



The·VERITAS·FORUM™

University Engagement Director

V — *what is* — VERITAS?

The Veritas Forum is a fast-growing, strategic ministry that partners with Christian professors, campus ministries, and thought leaders, to engage universities and the broader public square with life's big questions. The Veritas Forum puts the Christian faith in dialogue with other beliefs and invites participants from all backgrounds to start conversations that matter.

Although The Veritas Forum has several programs (e.g., Veritas Academy, Augustine Collective, etc.), its flagship initiative is Veritas Forums, which are high-profile university events that engage students and faculty from a range of worldviews in dialogue marked by rigor and respect around life's big questions and the relevance of Jesus Christ to those questions.

The first Veritas Forum took place at Harvard University in 1992 and, since then, more than 600,000 students and faculty at 200 universities around the world have participated.

The Need

University students are graduating into the most complex world in human history. To navigate it, students need skill and vocational training, which the modern research universities provide well. They will also need deep reservoirs of wisdom and grace that only a biblically-grounded faith in Christ can provide. Unfortunately, over 33% of current students have no religious affiliation and only 40% consider religion, including Christianity, to be important in their lives. Simply put, for an increasingly large proportion of students, Jesus is considered irrelevant.

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

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 whole-heartedly.

— Ben Chelf, Veritas Board Member



A Proven Model in a Growing Movement

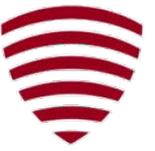
Today we witness a divided country. Many universities are fractured over questions of free speech, care for students, open inquiry, and the place of religious belief. In this tumult of mind and culture, The Veritas Forum thrives, modeling civil discourse and presenting the beautiful and credible gospel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

With a commitment to rigorous and respectful discourse, The Veritas Forum puts the historic Christian faith in dialogue with other beliefs and invites participants from all backgrounds to pursue truth together. Through these public events, Veritas Forums offer:

- A unique strategy for engaging the university—attracting believers and seekers from all levels of the university, enabling Christian students to share the gospel with their peers, and inviting non-Christian students to hear the gospel in a fresh way
 - A framework for cross-ministry collaboration and unity, and for developing student leaders during the planning of Forum events
 - An opportunity to create an event that serves the university on its own terms in a way that the university itself receives the Forum dialogue as a gift to the campus
 - An opportunity to advance the plausibility of Christianity as relevant in the public square, not a faith practiced “in a corner” (Acts 26:26)
 - A proven model that leverages The Veritas Forum’s 25+ years of experience
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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 with whom Veritas partners 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.

What our partners say:

"[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 in 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 125 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 over \$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 the country. This role

will be based out of our headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

“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 University Engagement Director will be responsible for leading Veritas’s University Forums and related activities at campuses across the country. He or she will work closely with the Vice President of Forums and other Veritas staff and advisors. Regular travel to campuses is required, and all costs will be covered.

In addition to participating in the broader strategic and operational work of Veritas, as needed, the University Engagement Director will have three main responsibilities:

- **EXECUTE 15—20 FORUMS ON EXISTING CAMPUSES**
 - Lead team development and event execution of Veritas Forums on 15—20 campuses (where we already work) each academic year
 - Continue to cultivate strong, trust-based relationships with campus ministers and students on their campuses and, where appropriate, regional staff
 - Act as an engagement “consultant,” guiding the campus team’s decisions on engagement approach, outreach strategy, and Forum components (e.g., presenters, topics, formats) that will best serve their campuses
 - Act as a bridge between the campus team and national resources, e.g., drawing on best practices, engaging with campus trends, recruiting speakers, etc.
- **LAUNCH 5 FORUMS ON NEW CAMPUSES**
 - Launch 5 Forums each year on *new* campuses (where Veritas has not hosted a Forum in the past 5 years) and engage with these new campuses in the same way as outlined above for existing campuses
- **IDENTIFY 5 POTENTIAL FELLOWS**
 - Identify 5 strong individual partners on campuses who may be interested in becoming a Veritas Fellow, a new program to launch in Spring 2019

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, Massachusetts.

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 high-level programs
- 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 Forums and Content
- 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 bethany@veritas.org. Questions are also welcome.

