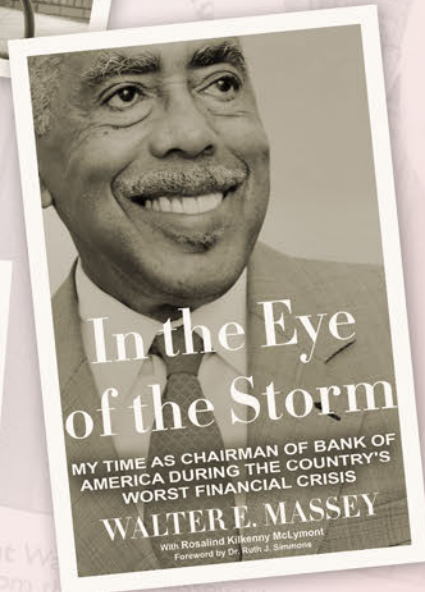
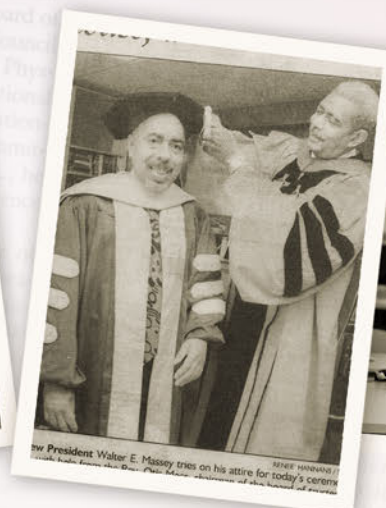
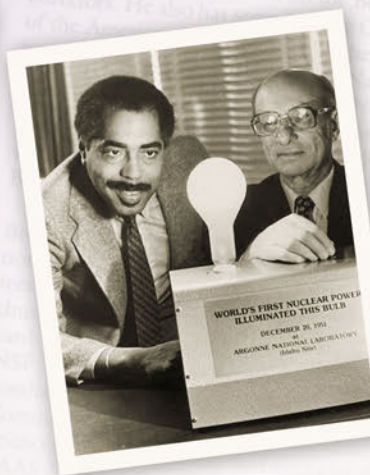
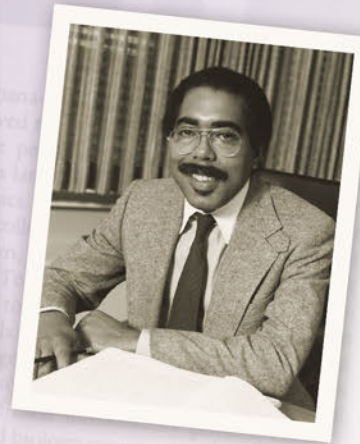


Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Walter E. Massey



1966
Ph.D., Physics,
Washington University
in St. Louis

1970s
Condensed Matter & Theoretical Physics Research
Pioneering research in quantum liquids and helium-3, advancing understanding of low-temperature atomic interactions.

1979–1998
National Research & Academic Leadership
Served as Director of Argonne National Laboratory, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of California system, President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Director of the National Science Foundation. Service also included Board of Trustees for the Rand Corporation, and on the Boards of BP, Continental Materials, The First National Bank of Chicago, the Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Motorola, and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

1987
Order of Lincoln Award
The highest civilian award presented by the State of Illinois.

1995–2007
President, Morehouse College

2001–2007
Board of Regents, Smithsonian Institution

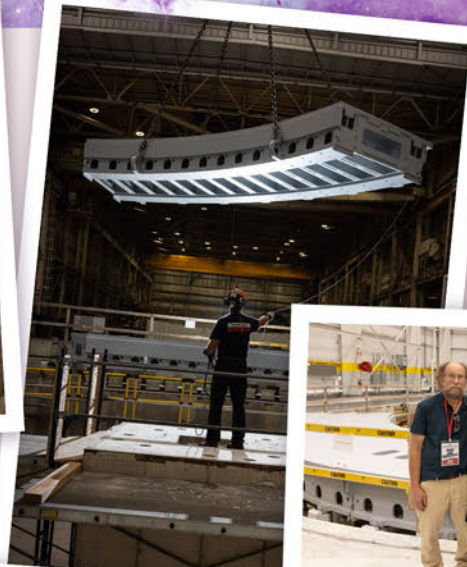
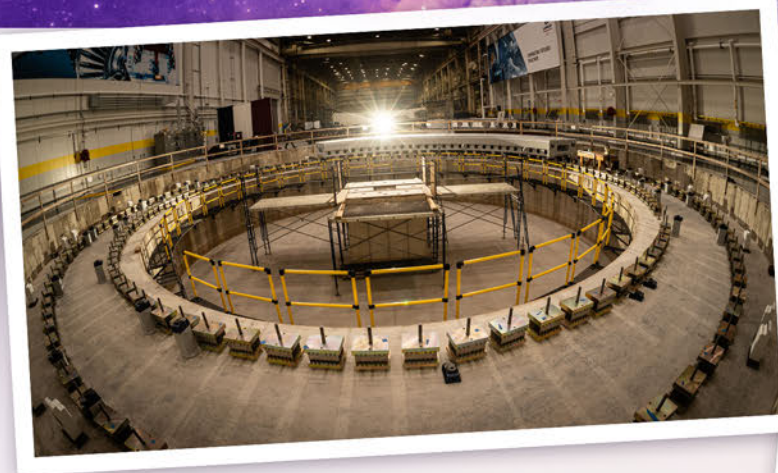
2010–2016
President & Chancellor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)

2009–2010
Chairman, Bank of America

2020
Author, In the Eye of the Storm

Dr. Walter E. Massey's career embodies a lifelong commitment to scientific discovery, education, and leadership. From his pioneering research in physics to his transformative impact as a university president and national science leader, Dr. Massey has advanced opportunities for innovation and inclusion across generations. As Chairman of the GMTO Corporation Board of Directors, he guided the project through a decade of extraordinary progress. Dr. Massey strengthened partnerships, supported key design and construction milestones, and helped secure nearly \$500 million in both private and public funding. His leadership exemplified the spirit of public-private collaboration, ensuring the Giant Magellan remains positioned for the future of discovery. His steady guidance, strategic insight, and commitment to partnership have left a lasting mark on the project and the scientific community.

Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Walter E. Massey



2016
Appointed as
Chairman of the
GMTO Board of
Directors

2017
Fifth Primary
Mirror Casting

2017
Arizona State
University Joins
Consortium

2019
Site Excavation,
Support Facilities,
and Infrastructure
Completed
Excavation, support facilities,
and infrastructure are complete
at Las Campanas Observatory,
establishing the foundation for
the telescope.

2019
Vannevar
Bush Award

2020
Gold Key Award,
Society of Sigma Xi

2021
Sixth Primary
Mirror Casting

2021
Weizmann Institute
of Science Joins
Consortium

2022–2023
Telescope Mount
Fabrication Begins
Fabrication of the 1,800-ton
telescope mount begins in
Illinois at Ingersoll Machine
Tools, turning years of
design and engineering
into reality.

2023
Seventh (Final)
Primary Mirror Cast
The final 8.4-meter mirror is
cast at the University of
Arizona's Mirror Lab,
completing the world's
largest optical mirror array.

2024
Academia Sinica
Institute of Astronomy
and Astrophysics
(ASIAA) Joins
Consortium

2024
Northwestern University
Joins Consortium

2025
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology (MIT)
Joins Consortium

October 2025
Steps Down as GMTO
Board Chair
After a decade of service, Walter
Massey retires as Chairman of
the GMTO Corporation Board of
Directors, leaving a giant legacy.