



## National Space Biomedical Research Institute

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### **NSBRI Board of Directors adds Morehouse's Ofili**

HOUSTON – (Nov. 19, 2010) – Morehouse School of Medicine's (MSM's) Elizabeth O. Ofili, M.D., M.P.H., has been elected to the Board of Directors for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI). She is Associate Dean for Clinical Research at MSM.

“Dr. Ofili is a highly regarded researcher and a well-respected physician,” said Dr. Bobby R. Alford, NSBRI board chairman and chief executive officer. “Her academic, clinical and leadership experiences will be valuable assets to NSBRI as it seeks to protect astronaut health and improve health care on Earth.”

Ofili, a leader in preventive cardiology and women's health, has received more than \$20 million in research awards and authored more than 130 publications.

With 16 years at MSM, her current roles also include professor of medicine, chief of cardiology and director of MSM's Clinical Research Center. Ofili holds hospital appointments at several Atlanta-area hospitals.

“The NSBRI board is adding a wellspring of cardiovascular knowledge in Dr. Elizabeth Ofili,” said MSM president Dr. John E. Maupin, Jr. “She is extremely capable and I know her deep experience will help the Institute protect astronauts from cardiovascular health risks while they are in orbit for long periods.”

Prior to joining MSM, Ofili was a cardiologist at hospitals in Gadsden, Ala., from 1992 to 1994, while serving as an adjunct assistant professor of medicine at the St. Louis University Medical Center. She was an instructor of medicine at St. Louis University from 1990 to 1992.

Ofili received her bachelor's and medical degrees from Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria. She then moved to the United States, and received a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University in 1983. Her postdoctoral training was highlighted by a

fellowship with echocardiography pioneer Dr. Arthur D. Hagan at the University of Oklahoma, after which she completed a clinical and research fellowship in cardiology at Washington University, St. Louis.

Throughout her career, Ofili has received numerous awards, including the National Institute of Health's Preventive Cardiology Academic Award. She has been the recipient of the Dr. Daniel Savage Scientific Award and the Nannette K. Wenger Award for Health Policy.

Ofili is a past president of the National Association of Black Cardiologists, has served on the Board of Trustees for the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Subspecialty Board of Cardiovascular Diseases of the American Board of Internal Medicine. She is a member of the American Medical Association and the American College of Cardiology, an elected member of the Association of University Cardiologists, and a life member of the Association of Black Cardiologists, and the editor-in-chief for the *Digest of Urban Cardiology*.

NSBRI is a NASA-funded consortium of institutions studying the health risks related to long-duration spaceflight and developing countermeasures to mitigate the risks. The Institute's science, technology and education projects take place at more than 60 institutions across the United States. Morehouse School of Medicine is a member of the NSBRI consortium.

NSBRI projects address space health concerns, which include bone and muscle loss, cardiovascular alterations, radiation exposure, neurobehavioral and psychosocial factors, remote medical care, and habitability and performance issues. Research findings also impact the understanding and treatment of similar medical conditions experienced on Earth.

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