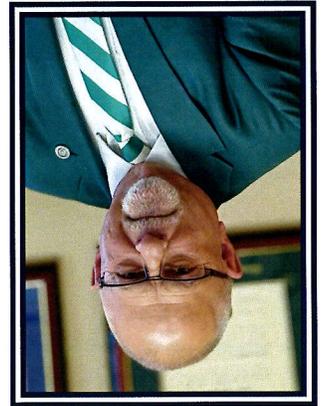


2026 LEO M. LAMBERT ENGAGED LEADER AWARD

Created in 2012, this honors President Lambert's significant contributions to our shared work. The Executive Board annually selects a North Carolina college president or chancellor, nominated by their peers, who is committed to creating and sustaining engagement that deeply impacts community and campus.

**Lawrence D. Czarda, PhD
President, Greensboro College**



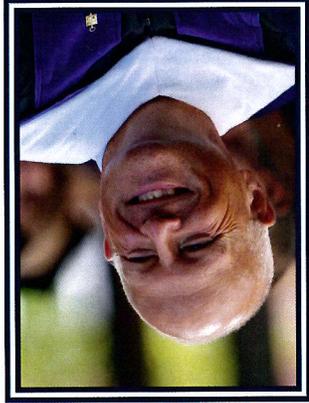
Dr. Lawrence D. Czarda was appointed the 18th President of Greensboro College in 2010. Dr. Czarda holds a BA from Bridgewater College, a MPA from American University, and a PhD in public policy from George Mason University. Prior to his appointment at Greensboro College, Dr. Czarda served as vice president for administration at George Mason University, where he had worked since 1983. He has forty years of experience in both K-12 and higher education, serving both public and private institutions. He holds degrees in history & political science, public administration and public policy and has taught periodically his entire career. Czarda has served as a member and Chair of the board in K-12 education, health care and numerous not-for-profit organizations.

Nationally, he serves on the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) Board, has served on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the United Methodist Church (UMC) boards and advisory groups, and regionally on the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU), and USA South Athletic Conference boards. Czarda also serves on committees for the Southern Association for Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the regional higher education accrediting body. Locally, he serves on the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro Board; the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce; and the West Market Street United Methodist Church, Finance Committee. He formerly served as Chair of the Board of Arts/Greensboro and the NC Folk Festival Board; Co-Chair of Opportunity Greensboro; and member of Union Square Campus.

Leo M. Lambert, PhD

Leo M. Lambert is a professor of education and president emeritus of Elon University, where he served as president from 1999-2018. During his tenure, Lambert led two, ten-year strategic plans for the campus that propelled Elon to a place of national distinction. Today Elon is recognized widely throughout the U.S. for excellence in undergraduate teaching and experiential learning, including its programs in study abroad, undergraduate research, civic engagement and community service, and interfaith cooperation. More than 100 buildings were added to Elon's campus during Lambert's presidency.

Lambert is the co-author of *The Undergraduate Experience: Focusing Institutions on What Matters Most* (Jossey-Bass), *Relationship Rich Education: How Human Connections Drive Success in College* (Johns Hopkins University Press), and *Connections Are Everything: A College Student's Guide to Relationship-Rich Education* (Johns Hopkins University Press). He also founded the Future Professoriate Program at Syracuse University, which recently celebrated its 30th anniversary.



A recognized leader in higher education, Lambert has served on the boards of the American Council on Education, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Campus Compact, the Association of Governing Boards, The Washington Center, and the John N. Gardner Institute. In 2009, he received the inaugural William M. Burke Presidential Award for Excellence in Experiential Education from the National Society for Experiential Education. Lambert served on the Executive Board of NC Campus Engagement (formerly NC Campus Compact) from 2002-2017, including as chair from 2002-2008. In 2011, Dr. Lambert launched the Presidents Forum to convene leaders across North Carolina's higher education sectors to advance civic and community engagement. The Forum marked its 15th anniversary in 2025.