



Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Morehouse College
Atlanta, Georgia

The mission of Morehouse College is to develop men with disciplined minds who will lead lives of leadership and service. A private historically Black liberal arts college for men, Morehouse realizes this mission by emphasizing the intellectual and character development of its students. In addition, the College assumes special responsibility for teaching the history and culture of Black people.

THE SEARCH

[Morehouse College](#) (Morehouse), the nation's preeminent institution dedicated to the education and development of Black men, seeks a proven and ambitious vice president for institutional advancement (VP) to build and lead a high-performing advancement enterprise and accelerate the College's next era of philanthropic growth, institutional prominence, and global impact.

Founded in 1867, Morehouse College is one of the nation's most influential institutions of higher education, nationally distinguished for its singular mission, academic excellence, and unmatched legacy of developing leaders whose impact extends across generations and around the world. Morehouse graduates more Black men each year than the nation's top 40 liberal arts colleges combined and sends more Black men on to earn PhDs than any other institution. Its more than 19,500 alumni include artists, educators, corporate leaders, engineers, entrepreneurs, scholars, and advocates whose achievements continue to shape communities, industries, and public life. Generations of Morehouse Men, including Martin Luther King, Jr., Raphael Warnock, and Spike Lee, have advanced change across every sector, reflecting the power and fulfilling the promise of a Morehouse education.

In 2025, [F. DuBois Bowman, Ph.D.](#), returned to his alma mater to serve as the 13th president of Morehouse. He is currently working with key advisors, trustees, and faculty to finalize a strategic plan that will frame the College's priorities and directions for the next five years. The next VP will join President Bowman in this pivotal moment, serving as a member of his senior leadership team and working alongside him to translate the College's vision and strategic priorities into an ambitious, compelling philanthropic agenda. The VP will galvanize the institutional advancement enterprise, rising to meet a new bar of excellence across all functions; translate significant untapped philanthropic potential to achieve record levels of giving and participation; and oversee the completion of the current \$500 million *Making Men of*

Consequence campaign. These efforts and initiatives will result in philanthropic revenue that expands Morehouse's impact for future generations. This is a rare opportunity to partner with a highly invested president early in his tenure to build a more modern, integrated advancement program for a unique institution with powerful mission resonance, a deeply connected alumni network, and an unparalleled story of Black male excellence, leadership, and social impact.

Success in this role will require a deep appreciation for Morehouse's mission and storied accomplishments, along with the ability to compellingly articulate and champion the College's distinctive work to develop the intellect, character, and skills of future Black male leaders of the 21st century. The ideal candidate will bring a minimum of 12 years of leadership experience in fundraising, constituency engagement, campaign management, and staff management, as well as comprehensive knowledge of effective advancement and alumni engagement strategies. The vice president will have a demonstrated record of significant personal success in elevating programs and cultivating, soliciting, and stewarding donors at the principal gift level. Equally important will be experience leading every aspect of a complex and dynamic team, including structuring, managing, retaining, motivating, and evaluating staff. A bachelor's degree is required; an advanced degree is preferred.

Isaacson, Miller has been retained to assist in this recruitment. All inquiries, nominations, and applications should be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE: HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

For nearly 160 years, [Morehouse College](#) has been a beacon of academic excellence and leadership development. Founded with the mission to educate and empower Black men, the College has prioritized intellectual and character development, with the goal of cultivating disciplined minds in men to lead lives of leadership and service.

Before it became Morehouse College, it was known as the Augusta Institute, founded in Augusta, Georgia, in 1867, two years after the Civil War concluded. It began in the basement of Springfield Baptist Church in Augusta, with the primary purpose of preparing Black men for ministry and teaching. In 1879, the Augusta Institute relocated to Atlanta, becoming Atlanta Baptist Seminary, then Atlanta Baptist College, before ultimately being named Morehouse College, in honor of Henry Lyman Morehouse, corresponding secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission and a prominent supporter of education for African Americans.

Under the leadership of Dr. John Hope, who became the College's first African American president in 1906, the college shifted its focus toward a more rigorous academic curriculum, challenging the prevailing vocational education model advocated by Booker T. Washington. Dr. Hope's transformative vision established Morehouse as a leading institution for Black, male education, enabling its graduates to achieve success across various fields. The college attributes its early growth in enrollment and academic reputation to Dr. Hope's leadership, followed by exemplary presidential leadership by Dr. Benjamin Elijah

Mays and others who elevated the institution and laid the foundation for the historic qualities underlying the present-day Morehouse College.

Today, Morehouse continues its long and distinguished history of providing an exceptional educational experience that supports the intellectual, moral, and social development of its 2,800 students across its Atlanta campus and online programs. Consistently ranked among the top five Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the top 100 Liberal Arts Colleges by *U.S. News and World Report*, Morehouse has also earned recognition from the National Science Foundation as the leading institution for producing Black male college graduates who go on to earn doctorates in education, science, mathematics, computer science, the social sciences, and the arts and humanities. The College is the number one producer of Rhodes Scholars among HBCUs and a recognized leader in producing Fulbright Scholars.

The College offers 34 academic programs through four divisions: [Business and Economics](#); [Humanities, Social Sciences, Media, and Arts](#); [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics \(STEM\)](#); and [Professional and Continuing Studies](#). It is also home to [five centers, three institutes, and an honorary collection dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#) Morehouse's rigorous academic curriculum is complemented by extracurricular and co-curricular experiences that strengthen students' oral and written communication skills, broaden their appreciation of world cultures and artistic expression, and deepen their understanding of the physical sciences. Approximately 98% of students identify as Black or African American, and represent 43 US states and territories and seven countries. With 159 full-time and 127 part-time instructional faculty and a 14:1 student-to-faculty ratio, Morehouse places a strong emphasis on teaching excellence, student development, and sustained engagement in research and scholarship.

Morehouse College Athletics participates in NCAA Division II sports and is a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Fundraising and Financials

Morehouse has a strong and stable financial position, reflected in its annual operating budget of nearly \$145 million for FY 2027. Enrollment and fees account for approximately 30 to 40 percent of this revenue, while the remaining funds primarily come from government grants and contracts, philanthropy and giving, and auxiliary enterprises. Fundraising at Morehouse has experienced a remarkable transformation in recent years, with record-breaking donations and investments from an increasingly diverse mix of sources. In FY 2026, Morehouse raised over \$40 million in contributions.

The College's endowment has seen significant growth in recent years, reaching a market value of \$340 million as of June 2026, which reflects over 10 percent growth from the previous fiscal year.

Making Men of Consequence: The Campaign for Morehouse College

In 2021, Morehouse College launched [Making Men of Consequence: The Campaign for Morehouse College](#)—a historic \$500 million endeavor. The campaign's pillars sustain the following priorities:

- [Rising Men of Morehouse](#): Affordable access and financial support for its bright scholars.
- [Inquiry with Distinction](#): Investment in the College's core academic mission and enterprise.
- [Campus of the Future](#): Funding for transformative campus spaces and infrastructure.
- [Centers of Excellence](#): Support for experiential learning, interdisciplinary discovery, and innovation.

The campaign has raised approximately \$373 million to date and will conclude in June 2028. Among the most notable gifts is a \$20 million gift from an anonymous donor dedicated to expanding academic programs and establishing six endowed professorships to foster teaching and research across disciplines.

Strategic Plan

In advance of Morehouse's 160th anniversary, Dr. Bowman is leading a strategic planning process. After spending the first year of his presidency listening to and gathering input from the Morehouse community, the College identified five strategic themes: Academic Excellence; Student Flourishing; Future Morehouse; Institutional Effectiveness; and Strategic Resourcing.

Dr. Bowman published a 2025-2026 annual report for Morehouse that shares stories about the College, its students, faculty, alumni, and centers of excellence. It also provides more details about the strategic plan. That document may be found [here](#).

Leadership

F. DuBois Bowman, Ph.D. | President

[Dr. F. DuBois Bowman](#), a 1992 graduate of Morehouse College, serves as the 13th president of the College. An internationally recognized expert in biostatistics and public health, his pioneering research has deepened understanding of neurological and mental health disorders such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, depression, schizophrenia, and addiction, as well as the impact of environmental exposures on brain development in youth. Prior to returning to lead Morehouse, he served as dean of the University of Michigan School of Public Health and held key leadership roles at Columbia University and Emory University. Dr. Bowman is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, vice president of the American Statistical Association, and past president of the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society.

Board of Trustees

The [Board of Trustees](#) provides strategic governance and fiduciary oversight for Morehouse College, including its philanthropy and endowment growth. Composed of 17 accomplished leaders across higher education, business, consulting, religion, law, medicine, and civic engagement, the Board plays a vital role in advancing the College's mission, strengthening institutional stewardship, and positioning Morehouse for a sustainable and thriving future.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The next vice president for institutional advancement (VP) will bring both strategic discipline and relationship-centered leadership as the College's chief development and advancement officer to a fundraising operation with significant, consequential opportunities for growth. Reporting directly to the president and serving as a critical member of the Strategy Group, the VP will help establish institutional priorities and shape college-wide advancement strategies through the current comprehensive campaign and beyond.

The VP will oversee the Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA), a 30-member team spanning individual giving, corporate and foundation relations, advancement services, scholarship management, and advancement communications. This role requires an inspiring, highly visible executive who can lead colleagues at every level; foster trust and engage trustees, alumni, volunteers, faculty, and other key constituents as strategic partners in Morehouse's future; and translate institutional vision into realized philanthropic impact.

The following are the responsibilities and duties of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement:

Executive Strategy and Support

The VP will serve as a strategic partner to President Bowman, advising and supporting him in his role as the College's chief spokesperson and fundraiser while helping to cultivate, steward, and solicit transformational gifts. As a key contributor to campus-wide planning and decision-making, this advancement professional will identify and align major and principal gift opportunities with donor interests, and leverage the president, senior leadership, and Board of Trustees to strengthen existing donor relationships and expand philanthropic support among alumni, individuals, and institutions committed to advancing Morehouse's mission.

The VP will also work collaboratively across the College, including with colleagues in Academic Affairs, Business and Finance, External Relations and Alumni Engagement, Student Affairs, Admissions, Athletics, Strategic Marketing and Communications, and the Morehouse College National Alumni Association, fostering trust through transparency, partnership, and shared purpose.

Strategic Vision and Advancement Leadership

The VP will assess the current infrastructure of the Office of Institutional Advancement, identify areas of potential, and plot a roadmap for the future. As the architect, builder, and leader of this modern, proactive, and systematic advancement program, the VP will broaden fundraising, outreach, stewardship, and partnered alumni relations activities while increasing philanthropic revenue year over year. The success of Morehouse's fundraising goals and objectives will be assessed through clear data capture and analytics, which will be used to set targets and measure progress.

The VP will drive the final two years of *Making Men of Consequence*, ensuring that staff and infrastructure are optimally deployed to support a successful conclusion and position Morehouse for future campaigns. The VP will also build relationships with partners across the College to ensure advancement staff are viewed as collaborative, trusted partners.

Philanthropic Growth and Donor Engagement

As the College's chief development officer, the VP will evaluate, strengthen, and enhance existing individual and institutional giving for Morehouse's academic divisions and units, as well as student affairs initiatives and athletics fundraising. Leading by example, the VP will carry a personal portfolio of select prospects and donors.

This executive will implement best practices and increase the effectiveness of prospect research and management tools for identifying and acquiring prospective donors, as well as for retaining and upgrading new and existing donors. Notably, the VP will elevate the importance of donor stewardship and ensure gifts are acknowledged in a timely, coordinated manner that highlights the impact of a donor's philanthropy. Lastly, the VP will partner with OIA advancement communications staff to develop clear, consistent, cohesive, and compelling advancement messaging that conveys the uniqueness, strengths, and aspirations of Morehouse and its leadership, and articulates the case for philanthropic support of funding priorities to engage a broad and diverse audience.

Critical to the success of this role is intentional collaboration with the Office of External Relations and Alumni Engagement and the Morehouse College National Alumni Association to develop and implement a systematic plan for alumni outreach and provide innovative, compelling means to engage alumni in a holistic culture of philanthropy. To that end, the VP will help strengthen relationships with existing alumni donors while proactively cultivating new alumni, encouraging broader and deeper participation in philanthropy, increasing both the number and size of gifts, and pioneering innovative approaches to connect with constituents across generations, with particular attention to younger alumni and emerging donor groups.

In partnership with the President, this executive should develop and execute a transformative fundraising strategy capable of securing gifts at the highest levels of philanthropy, including positioning Morehouse College to secure its first nine-figure gift.

Talent Development and Management

The VP will lead and support Morehouse's Office of Institutional Advancement by building and mentoring a high-performing team united by a shared commitment to Morehouse College's mission and fundraising priorities. The VP will assess the organization's structure, talent, and operations; establish clear goals and accountability measures; and foster a culture of excellence, collaboration, innovation, and continuous professional growth. Through transparent communication and empowering leadership, the VP will inspire staff to operate with urgency, professionalism, and a strong spirit of partnership across the College. Serving as both coach and practitioner, the VP will support frontline fundraisers in developing and

executing effective donor strategies, while creating an environment that recognizes achievement, encourages teamwork, reduces silos, and attracts, develops, and retains exceptional advancement talent.

Volunteer and Board Engagement

The VP will partner closely with the Board of Trustees and other volunteer leaders to strengthen philanthropic engagement and advance Morehouse's fundraising priorities. The VP will cultivate a robust pipeline of engaged volunteers, increase board participation in philanthropy, and mobilize key constituents to expand donor involvement and support. The VP will also help in identifying, recruiting, and cultivating future trustees and volunteer leaders who are deeply committed to Morehouse and capable of providing expertise, counsel, and financial support for the College.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

This position requires a strong, proactive leader with exceptional judgment, superb communication skills, a sense of urgency, and the ability to work collaboratively with a wide range of internal and external constituencies. The VP will bring many of the following professional qualities and experiences:

- A deep appreciation for the history, mission, culture, achievements, and aspirations of Morehouse College and the ability to effectively articulate its unique role and impact in higher education to a diverse audience.
- At least 12 years of sophisticated leadership experience across all advancement functions, within organizations of similar scale and complexity, including experience planning, leading, and closing comprehensive campaigns.
- A demonstrated track record of impact and growth in prior organizations, translating knowledge to execution and successful increases in philanthropic revenue, elevating the effectiveness of a development program and its staff, and experience supporting and managing governing boards and their members. Prior experience serving an HBCU is a plus.
- A comprehensive understanding of fundraising and engagement performance metrics and standards and the ability to leverage that data to chart a path toward excellence.
- Proven management skills and the ability to build a team- and goal-oriented environment that empowers staff through active communication, transparency, and delegation; clarifies roles and expectations; builds confidence; and celebrates achievement.
- A proven track record of success in personally cultivating, soliciting, and stewarding principal gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations. A high level of comfort and effectiveness working with high-net-worth benefactors and organizational leaders.

- The credibility, maturity, and political savvy to navigate a complex academic and alumni community with a deep culture and fabric of traditions, while building bridges, advancing collaboration, and the resilience to drive forward progress across the College and its global base of alumni and constituents.
- Superior written and oral communication skills; clarity, crispness, and elegance in writing and speaking; superb storytelling skills with the ability to succinctly communicate a vision and process to senior leaders and other key constituents, utilizing data and metrics as appropriate, as a foundation for advancement programs.
- Exemplary interpersonal and listening skills; impeccable attention to detail and superb follow-through; strong personal integrity, flexibility, charisma, and work ethic, coupled with personal drive as a self-starter who is comfortable with ambiguity. A strong relationship orientation and warm, personable approach to relationship-building are critical.
- Excellent judgment and creative problem-solving skills, including the ability to resolve conflict and establish consensus.
- A sharp eye for operational efficiency and the best use of resources, including a demonstrated understanding of budgets and the ability to manage them.
- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree preferred.

COMPENSATION AND LOCATION

Competitive compensation will be offered commensurate with the level of administrative and academic appointment of the selected candidate. This is an in-person position that requires full-time physical presence on the campus of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Located just minutes from downtown Atlanta, Morehouse's 66-acre campus sits within the Atlanta University Center (AUC), the largest consortium of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in the world. The AUC is also home to Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, and the Morehouse School of Medicine – creating a thriving academic community and collaborative environment.

As a leading business center, the City of Atlanta is home to one of the nation's largest concentrations of Fortune 500 companies, including Coca-Cola, The Home Depot, Delta Air Lines, AT&T Mobility, Chick-fil-A, and UPS, as well as more than 1,250 multinational corporations. Atlanta's appeal is strengthened by its highly educated workforce, with 45 percent of adults age 25 and older holding at least a four-year degree, as well as by its cultural and historical attractions, including the Georgia Aquarium, Fox Theatre, the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, the World of Coca-Cola, the Atlanta History Center, the Carter Center, and the High Museum of Art. The Rialto Center for the Arts further enriches the Morehouse experience through acclaimed performances and civic amenities.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/morehouse-college/vice-president-institutional-advancement>

Jack Gorman, Partner
Ernest Brooks, Partner
Grace Zakim, Managing Associate
Christina Garrison, Senior Associate
Sandeep Kaur, Managing Search Coordinator
Isaacson, Miller

Morehouse College is an equal opportunity employer. No employee or applicant will be discriminated against in any condition of employment because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, veteran status, or any other status protected by law.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by Morehouse College. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by Morehouse College would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

APPENDIX

LEADERSHIP (CONTINUED)

Verdun Perry '94 | Chair of the Board of Trustees

[Verdun S. Perry](#) is the Global Head of Blackstone Strategic Partners (“Strategic Partners”), Blackstone’s dedicated secondary fund manager, with over \$100 billion of assets under management. Mr. Perry received a B.A. from Morehouse College, where he graduated magna cum laude and was elected Phi Beta Kappa, as well as an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, where he was a Robert Toigo Foundation Fellow.

Mr. Perry began his first term as Chair of the Morehouse College Board of Trustees in 2026 and serves on the Financial Sustainability Committee. Mr. Perry also serves on the boards of The Blackstone Charitable Foundation (Chair), Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (Vice Chair) and Partnership for Education Advancement. He also sits on the Harvard Business School Alumni Board and the HBS Fund Council. Mr. Perry founded Blackstone’s Diverse Professionals Network (“DPN”) in 2014 and chaired the network for its first six years.

THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The [Office of External Relations and Alumni Engagement](#) is committed to a collegial environment that fosters a strong sense of community within and beyond the campus borders. Under the leadership of the vice president of external relations and alumni engagement, Henry Goodgame, the office is responsible for all alumni communications, Morehouse’s marquee alumni-related programming including but not limited to: the Sons of Morehouse program during New Student Orientation, Morehouse College Homecoming Tailgate, Founder’s Week activities including the annual “A Candle in the Dark” gala as well as the annual alumni reunion during commencement weekend.

THE MOREHOUSE COLLEGE NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

More than 19,500 living alumni are connected through the [Morehouse College National Alumni Association](#), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1900 and one of the oldest such associations among HBCUs. With an active and engaged alumni base, the Association is organized into nine regions, each led by a regional vice president. In addition to its Atlanta hub, alumni chapters are active across the nation, engaging in community service, networking, and professional development projects in major metropolitan areas such as Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Houston.

The Office of Institutional Advancement and the Office of External Relations and Alumni Engagement are key partners to the Morehouse College National Alumni Association, working together to strengthen the College’s global network of Morehouse Men and deepen connections across generations.