

## Spelman Pathways: Creating Your Path to Life and Career Excellence

### Spelman College

The Spelman College QEP topic is *Spelman Pathways: Creating Your Path to Life and Career Excellence*. The aim is to prepare students for success as college graduates, as they approach and negotiate the world beyond the undergraduate experience. Whether they choose work or graduate/professional school, there are personal and professional skills associated with high performance in interviews and on-the-job challenges. To function well as the highly-competitive candidates that we seek to prepare, students at the early career stage must represent themselves maturely, and confidently showcase their entire range of skills, areas of expertise, and competencies. In this way, we can assist students to make suitable choices in both professional and personal life, leading to our ultimate goal for them—life and career success beyond Spelman College. Spelman has established two student learning outcomes and one student success goal for the QEP:

#### Student Learning Outcomes

- A. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the professional skills needed to compete in a dynamic work environment.
- B. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of holistic wellness and life preparedness skills.

#### Student Success Goal

- A. Improve life and career outcomes within six months of graduation as defined by improved post-baccalaureate placement rates.

Spelman Pathways will be conducted in phases, reflecting an integrated set of initiatives in support of the student learning and student success goals. As our primary tool to help students navigate these initiatives, we have established the pathway model to monitor year-to-year progress. Spelman Pathways incorporates important milestones that guide students through experiences that are intended to enhance the student's preparation for internship and a balanced post-baccalaureate life and career. We envision Spelman Pathways to be one element of structured mentoring conversations between students and advisors, a tool to prompt more in-depth discussions and thoughtfulness about career and life planning. As students engage the Spelman Pathways, they will have options for customizing it to their interests and circumstances, and the opportunity to earn badges recognizing their accomplishments.

Assessment of progress on the QEP will feature evaluations of two levels of proximate goals, each expected to drive momentum toward the ultimate QEP goal of increased post-baccalaureate placement.

For questions about the Spelman QEP, contact Venetta Coleman, PhD., Director of Institutional Effectiveness; [vcolema2@spelman.edu](mailto:vcolema2@spelman.edu).