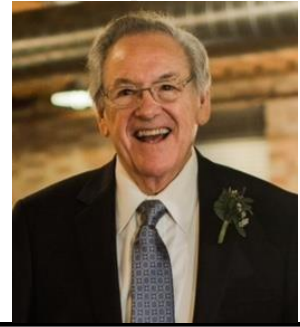


Robert V. M. Harrison*, FCSI



"In recognition of your dedication in education and in appreciation of your efforts throughout the construction industry, particularly with students of architecture at Mississippi State University, and for your long, continuous service to the Institute, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on this 29th day of June 1991."
San Diego, California



ROBERT VERNON MCELROY "BOB" HARRISON was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1935. His family moved to Oxford, Mississippi, where he attended University High School. He then went to the School of Engineering at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi, from 1953 to 1955. From 1955 to 1959 he attended Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana, graduating with a Bachelor of Architecture. On graduation day, he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. He served eight years, completing service at the rank of Captain.

Harrison began his career in the field of architecture in 1960 in Memphis, Tennessee. He worked with a small architectural firm before moving to Jackson, Mississippi, in 1962. He completed his architectural internship with a large architectural and engineering firm, then opened the Jackson, Mississippi firm of Jernigan, Hawkins & Harrison in 1965. In 1982, he became the sole owner of the firm, which offered consulting services to other architects and to legal firms on litigation issues.

In 1975, Bob graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, with a Master of Architecture. He then attended Freeman School of Business at Tulane University and graduated with a Master of Business Administration in 1984.

In 1973, Harrison was instrumental in establishing the School of Architecture at Mississippi State University (MSU). In 1977, he was appointed an adjunct faculty member of the school. He developed an Intern Architect Program (IDP) to fulfill the three-year requirement for all young architects

between education and examination, which became mandatory for architectural registration in all 50 states. He remained at MSU until 1990, when he retired from teaching. He retired from the architectural field in 1994.

Bob and his wife, Freda, continued to support the MSU School of Architecture financially. In 2013, Harrison received an honorary doctorate from Mississippi State University. An auditorium in Giles Hall, home of the College of Architecture, Art and Design, is named after Robert and Freda. The continuing Harrison Lecture Series is also named in their honor.

Bob became a Certified Construction Specifier in 1986. After serving as a member of the Institute Education Committee, he continued to serve that committee as an Education Consultant; it was the first time that designation had been used.

Harrison continued to serve the Mississippi Chapter in many capacities including chair of the Education, Certification, and Student Affiliates committees. His most rewarding experience in service to CSI was the pleasure he received in having mentored seven chapter presidents who were students in the Mississippi Chapter.

Bob served on the national AIA Board of Directors, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, and the National Architectural Accrediting Board. In 1980, he was elevated to Fellow of AIA. In 2013, he received the AIA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Harrison passed away on 29 December 2020 in Jackson, Mississippi.

CSI Membership

Mississippi Chapter, 1966

Institute Offices, Committees

Education Committee, FY 1990-94

Chapter Offices, Committees

President, FY 1976-1977

Awards

Institute

J. Norman Hunter Award, 1989

President's Plaque, 2003

Gulf States Region

Robert V. Bishop Award