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Morehouse Physics & Dual Degree Engineering Program: We *C.A.R.E.* Approach

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Growing the physics major at any undergraduate institution, especially Morehouse College – a private, all-male, liberal arts HBCU, can be very challenging. To address this challenge at Morehouse, the faculty and staff in the Department of Physics and Dual Degree Engineering Program (Physics & DDEP) are applying a methodology and pedagogical approach called “We *C.A.R.E.*” which stands for *C*urriculum, *A*dvisement, *R*ecruitment/*R*etention/*R*esearch, and *E*xtras. This approach utilizes an integrated strategy of cultural (family-orientated), collaborative (shared-governance), and career (personalized-pathways) modalities to provide the momentum of growing the physics major at Morehouse from 10-12 students to over 100 students in less than 5 years. Physics & DDEP at Morehouse, creatively, altered faculty course assignments, curriculum offerings, and departmental policies while expanding research projects, student organizations, and external collaborations. This method supplies a variety of meaningful, academic and research experiences for undergraduates at Morehouse and thoroughly prepares students for graduate studies or professional careers in STEM disciplines. Thus, a detailed overview of the “We *C.A.R.E.*” approach will be presented along with the Physics & DDEP vision, alterations and expansions in growing the physics major at Morehouse College.

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