



## 2025 EMERGING EXECUTIVES FORUM

January 22-23 • Durham

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<b>BASE HOTEL:</b>	<b>Aloft Durham Downtown</b> 345 Blackwell Street – Durham, NC 27701
<b>RECEPTION:</b>	<b>Tobacco Road Sports Café</b> 280 South Mangum Street, #100 – Durham, NC 27701
<b>FORUM:</b>	<b>PNC Triangle Club at Durham Bulls Athletic Park</b> 409 Blackwell Street – Durham, NC 27701

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## Forum Agenda

### Wednesday, January 22

Afternoon	<b>ARRIVAL / HOTEL CHECK-IN</b>
2– 4:30 pm	<b>OPTIONAL TOURS</b>
2 – 3 pm	<b>Met Life Tour</b>
3:30 – 4:30 pm	<b>Downtown Durham Tour</b>
5:30 – 7 pm	<b>WELCOMING RECEPTION</b>
7 pm – Until	<b>DINNER / DRINKS ON YOUR OWN</b>

### Thursday, January 23

8 – 8:40 am	<b>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION / CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST</b>
8:40 am – 12:45 pm	<b>GENERAL SESSION</b>
8:40 – 8:50 am	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b> <b>ALBERT ALWANG</b> Economic Development Director – Wake County Economic Development <i>NCEDA Board of Directors / Emerging Executives Committee Chair</i>
	<b>ANNA WALKER</b> Economic Development Manager – North Carolina’s Electric Cooperatives <i>Emerging Executives Committee Vice Chair</i>
	<b>GARY LANIER</b> Director – Columbus County Economic Development <i>NCEDA President</i>
8:50 – 9 am	<b>Durham Welcome</b> <b>MATT GLADDEK</b> Vice President of Economic Development – Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce
	<b>THE HONORABLE NIDA ALLAM</b> Chair – Durham County Board of Commissioners
	<b>THE HONORABLE LEONARDO WILLIAMS</b> Mayor – City of Durham
9 – 9:10 am	<b>NC Commerce Welcome</b> <b>THE HONORABLE LEE LILLEY</b> Secretary – NC Department of Commerce

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- 9:10 – 9:30 am **Trade Show Dos and Don'ts**  
**KELLY DAWSON**  
Director of Partnership and Events – EDPNC  
**EMILY WILLIS**  
Marketing Events Specialist – EDPNC
- 9:30 – 10 am **Leadership Profile**  
**ALBERT ALWANG**, *interviewer*  
**ADRIENNE COLE**  
President & CEO – Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
- 10 – 10:40 am **Career Advancement Panel**  
**KEEVON BATEN**, *moderator*  
Director of Business Recruitment  
Economic Development Coalition for Asheville-Buncombe County  
**SARAH GASKILL**  
Head of External Relations, North Carolina – FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies  
**TODD JORGENSON**  
Managing Partner – Jorgenson Pace  
**SHAHID RANA CEcD**  
Deputy Director – Mecklenburg County Office of Economic Development
- 10:40 – 11 am **Networking Break**
- 11 – 11:10 am **Kahoot: The Masked Leader!**  
**TREY CASH**  
Economic Development Director – Lenoir and Greene Counties  
*NCEDA Board of Directors / NCEDA Legislative Committee Vice Chair*
- 11:10 – 11:50 am **Perspectives from the Next Generation of EDO Directors**  
**ALYSSA BYRD**, *moderator*  
Director of Marketing & Communications – Lee & Associates  
**CHARLA DUNCAN**  
Director of Economic and Community Development – Warren County  
**BLAKE MOYER**  
President – Surry County Economic Development Partnership  
**ELIZABETH UNDERWOOD**  
Director – Stanly County Economic Development
- 11:50 am – Noon **Interactive Session Instructions and Roundtable Leader Introductions**  
**ANNA WALKER**  
Economic Development Manager – North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives  
*Emerging Executives Committee Vice Chair*

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Noon – 12:40 pm	<p><b>Spec Building Interactive Roundtables Session</b> <b>PRIVATE DEVELOPER PERSPECTIVE</b> Josh Drye – Samet Corporation</p> <p><b>MOORE COUNTY SHELL BUILDING REPORT</b> Natalie Hawkins / Cameron Brown – Moore County Economic Development Partnership</p> <p><b>RURAL SPEC BUILDING DEVELOPMENT</b> Chuck Heustess – Bladen County Economic Development</p> <p><b>MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARK DEVELOPMENT / WORKING WITH PRIVATE DEVELOPERS</b> Donny Hicks – Gaston County Economic Development Commission</p> <p><b>MUNICIPAL SPEC BUILDING DEVELOPMENT</b> Rachael Holzman – Union County Economic Development</p> <p><b>LIFE SCIENCES / BIOTECH SPEC BUILDING DEVELOPMENT</b> Jennifer Lantz – Wilson Economic Development Council</p> <p><b>PUBLIC / PRIVATE SPEC BUILDING DEVELOPMENT</b> Todd Tucker – Sanford Area Growth Alliance</p>
12:40 – 12:45 pm	<p><b>Transition to Lunch</b> <b>ALBERT ALWANG &amp; ANNA WALKER</b> <i>Emerging Executives Committee Chair / Vice Chair</i></p>
12:45 – 2 pm	<p><b>LUNCHEON</b></p>
12:45 – 1:15 pm	<p><b>Luncheon / Networking</b></p>
1:15 – 1:55 pm	<p><b>Aligning Your Personal and Professional Brands</b> <b>ANGELA CONNOR</b> President – Angela Connor Communications Senior Director, Internal Communications and Storytelling – Bandwidth Inc.</p>
1:55 – 2 pm	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>ALBERT ALWANG &amp; ANNA WALKER</b> <i>Emerging Executives Committee Chair / Vice Chair</i></p>
2 pm	<p><b>FORUM ADJOURNS</b></p>
2:15 – 3:30 pm	<p><b>OPTIONAL TOURS</b></p>
2:15 – 3:30 pm	<p><b>American Tobacco Campus Tour</b></p>
2:15 – 3:30 pm	<p><b>Durham Bulls Athletic Park Tour</b></p>

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