



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Kristi Walters Promoted to Director of The Duke Endowment's Higher Education Program Area***

CHARLOTTE, NC (January 17, 2023) – The Duke Endowment is pleased to announce that Kristi Walters has been promoted to director of its Higher Education program area. Walters served as associate director before moving into her current role.

Walters joined the Endowment in 2019. For the past three years, she has worked with the four Endowment-supported schools – Davidson College, Duke University, Furman University and Johnson C. Smith University – to understand their priorities, determine how the Endowment might provide the best support for long-term impact and identify opportunities to learn and pursue shared objectives that strengthen the institutions. In this new role, Walters will manage the Endowment's Higher Education program area, continuing to work closely with leaders at the four institutions to assist them in achieving their strategic objectives.

Before coming to the Endowment, Walters served as an Interfaith Program Fellow, program officer and senior advisor to the president at the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations. Prior to that, she was a practicing attorney at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte. She also worked in the admission offices at Davidson College and Duke University.

"It is an honor to work with an organization that has long valued and recognized the importance of higher education," said Walters. "I look forward to our continued partnership with the four institutions the Endowment supports to promote their long-term success so that they may continue to effectively serve their students and the Carolinas."

"Based on the breadth and depth of her work at the Endowment as well as what she has demonstrated through her previous work experience, Kristi is ideally suited for this role," said Susan McConnell, vice president at The Duke Endowment. "Kristi's expertise will be invaluable as she continues to work closely with the four schools on behalf of the Endowment to support their priorities as they work to advance high-value education for students."

For more information about the Endowment's work in Higher Education visit: [The Duke Endowment | Higher Education](https://www.dukeendowment.org/higher-education)

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Based in Charlotte and established in 1924 by industrialist and philanthropist James B. Duke, The Duke Endowment is a private foundation that strengthens communities in North Carolina and South Carolina by nurturing children, promoting health, educating minds and enriching spirits. Since its founding, it has

distributed more than \$4.3 billion in grants. The Endowment shares a name with Duke University and Duke Energy, but all are separate organizations.