



News Release

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For Immediate Release

For more information, contact:
KUB Communications

Dr. Craig Pickett, Jr. Joins KUB Board of Commissioners

Knoxville, TN – Dr. Craig Pickett, Jr. was sworn in as the newest commissioner of the KUB Board at today’s meeting. He succeeds outgoing commissioner Tyvi Small, who had served on the Board since 2017.

Dr. Pickett serves as the Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, where he oversees all inclusive excellence programming, DEI-specific recruitment/retention initiatives, employee resource groups, and training and development for an organization of 8,000 employees.

In addition, Dr. Pickett serves as a DEI Consultant and works with institutions, non-profits, and organizations throughout East Tennessee to promote inclusive excellence, authenticity, and a greater sense of belonging for stakeholders. As a researcher, scholar, educator, and senior-level administrator, Dr. Pickett works to actively develop safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces for community members and organizations across East Tennessee.

Dr. Pickett earned his bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Davidson College in 2008. He earned his master’s degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2010. He completed his PhD in Higher Education Administration from the University of Tennessee Knoxville in 2022. Craig serves as the Chair-Elect for Girl Talk, Inc., Vice Chair for the Knoxville Area Urban League National Achievers Society, and Vice President of the Knoxville Area Urban League Young Professionals. He serves as member of the Alpha Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and a Deacon at Overcoming Believers Church.

In addition to Dr. Pickett, KUB’s Board of Commissioners includes Claudia Caballero, Ron Feinbaum, Cynthia Gibson, Kathy Hamilton, Celeste Herbert, and Adrienne Simpson-Brown.

The Board held its annual election for officers of the Board at the January Board Meeting. Adrienne Simpson-Brown was elected Chair; Ron Feinbaum was elected Vice Chair; and Mark Walker was elected as Secretary to the Board.

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