



# COMMISSIONER BIOGRAPHIES

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**Mr. Wes Hayes, Governor's Appointment At-Large, Chair.** Appointed to CHE in 2018.

A graduate of both the United States Military Academy in West Point, where he served as the Class of 1975's president and battalion commander, and the University of South Carolina School of Law, where he served as the president of the Student Bar Association during the 1982-83 academic year, Mr. Wes Hayes has long illustriously served the public through military and civilian activity. Between his graduation from West Point and enrollment at USC, he served in the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division, and upon his matriculation at law school, served in the South Carolina Army National Guard, which he continued to serve until 2005.

Following his graduation from law school, he established his own law office, Wes Hayes Law Office, which today he operates alongside his son James Creighton. In 1984, Mr. Hayes was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives and served for seven years until his election to the state Senate, a station which he held from 1991 to 2016. During his senatorial tenure, Mr. Hayes held positions on the education and finance committees.

In addition to his extensive involvement in public affairs, Mr. Hayes has been quite active in civilian organizations, having previously served as the chairman or president of the York County Red Cross, the York District Boy Scouts of America, the Rock Hill United Way Campaign, and the Palmetto Council Boy Scouts of America. For his outstanding service and leadership, Mr. Hayes has been awarded by reputable affiliations like the South Carolina Jaycees, the S.C. Chamber of Commerce, and the Riley Institute at Furman.



**Mr. Charles E. Dalton, Governor's Appointment At-Large.** Appointed to CHE in 2018.  
Committee Assignment: Finance & Facilities

A graduate of Clemson University's Class of 1964, Mr. Charles Dalton has led a life of excellent public service and professionalism, with his involvement spanning numerous organizations and causes. In 2018, after 36 years, he retired from Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, where he ultimately served as president and CEO emeritus. Also during this 36-year period, he chaired various other bodies, like the Better Business Bureau of the Foothills, the Upstate Alliance of South Carolina, Clemson University's IPTAY Board, and the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission. Truly civic, Mr. Dalton's participation in organizations extended beyond his chairmanships, as he also managed involvements with the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Clemson University Foundation Board, and the Peace Center's Board of Trustees.

Today, Mr. Dalton resides in Greenville with his wife Libby, with whom he shares three children and three grandchildren, and continues his public service with the Greenville Health System, Upstate Warriors Solutions, and the Upstate's American Heart Association's Board of Directors.



**Mr. Devron H. Edwards, Chapin, Governor's Appointment At-Large.** Appointed to CHE in 2016. Committee Assignment: Academic Affairs and Licensing

Mr. Edwards, a new member of the Commission on Higher Education, has been in the sports business industry for more than two decades. Throughout his career he has cultivated successful partnerships with organizations and countless blue chip companies. He has worked with many schools, conferences and businesses over the years to develop and grow academic and athletic opportunities. He attended Irmo High School and received his undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Kentucky. He has been with CBS Sports for 13 years. Devron and his wife Rana have two sons and reside in Chapin, South Carolina.



**Mr. Ben W. Satcher, Jr.**, Lexington, Governor's Appointment at Large, Appointed to CHE in December 2018. Committee Assignment: Academic Affairs and Licensing.

Benjamin W. Satcher, Jr., currently serves as the Chief Development Officer for the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation (KAOEF), which is responsible for the fundraising and development of the Kappa Alpha Order national fraternity and providing annual leadership and educational grants to fraternity national, regional and local programs.

Prior to joining the KAOEF in 2008, Mr. Satcher was president of Ben Satcher Motors, Inc. in Lexington, SC. A family business, he began his tenure at Ben Satcher Motors in 1985, shortly after graduating from Clemson University with a B.S. in business administration, and served in numerous capacities until 1995, when he became the business's president.

Mr. Satcher maintains an involved civic life. He is a member of Lexington United Methodist Church, The Rotary Club of Lexington, and is a past board member of the Lexington Chamber of Commerce and the Mid Carolina Electric Coop Operation Round-Up board. Currently, he serves on the executive boards of the Fraternal Government Relations Coalition and the Foundation for Fraternal Excellence. He is also a past national president for Kappa Alpha Order, having served in that capacity from 2003-2007.



**Mrs. Terrye C. Seckinger**, Mt. Pleasant, Governor's Appointment 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2014. Committee Assignment: Academic Affairs & Licensing (Chair)

Mrs. Seckinger is a native South Carolinian and graduate of Clemson University. She has been involved in South Carolina state government for over two decades serving on The Juvenile Parole Board, The State Board of Education, and the SC Statewide Charter Public School District Board of Trustees an authorizer of public schools of choice in SC. Mrs. Seckinger served on Attorney General Condon's Obscenity and Pornography Commission and Internet Crimes against Children Commission as well as Governor Sanford's Commission on Children. She has assisted in the restructuring of the Department of Juvenile Justice under Governor Beasley and Chaired a Juvenile Justice Youth Council, addressing the issue of Juvenile Crime in SC.

Recently she assisted in drafting and passing the Charter Public School Law creating public school choice in SC. She has a business background and was on the founding team of Palmetto Christian Academy, a K-12 private school in Mount Pleasant where she developed and taught their Character Education Program.

As a student athlete she was a 1978 founding member of Clemson's Fellowship of Christian Athletes along with two football players. She is married to R. Stan Seckinger. They have two married boys and a third son who is a TE on Clemson's football team. She has been involved in the Charleston community serving in several capacities including the Charleston County Library Board, as a former Election Commissioner for the City of Isle of Palms, as well as a former Board of Visitor member at Charleston Southern University. Mrs. Seckinger currently serves on the Lowcountry Graduate Center Board of Directors as the CHE Ex-Officio Representative.



**Admiral Charles Munns**, Aiken, Governor's Appointment 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2011. CHE Vice Chair. Committee Assignment: Academic Affairs and Licensing.

Currently the President of Munns Advisement, LLC, Admiral Munns was formerly the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions from 2007 through 2009. He served for 35 years in some of the US Navy's most high-profile and challenging positions, including: Commander, US Submarine Force; Commander, NATO Submarines; and Program Manager, Navy Marine Corps Intranet. Admiral Munns received his Bachelor of Science degree from the US Naval Academy, his Master of Science, Computer Science degree from the University of Colorado, and his Corporate Board Directors Continuum Certificate from the University of Chicago School of Business. Admiral Munns is active in his church and serves on various educational and community committees.





**Dr. Bettie Rose Horne**, Greenwood, Governor's Appointment 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2004. Committee Assignments: Access & Equity and Student Services; Academic Affairs and Licensing

Dr. Horne taught at Lander University for twenty-seven years and spent the last six of those years in administration overseeing such projects as access and equity, tutorial services, academic advising, and student support services. She also spent seven years as an academic vice president and dean at an agricultural college in South Georgia and over three years in Atlanta at the University System of Georgia as Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. She earned her Ph.D. degree in linguistics at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Horne is active in her church and serves on boards which include Habitat for Humanity, Pathway Homeless Shelter, the Burton Center for special needs, Hispanic Children's Outreach, the Greenwood Flower Festival, Greenwood Performing Arts, and the Lander University Capital Campaign. Dr. Horne was married to the late Coach Finis Horne, has twin daughters, and is the proud grandmother of a fourteen-year-old granddaughter.



**Ms. Julie Godshall Brown**, Greenville. Governor's Appointment 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2019. Committee Assignment: Academic Affairs & Licensing

Ms. Brown is the President and Owner of Godshall Professional Recruiting and Staffing, a locally owned recruiting and contract staffing firm established in 1968, that is also a certified Woman Owned Business through WBENC and SC. She has been with the second generation family business since 1995 and President and owner since 2004. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Clemson University and a Master of Personnel and Employee Relations from the University of South Carolina.

In addition to her work with the Commission on Higher Education, Ms. Brown serves on the Board of Directors for the Bank of Travelers Rest and the Women's Leadership Board for the United Way of Greenville. Previously, she has chaired bodies such as: Greenville Chamber of Commerce; the Board of Trustees for the University Center of Greenville; the Clemson Board of Visitors; the Better Business Bureau of the Upstate; the Greenville Society for Human Resource Management; and the Greenville Workforce Investment Board.



**Mr. Patrick White**, Fort Mill. Governor's Appointment 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2019. Committee Assignment: Finance & Facilities

Mr. White is a Fort Mill native. He graduated from The Citadel in 1988 with a BA in Political Science, and served twelve years as a commissioned officer in the US Army and SC National Guard. Prior to joining Comporium Communications as its VP of Supply Chain in 2010, Mr. White worked for Spring Industries for more than twenty years in plant manager and supply chain capacities.

Mr. White has served on the Fort Mill School Board from 2002 to 2016, and as the Chairman of the Board from 2010 through 2016. During his tenure on the board, the district was noted as the fastest growing in the state, having almost tripled in size. The district went through a building program during this same time of almost a billion dollars. His proudest accomplishment is the fact that the district ranks in the top 5% academically, even during this period of unprecedented growth.

Mr. White has been married to his wife, Jamie, for 30 years. They have two adult children, and three dogs. His family has been a member of Unity Presbyterian Church his entire life. He is an avid Carolina Panther fan and a part-time resident of Litchfield Beach as often as possible.



**Dr. Cleveland Sellers**, Denmark, SC. Governor's Appointment, 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2019. Committee Assignment: Access & Equity and Student Services

Dr. Cleveland Sellers is a native of Denmark, South Carolina, and through his great experience with the various facets of higher education, he has gleaned an incisive knowledge of its administration.

Even before an eight-year period presiding over Voorhees College, Dr. Sellers was already an exceptional force for education within the state. Previously, Dr. Sellers served as director of the African American Studies program at the University of South Carolina. An alumnus of Shaw University, Harvard University, and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, his affiliations include the Kosmos Club, South Carolina State Board of Education, South Carolina African American Heritage Committee, the Organization of American Historians, and Southern Historical Association. Among his numerous awards are the 2009 "Preserving Our Places in History" Lifetime Achievement Award, South Carolina African American Heritage Commission; 2009 Freedom Flame Award, National Voting Rights Museum and Institute; 2009 Legacy Award, United Negro College Fund; and the 2007 Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America.

Dr. Sellers and his wife of 38 years, Gwendolyn, are the parents of three children, Dr. Nosizwe A. Sellers, Rev. Cleveland L. Sellers III, and S.C. Representative, Bakari Sellers.



**Mr. Edgar "Eddie" Dyer**, Governor's Appointment 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2019. Committee Assignment: Finance and Facilities

Mr. Edgar Dyer, a native of High Point, North Carolina, has a rich history of service to higher education, and throughout his substantial career, he has exhibited true devotion to academic, athletic, and community advancement.

Receiving a baccalaureate degree from Guilford College and a Master and J.D. from the University of South Carolina, Mr. Dyer has generously deployed his expertise to the benefit of a wide range of organizations and causes. He has served in a variety of capacities at Coastal Carolina University, where he began his career in 1976 as a member of its faculty and retired in 2015 as its executive vice president and chief operating officer. He has supplied his

insights to entities such as the Author's Committee of the Education Law Reporter, a national journal devoted to legal issues in higher education, and the South Carolina Bar Association. And furthermore, he has been an agent for good in his community through involvement in numerous civic causes.



**Mr. James A. Battle**, Nichols, Governor's Appointment Research University Sector Representative, is a member of the Medical University of South Carolina Board of Trustees. Appointed to CHE in 2018. Committee Assignments: Access & Equity and Student Services

Mr. James A. "Jim" Battle, Jr. graduated from The Citadel with a B.S. degree in Business in 1964 and received an M.B.A from the University of South Carolina in 1967. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam as a First Lieutenant. In 2009, he received a Doctorate of Humanities from Francis Marion University. Mr. Battle was a banker at Wachovia Bank & Trust as well as a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch in Charlotte, North Carolina. Later, he was an instructor in the Business Department at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke and at Francis Marion University. He is co-owner of several businesses in Nichols and Mullins, South Carolina.

Mr. Battle served as the President of the South Carolina Aquaculture Association from 1994-1997. He also served as Chairman of the Marion County Hospital District from 1995-1996. He was the Chairman of the Center for Marine & Wetland studies at Coastal Carolina University and was appointed to the Francis Marion University Business School Advisory Board in the 1980's. Mr. Battle served eight terms in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1997 to 2012. In his last four terms, he was assigned to the House Ways & Means Committee, where he was a sub-committee chairman his last year. During this time, he served as the Chairman of the Marion County Legislative Delegation. While a legislator. Mr. Battle was awarded the National Federation of Independent Business's Legislative Guardian of the Year in 2002 and 2008 and received the South Carolina Association of Taxpayer's "Friend to the

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Taxpayer Award" in 2008. He was also selected as Legislator of the Year by the Career & Technology Education Administration Division of the S.C. Association of School Administration in 2008. In 2011, Mr. Battle was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Northeastern Strategic Alliance, NESA, which is an economic development alliance for the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. He also serves on the Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) advisory board, the Marion County Healthcare Foundation board and the SC BIPEC Board of Trustees.



**Dr. Linda L. Dolny**, Greenwood, Governor's Appointment Four-year College & University Sector Representative, is chair of Lander University's Board of Trustees. Appointed to CHE in 2018. Committee Assignment: Finance & Facilities

In 1986, Dr. Dolny formed PML Associates, Inc., a small consulting and training firm that employed seven full time associates and 50 part time trainers. After selling this business in 2010, she graduated from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in 2014. She is currently serving as Chair of the Lander University Board of Trustees. She is on the HOPE Academy Foundation in Greenville, S.C. and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

Previous service includes: the Charlotte Branch of The Richmond Bank of The Federal Reserve System, 2006-2013; the Chair of Greenwood County Community Foundation; and the Greenwood Area Chamber of Commerce.

She was awarded Lander Alumnus of the Year, 1996, and the Grace Iller Norman award in 2013. In 2004, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, Lander University and in 2011 she was inducted into the Greenwood Hall of Fame.



**Mr. Paul O. Batson, III**, Greer, Governor's Appointment, Public Technical Colleges Sector Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2015. Reappointed in 2016. Committee Assignments: Access and Equity & Student Services (Chair); Finance and Facilities

Mr. Batson has operated an accounting and tax practice since 1987. He has served as an Area Commissioner for Greenville Technical College since 1998, has been their Board Chair for 4 years, and currently serves as their Audit Committee Chair. Mr. Batson has also served on the Board of Directors for the SC Association of Technical College Commissioners for several years and is currently that Board's Chair. He has been involved in a variety of ways with the Technical College System since 1972 when he was hired as an instructor at Greenville Technical College. For 40 years, Mr. Batson has also been an adjunct professor in the undergraduate program at Furman University. Mr. Batson earned his BS degree from Clemson University and his MBA from Clemson at Furman University.



**Dr. Mark Smith**, Columbia, Governor's Appointment, Independent Representative. Appointed to CHE in 2019. Committee Assignment: Access and Equity and Student Services

Dr. Mark A. Smith is President of Columbia International University, a growing university in South Carolina. He previously served as President of Ohio Christian University for 12 years where he led a team of experts in growing the University from 380 to more than 4,700 students and helped fund \$30 million in facilities. He has served on the ABHE Board and Columbus 2020 and currently serves on the ELEOS Corporate Board. Dr. Smith has a B.A. from Hobe Sound Bible College, a M.S. from Northeastern State University and graduated from West Virginia University with a Doctorate in Education Administration. Dr. Smith completed Harvard University's Institute of Educational Management for Executive Management. Dr. Smith and his wife, Debbie, have two children.