



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**

TO: Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, and Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education Faculty, Staff, and Students

FROM: S. Jack Hu, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Usha R. Rodrigues, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

RE: Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education Announcement

Dr. Libby V. Morris, the Zell B. Miller Distinguished Professor of Higher Education, recently announced that she will step down from her role as Director of the Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education and return to the faculty, effective July 1, 2022.

Dr. Morris has provided outstanding leadership of the Institute of Higher Education since 2006, overseeing new instructional and outreach programs while significantly elevating its national profile. Under her leadership, the McBee Institute of Higher Education established an Executive Doctorate in Higher Education Management in Atlanta and a master's program in higher education. It also launched the Georgia College Advising Corps, which works in underserved high schools to increase the number of low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students in higher education. The Institute was 14th in the U.S. News and World Report ranking of higher education administration programs when Dr. Morris assumed the role of Director but is now consistently ranked in the top 10. In 2021, the Institute was named in honor of Dr. Louise McBee, a former UGA academic leader and state legislator.

Dr. Morris has served in a number of other leadership roles on campus. She was Vice Provost for Academic Affairs from 2010 – 2013 and twice served as UGA's interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. She delivered the fall 2019 Graduate Commencement address and was recognized with the Faculty Service Award from the UGA Alumni Association in 2021. Her additional honors include receiving the inaugural Spirit of Public Service and Outreach Award, the Institute for Women's Studies Faculty Award, and the Blue Key Faculty Service Award.

Scores of academic leaders, both at the University of Georgia and far beyond, are advancing higher education thanks to the leadership of Dr. Morris. Please join me in thanking her for her extraordinary dedication and continuing service to our institution as she returns to the faculty.

Information on the search for the next Director of the McBee Institute of Higher Education will be shared with recipients of this message and posted to provost.uga.edu.