



Region III Business Meeting  
Annual Spring Meeting  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 11:30pm  
The Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort  
**See slide deck appendix for meeting details**

- I. Promotion of this year's Philanthropy: Uplift Literacy
- II. Recognition of this year's volunteers
- III. Call to Order – Chair Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Laneika called the meeting to order at 11:37 am.

- IV. Approval of Minutes – Secretary Rebecca Wessinger (University of South Carolina)

Approval of Minutes postponed until AM66 so that we can obtain previous minutes from Laney McLean (Attain Partners)

- V. Recognition of New Members and First Time Attendees – Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Tanta noted that there were 53 new RIII members and 90 first time attendees at the 2024 RIII Meeting.

- VI. Recognition of award winners – Chair-Elect Laneika Musalini (Columbus State University)
  - a. Pam Whitlock Rising Star Award – Kendra Ellis (Duke University)
  - b. Sandy Barber Volunteer Award – Winniford “Ford” Simmons (Medical University of South Carolina)
  - c. Distinguished Service Award – Steven Koogler (Emory University)
  - d. 2024 Region III Travel Award – Shekinda Ward (Vanderbilt University)
- VII. Financial Report – Treasurer Jaime Petrasek (University of Virginia)  
See attached slides
- VIII. Regional Officer / Committee Reports (SEE SLIDES FOR DETAILS)
  - a. Treasurer – Jaime Petrasek (University of Virginia)
    - 1. Philanthropy  
Coordinator: Melissa Freudenberger (University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture).  
Philanthropy will no longer be a coordinator position after 2024 Spring Meeting.

2. Sponsorships  
Coordinator: Lorelei Sells (University of Tampa). Term has ended and call for volunteers issued.
- b. Secretary – Rebecca Wessinger (University of South Carolina)
1. Website  
Coordinator: Ford Simmons, (Medical University of South Carolina). Term has ended and call for volunteers issued.
  2. Social Media  
Coordinator: Alicia Lewin (University of South Carolina). Term will be ending and call for volunteers issued.
  3. Surveys and Evaluations:  
Coordinator: Jenn Garye (Florida State University). Term will be ending and call for volunteers issued.
  4. Public Relations  
Coordinator: Jessica Wilson (University of South Florida)
- c. Immediate Past-Chair – Natasha Williams (Emory University)
1. Nominations and Elections  
Coordinator: Ashley Pinkard (Arkansas State University)
    - Call for nominations for new Chair-Elect will be disseminated on May 10, 2024, and be open for two weeks
    - Announcement of new officers in August at AM66,
  2. Site Selection  
Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)
    - The Galt House, Louisville, KY (2025)
  3. RIII Research Administration Mentoring Program (RAMP), Coordinator:
    - Program on hiatus. Survey to garner interest and get ideas will be sent out to the membership.
- d. Chair– Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)
1. Honors and Awards  
Coordinator: Lee Broxton (Georgia Institute of Technology)  
Members: Tolise Dailey and Bella DiFranzo
  2. New Members  
Coordinator: Tracy Louder (Auburn University – Montgomery)  
Members: Kendra Ellis and Carolyn Sims
  3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Coordinator: Moniqua Holton (American Heart Association)

Members: Kendra Ellis, Wendy Lynn Eckert, Betty Ann Morgan, Camilo Medina, Adrienne Tillman, Maria Firestone, Krystal Yidi, Derick Jones, and Jeanette Moss-Smith

4. Alumni and Emeritus

Coordinator: Pam Whitlock (University of North Carolina, Wilmington, Emeritus)

e. Chair-Elect – Laneika Musalini (Columbus State University)

1. Program Committee

Chair: Laneika Musalini (Columbus State University)

Co-Chair: Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)

2. Hospitality

Coordinator: Stephanie Broxton (Georgia Institute of Technology)

3. Volunteer

Coordinator: Erika Menard (Georgia State University)

4. Attendee Experience

Coordinator: Tameria Mace (University of Central Florida)

5. Planning Committee

Laneika Musalini (Columbus State University)

f. Thank you to our Sponsors

g. Regionally-Elected National Board Member – Emily Devereux (University of South Carolina) (SEE ATTACHED APPENDIX)

1. NCURA National reports

Emily Devereux (University of South Carolina)

IX. Old Business – None.

X. New Business

a. Recognition of individuals completing terms as Executive Committee members and Committee Coordinators

Immediate Past Chair Natasha Williams (Emory University)

Chair – Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Chair Elect – Laneika Musalini (Columbus State University)

b. Recognition of New Officers –

Immediate Past Chair - Tanta Myles (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Chair - Jeanne Viviani-Ayers (University of Central Florida)

XI. Adjourn

Jeanne Viviani-Ayers adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.

NCURA REGION III

# Business Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 11:30am  
The Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort  
Fort Lauderdale, FL



## TODAY'S AGENDA

Uplift Literacy

Call to Order

Member Recognition

Treasurer's Report

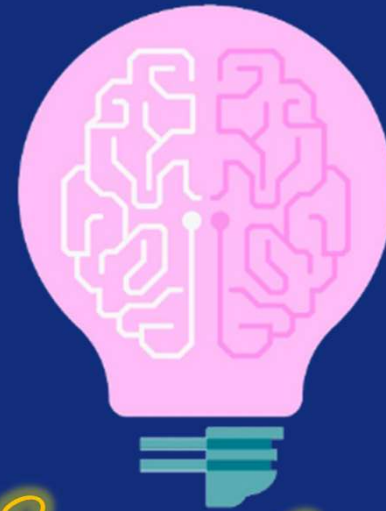
Committee Reports

Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

*Engaging Minds*



*Empowering Success*



### **MISSION**

To maximize lifelong success for children  
by improving their reading proficiency –  
at school, at home and in their  
communities.

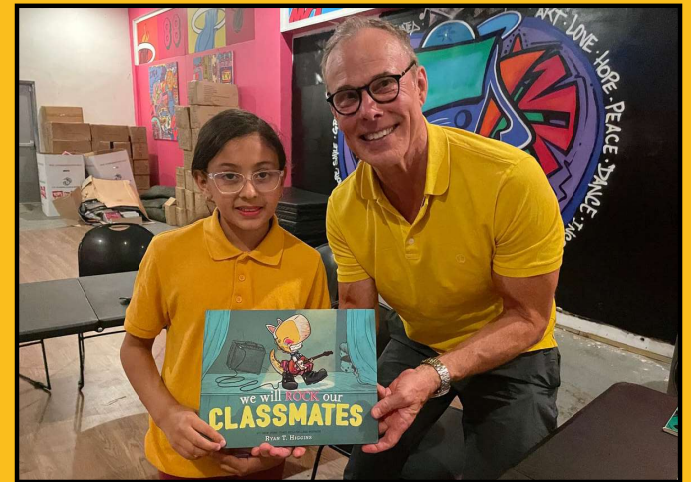
<https://www.mightycause.com/donate/upliftliteracy>



Donate Today!



Breaking Barriers  
By Raising Readers





# ABOUT US



Uplift Literacy is a Miami-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that believes literacy is the cornerstone to lifelong success. We partner with schools and after school programs in historically marginalized communities to empower children with the necessary literacy skills and resources to read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade.

## OUR MISSION

Uplift Literacy's mission is to maximize lifelong success for underserved children by improving their reading proficiency – at school, at home and in their communities.



# WHY LITERACY MATTERS

- In 2023, 48% of Miami-Dade County public school 3rd graders scored below proficient in reading, and by this grade, 3 out of 4 lagging readers never catch up.
- Children who do not read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.
- Poverty compounds the issue.
- Because more than 85% of curricula are taught by reading children need strong foundational literacy skills to promote learning across ALL subjects.



# What is Reading Pals?

---



- ReadingPals is a volunteer-based early literacy initiative that provides mentors for students from Pre-K through 3rd grade who may need extra help.
- ReadingPals offers volunteers an opportunity to build meaningful relationships with young children, while helping them improve their social-emotional development and foundational early literacy skills.

# ReadingPals

- Volunteers are trained and provided with all the educational materials needed to become a tutor/mentor.
- ReadingPals sessions consist of A read-aloud to help children build vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension and instruction in Phonemic Awareness & Phonics Skills
- Each child in the program receives a free book on a monthly basis.





# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

- Uplift Literacy hosts a monthly literacy workshop for parents and storytime for children ages 0 through 9 years of age.
- Each event incorporates a craft and comprehension activity that aligns with the theme of the story.
- We connect families to existing resources in the community and educate families on how to become advocates for literacy at home.



# Free Book Bins



- Our free book bin distribution program aims to provide underserved communities with easy access to diverse books.
- Research shows that children who have access to books achieve higher levels of academic success.
- Book bins are placed in the waiting areas of local businesses, such as laundromats, barber shops, and pediatric offices.
- By promoting a culture of reading within the community, parents and caregivers are encouraged to prioritize reading with their children.

# Thank You for Your Support!



Support Uplift Literacy in making a difference.  
Literacy empowers a child for a lifetime, and you  
can help us break barriers to build readers.

## Get Involved:

- Volunteer your time.
- Partner with us to increase awareness of why literacy matters.
- Donate toward reading support and literacy development





Instagram



FaceBook

# Additional Ways to Get Involved

- Share our need for volunteers - Help us serve more children.
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram @UpliftLiteracyMiami. Invite your friends to “like us” on social media
- Host a Book Drive





# Thank You for Your Time and Generosity!





# Member Recognition

**Thank you to our volunteers!**



# **WELCOME TO NCURA REGION III**

***A Very Beachin' Region***

- **53 New Region III Members**
- **90 First Time Conference Attendees**



# Sandy Barber Volunteer Award

Winniford “Ford” Simmons

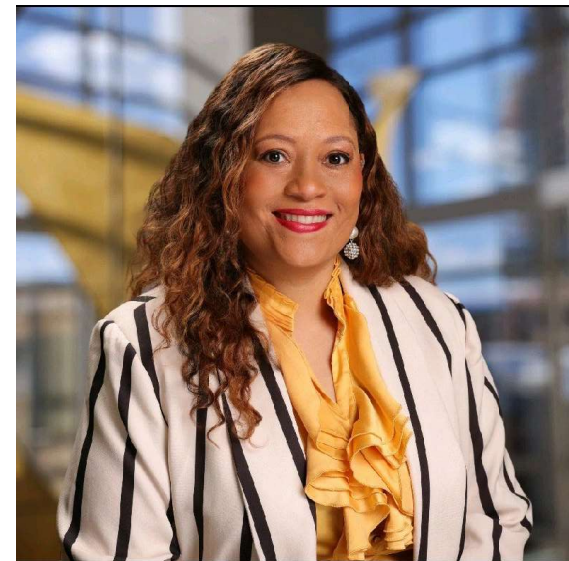
Medical University of South Carolina



# Pamela Whitlock Rising Star Award

Kendra Ellis

Duke University



# Distinguished Service Award

Steven Koogler  
Emory University



# 2024 Region III Travel Award

Shekinda Ward

Vanderbilt University



NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# Treasurer's Report



# Treasurer's Report

	2023 Tentative Budget	2023 Final Budget	2024 Tentative Budget
Income	\$124,250	\$184,180	\$162,650
Expenses	\$105,620	\$123,045	\$159,502
Net Income	\$18,630	\$61,135	\$3,123
Spring Meeting Attendees	200	270	225

Account	Balance
Checking	
5/31/2023	\$160,380.26
7/31/2023	\$61,388.51
12/31/2023	\$52,332.68
4/17/2024	\$227,911.83
Trade PMR Investment	
6/30/2023	\$105,497.71
4/17/2024	\$112,080.41



NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# Committee Updates



## **Philanthropy**

***Melissa Freudenberger, University of  
Tennessee Institute of Agriculture***

### **FY 2024**

- Reviewed all NCURA regions and National to and found only Region III has a stated Philanthropy Committee
  - *National does support NCURA Cares and FRA/PRA encouraged attendees to bring pre-assembled care packages similar to NCURA Cares to donate to a local charity*

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Treasurer**



## *Breaking Barriers By Raising Readers*

NCURA Region III will be supporting Uplift Literacy's program called "Book Bins" by filling bins with diverse books in community locations like barbershops, doctors' offices, and laundromats. NCURA members who choose to participate can:

- purchase books on their Amazon or Books & Books page and have them shipped directly to Uplift Literacy
- Bring a book from their wish list to the conference



NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Treasurer**

## Sponsorship

### *Lorelei Sells – University of Tampa*

- Procured 4 CORPORATE sponsorships for the 2024 meeting:

**\$8,000 TOTAL**

Attain

Cayuse

Citi

Maximus

**Level 2 Sponsors!**

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

**Committee  
Updates:  
Treasurer**

## **Sponsorship**

### ***Lorelei Sells – University of Tampa***

- Procured 4 UNIVERSITY sponsorships for the 2024 meeting:

#### **HOST UNIVERSITIES**

**University of Miami - \$1,500**

**University of South Florida - \$1,500**

#### **INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORS**

**Columbus State University - \$500**

**Georgia Tech Research Corporation - \$500**

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Treasurer**

## **Sponsorship**

***Lorelei Sells, University of Tampa***

Will complete her role as Sponsorship Chair  
after the 2024 meeting

---

## **Philanthropy**

***Melissa Freudenberger, University of  
Tennessee Institute of Agriculture***

Will complete her role as Philanthropy Chair  
after the 2024 meeting

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Treasurer**

## **Website**

### ***Ford Simmons, Medical University of South Carolina***

- Ford is wrapping up his second year as Coordinator
- Onboarded a new website volunteer, Savannah Britz
- Continuously work with social media & PR committees to ensure that information was reaching members on all channels
- Made many site updates along with website improvements on the back end

## **Social Media**

### ***Alexis "Ali" Lewin, University of South Carolina***

- Completed her first year as Social Media Coordinator
- Worked with website & PR committees to ensure that information was reaching members on all social channels

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Secretary**

## **Social Media**

### **Laney McLean, Attain Partners**

- Worked with Website & PR committees to ensure that information was reaching members on LinkedIn.

## **Public Relations**

### ***Jessica Wilson, University of South Florida (Tampa Campus)***

- Finishing her quarter as coordinator
- Writes newsletters, sends e-blasts for volunteer calls with great response rate
- Writes NCURA Magazine Regional Corner articles

## **Surveys and Evaluations**

### ***Jenn Garye, Florida State University***

- Finishing her second year as Surveys and Evaluation coordinator.
- Has made great improvements to the evaluation process via Qualtrics.

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Secretary**



## **Nominations & Elections**

### ***Ashley Pinkard, Arkansas State University***

- Call for nominations will be disseminated on May 10, 2024, and be open for two weeks
- Ballot for Chair-Elect
- Announcement of new officers in August at AM66.

## **Site Selection**

### ***Tanta Myles, Georgia Institute of Technology***

- The Galt House, Louisville, KY (2025)
- 2026 Request for Quotes currently open

# **Committee Updates: Immediate Past Chair**

**2025 Meeting  
The Galt House  
Louisville, KY  
April 26-30, 2025**



## **RIII Research Administration Mentoring Program (RAMP)**

- Program remains on hiatus

# **Committee Updates: Immediate Past Chair**

## **Honors & Awards**

***Lee Broxton, Coordinator Georgia  
Institute of Technology***

*Members:*

*Tolise Dailey*

*Bella DiFranzo*

## **New Members**

***Tracy Louder, Coordinator Auburn  
University – Montgomery (AUM)***

*Members:*

*Kendra Ellis*

*Carolyn Sims*

## **Emeritus & Alumni Committee**

***Pam Whitlock***

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Committee Updates: Chair**

## **Where Do I Go from Here? New Members Navigating NCURA**

Presenters: Tracy Louder, Auburn University- Montgomery & Emily Devereux, University of South Carolina

You will have an opportunity to engage with the Region III New Member Coordinator and a National Office Board Member. (Rio Vista)

**Special New Member  
Concurrent Session,  
Wednesday  
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM  
Rio Vista**

## **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

***Moniqua Holton, American Heart Association***

Members:

Kendra Ellis

Wendy Lynn Eckert

Betty Ann Morgan

Camilo Medina

Adrienne Tillman

Maria Firestone

Krystal Yidi

Derick Jones

Jeanette Moss-Smith

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

**Committee  
Updates:  
Chair**



# NCURA Region III 2024 Spring Meeting

Discover the Possibilities

*Engaging Minds, Empowering Success*

Carpantato (Tanta) Myles | Region III Chair Georgia Institute of Technology

Laneika K. Musalini, Ed.D. | Region III Chair-Elect

Metropolitan State University of Denver (formerly Columbus State University)

Presents

## Fireside Chat:

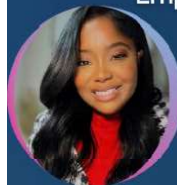
*Cultivating Psychological Safety for  
Creative Collaboration*

Key Note Speaker

**Dr. Alexis Mootoo, PhD, MBA, CCEP**

AlexHarrison, LLC

Associate Vice President Employee Experience: Culture,  
Employee Relations & Equal Opportunity



**Host**

**Moniqua Holton**

NCURA Region III DEI Chair  
American Heart Association

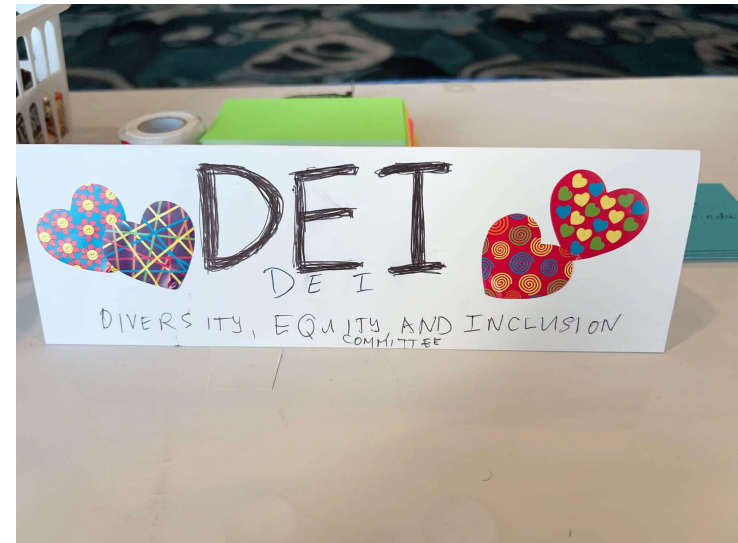


**Audience Moderator**

**Kendra Ellis**

NCURA Region III DEI Co-Chair  
Duke University





*While here at the NCURA Region III conference, be sure to stop by the DEI table and have a conversation about how you can get involved.  
Your voice matters.*



## **Volunteer Coordinator**

*Erika Menard, Georgia State University*

## **Hospitality**

*Stephanie Broxton, Georgia Institute of Technology*

## **Attendee Experience**

*Tamera Mace, University of Central Florida*

## **Program & Planning Committees**

# **Committee Updates: Chair-Elect**

# Program Committee

## Compliance Track

Julie Cole  
Clemson University

## Departmental Track

Celeste Rivera-Nunez  
University of Central Florida

Shekinda Ward  
Vanderbilt University

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Track

Moniqua Holton  
American Heart Association

Kendra Ellis  
Duke University

## eRA

Jennifer Mills  
University of Alabama

## Federal Track

Steve Koogler  
Emory University

Ford Simmons  
Medical University of South  
Carolina

## Post-Award Track

Xiaowen Ma  
Emory University

## Pre-Award Track

Melissa Freudenberger  
University of Tennessee-Knoxville

## PUI Track

Tracy Louder  
Auburn University-Montgomery

## Research Development Track

Dr. Gwendolyn Harris  
Florida A&M University

## Senior Track

Dr. Tamara Hill  
Morehouse School of Medicine

## Workshops

Tolise Dailey  
Duke University

# Planning Committee

Dr. Laneika K. Musalini, Chair MSU Denver	Tanta Myles, Co-Chair Georgia Institute of Technology	Jaime Petrasek, Treasurer University of Virginia
<p><b>Tameria Mace</b> University of Central Florida <i>Attendee Experience</i></p> <p><b>Moniqua Holton</b> American Heart Association <i>Diversity, Equity &amp; Inclusion</i></p> <p><b>Pamela Whitlock</b> Retired <i>Emeritus</i></p> <p><b>Lee Broxton</b> Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Honors &amp; Awards</i></p> <p><b>Stephanie Broxton</b> Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Hospitality</i></p> <p><b>Trey Bauer</b> University of Louisville-Kentucky <i>Meeting App</i></p>	<p><b>Savannah Britz</b> University of South Carolina <i>Meeting App</i></p> <p><b>Tracy Louder</b> Auburn University-Montgomery <i>New Members</i></p> <p><b>Ashley Pinkard</b> Arkansas State University <i>Nominations &amp; Elections</i></p> <p><b>Melissa Freudenberger</b> University of Tennessee <i>Philanthropy</i></p> <p><b>Jessica Norman</b> University of South Florida <i>Public Relations</i></p> <p><b>Rebecca Wessinger</b> University of South Carolina <i>Secretary</i></p>	<p><b>Alexis “Ali” Lewin</b> University of South Carolina <i>Social Media</i></p> <p><b>Shekinda Ward</b> Vanderbilt University <i>Speaker Liaison</i></p> <p><b>Lorelei Sells</b> University of Tampa <i>Sponsorship</i></p> <p><b>Jenn Garye</b> Florida State University <i>Surveys &amp; Evaluations</i></p> <p><b>Erika Menard</b> Georgia State University <i>Volunteer</i></p> <p><b>Ford Simmons</b> Medical University of South Carolina <i>Website</i></p>

Thank you to our  
Sponsors of the  
2024 Region III  
Meeting!

 **Attain** Partners



**maximus**



**Dr. Emily Devereux**

NCURA Board of Directors  
*University of South Carolina*

**Timothy Schailey**

National NCURA Treasurer  
*Thomas Jefferson University*

- AM66
- Update on Membership
- FRA/PRA 2024 Annual Conference Recap
- FRA/PRA 2025 Annual Conference
- June Symposiums
- Traveling Workshops
- NCURA Magazine
- Recognition of National Board Members & Standing/Select Committee Members and Chairs from Region III

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# National Reports

# Executive Committee

NCURA Region III Business Meeting



Natasha Williams-Brown  
Immediate Past Chair 2023-2024  
Chair, 2022-2023  
Chair-Elect, 2021-2022



Tanta Myles  
Immediate Past Chair, 2024-2025  
Chair, 2023-2024  
Chair-Elect, 2022-2023



Dr. Laneika K. Musalini  
Chair-Elect, 2023-2024  
Incoming Chair-Elect, 2022-2023



Jeanne Viviani-Ayers  
Chair, 2024-2025  
Incoming Chair-Elect, 2023-2024

## Changes in Leadership

# **Committee Coordinators Completing Service Thank you!**

Melissa Freudenberger  
Philanthropy Coordinator  
2021-2024

Jenn Garye  
Surveys & Evaluations Coordinator  
2022-2024

Ashley Pinkard  
Nominations & Elections Coordinator  
2022-2024

Lorelei Sells  
Sponsorship Coordinator  
2022-2024

Ford Simmons  
Website Coordinator  
2022-2024

NCURA Region III Business Meeting

# **Changes in Leadership**



# Thank You

For Your Attention



Discover the Possibilities. Engaging Minds, Empowering Success

