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The Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association Foundation Announces Board of Directors

The VRLTAF announced its new 16-member board, chaired by Retro Hospitality CEO Paul Cooper

Richmond, Va. – The [Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association Foundation](#) announced its full Board of Directors this week. The Board is instrumental in furthering the aims of the Foundation and supporting hospitality education efforts across Virginia.

“The Board has key stakeholders from influencers from the restaurant, lodging, tourism, and hospitality industries,” said Eric Terry, President of the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association. “Under their guidance, we’re excited to see what the Foundation can accomplish in 2023 and beyond.”

The VRLTAF is a 501(c)(3) foundation originally established as the VHTA Educational Foundation in 1982. Along with providing scholarship opportunities to high school and college students studying hospitality, one of the Foundation’s missions is to generate excitement among K-12 students about working in the hospitality industry.

Led by Chair of the Board and CEO of Retro Hospitality Paul Cooper, the complete Board of Directors is listed below:

- Gary Barlow - Frank’s Trucking Center, Owner & Manager
- Stacey Dawkins - Wintergreen Resort, Director of Lodging
- Andy Gladstein - Culinary Institute of Virginia, Campus President
- Gilpatrick Hornsby - James Madison University, Associate Professor, Hart School
- Paul Kirschbaum - Gordon Food Service, Vendor Broker Manager
- Dane Macan - Sysco Hampton Roads, Director of Sales Development Projects
- Lincoln Marquis - Bridging Communities Regional Career & Technical Center, Culinary Arts Instructor
- Caitlin McCabe - Piedmont Virginia Community College, Instructor of Culinary Arts
- John Shaffer - Luray Caverns, Director of Business Development
- Jeff Robertson - Ecolab, Key Account Representative for Central Virginia
- Eric Terry - Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association, President
- Elizabeth Weller - Gold Key / PHR, Executive VP of Administration
- Brian Wells - The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, General Manager
- Tamera Wilkins Harris - Richmond Region Tourism, Director of Community Relations
- Jim Wordsworth - J.R.’s Stockyards Inn, Owner

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The [Virginia Restaurant Lodging and Travel Association](#) is the unified voice of the restaurant, lodging, travel and hospitality suppliers associations. VRLTA creates value for members by promoting the legislative interests of the industry, networking, educational opportunities, and protecting free enterprise. For more information, visit www.vrlta.org or call 800-552-2225.

As the educational arm of the VRLTA, the [Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association Foundation](#) exists to enhance the restaurant and hospitality industries through education and encouraging youth to pursue post-secondary education in the culinary and hospitality fields. This is primarily done through the coordination of the Virginia ProStart program and the administration of a scholarship program.