

**South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities
Board of Trustees Class of 2025
Term: September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2025**



Tyson Blanton

**District Manager – Government and Community Relations
Duke Energy
Kershaw**

Tyson Blanton is a native of Lancaster, South Carolina with both a bachelor's degree in mass communications and a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Carolina. A public relations professional with special expertise in the electric utility industry, Tyson currently serves as the government and community relations district manager at Duke Energy for Laurens, Newberry, Lancaster, Chester, and Fairfield counties. Prior to this role, she was the public relations director for Lynches River Electric Cooperative (LREC) where she led the brand development and launch of RiverNet Connect, LREC's fiber internet subsidiary. In addition to her professional responsibilities, Tyson serves as the Vice Chairwoman of the Lancaster County Partners for Youth Board and is a board member for the Chester County Chamber of Commerce. In her spare time, she enjoys refereeing youth soccer games, long-distance running, cheering for the Gamecocks, and spending time with her dog, Zuko.



David Harrell

**Founding Partner
Insurance Advantage
Lexington**

David Harrell is one of the Founding Partners of Insurance Advantage, an insurance brokerage firm with offices in West Columbia, SC, and Nashville, TN, and has been in the insurance industry for 13 years. Prior to that, David received a BS degree in Management (92) and a MA degree in Human Resources (97) from the University of South Carolina. He worked in the Human Resources field for several Fortune 500 companies as a Regional HR Director before moving back to SC and starting Insurance Advantage. In 2013, David started Camp Joy SC, a ministry for people with intellectual disabilities. He also volunteers with Special Olympics and teaches Sunday School at Lexington Presbyterian Church.

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Mike Jackson

**Manager – Federal and State Government Strategy
S. C. Ports Authority
Columbia**

Mike Jackson is the manager of Federal and State government strategy for the SC Ports Authority, a position he has held since December of 2021. His prior experience includes budget analyst with the SC House Ways and Means Committee, program manager with the SC Commission on Higher Education, admissions officer with South University in Columbia, SC, and account executive with Enterprise Holdings car rental company. Mike holds a BS degree in Business Administration from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and a MA degree in Management and Leadership from Webster University in Columbia, SC. In September of 2019, Mike was voted one of the “Best and Brightest 35 & Under” by Columbia Business Monthly.



Danna Vetter

**Chief Marketing Officer & SVP Communications
Milliken & Company
Spartanburg**

Danna Vetter is currently the Chief Marketing Officer and SVP Communications for Milliken & Company. Throughout her distinguished 25-year career in marketing, Danna’s leadership has focused primarily on customer experience (CX) and digital transformation. She has advised the Board of Directors and senior management at Aramark, a \$16B Fortune 100 Food & Facilities Services company, and Milliken & Company, a privately held material sciences and manufacturing company, on the changing needs of consumers and how digital technologies can be leveraged to enhance the customer experience, drive satisfaction, and unlock profitable growth. Ms. Vetter also advises on how best to define, integrate, and report on ESG performance. Her ability to understand and connect with customers, identify brand strengths and opportunities, and build teams and structures to unleash business potential, drive demand, and create shareholder value are the cornerstones of her success.

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Chris Zimmer

**Senior Vice President, Columbia Market President
Truist Financial Corporation
Columbia**

Chris Zimmer is the Senior Vice President and Market President in Columbia, SC for Truist Financial Corporation. He is responsible for the management and optimization of all banking functions in the market. This includes, but is not limited to, the administration of loan portfolio, deposit acquisitions, development of existing clients, acquisition of new clients, delivery of fee-based revenue services, and integration of retail and commercial lines of business. Zimmer earned his undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business with degrees in Finance and Management and a minor in Hotel Restaurant and Tourism Management. In his free time, he enjoys spending time on Lake Murray with his wife Alley and two daughters, Anna and Claire.