Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell began her tenure as the President of Spelman College in 2015. During her time as President, major investments have been made in academic programs, technology infrastructure and the renewal of critical facilities on campus to provide students with enhanced learning opportunities and the best environment to support their growth. Spelman continues to rank No. 1 among HBCUs by US News and World Report. Dr. Campbell will retire, effective June 30, 2022.

Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr.

The late Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. was the Founding President of Clark Atlanta University, first as President of Clark College in February 1988 and oversaw its union with Atlanta University. As President he launched phase one of the institution's first Capital Campaign “The University for a New Day Campaign,” which exceeded its $9 million goal by raising $11.5 million. The Research Center for Science and Engineering was named for him in recognition of his service of more than 30 years as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry and founding President of the university. Dr. Cole also served as President of West Virginia State College (now University) from 1982-1986 and the Chancellor of the West Virginia Board of Regents.

Dr. Kevin James

In 2020, Dr. Kevin James was appointed as the 19th President of Morris Brown College, after serving as Interim President since March 2019. Dr. James assumed leadership of the institution which lost its accreditation in 2002. With his rebranding approach, he has successfully leveraged #TheHardReset to campaign the restoration of Morris Brown, and as of April 2022, is now fully accredited as a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), and eligible to participate in financial aid programs and Title IV funding to support its students. Dr. James made history to become the first HBCU to regain accredited status after nearly 20 years.

Dr. William R. Harvey

Dr. William R. Harvey has served as President of Hampton University since 1978 with a 44-year tenure—one of the longest tenures of any sitting president of a college or university in the nation. Dr. Harvey’s financial leadership has sustained its financial stability balancing a surplus every year if his tenure. The endowment, which stood at $29 million, now exceeds $400 million. The university’s first capital campaign in 1979 raised $46.4 million. The most recent campaign had a goal of $200 million and raised $264 million. In 2003, the university secured a $92 million dollar grant to launch weather satellites into orbit—making it the first HBCU to be solely responsible for a major NASA mission. Dr. Harvey announced he will retire June 30, 2022.

Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough

Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough has served as the seventh President of Dillard University since 2012. Under his leadership, Dillard has experienced record levels of fundraising. Through increased engagement, alumni giving increased 19 percent, and the endowment grew from $48.6 million to $103 million. At the age of 32, he served as the Vice President for Student Affairs at Albany State University, and five years later, was named the 12th President of Philander Smith College. Dr. Kimbrough will retire effective, June 30, 2022, leaving the university with a 10-year reaccreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). As a former ELI Board Member, Dr. Kimbrough will be superseded by Dr. Rochelle L. Ford, a 2021 ELI Inaugural Fellow.
In May, Dr. Gisele Armond Abron was appointed as Associate Dean of Admissions and Assistant Professor for the School of Medicine at the University of Texas at Tyler, Health Science Center. Dr. Abron previously served as the University Registrar. Before lending her talents to UT at Tyler, she served as the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Registrar at Bennett College from 2016-2019.

**SNAPSHOT OF FELLOWS**

**Inaugural Community of Fellows:**
- Maria Arvelo Lumpkin, Stillman College
- Cherise Peters, Clark Atlanta University
- Dub Taylor, Allen University
- Anne Marie Waterman, Howard University

**2022 Community of Fellows:**
- Said Sewell, Atlanta University Center Consortium
- S. Keith Hargrove, Tuskegee University
- Andre Richardson, Jarvis Christian College

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE**

What an awesome second year of ELI! Our fellows are engaging in a 12-month, low residency model consisting of virtual and on-ground activities, coaching and mentoring, completion of micro-credentials, and participation in the HBCU ELI Alumni Network. From January-April, our second cohort of the “Community of Fellows” have completed virtual seminars based on core and executive competencies and standards. They also participated in 13-15 seminars that were led by 24 legacy leaders. We are pleased with the Fellows’ active engagement in the sessions and completing program evaluations to help strengthen the program. Further, we are excited about our current and alum Fellows who have received promotions as they move up the leadership ladder towards presidency in higher education. We are thankful for our donors, internal and external partners, speakers and presenters, HBCU ELI Board Members, The Council of HBCU Past Presidents, and friends who support and participate in the program.

**DR. ROCHELLE L. FORD ('21)**

Dr. Rochelle L. Ford, APR, will serve as Dillard University’s eighth president. Dr. Ford is currently the dean of Elon University’s School of Communications, where she leads more than 80 faculty and 1,500 students with six undergraduate major programs of study and one graduate program.

Dr. Ford is a 2021 Page Distinguished Service Award honoree and Fulbright scholar, and has received numerous accolades, including the PRSA National Capital Chapter’s Diversity Champion Award and PRSA’s National D. Parke Gibson Multiculturalism Award, among others.

Dr. Ford will be the second woman named as Dillard’s president in a permanent capacity. Dr. Bettye Parker Smith served as interim president 2004-2005 and Dr. Marvalene Hughes served as president 2005-2011. Superseding Dr. Walter Kimbrough, Dr. Ford will assume her role as president effective July 1, 2022.
DEAN’S MESSAGE

The origins of our beloved HBCUs and the mission of the Clark Atlanta School of Education remains deeply connected to the original purpose, aspirations, and legacy of HBCUs.

The School of Education faculty are dedicated educational professionals that prepare transformational leaders as highly qualified and credentialed educators, reflective practitioners, impactful administrators/leaders and engaged researchers who influence local and national educational policies and practices. It is our expectation that our graduates and our HBCU Executive Leadership Institute Fellows will address social justice issues related to diversity, equity, educational access, and opportunity for all citizens. This is our passion and our calling; you will hear it in our discourse and see it in our practices.

I am proud and humbled to serve as the Dean of a school which plays such a vital role in advancing the mission of Clark Atlanta University and the rich legacy of our HBCUs.

Welcome to Clark Atlanta University! Welcome home!

Dr. J. Fidel Turner, Jr., Professor and Dean, School of Education

Dr. Louis W. Sullivan, Chair

Dr. Louis W. Sullivan became the founding Dean and President of Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) in 1981 after the school received provisional accreditation of its 4-year curriculum leading to the M.D. and became a fully accredited medical school in April 1983. MSM was the only predominantly black medical school in the U.S. established in the 20th Century — for more than two decades. In 1989, under President George H.W. Bush, he was appointed U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHHS), making him the second African American to serve in this role. Dr. Sullivan is an active health policy leader, minority health advocate, author, physician, and educator. On July 1, 2002, he retired and was appointed President Emeritus. From 2002-2009 he served as chair of the President’s Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities under the George W. Bush Administration.

Mrs. Richard Taylor – Founding Director of the Center for Real Estate at Suffolk University; Past Vice President for Development for the Fidelity Mutual Fund

Dr. Marybeth Gasman – Samuel DeWitt Proctor Endowed Chair in Education and a Distinguished Professor at Rutgers University

Dr. Erroll Davis – Former Superintendent of Atlanta Public Schools; Past Chancellor of the University System of Georgia

Dr. Dorothy Cowser Yance – President Emerita, Johnson C. Smith University & Shaw University

Mr. Stephen Dolinger – Past Superintendent, Fulton County Schools; President Emeritus, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education

Dr. Barbara Hatton – Former President, Knoxville College & South Carolina State University

Dr. Joel Harrell – Special Advisor and Former Deputy Director, School Experience Group; Federal Student Aid, U.S. Dept of Education

Dr. George Ross – President Emeritus Central Michigan University and Former President Alcorn State University

Dr. Ronald Johnson – Former President, Clark Atlanta University

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