

## Board of Directors

### Gaston Innovation Group

#### **Dr. Stephen Hannon, Chair**

Stephen Hannon DDS, MS  
Founder and President - Hannon Orthodontics  
38 years in Gaston County  
Gastonia, Belmont, Lake Wylie offices  
Chairman of the Gaston Gigabit Committee

#### **Nicole Murphey, Secretary**

Nicole Murphey, Partner, BridgehouseLaw LLP  
Gastonia native, graduate of Gaston Day School, fluent in German  
Alumna of the first Gastonia Sister Cities Exchange  
BridgehouseLaw has brought 85 foreign companies to the Charlotte region, including two companies to the Gastonia Technology Park

#### **Charlie Peninger, Treasurer, Gaston Regional Chamber Representative**

Charlie Peninger, CEO of DTEL Telecommunications, Inc,  
DTEL is a 33-year old technology company headquartered in Gastonia  
Managed DTEL profitably for over 20 years  
Past BOD member of the Gaston Regional Chamber  
Active in/past president of the Rotary Club of Gastonia

#### **Ted Hall, Montcross Area Chamber Representative**

Ted Hall, President, Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce  
Employed with the Montcross Area Chamber since 2005 and has continued to grow the membership each year  
Owned and operated a small business in management recruiting  
20 years in newspaper business, including Editor and Publisher of The Shelby Star

#### **David Jones, Charlotte Region Entrepreneur Representative**

David Jones, Chairman & Founder, Peak 10  
Founded in 2000, Peak 10 has 28 Data Centers in 10 US Cities  
National leader in IT infrastructure, cloud and managed services  
Built one of the industry's most admired companies with consistent year over year financial performance and growth  
Past chairman for the Charlotte Regional Fund for Entrepreneurship  
Named to the 2015 class of the Carolinas Entrepreneur Hall of Fame by The McColl School of Business

#### **Brad Rivers, Gaston College Representative**

Brad Rivers, Director of the Small Business Center (SBC) at Gaston College  
Worked with over 3,300 small businesses from both Gaston and Lincoln Counties since 1999  
Recognized as the recipient of the prestigious Harley B. Gaston, Jr. Award for Community Involvement by the Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce  
Previously worked in manufacturing, accounting, sales, and has owned two successful businesses

## Board of Directors, continued

### Ex-officio Board Member:

**Terry Cox**, *Executive Director of Gaston Innovation Group, Inc.*

Hired July 1, 2016, as Executive Director to run GIGworks for Gaston County

**CEO and Founder of BIG**, Business innovation & Growth, a high growth entrepreneurial support organization for the Charlotte region serving over 500 high growth companies since 2006

BIG was the initial catalyst for the high growth entrepreneurial ecosystem in Charlotte

Created an Entrepreneurial Growth Index to measure the success of the high growth companies:

2013 Results: 120 companies totaling \$960 million in revenue with an average 3 year growth rate of 37% and hiring 928 jobs at average salary of \$55,000

Co-creator of the first ever Charlotte Entrepreneur Growth Report released in 2016

Led the effort to bring the Southeast Venture Capital Conference to Charlotte in 2013

**Co-founder of Charlotte Hearts Gigabit**, a community focused organization advocating for high speed internet in the Charlotte region working with Google Fiber, Spectrum (TWC), and AT&T. The Gaston Gigabit Committee works closely with Charlotte Hearts Gigabit.

Advisory Board Member of the College of Computing and Informatics at UNC Charlotte since 2006.

### Previous Work Experience prior to Charlotte:

As **Director of Client Relations & Marketing** for Dresdner RCM Global Investors in San Francisco, Terry worked with the Group's Managing Director and CEO to define strategies and oversee operations for institutional, individual, and financial intermediary clients.

As **Director Of Global Projects** for Dresdner RCM, she created and developed a multi-dimensional product/client Profitability System and led the Global Transfer Pricing Project with KPMG.

As Dresdner's **Global Controller**, she led the global integration of the asset management financial and management systems in San Francisco, London, Paris, Hong Kong, Frankfurt, and Tokyo.

As **Principal & Financial Officer of Investment Services** at Barclays Global Investors, she directed development of financial strategic initiatives, budgets, forecasts, and business cases.

As a **Financial and Business Consultant** at Frame Technology Corporation (now Adobe Systems), she advised internal clients on IPO filings, business development, financial analysis, and sales forecasting.

As **Owner and Operator** of Gorin's Homemade, she suggested the franchise concept to the company's founder, purchased first franchise territory, and grew revenue to \$1 million. She also developed and expanded retail and manufacturing facilities for her startup franchise operation.

As a **CPA** at KPMG, she worked with agri-business, major insurance companies, and financial institutions.

As **President of the Board of Directors** of SF CASA, Terry led development of a 5-Year Strategic Plan and initiated new fund raising strategies creating \$1 million in funding for expansion and new programs.

Terry is a **Phi Beta Kappa** and *magna cum laude* graduate of **The University of Georgia** with a BBA in accounting and a minor in international business.