This graphic presents prominent components of Morehouse College’s digital learning infrastructure (DLI), providing insight into the institution’s strategic priorities and principles guiding its efforts. They include:

1. leadership and vision,
2. coordination and partnership, and
3. centralized supports for faculty and students

Components are connected and mutually reinforcing. For example, leadership and vision instigated the Office of Online Education and Information Technology Service to create the bachelor’s degree program in business administration. Program development required internal coordination across departments and the Office of Online Education and Information Technology Service to approve courses. Partnership with 2U, an external service provider, supported initial capacity for course design and implementation as well as student advising. To achieve the vision of quality programming, administrators are building centralized supports that streamline communication and assistance with technology, course materials, and other elements of teaching and learning online.
ABOUT THE SERIES
This graphic is the second in a series of knowledge sharing resources created as part of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Digital Learning Infrastructure Capacity and Knowledge Sharing investment. As the learning consultant, Equal Measure partnered with the foundation’s Postsecondary Success team and with Howard University, Morehouse College, Paul Quinn College, and UNCF to inform foundation strategy as well as awareness about digital learning infrastructure that drives success for HBCU students specifically and equitable student success in higher education more broadly.

LEADERSHIP & VISION
MOREHOUSE STRATEGIC PLAN
Sets strategy and vision over five-year period, including the Morehouse Beyond Borders initiative, to expand Morehouse degree opportunities to nontraditional students and the college’s digital learning infrastructure (DLI) beyond occasional summer courses.

LEADERSHIP
Provost and Associate Provost of Online Education set direction and ensure coherence for DLI efforts across the College, starting with the bachelor’s degree in business administration.

COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIP
OFFICE OF ONLINE EDUCATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICE
This office drives the College’s DLI capacity building through expansion of the Morehouse Online team and coordination with internal and external partners.

INTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS
The division of Business Administration and Economics and other curriculum areas connect on course approval, design, and implementation with the Office of Online Education and Information Technology Service.

EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS
2U supports online course creation and delivery and provides student advising capacity early on. Librarians at the College and the Atlanta University Center provide access to online research tools that students need to be successful in their courses.

CENTRALIZED SUPPORTS FOR FACULTY & STUDENTS

FACULTY TRAINING AND SUPPORT
Hands-on training and virtual tools such as MyMathLab, Panopto, McGraw Hill Connect, and Labster support faculty use of technology and implementation of online courses.

FACULTY USE BEST PRACTICES FOR COURSE QUALITY
Quality Matters provides best practices for online course design and implementation.

TECHNOLOGIES AND INTEGRATION
Central supports for course delivery are provided by Blackboard for traditional students and by Moodle for nontraditional students enrolled in the online program. Both students and faculty receive training on Moodle.

AUTOMATING ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
The Morehouse Online team works toward automation of administrative processes to reduce burden for students and faculty and bring efficiency to enrollment.

STUDENT SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES
The College works to support more robust virtual connection among students and to centralize advising services and student resources through technologies such as Ellucian, Microsoft Teams, and WhatsApp.

MONITORING STUDENT SUCCESS
Faculty use Starfish for early alerts on student progress and areas for support.