



Dr. John Hauser: President of Gaston College

Dr. John Hauser assumed the role of President at Gaston College in June 2020, bringing over three decades of leadership and administrative experience within the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS). His background as an engineer in advanced manufacturing and the textile industry provides a unique perspective that has proven invaluable in his current position.

Under Dr. Hauser's administration, Gaston College has experienced significant growth and development. He has spearheaded the revitalization of programs in great demand and with high job placement rates in industries such as healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and cybersecurity. His tenure has been marked by substantial financial achievements, including:

- Securing \$72 million in appropriations from the North Carolina General Assembly
- Establishing the Kimbrell Fiber Innovation Center at the Belmont campus
- Developing new Cybersecurity laboratories, earning NSA Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense designation
- Initiating plans for a Health and Wellness Center at the Dallas campus

As President of Gaston College, Dr. Hauser continues to prioritize educating and caring for students. His leadership focuses on fostering innovation, strengthening community partnerships, and ensuring Gaston College remains at the forefront of community college education. Under his guidance, the institution is well-positioned to adapt to the evolving needs of students and the workforce in an increasingly complex global economy.

Academic Background and Achievements

Dr. Hauser's educational journey reflects his commitment to lifelong learning:

- Ed.D. from Appalachian State University
- M.Ed. from North Carolina State University
- B.S.E.T. from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- A.A.S. from Surry Community College

Additionally, he is a Phi Theta Kappa Paragon President and holds leadership certifications from North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Institute.

Dr. Hauser has published various leadership articles, including his latest, "A Proposal to Address the Effects of Hurricane Florence on Eastern North Carolina Community Colleges and the Attendant Long-term Effects on Students, Workforce, and the Economy".

Dr. Hauser is also a member of numerous statewide organizations and in 2024 was selected for the Business North Carolina Power List 2024 as one of North Carolina's Most Influential Leaders.

Personal Background

Dr. Hauser and his wife, Robin, have deep roots in Mt. Airy, NC. They are parents to two accomplished children: Logan, a North Carolina State University graduate employed as a Textile Designer in Los Angeles, and Carter, a graduate of Catawba College in Salisbury, NC. They also have a pet Lionhead Rabbit named Bunny.