

Hardin-Houston Wall of Honor



Dr. Ellen Harshman



After graduating from Houston High School in 1963 (class valedictorian), Ellen McCorkle Harshman, Ph.D., J.D. held positions in elementary (Vandalia-Butler Public Schools) and higher education (Wright State University and Ohio Dominican University). Moving with husband Carl to St. Louis in 1972, she joined Saint Louis University. A recognized leader at SLU, she held a number of positions in the academic and student development divisions. She was appointed Dean of the John Cook School of Business in 2003 (now the Chaifetz School), following roles as Senior Vice Provost and Interim CIO. She served as dean for a decade. In 2013, she was appointed Chief Academic Officer and served in that capacity until her retirement from full-time roles at SLU in July 2015. She continued her service from July 2015 to February 2019 leading the planning for

Saint Louis University's 2018 bicentennial celebration, after which she fully retired.

Ellen earned her undergraduate degree (summa cum laude) at Miami University, master's degree at Wright State University, and doctorate and law (cum laude) degrees at Saint Louis University. She was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 1992 and keeps her law license current.

Over her career, Ellen received many awards recognizing her teaching and service as a faculty member and academic leader. As a member of the management faculty, she taught legal environment of business, business law, management, and business ethics. She is the author of numerous refereed articles. Among the areas in which she has written and presented papers and programs are leadership development, legal and ethical issues in business and employment, and higher education leadership.

Active in the St. Louis region, Ellen was recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as one of the area's "Most Influential Business Women." She was selected by the Business Journal six times over a decade as one of St. Louis' "Most Influential Leaders." She is also a recipient of the CORO Leadership Award and was inducted into the YWCA Academy of Leaders and the Saint Louis University School of Law Order of the Fleur Leis.

She has served in numerous civic and professional organizations, most recently on the boards of directors of: Post Holdings, Civic Pride Foundation, St. Louis Archdiocesan Council of the St. Vincent DePaul Society and Webster University Board of Trustees. She is a member of the St. Louis Forum, Greater St. Louis, Inc. Executives in Residence, and Women Corporate Directors. Her work to advance business and management education in colleges and universities, domestically and worldwide, has gained her professional recognition and taken her around the world as a mentor, consultant, and evaluator.

Ellen and Carl live in Clayton Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis, and have 2 sons, Todd and Ryan, and 2 grandchildren, twins Toby and Sylvia.



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Dr. Ellen Harshman was inducted on December 6, 2025



Dr. Ellen Harshman and family on the night of her induction.