



The·VERITAS·FORUM™

Northeast region, University
Engagement Director

V — what is — VERITAS?

The Veritas Forum is a fast-growing, strategic ministry that partners with Christian thought leaders, professors and campus ministries to engage universities and the broader public square with life's most important questions. Veritas Forums put the Christian faith in dialogue with other beliefs and invite participants from all backgrounds to pursue Truth together.

The ministry's core initiative, Veritas Forums, is a series of high-profile university programs that engage students and faculty from a range of worldviews in intellectually rigorous dialogue around life's hardest questions and the relevance of Jesus Christ to those questions.

The Veritas Forum also publishes thought-provoking content for broader audiences and provides a unique platform for leading Christian academics and innovators to become public intellectuals.

The first Veritas Forum took place at Harvard University in 1992 and in the quarter century since that first Forum, more than 600,000 students, faculty, and university community members at 200 universities in North America, Europe and Asia have participated.

The Need

University students are graduating into the most complex world in human history. To navigate this world students will need skill and vocational training, which the modern research university provides so well. They will also need deep reservoirs of wisdom and grace only a biblically-grounded faith in Christ can provide. Unfortunately, over one third of current students have no religious affiliation and only forty percent consider religion (including Christianity) to be important in their lives. Simply put, for an increasingly large proportion of students Jesus Christ is considered irrelevant.

Compounding this, many leading universities (though certainly not all) are drawing away from the grand project of human formation at the center of the university. Students are largely left to their own devices to define a vision for a life worth leading.

The Veritas Forum exists to meet those dual challenges. It exists to help students and faculty ask life's big questions and to present Christ as the answer to those questions.

“The Veritas Forum provides a most needed spark for people to have the conversations about their beliefs; our culture offers scarcely few opportunities for these types of sparks which is why we support this strategic Kingdom work wholeheartedly.”

— Ben Chelf, Veritas Board Member



A proven model that has become a growing movement

Today we witness a divided country. Many universities are fractured over questions of free speech, care for students, open inquiry, and the place of religious belief. It is in this tumult of mind and culture that The Veritas Forum thrives, modeling civil discourse and presenting the beautiful and credible Gospel message as a contrast to a post-truth world.

The Veritas Forum invites students and faculty to ask life's hardest questions. With a commitment to courageous discourse it puts the historic Christian faith in dialogue with other beliefs and invites participants from all backgrounds to pursue Truth together. Through these public events, attracting hundreds and sometimes thousands of students each, Veritas Forums offer:

- A unique strategy for engaging the university - attracting believers and skeptics from all levels of the university
- An opportunity for Christian students to spread the gospel to their peers and for non-Christian students to hear the gospel in a fresh way
- A framework for cross-ministry collaboration and unity
- An opportunity to develop student leaders during the planning of annual Veritas Forum events
- A proven model that leverages Veritas Forums 25+ years of experience

Over the last five years Veritas Forums have seen:





Prioritizing Partnerships

Veritas Forums bring Christian campus ministries together, unified in their quest to restore an understanding of the Gospel to the University. The campus ministers and students Veritas partners with year-after-year serve as on-campus Forum planners and discussion group leaders, and they provide follow-up after Forums. They are the true front lines for Veritas Forums and Veritas works hard to provide them with world-class tools, resources, speakers and support. This year Veritas is partnering with over 2,000 different campus ministers, student planners and churches to provide funding, coaching planning and follow-up support.

What our partners are saying:

"[The Veritas Forum] is a model that has great respect for individuals and great respect for institutions. It aligns very closely with the vision, the hope and the purpose of our campus ministry. I think in the long run it is a really important partnership for faithful witness over the course of years and decades at a place like Northwestern." - Luke Miedema, Reformed University Fellowship Campus Pastor, Northwestern University

"As a Christian on a supposedly "safe space" campus, I have found it difficult to voice my beliefs and hear others of similar opinions. Veritas creates a genuinely safe environment that lets me feel safe and able to speak openly." - CRU STUDENT PLANNER, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, ST. LOUIS

"It made me think about how a Christian should speak out and defend their faith, like the Christian speaker did so well in this event. It inspired me to be more courageous in my own Christian walk." - UNDERGRADUATE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY





The Opportunity



The Veritas Forum has grown significantly over the last few years, from 2012 – today:

- From 12 to 77 Christian Scholars and Future Forum Presenters trained
- From 85 to 135 annual Veritas Forums hosted across 11 countries
- From 400 to 2,000 campus minister and student volunteers mobilized per year
- From 600k to 2.4M online views of Veritas Forum content
- From \$900k to >\$2.7M in annual funding for this work

To continue to deepen this work **we are recruiting for a University Engagement Director** who will serve campus ministry and student partners to host Forums at universities across New England. This

role will be based out of our Cambridge, MA headquarters.

“In my own efforts to make disciples of Jesus, I oftentimes lack a safe, compelling middle-ground to invite my friends... into that isn't church. An event like this becomes an effective catalyst for inviting my [friends] deeper into conversations of identity, purpose, and faith.”

— *Veritas Forum participant*





Responsibilities

The Northeast Region University Engagement Director will be responsible for leading Veritas' University Forums and related activities at campuses across New England, including:

- Lead team development and event execution of Veritas Forums on 10-20 campuses each academic year, depending on if they are working at full or part time capacity
- Build strong, trust-based relationships with campus ministers and students on their campuses and with regional staff (e.g., area directors, regional directors), with the goal of building a self-replicating Veritas movement composed of partner ministries and students on each campus.
- Act as a University engagement “consultant”, guiding the campus team to make strong decisions regarding engagement approach, outreach strategy, and Forum components (i.e., presenters, topics and formats) that will best engage their campuses.
- Act as a bridge between the campus team and national resources (i.e., drawing on best practices, engaging with latest campus trends, recruiting and hosting speakers on campus).
- Participate in broader strategic and operational work of Veritas, as needed.
- University Engagement Directors will work closely with the VP of Forums and other Veritas staff and advisors. Regular travel to regional campuses is required (all costs will be covered, 2-3 visits per campus per year etc.)

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have at least 3-5+ years of relevant work experience and a track record of excellence in a campus ministry and/or private sector environment (e.g., campus ministry leadership experience, start-up experience, Teach for America, consulting etc.). This role will be based at Veritas headquarters in Cambridge, MA.

Qualified applicants should:

- Be a mature and growing Christian. Their passion for Christ should be grounded in the regular disciplines of Bible study, prayer and fellowship with other believers in the context of a local church, and be evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.
- Resonate with the thoughtful, rigorous exploration of the Christian faith and will connect well with campus ministry partners who are highly educated, well-read and embrace a robust spiritual life exercising both the mind and heart.
- Have several years of relevant work experience, either within a university or campus ministry context or other performance-driven, private sector organizations
- Possess strong event management and execution skills, with an eye for all the details of executing a top-notch Forum
- Have a demonstrated track record of cultivating trust-based relationships that allows them to influence and mobilize colleagues and partners.
- Be highly entrepreneurial and self-directed, able to lead teams to execute top-notch Forums with targeted guidance and coaching from the VP of University Engagement
- Demonstrate excellent written and verbal communication skills, along with strong analytical thinking and problem solving abilities
- Have a passion for the university, intellectual grasp of the strategic role of the university and its ideas in American culture
- Possess a passion for ideas-driven ministry engagement and grasp the needs and opportunities for the gospel to relate to and shape culture
- Ability to travel ~15%-25% of the year on average
- Have a bachelor's degree.

Interested persons should email a cover letter and resume to jobs@veritas.org. Questions are also welcome.

