

HARRISON HONORS



Hartford Business Journal Lifetime Achievement Award

On November 2, 2016, President Harrison received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the *Hartford Business Journal*, a quarter century old award-winning business news publication in Greater Hartford. The annual Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes greater Hartford business leaders who are making a positive impact on future generations through their community outreach activities, teaching others by example, and providing the leadership and guidance that creates Hartford's future business leaders.

Upper Albany Main Street Distinguished Service Award



On March 16, 2017, Upper Albany Main Street (UAMS) presented President Harrison with a Distinguished

Service Award for his leadership of the University and his contributions in sustaining the UAMS mission which is to preserve, revitalize, and support the commercial district of Upper Albany Main Street in the city of Hartford. He was also celebrated for his leadership and involvement as a board member of major institutions, organizations, and agencies in greater Hartford.

Boy Scout Hall of Fame and Outstanding Citizen Award

On January 5, 2017, President Harrison was inducted into the CT River Council's Boy Scouts of America Mark Twain District Hall of Fame and received the Outstanding Citizen Award during an Eagle Scout Recognition dinner. An Eagle Scout himself, Harrison was recognized for his commitment to the Greater Hartford community, exemplifying the Eagle Scout's call to maintain a lifetime commitment to one's community.



Greenberg Center Panel Discussion

On April 6, 2017, the University's Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies honored President Harrison with a special event titled, "A Conversation on Academics and Athletics." Harrison, America East Conference Commissioner Amy Huchthausen, and ESPN reporter and host Andy Katz were panelists, and Greenberg Center Professor Avinoam Patt moderated the discussion. Harrison is nationally recognized for his work with the NCAA. He chaired the NCAA's Committee on Academic Performance from its creation in 2004 to 2014 and received the prestigious NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award in 2015 for his work to improve the academic success of student athletes. His doctoral dissertation, "Out of Play: Baseball Fiction from Pulp to Art," was one of the earliest scholarly treatments of baseball and its place in American life.

Throughout his final year as University president, Walter Harrison received many well-deserved honors and recognitions.



New England Board of Higher Education Excellence Award

On May 16, 2017, President Harrison was awarded the 2017 Connecticut Excellence Award during a ceremony at the State Capitol by the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). Each year, NEBHE presents awards to individuals and organizations in each New England state, “for exemplifying, through their work, excellence in promoting sound education practices and policies, efficient sharing of education resources, and leadership to strengthen the relationship between higher education and the economic well-being of New England.”

University Libraries renamed Harrison Libraries

On May 5, 2017, University Libraries became Harrison Libraries thanks to a group of anonymous donors whose multimillion-dollar gift to fund renovation and expansion of the library called for it to be renamed for President Harrison. The renovated building features a three-story glass back wall that faces the Park River. The main level addition houses a “learning commons” with study spaces and a new resource desk. The upper level addition features balconies that look out over the learning commons, and the ground floor is the new home of Allen Library.

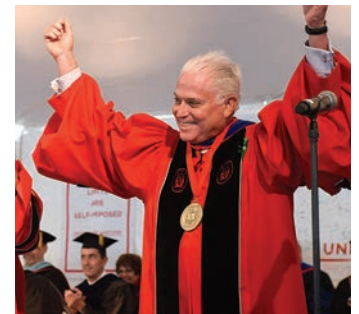


Faculty Senate Baseball Mementos

Also on May 16, 2017, the University faculty senate acknowledged that Harrison is a long-time major league baseball fan and gifted him with baseball-themed mementos. First, he was told of a contribution made in his name to Roberto’s Kids, an organization devoted to nurturing social responsibility by using baseball to bridge the gap between different cultures. The organization is named for one of Harrison’s favorite baseball players, the late Roberto Clemente, who played right field for 18 seasons with Harrison’s beloved Pittsburgh Pirates. They also presented Harrison with an “official” University of Hartford baseball jersey with the number 19 to recognize his years of service, and with his own personalized career baseball card, complete with achievements such as having congratulated more than 30,000 graduates during his presidency.

Walter Harrison Medal for Outstanding Leadership

While presiding over his final University of Hartford Commencement on May 20, 2017, President Harrison received a newly created University medal that is named in his honor. The Walter Harrison Medal for Outstanding Leadership recognizes extraordinary dedication to the University. Harrison’s presidency spanned nearly a third of the University’s 60-year history. During that time, he was always focused on providing an excellent educational experience for students—and he monitored that experience by teaching classes, attending performances and athletic events, and talking to students while on frequent walks across campus.



HARRISON HONORS *CONTINUED*



Official Portrait Unveiled

On June 15, 2017, President Harrison's official portrait was unveiled during a farewell dinner hosted by the Board of Regents in the newly expanded space inside Harrison Libraries. The portrait hangs in the library alongside the portraits of four previous presidents. During the dinner it was announced that the regents granted Harrison the status of president emeritus.



University High School of Science and Engineering Graduation

On June 20, 2017, President Harrison delivered the keynote address at the University High School of Science and Engineering (UHSSE) graduation. Harrison was instrumental in the founding of UHSSE in 2004, making UHart the first private university in the country with two public magnet schools on campus—UHSSE and the University of Hartford Magnet School.

Rising Star Award

On June 8, 2017, President Harrison received a "Rising Star Award" at an annual awards breakfast at the Connecticut Convention Center hosted by the MetroHartford Alliance, a business and economic development organization in the Hartford region, and the *Hartford Business Journal*. The award recognizes individuals and institutions that, through their leadership and accomplishments, are making "sustainable differences" in Hartford and the surrounding region.



America East Academic Cup Renamed to Honor Harrison

On June 21, 2017, the America East Athletic Conference, of which UHart is a member, announced that its Academic Cup is now named the Walter Harrison Academic Cup. The Cup, which is the America East's highest academic institutional honor, is presented annually to the college or university whose student athletes post the highest grade point average during that academic year. Just a week after the Cup was renamed, the Hawks won it for 2016-17. Combining for a grade point average of 3.31—the highest GPA ever for an America East institution—the Hawks won the cup for the fifth time in six years.

