

DYNAMIC DIVERSITY: THE CHANGING LOOK OF N.C. EXECUTIVE POWER



TONY PARHAM

Vice president of innovation and strategy, Fidelity Center for Applied Technology
Durham

Since moving from Boston five years ago to join Fidelity's big Research Triangle Park operation, Parham has helped the investment giant's Center for Applied Technology take on innovative projects and new business opportunities. The center works with the Fidelity Labs incubator to study emerging technologies and socioeconomic trends that can boost the company's growth and improve customer satisfaction. He also has managed a program for employee patent filings.

Earlier in his career, Parham worked for Crosstech Ventures, IBM and Lotus Development. Before joining Fidelity, Parham worked for three-and-a-half years as Massachusetts' first government innovation officer after being hired by former Gov. Deval Patrick. A key project included improving the data warehouse for the state's health and human services offices with a \$1 million investment yielding a \$9.8 million return in the first year and \$7 million annually thereafter, state officials have said. The broader benefit was infusing new thinking and attracting talented staffers to state government, he says.

Parham has a bachelor's degree in computer science and a master's in management from MIT, along with a master's in computer science from the University of Southern California. He is a board member at the Council for Entrepreneurial Development and William Peace University. His wife, Lynda Morris Parham, is a psychologist who operates a private practice.

