

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
RECIPIENTS OF HONORARY DEGREES

Before 1964, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee had no separate Honorary Degrees Committee but had representation on the All-University Committee. This committee selected Mayor Frank P. Zeidler to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in June 1958, and agreed that the honor be bestowed at the UWM Commencement rather than the one in Madison.

On April 9, 1964, the UWM faculty voted to establish a "Committee on Honorary Degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee". (Fac. Doc. #265).

- 1966: Ralph J. Bunche**, Undersecretary of the United Nations
- 1967: Donald E. Hornig**, Special Assistant to President Johnson for Science and Technology (Doctor of Science)
- 1968: Jean I. Gottman**, Professor of Geography, Sorbonne (Doctor of Laws)
Hans Kurath, Professor Emeritus of English, University of Michigan (Doctor of Humane Letters)
A. Philip Randolph, Vice President, AFL/CIO, and President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (Doctor of Laws)
- 1969: R. Buckminster Fuller**, Professor, Southern Illinois University (Doctor of Architectural Engineering)
Lusica Chase, Co-Director, American Ballet Theatre (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Merle E. Curti, Professor Emeritus of History, U. of Wisconsin (Doctor of Humane Letters)
George Polya, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Stanford University (Doctor of Science)
Allen M. Slichter, Chairman of the Board, Pelton Steel Casting Co. (Doctor of Laws)
E. C. G. Sudarshan, Professor of Physics, Syracuse University (Doctor of Science)
Sol Tax, Professor of Anthropology, University of Chicago (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1970: John Leighly**, Professor Emeritus of Geography, UC-Berkeley (Doctor of Science)
Elmer L. Winter, President, Manpower, Incorporated (Doctor of Laws)
- 1971: Angie Elizabeth Brooks**, Delegate, former President, UW Assembly (Doctor of Laws)
Joseph F. Heil, Chairman of the Board, Heil Company (Doctor of Laws)
Konrad Bates Krauskopf, Professor of Geochemistry, Stanford (Doctor of Science)
William Gorham Rice, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Law, U. of Wisconsin (Doctor of Laws)
- 1972: Delwin C. Jacobus**, President, Jacobus Company (Doctor of Laws)
Hans Mayer, Professor, German Literature, Technische Universitat, Hannover; Carol Schurz Memorial Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Robert von Neumann, Professor Emeritus of Art and Art Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Fine Arts)

- 1973:** **Germaine Brée**, Professor of French Literature, University of Wisconsin (Doctor of Literature)
Paul H. Emmett, Professor Emeritus, Surface Science and Catalysis, Johns Hopkins (Doctor of Science)
Evan P. Helfaer, President, Lakeside Laboratories (Doctor of Law)
Virginia Satir, Founder, Mental Health Research Institute, Palo Alto, California (Doctor of Social Science)
- 1974:** **I. W. Abel**, Union Leader, Former President, United Steelworkers (Doctor of Laws)
Earl S. Johnson, Professor Emeritus, Social Science, University of Chicago (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1975:** **Eric Bentley**, Critic and Playwright (Doctor of Fine Arts)
Margaret Pollitzer Hoben, Civic Leader (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Robert Louis Manegold, Industrialist (Doctor of Commercial Science)
Emil Francis Mosonyi, Professor of Water Resource Engineering, Karlsruhe (Doctor of Science)
- 1976:** **W. Eugene Smith**, Photographer, Author, Journalist, and Teacher (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1977:** **Marya Zaturenska Gregory**, Poet, Biographer and Critic (Doctor of Literature)
Horace Gregory, Poet, Critic, Translator and Literary Historian (Doctor of Literature)
N. Scott Momaday, Novelist, Poet, Teacher and Scholar (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1978:** **Robert Thaddeus Foote**, Chairman of the Board, Universal Foods Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)
Elizabeth F. McCoy, Professor Emeritus of Bacteriology, University of Wisconsin (Doctor of Science)
Arthur Miller, Playwright, Novelist and Essayist (Doctor of Fine Arts)
Robert M. White, Chairman, Climate Research Board, National Academy of Science (Doctor of Science)
- 1979:** **Vladimir Haensel**, Vice President, Universal Oil Products, Inc. (Doctor of Science)
Barbara Nichols, President, American Nurses' Association (Doctor of Science)
Richard Henry Nolte, Executive Director, Institute for Current World Affairs, American Geographical Society; Former Ambassador to United Arab Republic (Doctor of Science)
- 1980:** **Edmund N. Bacon**, Urban Designer and Planner (Doctor of Architecture)
Alfred Robert Bader, President, Sigma-Aldrich Corporation (Doctor of Science)
James G. March, Educator and Organizations Theorist (Doctor of Laws)
David S. Shapiro, Rabbi, Congregation Anshe Sfard, Biblical and Judaic Scholar (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1981:** **Avraham Many**, Physicist, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Doctor of Science)
Kenneth Milton Stamp, Professor of History, UC-Berkeley (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1982:** **Fred Harvey Harrington**, Former President, University of Wisconsin (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Max Henry Karl, Chairman of the Board, MGIC Investment Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)

- 1983:** **Catherine B. Cleary**, Banker (Doctor of Commercial Science)
Henry S. Reuss, Former Member of Congress (Doctor of Laws)
Wesley L. Scott, Executive Director, Milwaukee Urban League (Doctor of Public Service)
Alice Helen Streng, Professor Emerita of Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1984:** **J. Martin Klotsche**, Chancellor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Humanities)
Otto Luening, Composer (Doctor of Music)
I. Andrew Rader, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Office, Allen-Bradley (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 1985:** **Carl W. Moebius**, Director, Moebius Printing Company (Doctor of Humanities)
Clifford H. Mortimer, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Science)
Theodore Shabad, Geographer and Journalist (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1986:** **Wilbur Cohen**, Professor of Public Affairs, University of Texas (Doctor of Humanities)
Brenton H. Ruppel, Chairman of the Board, Robert W. Baird & Company (Doctor of Public Service)
Herman Weil, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Public Service)
Nathaniel K. Zelazo, President and Chairman of the Board, Astronautics, Inc. (Doctor of Engineering)
- 1987:** **Helmut Beinert**, Professor of Biochemistry, Medical College of Wisconsin (Doctor of Science)
Sol Burstein, Vice Chairman, Wisconsin Electric Power Company (Doctor of Science)
Richard D. Harza, Chairman of the Board, Harza Engineering Company (Doctor of Science)
W. Thomas Edmondson, Professor Emeritus, University of Washington (Doctor of Science)
Lukas Foss, Conductor Laureate, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (Doctor of Music)
E. J. Josey, Professor of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh (Doctor of Public Service)
- 1988:** **(May)**
Edith Finlayson, Former UW System Regent and Civic Leader (Doctor of Public Service)
Sheldon B. Lubar, President, Mortgage Associates; President and Founder, Lubar and Company (Doctor of Commercial Science)
(December)
Marian Wright Edelman, President and Founder, Children's Defense Fund (Doctor of Humanities)
- 1989:** **(May)**
Roger L. Fitzsimonds, President and Chief Operating Officer of the First Wisconsin Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)
Sidney Greenbaum, Quain Professor of English at University College in University of London; Former Faculty Member at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Humanities)
Lillian Leenhouts, Architect; Co-Founder of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's School of Architecture and Urban Planning (Doctor of Humanities)

- 1990: (May)**
George F. Kennan, Former Ambassador to the Soviet Union; Political Scholar (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Frank J. (Jack) Pelisek, Milwaukee Attorney; Community Leader; Advocate for University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- (December)**
Frank P. Zeidler, Former Mayor of Milwaukee; Community Leader (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1991: (May)**
Chauncy D. Harris, Professor Emeritus, University of Chicago; Geographer (Doctor of Science)
Filiberto Murguia, Executive Director, Council for the Spanish Speaking; Alumnus, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Public Service)
- (December)**
Cyril O. Houle, Professor Emeritus, University of Chicago; Eminent Scholar Adult and Continuing Education; Sr. Program Consultant, W.K. Kellogg Foundation (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- 1992: (May)**
Warren P. Knowles, Former Governor of the State of Wisconsin; President, The Newton Fund (Doctor of Public Service)
- (December)**
Lucius J. Barker, William Bennett Munro Professor of Political Science, Stanford University; Leading Scholar, US Constitutional Law and Racial Politics (Doctor of Laws)
- 1993: Reverend Leon Howard Sullivan**, Pastor Emeritus of Zion Baptist Church, Philadelphia PA; Highly influential African-American pastor and businessman; Founder, The Opportunities Industrialization Centers (Doctor of Social Welfare)
- 1994: (May)**
Lois Ehlert, Author, Illustrator and Designer (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Nancy Oestreich Lurie, Curator Emerita, Milwaukee Public Museum; Anthropologist (Doctor of Humanities)
- 1995: (May) Dr. Phil Skolnick**, Neuroscientist; Chief, Laboratory of Neuroscience, National Institutes of Health (Doctor of Science)
- 1996: (May)**
Dr. Alfred M. Beeton, Director, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (Doctor of Science)
Dennis J. Kuester, President, Marshall & Ilsley Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 1997: (May)**
Dr. Norman A. Graebner, Diplomatic Historian; Milwaukee State Teachers College Alumnus; Professor Emeritus, University of Virginia (Doctor of Humane Letters)
- (December)**
George Sopkin, Cellist; Founder, New England Quartette; Co-founder, Fine Arts Quartet based at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Doctor of Fine Arts)

1998: (May)

Ashley Bryan, Award Winning Author and Illustrator of Children's Literature, Artist, Folklorist and Poet (Doctor of Humanities)

Jean B. Tyler, Former Executive Director, Milwaukee Public Policy Forum (Doctor of Public Policy)

1999: (May)

James Cameron, Civil Rights Advocate; Founder and Director, America's Black Holocaust Museum (Doctor of Humanities)

1989:

2000: (May)

Dr. Arnold E. Aronson, Sr. Consultant Emeritus, Division of Medical Speech Pathology, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic; Professor Emeritus, Speech Pathology, Mayo Medical School (Doctor of Science)

Vel R. Phillips, Attorney at Law; Former Wisconsin Secretary of State; Milwaukee Common Council Member; First African-American Female: Graduate of UW Law School; Member of National Democratic Committee, and State of Wisconsin Judge (Doctor of Laws)

(December)

Dr. Robert Ballard, Marine Geologist; Creator of the Jason Project and Discoverer of Titanic wreck (Doctor of Science and Humane Letters)

2001: (May)

Lloyd A. Barbee, Attorney-at-Law and Former Wisconsin State Representative (Doctor of Public Policy)

Herbert Grabes, Professor of English and American Literature, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, Germany (Doctor of Humane Letters)

Bernard J. Peck, Retired Chief Operating Officer, Peck Foods (Doctor of Fine Arts)

2002: (May)

Wallace McClain Cheatham, Music Specialist, Elm Creative Arts School (Doctor of Fine Arts)

2003: (May)

Michael Cudahy, Co-Founder, Marquette Electronics (Doctor of Science)

Iwao Iwamoto, Professor of American Literature, Reitaku University, Chiba Japan and Professor Emeritus, University of Tsukuba (Doctor of Humane Letters)

Ragunath A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research and Secretary of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Dehli, India (Doctor of Science)

2004: (May)

Richard Grigg, Executive Consultant, Fuel Tech, Retired President/CEO, We Generation (Doctor of Commercial Science)

Al Jarreau, Musician and Literacy Champion, Five Time Grammy Award Winner (Doctor of Fine Arts)

Frances Brock Starms, Educator, Author and Civic Leader (Doctor of Public Service)

- 2005: (May)**
Reuben K. Harpole, Educator & Civic Leader, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Edward J. Zore, President & Chief Executive Officer, Northwestern Mutual, Milwaukee, WI (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 2006: (May)**
Daniel J. Bader, Philanthropist & Civic Leader, Helen Bader Foundation, Milwaukee, WI (Doctor of Humane Letters)
Patricia Wells, Author, Journalist & Educator of Culinary Arts, International Herald Tribune, Paris, France (Doctor of Culinary Journalism)
Harvey D. Wilmeth, Business & Economics Leader, Northwestern Mutual, Milwaukee, WI (Doctor of Economics and Business)
- (December)**
Dr. Eugenie C. Scott, Executive Director, National Center for Science Education (Doctor of Science)
- 2007: (May)**
Daisaku Ikeda, President, Soka Gakkai International (Doctor of Humane Letters)
William D. Petasnick, President and CEO, Froedtert Hospital & Health System and Froedtert & Community Health System, Milwaukee, WI (Doctor of Health Sciences)
Hans G. Storr, Executive Vice President and CFO, Philip Morris Co., Inc. and Chairman and CEO; Philip Morris Capital Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 2008: (May)**
Leo Kottke, Musician (Doctor of Music Performance)
James L. Ziemer, CEO, Harley-Davidson Corporation, Milwaukee, WI (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 2009: (May)**
Branko Terzic, US Regulatory Policy Leader (Doctor of Science)
- 2010: (May)**
Bruce T. Block, Attorney, Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C. (Doctor of Architecture)
- 2011: (May)**
George Blumenthal, Chancellor, University of California-Santa Cruz (Doctor of Astrophysics and Leadership in Higher Education)
Gale E. Klappa, Chairman, President and CEO, Wisconsin Energy Corporation (Doctor of Commercial Science)
- 2012: (May)**
Will Allen, Founder and CEO, Growing Power, Inc. (Doctor of Agriculture)
Jacquelyn Fredrick, President and CEO, BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Inc. (Doctor of Business and Public Health)
Stephen H. Marcus, Chairman, The Marcus Corporation (Doctor of Business and Urban Development)

2013: (May)

John Gurda, Author, Historian and Broadcaster (Doctor of Milwaukee History and Geography)

Marianne Lubar, Arts Visionary, Philanthropist and Leader (Doctor of Leadership in the Arts)

Allan H. (Bud) Selig, Commissioner, Major League Baseball (Doctor of Business)

(Awarded May 2014)

Ashwani Kumar Gupta, Distinguished University Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland (Doctor of Energy and Engineering Science)

2014: (May)

John W. Daniels Jr., Attorney, Entrepreneur and Community Leader (Doctor of Business)

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Professor, History and African American Studies, Harvard University (Doctor of History)

Herb Kohl, Former Wisconsin U.S. Senator, Businessman and Public Servant (Doctor of Public Service and Education)

2015: (May)

Irene Bishop Goggans, Ethnographer and Community Historian of African American Life (Doctor of Community History)

Catherine A. Jacobson, President and CEO, Froedtert Health (Doctor of Health Care Leadership)

2016: (January)

Christiane Taubira, Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice of the French Republic (Doctor of Laws and Human Rights)

(May)

Doran "Danni" Gendelman, Founder, InterPlan Office Products, Inc. (Doctor of Great Lakes Education)

Scott B. Noegel, Professor, Musician, Artist and Filmmaker, University of Seattle (Doctor of Letters)

2016: (December)

Chris G. Kegel, President, CEO, and Sole Owner, Wheel and Sprocket (Doctor of Business)

2018: (May)

Daniel Egan, Great Lakes Reporter, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and Author (Doctor of Environmental Journalism)

Kenneth A. Germanson, Journalist and Labor History Educator (Doctor of Humane Letters)

2019: (May)

Marion E. Broome, Nurse Educator, Researcher and Administrator (Doctor of Science in Nursing Leadership)

Mary Kellner, Educator, Counselor, Mental Health Advocate and Philanthropist (Doctor of Educational Psychology)

2020: Virtual Commencement Ceremonies in May & December 2020 due to Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). According to Honorary Degree guidelines, Honorary degrees are not awarded in absentia. (SAAP 1-12)

2021: (May)

Robert W. Henderson, Curator of Herpetology Emeritus, Milwaukee Public Museum (Doctor of Herpetology)

David J. Lubar, President & CEO, Lubar & Company (Doctor of Business)

David D. McGaffey, Partner (Retired), Foley & Lardner, LLP (Doctor of Laws)

(December)

Tonit Calaway, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary of BorgWarner, Inc. (Doctor of Corporate and Community Relations)

Steven A. Davis, Former Chairman & CEO, Bob Evans Farms, Inc. (Doctor in Business)

Michael J. Falbo, Regent Emeritus, Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System (Doctor of Entrepreneurship)

Belinda Pittman, Founder and Executive Director, Nia Imani Family Inc. (Doctor of Community Health)

2022: (May)

Willem Dafoe, Actor (Doctor of Arts)

Judy Murphy, Chief Nursing Officer, IBM's Global Healthcare and Lifesciences Division (Doctor of Nursing)

Kevin Shafer, Executive Director, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (Doctorate in Freshwater Sciences and Water Resource Leadership)

Noble Wray, Retired Chief of Police, Madison; Expert Consultant on Issues Facing Law Enforcement (Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare)

2023: (May)

Mary V. Alfred, Professor, Adult Ed. & HR Development; Executive Director, Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning; Texas A&M University (Doctor of Adult and Continuing Education)

Peter Feigin, President, Milwaukee Bucks and Fiserv Forum (Doctor of Business)

(December)

Jack Zipes, Professor Emeritus of German, University of Minnesota (Doctor of Humanities)

2024: (May)

Jeffery Yabuki, Chairman of Motive Partners and former CEO of Fiserv, Inc. (Doctor of Business)