



# Cleveland State University



**NIKKI C. BYRD** was appointed to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees by Governor Mike DeWine on June 30, 2023 for a term ending May 1, 2032.

Ms. Byrd is senior editor at American Greetings (AG), a global leader in the celebrations marketplace headquartered in Westlake, Ohio. Her 16-year career reflects a demonstrated track record of driving innovation and leading strategic editorial direction for a portfolio of world-class brands. In 2017, she was named a Chairman's Award finalist in the category of Individual Excellence for leadership, vision and inspiration.

Prior to her time at AG, Ms. Byrd served honorably in the United States Air Force from 1986 to 1990 as an audiovisual documentation specialist at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska, and Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland.

During her military career, she rose to the rank of Sergeant and received several awards and decorations, including Senior Airman Below the Zone and Combat Camera Operator of the Quarter, an honor received by the Department of Defense.

Ms. Byrd earned her B.A. in communication from CSU, where she graduated magna cum laude, and her M.F.A. in film from Columbia University, where she graduated with honors.

Ms. Byrd served on the Cleveland State University Alumni Association Board from 2015 to 2021 and was its president and ex officio member of the Cleveland State University Foundation Board from 2018 to 2021. She was also a member of the College of Arts and Sciences Visiting Committee (formerly CLASS) from 2019 to 2022.