

Erskine "Chuck" Faush, Jr. serves as the Chief Development, Innovation & Growth Officer at Miles College and is the Founder in Residence and CEO of the 2150 Center for Innovation, Commercialization & Growth. In these roles, he leads initiatives that significantly impact the local and regional economy, generating nearly

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\$70 million and creating numerous on- and off-campus jobs. The 2150 Center contributes to the annual \$16 billion economic impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) by providing essential tools and resources to entrepreneurs, students, and faculty, thereby enhancing research capabilities and facilitating the commercialization of ideas into patents and market-ready products.

Before assuming his current positions, Faush held several key roles across public, nonprofit, and private sectors, where he led teams in transformative projects and programs. As Chief of Staff for the Mayor of Birmingham, Alabama, he directed internal and external teams, as well as community and economic development stakeholders. Notably, he produced a multicity civil rights campaign that culminated in the designation of a Historic National Park Monument by President Barack Obama, securing perpetual national funding for the city. In the private sector, Faush served as Chief Development & Innovation Officer for the Chicago Urban League, where he developed new programs and achieved both top and bottom-line growth. At Nicor Gas, a Southern Company subsidiary, he led the Community & Economic Development Team in attracting industries to Illinois, earning the team International Economic Development Council Bronze and Silver Awards for innovative and public-private partnerships.

Faush's career began in multimedia and marketing, where he produced nationally syndicated programming and corporate media platforms as part of the senior leadership team at one of the nation's largest privately held broadcast companies. His media credits include BET Networks, ESPN, Fox Sports, and the Inspiration Network. He also implemented the "Communities in Schools" program in Georgia and Alabama, demonstrating his commitment to educational initiatives.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Faush attended Alabama A&M University and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has completed executive education programs at NYU Stern School of Business and Yale University. Beyond his professional endeavors, Faush is an ordained Elder in the AME Zion Church, serving on its national Communications Board, and is actively involved with organizations such as the Chicago Humanities Board, Regions Bank Advisory Board, Emagine Foundation, and serves as Chairman of The Yard HBCU Initiative.