

Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG
President and Dean, Morehouse School of Medicine

Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG, provides a valuable combination of experience at the highest levels of patient care and medical research, as well as organizational management and public health policy. Marrying her management skills and strategic thinking to tackle challenging problems, she has a track record of redesigning complex organization's management infrastructures to reflect the needs of evolving strategic environments and position the organization for success.

The sixth president of Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) and the first woman to lead the free-standing medical institution, Montgomery Rice serves as both the president and dean. A renowned infertility specialist and researcher, she most recently served as dean and executive vice president of MSM, where she has served since 2011.

Prior to joining MSM, Montgomery Rice held faculty positions and leadership roles at various health centers, including academic health centers. Most notably, she was the founding director of the Center for Women's Health Research at Meharry Medical College, one of the nation's first research centers devoted to studying diseases that disproportionately impact women of color.

Dedicated to the creation and advancement of health equity, Montgomery Rice lends her vast experience and talents to programs that enhance pipeline opportunities for academically diverse students, diversifies the physician and scientific workforce, and fosters equity in health care access and health outcomes. To this end, she holds membership in many organizations and boards, such as the following: National Academy of Medicine, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, Board of Directors for Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine, Board of Directors for The Nemours Foundation, Board of Directors for UnitedHealth Group, Ni-Q Medical Advisory Team and the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans.

Montgomery Rice has received numerous accolades and honors. She was named to the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans and received the 2017 Horatio Alger Award. For two consecutive years (2016, 2017) Georgia Trend Magazine selected Montgomery Rice as one of the 100 Most Influential Georgians. Other honors include the following: Trumpet Vanguard Award (2015), The Dorothy Heights Crystal Stair Award (2014), National Coalition of 100 Black Women – Women of Impact (2014), YWCA – Women of Achievement (Atlanta-2014 and Nashville-2007), American Medical Women's Association Elizabeth Blackwell Medal (2011) and Working Mother Media Multicultural Women's Legacy Award (2011).

A Georgia native, Montgomery Rice holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology, a medical degree from Harvard Medical School and an honorary degree from the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Emory University School of Medicine and her fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at Hutzel Hospital.

Montgomery Rice is married to her fellow Georgia Institute of Technology alumnus, Melvin Rice Jr. They have two children: Jayne, a medical student at Harvard Medical School, and Melvin, a recent graduate from Ringling College of Art and Design.