

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## New WeCOACH Board Members Announced; Tucker Begins Term as Board President

January 08, 2024 – The WeCOACH Board of Directors announced the addition of three new board members: Dr. Lisa Langston, Penny Lucas-White, and Anthony Thomas, each of whom begin their three-year terms this month.



**Tiffany D. Tucker**, Deputy Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator at UNC-Wilmington assumed the role of Board President, effective January 1. Ann Walker, a longtime former coach and administrator, began her term as president-elect, and Teresa Gould, Pac-12 Conference Deputy Commissioner, transitions to past president. These leadership positions are one-year progressive terms.

"I am extremely honored for the opportunity to serve as President of the WeCOACH Board of Directors in 2024 and to impact the members of this exceptional organization that is focused on elevating women coaches. We need more women leaders coaching boys, girls, men, and women at every level of sport, and I'm excited to work with our talented Board members and Team WeCOACH to continue the impressive upward trajectory this year."

"Following a monumental year for our organization, the addition of these longtime professionals will help us continue to achieve unprecedented goals. Their experience and expertise across several different sports and levels, coupled with Tiffany's respected leadership, is key to advancing the WeCOACH mission to recruit, advance and retain women coaches. I am very excited for our staff and membership to have the opportunity to work closely with and learn from these passionate board members," said Vanessa Fuchs, WeCOACH CEO.

Get to know your new Board members:



**Dr. Lisa L. Langston** (CMAA) is the Director of Athletics for the Fort Worth Independent School District, the fourth largest school district in the state of Texas. She's a member of the Texas A&M Athletic Hall of Fame and still ranks amongst their all-time women's basketball leaders in both scoring and steals. In April 2024, Dr. Langston will be inducted to the Dallas Independent School District Athletic Hall of Fame. In December 2020, she was elected President of the NIAAA (National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association), the first Black female to ever hold that position. She continues to serve the NIAAA as a member of their national faculty. Lisa has served as faculty for multiple WeCOACH programs including the Youth & High School Women Coaches Academy.



Penny Lucas-White is the Head Women's Volleyball Coach at Alabama State University. 2023 marked her 13<sup>th</sup> season at the helm where she reached the 1,000 matches coached milestone. A seasoned veteran with 31 years coaching experience, Penny also coached at Memphis and Air Force Academy. She has received four conference Coach of the Year honors and is an eight-time conference champion. An accomplished student-athlete in her own right, Lucas-White was a former U.S. National Team player who also played domestically in the United States Volleyball League and internationally in Italy and Germany. Penny is a 2005 WCA Class #5 graduate who has remained highly engaged with WeCOACH over the years, including as a speaker for multiple programs and events. Penny is currently a member of the USAV Board of Directors.



Anthony E. Thomas (CAA) is the Director of Athletics and Physical Education at San Francisco University High School. Anthony is also the Co-Founder and President of the National Minority Athletic Directors Association (NOMAD), a professional organization that provides resources, such as mentoring, the sharing of ideas, networking, and leadership development to increase membership, participation, and opportunities for minority and underrepresented athletic directors. He has also led at Francis Parker School, Convent & Stuart Hall, The Branson School, International School, and Sacred Heart Preparatory School. Anthony has served as faculty for multiple WeCOACH programs including the Youth & High School Women Coaches Academy.

For a complete list of WeCOACH Board of Directors, please click here.

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## **About WeCOACH**

Founded in 2011, WeCOACH is a one-of-a-kind 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to recruiting, advancing, and retaining women coaches in all sports and levels through year-round professional growth & leadership development programs. Prior to Title IX, over 90% of women's collegiate sports teams were coached by women. Today, over 50 years later, the data indicates that number has decreased to 46% in Division I, 41% across all three NCAA Divisions, with only 6.2% women head coaches of color (Division I). Only 5% women coach men's teams. At the youth level, the data is hard to estimate, approximately less than 20% of teams are coached by women. WeCOACH launched MOVE the NUMBERS in 2022 to help change the

landscape for women coaches and the student-athletes they lead more information visit <u>MOVE <i>the</i> NUMBERS</u> .	d. If she can see her, she can be her. For