Zaid Abdul-Aleem ’94, A.M.’96 is a managing director and co-founder of the Private Funds Advisory Group at Moelis and Company. Mr. Abdul-Aleem has an extensive professional background in finance and investment banking, spanning several firms and countries. His involvement with Duke includes being named a Fulbright Scholar to Brazil, a member of the Trinity Board of Visitors, and co-founder of the Duke Financial Economics Center Steering Committee. Beyond Duke, Mr. Abdul-Aleem serves as a member of the City of Chicago Board of Ethics, RTA Pension Plan Board of Chicago, Business Leadership Council, and Life Trustee of Lake Forest Academy. He resides in Chicago, Illinois with his wife Raven and three sons Mason, Aubrey, and Jackson. Mr. Abdul-Aleem holds an A.B. in history and A.M. in comparative area studies from Duke.

Patricia Sánchez Abril, A.B. ’96, is Professor of Business Law at the University of Miami Herbert Business School. She also serves as Associate Dean of the University of Miami Graduate School and department chair of the Business Law department. From 2017 to 2020, Professor Abril served as Vice Dean of Graduate Business Programs, overseeing all MBA and business master’s degree programs. Professor Abril’s research centers on privacy and business law. Her teaching interests include business law, negotiation, and business ethics. In 2018, she was awarded the University of Miami Faculty Senate Outstanding Teaching Award. After graduating from Duke as an A.B. Duke Scholar, Professor Abril earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School. She and her husband, Ari, live in Coral Gables, Florida and have three children, Nicolas, Victor, and Veronica.

Bob Beckler ’83, P’22 is an executive with 35 years of experience in specialty chemicals, materials, and packaging. He is currently chairman and CEO of TemperPack, the leading U.S. manufacturer of sustainable insulation materials used in cold-chain food and pharma e-commerce. He also serves as director with Verso Corporation, a producer of graphic and specialty papers, and as director of Wikoff Color Corporation, a manufacturer of specialty inks and coatings. Prior to these roles, Dr. Beckler had a 30-year career with WestRock, serving as president of the company’s global packaging business. In his spare time, he serves as chairman of The Richmond Forum, America's largest subscription speaker series. After graduating from Duke with a B.S. in chemistry, he received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Beckler and his wife, Kate, reside in Richmond, Virginia. They have two children including Laine ’22 (Duke Engineering) and Sam.
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Delisa Clay Ph.D. ’22 is from Richmond, Virginia, where she attended Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and earned a Bachelor of Science in biology. During her sophomore year, she was accepted into the National Institutes of Health funded program Initiatives for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) at VCU. Through this program she had the opportunity to conduct intensive research in biology and biomedical engineering until graduation. As a student, Dr. Clay was involved in a number of initiatives focused on diversity, inclusion, and mentorship, including the Duke BioCORE IMSD, SENSOR, and Duke SACNAS. Dr. Clay recently defended her Ph.D. in cell biology at Duke University.

Pavan Desikan Ph.D.’00 is a software engineer at Google. Dr. Desikan joined Google in November 2000 as one of its first 100 employees and was part of the early team to develop Google Search. He is also the recipient of Google’s Founder’s Award for his contributions to the creation and development of Google AdSense. Dr. Desikan holds a Bachelor of Technology from the Indian Institute of Technology at Chennai, as well as a Ph.D. in computer science from Duke University. He is married to Padmini Krishnan, who earned her M.S. in computer science in 1999. They have two children, a son and daughter, and live in Palo Alto, California.

Rachel Gevlin Ph.D.’20 graduated from Duke in September of 2020 with a Ph.D. in English and additional graduate certificates in Feminist Studies and College Teaching. She served as a Kenan Institute for Ethics Fellow from 2019-2020, and was awarded the Ernestine Friedl Research Award from the department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies at Duke in 2019. Dr. Gevlin has spoken on panels at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, the Jane Austen Society of North America, and the Feminist Studies Colloquium at Duke, and had a paper presented at the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Dr. Gevlin has a long record of service to her department, co-organizing multiple panels and other events at Duke. She recently accepted a tenure-track position in the English department at Birmingham-Southern College that began in August 2021. Dr. Gevlin also holds a B.A from Bennington College.

Dennis Gilmore Ph.D.’78 is senior director of the Technology Advancement & Commercial Business unit at RTI International. In addition to these responsibilities he is senior director of the Center of Technology for Energy, Environment & Engineering at RTI. Over a career spanning nearly 40 years, he has led the development and commercialization of more than 200 new products and processes for global, science-driven companies such as Royal Dutch Shell and PPG industries. In addition to his previous role as vice president of energy technology at RTI and executive director of a technology start-up in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; Dr. Gilmore has extensive experience with international joint venture formation and operation across functions and countries. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, SAE International Aerospace, and several other organizations. Dr. Gilmore received his B.S. from Missouri State and his Ph.D. in chemistry from Duke University. He lives in North Carolina with his wife Jane Gilmore Ph.D.’78 and three children.
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Min Hui Ph.D.’98 is the founder and CEO of Abacus Financial Services. She is also CEO of HandScape, which was cofounded by her husband, Tong Luo M.S.’96, Ph.D.’00. HandScape’s first product, the HandyCase™, is the world’s first touch-enabled case that allows tap and swipe controls on both sides of Apple’s iPhones and iPads, making the devices “see through.” Previously, Dr. Hui was a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley. She is passionate about giving back to her community, and sponsors scholarships and grants for high school and undergraduate students in China. She earned her Ph.D. in chemistry from Duke University and master’s degrees from Stanford University and Tsinghua University. Dr. Hui lives in Atherton, California, with her husband and their two children, Natalie and James.

Mudit Jain Ph.D.’99 is the founder and general partner of Strategic Healthcare Investment Partners (SHIP), a Silicon Valley and Dublin, Ireland based Healthcare Venture Capital fund. Dr. Jain has an extensive career in biomedical engineering across a number of firms and holds eight issued patents and has published numerous articles in peer reviewed publications. He currently serves on the John Hopkins University Couler Program Oversight Board and on the board of One Heart Health, and has also served as chair of TiE LifeSciences, Silicon Valley from 2012-2014. Dr. Jain graduated with a B.E. in Electrical Engineering from Regional Engineering College, Nagpur, India (ranked first in his class). He received his Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Duke University, and his M.B.A. from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

Vernon Chun Jiang Ph.D.’94 is a cofounder and executive vice president at Cothera Bioscience, where he leads research and development. He has more than 25 years of experience in pharmaceutical industry across large pharma and small biotech companies, and has cofounded several successful startup firms. He is an inventor of over 20 patents, and made significant contributions to the development of several marketed drugs, including Teflaro®, Dalvance® and Zerbaxa®. Dr. Jiang received his B.S. degree from the University of Science and Technology of China, and his Ph.D. degree in chemistry from Duke University.

Weihong Jin P’17, P’23 graduated from Huazhong University of Science and Technology located in Wuhan, China, in 1990. She enrolled in a doctoral program at Duke University from 1992-1993 in bioengineering. After her advisor left Duke, she took lab position at Duke Medical Center, which involved studying genes related to prenatal development. In 1995, she left Duke and worked as a research scientist at pharmaceutical companies in New Jersey for almost two decades. Ms. Jin left work in late 2013 to take care of her family, and has enjoyed the opportunity to spend more time with her children and to learn more about community, society and technology.
Srinivasan “Chini” Krishnan M.S.’91, Ph.D.’92 is the founder and CEO of Vimo, Inc., which created GetInsured.com, an online shopping portal for healthcare products and services. Nearly 1.5 million Americans used GetInsured’s tools to enroll in health insurance last year. Before GetInsured, Dr. Krishnan most recently founded and served as chairman and chief technology officer at Valicert Inc., a leader in public-key infrastructure validation. There, he served in multiple roles including running the technology and services arms and also helping to complete several acquisitions. Prior to founding Valicert, he was product marketing manager at Enterprise Integration Technologies, where he was seminally involved in releasing the world’s first secure browser. Dr. Krishnan also holds a B.S. from the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai.

Lori Lehman Ph.D.’83 is vice president, Research Strategy and Portfolio Management at Gilead Sciences, Inc., and has more than 30 years of experience in the pharmaceutical and biotech industry. This includes leadership roles at firms such as Schering-Plough and Ribogene. During her career, Dr. Lehman led several research and development projects and managed collaborative relationships with large and small pharmaceutical companies and academic research groups. She currently serves on the foundation board of the Gladstone Institute. Dr. Lehman received her B.S. in chemistry and M.S. in organic chemistry from Bucknell University and her Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Duke University. She lives in San Francisco, California, and has two grown daughters.

Michele Rasmussen Ph.D.’99 is the dean of students in the university at the University of Chicago. Appointed in 2013, she serves as the senior student affairs officer at UChicago and oversees a diverse portfolio of departments, programs and services that enhance campus and student life for over 17,000 undergraduate, professional and graduate students. Prior to UChicago, she spent three years at Bryn Mawr College as Dean of the College after several years working at Duke as an associate dean in Trinity College of Art and Sciences and the director of the Academic Advising Center. While at Duke, Dr. Rasmussen regularly taught courses on primate behavior and ecology in the Department of Evolutionary Anthropology, volunteered at the Duke Lemur Center and served as the faculty-in-residence in Gilbert-Addoms residence hall on East Campus. She holds a Ph.D. in biological anthropology and anatomy from Duke and graduated summa cum laude with a BA in history and art history from UCLA.
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Mary Manley Sapp ’71, P’01, P’02, graduated magna cum laude/Phi Beta Kappa with a B.S. in mathematics. She holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in quantitative psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an M.S. in computer science from the University of Miami. In 2015, she retired as associate provost for Planning, Institutional Research, and Assessment at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL. Dr. Sapp served as president of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), president of the Southern AIR (SAIR), board chair of the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium, and as chair or member of several U.S. Department of Education committees. She received Outstanding Service Awards from AIR and SAIR as well as the SAIR Distinguished Member Award. Dr. Sapp has published a number of articles and has made over a hundred conference presentations. A member of the Trinity College Board of Visitors from 2012 to 2018, she lives in Northern Virginia with her husband, Stephen ’68, M.Div.’71, Ph.D.’75, P’01, P’02. They have two sons, Eric M.P.P.’02, M.Div.’02, and David ’01.

Stephen Sapp ’68, M.Div.’71, Ph.D.’75, P’01, P’02, an A.B. Duke Scholar, graduated Phi Beta Kappa with an A.B. in religion. While earning his M.Div. and Ph.D., he taught in Duke’s department of religion from 1971-76. Dr. Sapp is professor emeritus of religious studies at the University of Miami, where he served as department chair (1997-2010), Social and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board chair (2002-2006), and Faculty Senate chair (2006-2009). Recipient of several teaching awards, he is the author of three books and has lectured widely on a variety of bioethical and gerontological issues. He is past chair of the Leadership Council of the Forum on Religion, Spirituality, and Aging (FoRSA) of the American Society on Aging (ASA) and received the ASA Award, the organization’s highest award for contributions to the field of gerontology, and the FoRSA Award. Dr. Sapp chaired the Bioethics Committee at Miami Children’s Hospital (1990-2007), where he was also a Fellow in Clinical Ethics in Critical Care Medicine. He previously served on the Trinity College Board of Visitors (2012-2018). He and his wife, Mary ’71, P’01, P’02, reside in Reston, Virginia, and have two sons, Eric M.P.P.’02, M.Div.’02, and David ’01.

Joyce A. Scott Ph.D.’73 began her career as a French teacher and then served 32 years in academic administration at four public universities, a national association, and a state university system. Before her retirement, Dr. Scott served as provost and vice president for Academic & Student Affairs at Texas A&M University-Commerce, then returned to full-time teaching in educational leadership where she mentored 29 students to doctoral degree completion and was promoted to professor of higher education. She has consulted with the American Council on Education to evaluate non-collegiate programs for the award of academic credit (Defense Language Institute), and university programs on military bases. Dr. Scott holds an M.A. from the University of Virginia, and a B.A. from the University of Connecticut and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.
Adam Sharkawy Ph.D.’97 is an executive leader with a diverse background across technologies, therapy spaces and business environments. He is a co-founder and managing partner at Material Impact, a unique venture fund that focuses on investing in and building successful companies with novel products based on innovations in the underlying material technology. Dr. Sharkawy is also a member of the Board of Directors for Fusion Coolant, Soft Robotics, Inc. and an observing member of Amastan Technologies. Prior to this, he has led a number of innovative projects and initiatives as both an engineer and business leader. In addition to his Duke Ph.D. in biomedical engineering, Dr. Sharkawy holds an M.S. from Texas A&M, and a B.S. from the American University, Cairo.

Ronald Temple ‘90, chair of The Graduate School Board of Visitors, is a managing director and co-head of multi asset and head of U.S. equity at Lazard Asset Management LLC in New York. He is responsible for oversight of the firm’s multi asset and U.S. equity strategies as well as several global equity strategies. Mr. Temple is also a portfolio manager/analyst on various U.S. and global equity teams. He joined Lazard in 2001 with 10 years of global experience including fixed-income derivative trading, risk management, corporate finance, and corporate strategy in roles at Deutsche Bank AG, Bank of America NT & SA, and Fleet Financial Group in London, New York, Singapore, San Francisco, and Boston. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Economic Club of New York, and the New York Society of Security Analysts. Mr. Temple has a M.P.P. from Harvard University and graduated magna cum laude with an A.B. in economics and public policy from Duke University.

Lisa Yvette Waller A.M.’91, Ph.D.’98 is head of school at the Berkeley Carroll School in Brooklyn, New York—a pre-K-12 independent, preparatory school that draws students from a wide range of neighborhoods throughout the city and beyond, prior to which she held several positions at the Dalton School in New York. Dr. Waller has done extensive research on race and education, resulting in the publication of her article “The Pressures of the People” in Manning Marable’s and Peniel Joseph’s anthology titled The New Black History: Revisiting the Second Reconstruction (2011). Her work to resolve the inequities in U.S. education has made her a leading scholar and speaker on theory and practice related to race and education. She has served on both the Executive Committee and the School Leadership Team at the Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art & Performing Arts and she is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Oberlin College. Dr. Waller earned her B.A. from Oberlin College, and her A.M. and Ph.D. in history from Duke University. She lives in New York City with her husband, Sidney Whelan, and has two children.
Darryl L. Webster ’82 serves as an advisor to, and senior executive of, life sciences concerns. He provides strategic guidance and operational expertise to biotech companies and their boards, leveraging over 30 years of global corporate experience across human, animal and plant applications. Until recently, Mr. Webster was the senior vice president of Intellectual Property Counsel at Precigen, Inc. (formerly Intrexon Corporation), where he served as an officer and part of the management team during the company’s IPO. During his ten-year tenure, the firm employed diverse, engineered DNA systems to improve performance in human therapeutics, protein production, industrial enzymes, and Agbio, and held interests in therapeutics and therapeutics platforms. Prior to Precigen, Mr. Webster was in-house patent counsel for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals (now Pfizer) as well as for AlliedSignal, Inc (now Honeywell). At these organizations, he worked on products such as Enbrel®, Infuse® Bone Graft, CFC replacements, and pneumococcal vaccines. Mr. Webster is a member of the Maryland bar, the patent bar, and the American Intellectual Property Law Association. He received a J.D. from the University of Maryland and bachelor’s degrees in economics and in chemistry (with a biological specialization) from Duke University, as a Reggie Howard scholar. He previously served as a Board member for Duke University’s Trinity College of Arts & Sciences from 2006-2012.

Stephen Williams Ph.D.’80 is a partner with Catalyst Advisors, LP, a global executive recruiting firm that serves pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Prior to that, Dr. Williams served as the president and chief business officer of a global life sciences recruiting firm. Before his recruiting career, he held a range of roles within pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, including leading pre-clinical discovery and development of Cardiolite® and Neurolite® at DuPont and DuPont Merck Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Williams also held leadership positions in line marketing, strategic product planning and business development. He was a medical director in new product planning at Bristol-Myers Squibb and was a key member of the management team that executed a successful IPO at Progenitor, Inc., a biotechnology company. Dr. Williams received his B.S. in biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his Ph.D. in pharmacology from Duke University. Dr. Williams lives in Los Angeles, CA with his wife, Sunhee Paik.
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George Wright Ph.D.'77 is senior advisor to the president and interim vice president of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the University of Kentucky. He also holds the rank of distinguished University Research Professor. Previously, Dr. Wright was a professor of history at Texas A&M University in College Station. He has taught at a number of institutions over the years such institutions as University of Kentucky, University of Texas at Austin, and Duke University. From 1996-2003, he was executive vice president and provost at the University of Texas at Arlington. From 2003-2017, he was president of Prairie View A&M University. He has authored three books on race relations in Kentucky, two of which were awarded history prizes and is a highly decorated academic, receiving awards and honors from many of the institutions at which he has served. Dr. Wright earned both his B.A. and M.A degrees in history from the University of Kentucky. He earned his Ph.D. degree, also in history, from Duke in 1977.

David Ye A.M.'88, Ph.D.'91 recently joined the Options Clearing Corporation as its chief risk officer. Previously, he served as the chief risk officer of Guardian Life Insurance of America. Before that, he was the CEO and founder of TriLeaf Technologies, LLC, which focuses on leveraging new and emerging technologies in banking and asset management businesses. Dr. Ye has a rich background in risk management that has spanned such companies as State Street Corporation, Nomura, and PNC Financial Services. In these roles, he has led companies through several major market crises and into favorable outcomes. He is also a member of Global Advisory Board for Renmin University International School in China and a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA). Dr. Ye obtained his Ph.D. in mathematics from Duke University and B.S. from Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

Fang Liang “Frank” Zhang, Ph.D.’95, P’17, P’23, is the co-founder and CEO of GenScript. He is primarily responsible for the development, positioning, and strategy planning of the Group. Founded in 2002 in New Jersey, GenScript serves as a partner for researchers in basic life sciences, translational and biomedical fields as well as early-stage drug development. Prior to founding GenScript, Dr. Zhang was a principal investigator at Schering-Plough from 1995 to 2002. He led drug discovery efforts in different areas including oncology, cardiovascular, and central nervous systems, resulting in recognition by Schering-Plough with a Presidential Award. He was the first person to clone human geranylgeranyl transferase, an enzyme playing an important role in oncology. He has published more than 20 articles in leading scientific journals, and is an inventor of seven patents. Dr. Zhang received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Duke University in 1995. He received an M.S. degree from Nanjing University (1987) and a B.S. degree from Chengdu Institute of Technology (1984). He and his wife, Weihong Jin P’17, P’23, have three children: Jessica Ran Zhang T’17, Lucy E’23, and Tony.