

Lydia E. Lavelle

Mayor of Carrboro &
Law Professor at NCCU



Born in Athens, Ohio, Lydia E. Lavelle holds a bachelor's degree from St. Andrews University, a master's degree in parks and recreation administration from North Carolina State University (NCSU), and a law degree from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, where she currently works as a law professor.

Lavelle has taught courses on state and local governmental law, sexual identity and the law, and transgender rights and social justice. She is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association and the National Gay and Lesbian Bar. Lavelle is also a former president of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys and serves as the faculty advisor at NCCU to the Women's Law Caucus and Outlaw Alliance student organizations.

After being elected to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen twice, she was first elected as mayor of Carrboro in November of 2013 and is now serving in her third term. Lavelle has served on numerous boards and committees and is currently a member of the Metropolitan Mayors Coalition, the Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Group, and the Orange County Visitors Bureau Board of Directors.

Lavelle is honored to serve as mayor of Carrboro, and believes the town is one of the most progressive and forward-thinking communities in North Carolina. She is especially proud of her town's numerous human rights resolutions, support for human service agencies, and willingness to improve underserved communities.

Lavelle and her wife Alicia Stemper have two adult children.