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MONTGOMERY RICE TAKES THE HELM AT MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

*First Female President to Drive School's Mission amid a Changing Health Care
Environment*

ATLANTA – June 30, 2014 – Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) will have a change of the presidential guard tomorrow, welcoming [Valerie Montgomery Rice, M.D.](#) as the first woman to lead the free-standing medical school as president and dean. A Harvard-educated obstetrician and gynecologist, Dr. Montgomery Rice was first named MSM's executive vice president and dean in 2011 and last year was named president effective July 1, 2014. She succeeds outgoing President John E. Maupin Jr., D.D.S., who is retiring after a distinguished 30-year career in academic medicine, health care administration and public health.

"I am honored that the Board of Trustees of Morehouse School of Medicine has entrusted in me the presidency of this treasured institution," Dr. Montgomery Rice said. "Our mission today is as relevant as it was when Morehouse School of Medicine was founded nearly 40 years ago. My job is to align that mission within the context of an extraordinarily changing health care system and to grow a sustainable, community-focused academic health center. And that will happen with the teamwork of the entire MSM community working in concert with our valued partners."

A native of Macon, Ga., Dr. Montgomery Rice earned an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Georgia Institute of Technology, a medical degree from Harvard Medical School, and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Emory University Medical School. She then completed a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at Hutzel Hospital in Detroit.

Prior to joining MSM, Dr. Montgomery Rice served as dean and senior vice president of health affairs at Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tenn., where she had previously served as chair of the OB/GYN department and founding director of the Center for Women's Health Research at Meharry. The Center for Women's Health Research is one of the nation's first research centers devoted to studying diseases that disproportionately impact women of color. Prior to joining Meharry, Dr. Montgomery Rice held numerous administrative and faculty appointments at the University of Kansas School of Medicine.

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A renowned infertility expert and nationally recognized clinical scientist, Dr. Montgomery Rice serves on numerous professional and scientific advisory panels, national industry boards and has authored more than 50 medical research articles.

The inauguration ceremony for Dr. Montgomery Rice is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 11, followed by a celebratory weekend of community-focused health events. To learn more about the inauguration weekend, visit www.MSM.edu.

About Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM)

Founded in 1975, MSM is among the nation's leading educators of primary care physicians and was recently recognized as the top institution among U.S. medical schools for our social mission. Our faculty and alumni are noted for excellence in teaching, research and public policy, as well as exceptional patient care.

Morehouse School of Medicine is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award doctorate and master's degrees.

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