

Join us: Are we moving the needle on economic mobility?



From UNC Charlotte Urban Institute <unccurbaninstitute@uncc.edu>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Date 2021-09-30 10:50

[View this email in your browser](#)



Upcoming events: October Virtual Panels and Nov. 18 Forum:
Moving the Needle on Economic Mobility





Oct. 28 panel on workforce development and economic mobility

For most people, a job is one of the focal points of life. But for too many, the jobs they're able to get don't provide adequate income, stability and path to progress. **What role does workforce development play in economic mobility?**

Join us at **noon on Oct. 28** for a virtual panel to explore this question. We'll be highlighting research from UNC Charlotte about communities of color and their access to technology and employment, as well as strategies from around the region to help prepare workers for the jobs of tomorrow. We'll also hear from a national expert on connecting historically underserved communities to tech jobs and how we can create a more diverse, inclusive tech ecosystem.

[Click here to register for the Oct. 28 virtual panel](#)

Meet our panelists

(Clockwise from the top): Janet LaBar is president and CEO of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, which heads economic development efforts for the 15-county Charlotte region.

Dr. Fallon Wilson is a co-founder of #BlackTechFutures Research Institute and the former research director of Black Tech Mecca. A public interest technologist, much of her research has focused on first generation black college students' alternative tech pathways and inclusive tech ecosystems.

Ely Portillo is assistant director for outreach and strategic partnerships at the Urban Institute. A former journalist who covered business in the Charlotte region, he will moderate the discussion.

Dr. Tianca Crocker is an assistant professor in the UNC Charlotte School of Social Work and a fellow with the National Digital Inclusion Alliance. Her work focuses on increasing economic and social inclusion in an increasingly digital world, and technology access and connectivity as a means to alleviate poverty and increase opportunity. Crocker is also a Gambrell Faculty Fellow, investigating whether a lack of access to digital resources is holding back workers who could otherwise compete for those jobs.



Also: Oct. 12 panel on the racial wealth gap

Join Bank of America Charlotte market president Kieth Cockrell, Dr. Darrick

Hamilton of The New School, research associate Angelique Gaines of the Urban Institute and Dr. Byron White, associate provost for Urban Research and Community Engagement, for a virtual discussion of the racial wealth gap. The event is free, but registration is required.

[Click here to register for the Oct. 12 virtual panel](#)



Nov. 18: Are we moving the needle?

Fiftieth out of 50. Worst large metro region for economic mobility. Housing is too expensive. Homelessness numbers are growing. The racial wealth gap is really a chasm. The gaps between students who have and students who make do without are growing. And the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the divides in our society when it comes to jobs, economic opportunity, prosperity and security more vividly than any crisis in generations.

We've been talking about economic mobility in Charlotte for a long time, but have we really moved the needle? And what steps can we take that will make a concrete difference for people in our community, enabling better access to jobs,

education, health and the opportunity to improve their quality of life?

That's the focus of the **2021 Schul Forum: Moving the Needle in Charlotte and Beyond**. We'll be talking about the challenges facing us and the solutions we can implement to help our community.

The forum is scheduled for the afternoon of Nov. 18. Stay tuned for details about the format and location.

Keynote Address: Dr. Andre Perry

A nationally known scholar, Andre Perry is a Senior Fellow with the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program, an author and a scholar-in-residence at American University. Perry recently published a new book, "Know Your Price: Valuing Black Lives and Property in America's Black Cities."



Program

The program will include panel discussions with local leaders about making economic mobility a reality in Charlotte, and will highlight the work of the Gambrell Faculty Fellows. This research program, supported by the Gambrell Foundation and overseen by the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, sponsors research projects that investigate the intersection of economic mobility and pressing needs in our community.

Learn more about the 2021 Schul Forum: Moving the Needle in Charlotte and Beyond



MARIANNE M. & NORMAN W. Schul Forum Series

The Marianne M. & Norman W. Schul Urban Institute Forum Series was established in 2018 to serve as an annual event focused on policy issues affecting the Charlotte region, convening local leaders, national experts and researchers from the institute and other parts of UNC Charlotte. The institute's first director, Dr. Norm Schul, and his wife, Marianne '73, enabled the creation of the series with a generous gift.

Read more from the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute



Copyright © 2021 UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, All rights reserved.

The UNC Charlotte Urban Institute sends ebulletins and notices to individuals and organizations about issues concerning our region.

Our mailing address is:

UNC Charlotte Urban Institute
9201 University City Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28223

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).