# Welcome to the webinar! We will begin shortly.

An exploration of options





HOST

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#### **Scott Cole**

Shareholder Chair, Higher Education Practice



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Shareholder Chair, Higher Education Practice

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#### Welcome to Q&A

Questions you ask will show up here. Only host and panelists will be able to see all questions.







Type your question here...



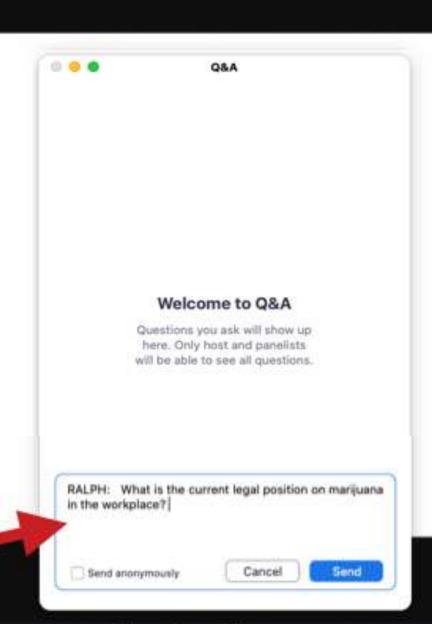






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Mary Anne Craighton



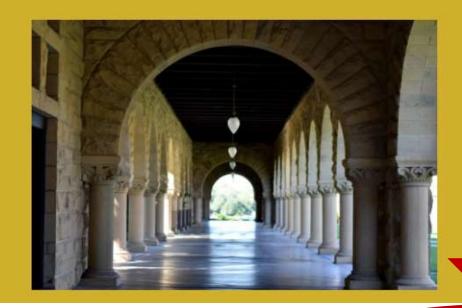




#### https://webinars.ela.law/distressed-institutions-of-higher-education



#### The ELA Presents



## Distressed Institutions of Higher Education: An Exploration of Options

Date: November 3, 2021

Time: 2:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (6:00 pm GMT)

**Duration: 1 hour** 

#### **Event Resources**

Presentation Slides & Certificate of Attendance +

Resources provided by the speakers and their firms:





MODERATOR

#### PAUL FRIGA, PH.D.

Clinical Associate Professor of Strategy,
UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School;
Strategic Transformation of Public Higher
Education Practice Leader, AGB
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pnf@unc.edu





### **Panelists**

### Jennifer L. Curry



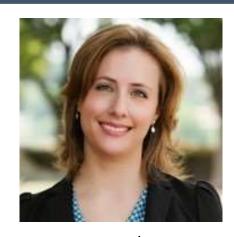
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Baker, Donelson,
Bearman, Caldwell
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### Stephen Donato



Co-Chair, Business
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Bond, Schoeneck &
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### Kelley Kaufman



Member
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### Eastern State University Scenario



### **Eastern State University**

- Small, rural, regional public university
- Worst enrollment declines and deficits in state



### Highered University System

- 9 public universities across the state
- State appropriations shrinking



### **Collective** bargaining

- Increased personnel costs
   5% annually
- Faculty right to 18 months of severance



### Eastern State University Scenario



#### Academics

- Strong Nursing program
- Weak Forestry & Liberal Arts programs
- Weak Agriculture program with strong in-system alternative



- Reserves expected to be exhausted in next fiscal year
- Bond rating downgraded
- Operating costs exceed revenues by 15%





#### **Enrollments**

- Down to 1,800 from peak of 5,000
- Expect 10% decline annually
- Authorized relaxed admissions and increased tuition discounts for outof-state students

Accreditation at Risk



Trustees aware of issues, but so far inactive





Assess Your Situation



**Develop Options** 

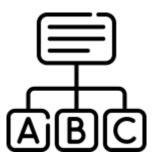






### Assess Your Situation

- Strategic
- Financial
- Leadership
- Risks (Organizational & Board/ Officer)



**Develop Options** 







Assess Your Situation



### **Develop Options**



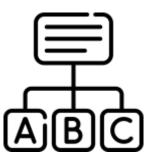
- Cost Management
- Consolidation (e.g., PASSHE)
- Merger/Affiliation Opportunities







Assess Your Situation



**Develop Options** 



- PR/Communication Plan
- Shared Governance Activities
- Collective Bargaining
- Board Engagement



### Eastern State University Scenario Takeaways



Assess Your Situation



**Develop Options** 





### Questions?





### Thank You!





**Paul N. Friga**Clinical Associate Professor of
Strategy and Entrepreneurship
UNC Kenan Flagler Business School
North Carolina



Stephen Donato
Co-Chair, Business Restructuring,
Creditors' Rights & Bankruptcy Group
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**Kelley Kaufman**Member
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Pennsylvania- Eastern



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Moderator

Presenter

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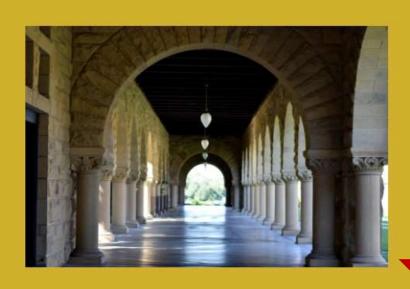
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