



Class of 2023 New Trustees



Michael Allen
Founder / CEO
MOA Architecture, Inc.
Greenville

Michael is returning to the SCICU board of trustees. He previously served two consecutive terms on the SCICU board 2012-2018 and was active in the development committee. With almost two decades in architecture and design, Michael has worked with leading architecture firms throughout the southeast, including McMillan Pazdan Smith in Greenville. In 2019, he founded MOA Architecture, a full-service architecture planning and design company. Michael is a Class of 2014 Liberty Fellow with the Aspen Global Leadership Network. He serves on the board of visitors at Clemson University, where he played football and earned a bachelor's degree in architecture.



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Kristi Eidson
General Manager
Total Comfort Solutions
West Columbia

Kristi is a 10-year leader with West Columbia-based Total Comfort Solutions and a life-long S.C. resident. Prior to joining Total Comfort Solutions, she held project management and procurement leadership positions for 15 years with Ansaldo STS USA. Kristi is extensively involved in supporting economic growth fueled by education, as highlighted by her service on the S.C. Chamber of Commerce's Education and Workforce Development Committee. Her education advocacy also includes service on the Midlands Technical College Foundation Board's finance committee and MTC's Batesburg-Leesville advisory board. Kristi holds a B.S. in marketing from Clemson University.



Class of 2023 New Trustees



Mark Felk

Executive Vice President / Branch Manager

Brown & Brown Insurance

Spartanburg

As an Upstate S.C. business leader, Mark has almost four decades in the insurance industry. He is active in business insurance services, employee benefit insurance, and personal lines of insurance. Mark's community involvement is highlighted by service as board president and committee chair for the Cancer Association of Spartanburg County and the Rotary Club of Spartanburg. Mark holds a B.S. in industrial engineering and technology from Western Carolina University.



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Steven Johnson

**Vice President, Enrollment and Inforce Growth Strategy
Aflac
Columbia**

Steven has 16+ years of combined business insurance experience with leading national insurance providers. He joined Aflac in February 2020 after 15+ years of leadership with Colonial Life. Selected for the “Top 20 Under 40” honor by The State newspaper, Steven’s community involvement includes serving as board president of the Palmetto Baseball League and eight years as finance committee co-chair with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Columbia. He holds an MBA from the University of South Carolina and a B.S. in business administration from Presbyterian College.



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Leonard Kupersmith, Ph.D.
Headmaster (retired June 2020)
Christ Church Episcopal School
Greenville

A five-decade leader in education, Leonard retired this summer as the longest-serving headmaster at Christ Church Episcopal School in Greenville. His 14-year tenure with the leading private school included 12 years as headmaster. Leonard was the founding head of school for Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School (Joplin, MO). He participated in the Upstate Class XX, fall 2015 cohort of the Furman University Riley Institute Diversity Leaders Initiative. Leonard earned a Ph.D. in English at Kansas State University and a bachelor's degree in English from Brooklyn College.



Class of 2023 New Trustees



R. Montague Laffitte III
Executive Vice President
South State Bank
Columbia

Montague is a veteran banker with South State Bank. He joined the organization in 2002 after receiving an MBA from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. from Wofford College in 2000. His extensive experience with South State includes leading the bank's central region teams in commercial, private banking, and retail operations. He is a graduate of Leadership Columbia and was named one of the "Top 20 under 40" by The State newspaper. Montague's community involvement includes service with the Executives Association of Greater Columbia and the Midlands Business Leadership Group. His education-related non-profit service includes the Wofford College Young Alumni Advisory Group and the University of South Carolina Board of Visitors.



Class of 2023 New Trustees



Daniel T. Sulton

Shareholder / Attorney

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Greenville

Daniel is returning to the SCICU Board of Trustees in 2020. He previously served on the SCICU Board of Trustees for two terms (2010-2016) and chaired the public policy committee. Daniel is a member of Ogletree Deakins' employee benefits and executive compensation practice group and focuses his practice in the areas of employee benefit plan compliance and litigation. Ogletree has led Title IX workshops for SCICU member colleges and universities. Daniel holds a B.A. in economics from Wofford College and is a 1998 graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Law.



Class of 2023 New Trustees



Caryn Vedane

Senior Branch Office Administrator

Edward Jones

Spartanburg

Caryn currently manages one of the top 50 Edward Jones offices in the United States and Canada. Prior to joining Edward Jones, she was an interior designer and owner of Vedane Interiors, a 17-year Charleston-Greenville venture in which she worked extensively with architects and builders in both commercial and residential properties. Her professional experience also includes serving as editor-in-chief and managing editor for the IT & Internet Business Report. Caryn has extensive experience in leading and motivating volunteers and serving on education-related non-profit boards. She holds a B.A. in French (concentration in journalism and communications) from Marymount College.
