and as a Development Manager in IBM Blockchain Platform leading SREs, Datacenter Design, Deployment Automation, and Security Compliance. He actively participates in IBM's patenting program, enjoys mentoring MBA candidates and IBM new hires, and serves on various non-profit community boards.

Cristina Fernandez Pierce

Cristina Fernandez Pierce is a healthcare and pharmaceutical attorney, practicing in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Over the past 33 years, her practice has focused on providing contractual, regulatory, and healthcare legal services to corporate clients in the pharmaceutical industry. Cristina was a past member of the Board of Legal Aid of North Carolina and is a member of the Advisory Board for the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at North Carolina State University. Cristina was born in Havana Cuba and is bilingual. She graduated from North Carolina State University with a degree in Political Science in 1982 and from the University Of Georgia School Of Law in 1985. Cristina lives in Durham with her husband David Pierce and has two sons, Alex Pierce 26 and Charlie Pierce 22 (who is an N.C. State Student).
Jim Hansen

James “Jim” M. Hansen, is the regional president of PNC Bank Eastern Carolinas. Hansen received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in finance and a minor in statistics from North Carolina State University and a M.B.A. from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As senior regional executive, he is responsible for PNC’s business, strategy, and brand in the market. This includes the eastern half of North and South Carolina, stretching from the Research Triangle to the Outer Banks and down through the South Carolina low country. He also leads all sponsorship and philanthropic efforts to execute PNC’s community-based goals and initiatives for the region. Hansen is chair of the board of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the executive committees of the YMCA of the Triangle and the Research Triangle Regional Partnership. He is a member of the board of directors of the North Carolina Chamber, North Carolina Chamber Foundation, and the South Carolina Aquarium. Previously, he has served on the board of directors for the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama and Mercedes-Benz U.S. Jim is based in Raleigh, NC.

Wesley Horne

Wesley was born and raised in Wadesboro, NC. After completing high school at the McCallie School in Chattanooga, TN, he attended NC State in the fall of 1999. He was a 4 year letter winner on the golf team and earned Academic All-American. He graduated in 2004, Summa Cum Laude with a degree from the College of Textiles in Textile Apparel Management. In 2009, after a 5-year professional golf stint playing on mini tours in the US, as well as aboard on the European Tour, he joined his family’s company, Hornwood, Inc. He earned a MBA from the Wake Forest University School of Business working professional program, graduating with distinction, the highest honor the school awards. Hornwood’s Board of Directors nominated Wesley President of the company in 2016 where his role is to grow and strengthen the 72-year-old business for the future. The company employs 350 people and serves many markets including athletic & active wear, military, digital print, automotive, reverse osmosis filtration, fleece, aerospace, and footwear to name a few. Horne is a member and former president of the Wadesboro Rotary Club, serves on the board of directors for the Anson County United Way, is a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum, serves on the scholarship committee for the North Carolina Textile Foundation, is a charter member of the NCSU College of Textiles Dean’s Young Alumni Leadership Council, and is a member of YPO. He is an aviation enthusiast as he is a private pilot flying a Piper Cherokee 180 and Cessna 172. He also enjoys downhill skiing. Wesley and his wife, Isla, live in Charlotte, NC.

Frank Rackley

Frank Rackley received degrees in Wood Science and Technology and Economics from NC State in 1973. He then earned his MBA from East Carolina University in 1978. Frank retired as Timberlands Manager in 2013 after 40 years with Weyerhaeuser Company. Frank has served as a past Board of Directors member on the NC State College of Natural Resources Foundation Board. He has also served as the Executive Vice President of the North Carolina Forestry Association, Past President of the North Carolina Forestry Association Board of Directors and is currently serving on the North Carolina Forestry Association Board of Directors. Frank’s interests involve golf, fishing, hiking, and travel.
Cathy Sigal

Cathy received her BS degree in Chemistry from North Carolina State University in 1976. During her undergraduate years, she had the privilege of participating in the NC State Fellows Program (now Caldwell Fellows Program). Cathy earned an AM degree in Chemistry from Harvard University in 1978 and an MS degree in Chemical Engineering from MIT in 1981. Later in 1981, she joined Mobil Research and Development Corporation where she developed new catalysts for petrochemical manufacturing. She moved to Merck Research Laboratories in 1984 where she designed and scaled up processes for the production of new drugs and vaccines. In 1989, Cathy returned to graduate school at Princeton University to obtain a PhD degree in Molecular Biology (1995), after which she pursued a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. She joined the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) in 1998, eventually serving as Director of International Research. In this role, Cathy oversaw JDRF's international research portfolio and worked to build numerous partnerships with governmental agencies worldwide for the funding of diabetes research. Cathy is now retired but continues to stay engaged in volunteer activities. Currently, she serves as Chair of the American Chemical Society Development Advisory Board. As Chairperson, she has worked to advocate for scholarships for underrepresented students in the field as well as support other Society priorities such as green chemistry. Cathy was a member of NC State's College of Sciences Foundation Board for ten years and for most of those years she also served on the Finance Committee.

Kimberly Wicker

Kimberly J Wicker opened her own firm, Coaly Design, in 2005, and has been a licensed landscape architect for 15 years. Kimberly has practiced land planning and land development with a wide range of projects from large scale master and urban planning, greenway design, and site specific design. Current projects include pedestrian and downtown master planning, an adaptive reuse of a downtown historic building, a 23-lot Habitat for Humanity community in western North Carolina, and commercial site design. Kimberly received her undergraduate degree from The Pennsylvania State University in 1995, and her Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the North Carolina State University in 1997. She is a life-member of the Alumni Associations of both Universities. She is also a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Triangle Commercial Association of Realtors, and the Urban Land Institute. Kimberly is also a licensed real estate broker in the state of North Carolina. In the past, Kimberly has been an Assistant Adjunct Professor at North Carolina State University in the College of Design’s Landscape Architecture Department. She is currently a member of the College’s DesignLife Board. She has also given numerous presentations at the College as well as at the annual Urban Design Conference co-hosted by the College of Design. Kimberly also actively serves the local community. Most recently, she was a member of the City of Raleigh’s Parks, Recreation, and Greenway Advisory Board from 2010 until June of 2016. Upon her Parks Board term expiring, Kimberly was appointed to the Dix Park Master Plan Advisory Committee. The Committee will work with the consultant over the next 2 years, facilitating the design and community involvement in the planning of the 306-acre proposed park. Kimberly actively served the local community in the past as a member of the Wake County Planning Board from 1999-2003. Kimberly lives in Raleigh with her husband, Tim, 2 dogs, and 3 step children.