

19 NCCU Alumni Elected in November

Contributed by Zevandah Barnes -- Black College Wire
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University prepares graduates for political success

North Carolina Central University alumni made a strong showing in the November midterm elections. In all, 19 alumni — most graduates from the law school — were either elected or reelected to public office.

"Our law school is a leader if not the leader in terms of law schools with graduates serving in the North Carolina judiciary," said Raymond C. Pierce, dean and professor of law. "The law clinic program has a significantly high percentage of student participation providing a high level of exposure to public service," said Pierce, adding that attorneys are educated to eliminate problems.

N.C. House Representative Alice Bordsen said, "The training for a law degree is the best training I could have ever hoped for.

"There is no other time in my life that has prepared me more for state government work than my time at NCCU."

Bordsen, from N.C. District 63, was the only Democrat reelected in Alamance County in the midterms.

The highest position taken by a NCCU alumnus was to the U. S. House of Representatives with the reelection of Rep. G. K. Butterfield.

Pat Evans, who was elected a Durham County District Court judge, was the first African American woman to run for district attorney in Durham County in 1994.

"I am humbled and elated by the level of support shown to me by the community, NCCU, and Chancellor Nelms in particular," said Evans.

Her advice to students: "Cultivate a servant attitude and strive for excellence in all endeavors."

NCCU alumni elected or reelected to office

- U.S. Rep. G.K. Butterfield, U.S. Congress
- State Sen. Dan Blue, NC First Congressional District
- State Senator Eleanor "Ellie" Kinnaird, NC Senate
- H.M. "Mickey" Michaux, NC House of Rep.
- Alice Bordsen, NC House of Rep.
- Jean Farmer-Butterfield, NC House of Rep.
- Cressie Thigpen, NC Court of Appeals
- Richard Elmore, NC Court of Appeals
- Craig Croom, District Court Judge
- Keith O'Brien Gregory, District Court Judge
- Elaine Bushfan, Durham County Superior Court
- Milton "Toby" Fitch, N.C. Superior Court Judge
- Pat Evans, Durham County District Attorney Judge
- Brian Wilks, District Court Judge
- Tracey Cline, Durham County District Attorney
- Archie Smith, Durham County Clerk of Superior Court
- Tony Gurkey, Wake County Board of Commissioners
- Cheri Bryant Hamilton, Louisville, Ky. Metro Council
- Harold Cogdell, Mecklenburg County Board of Commission

Zevandah Barnes writes for The Campus Echo, the NCCU student newspaper, which originally published this article.

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