



Honorary Degree and President's Medal Recipients

Honorary Degrees

Colleges and universities select people to receive honorary degrees and serve as role models for our graduates. Honorary degrees are not simply earned by a course of study or even a course of achievement—they are earned by making significant contributions to our society. The University of Miami has been awarding honorary degrees since 1927.

An honorary degree or a degree *honoris causa*, (Latin: 'for the sake of the honour') is an academic degree for which a university has waived the usual requirements. The degree itself is typically a doctorate.

There are numerous doctoral degrees that may be awarded and many are specific to different countries and or universities. The University of Miami has awarded a number of different degrees and now typically awards the following honorary degrees: Doctor of Humane Letters (D.H.L.), Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) and Doctor of Science (D.Sc).

Candidates for a University of Miami honorary degree, or a degree *honoris causa*, are submitted to the University via a nomination process and must undergo a committee review and Board approval in order to be selected. For more information on how to apply [click here \(https://facultyaffairs.miami.edu/assets/pdf/honorary-degree-policy.pdf\)](https://facultyaffairs.miami.edu/assets/pdf/honorary-degree-policy.pdf).

The list of **Honorary Degree Recipients (HDR)** and Commencement Speakers is listed by the University of Miami President's tenure.

President's Medal

President Donna Shalala established the **President's Medal** ([../../../../assets/images/about-us/archives/presidents-medal.jpg](#)) in 2003 to recognize individuals who have shown longstanding service to the University community and exhibited outstanding leadership and distinguished accomplishments. Recipients are recognized for their generosity, have worked within the community and on campus to support programs that have been critical to the University's development, and have aided in transforming UM in making it what it is today.



**Bowman F.
Ashe**

Years 1925-1952

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**Jay F. W.
Pearson**

Years 1953-1962

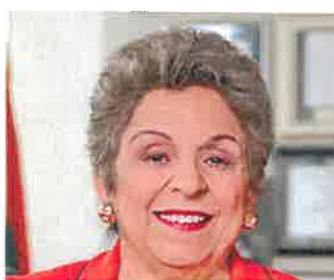
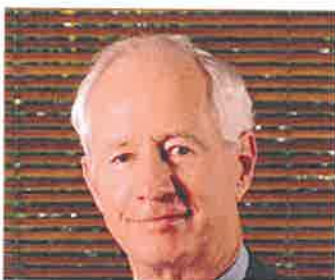
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**Henry King
Stanford**

Years 1963-1981

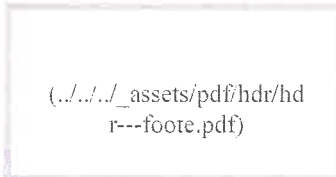
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Edward T. Foote II

Years 1982-2001

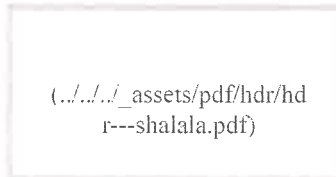


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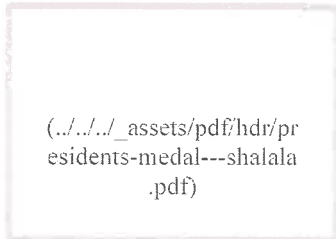


Donna E. Shalala

Years 2002-2015



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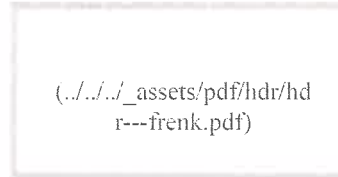


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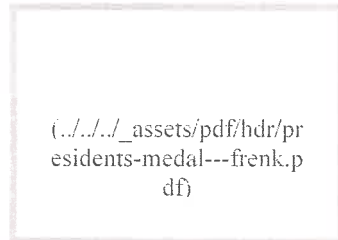


Julio Frenk

Years 2016-Present



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(../../../../assets/pdf/hdr/presidents-medal---frenk.pdf)



COMMENCEMENT

President's Medal

First Name	Last Name	Date	Year
2003			
Michael J.	Fox	5/9/03	2003
2004			
Billy	Cyprus	9/22/04	2004
2005			
Luis	Glaser	5/13/05	2005
Samuel J.	Yarger	12/15/05	2005
2006			
Robert	Blake	5/12/06	2006
William	Sandler	5/12/06	2006
David	Lieberman	5/12/06	2006
2007			
Steve	Ullmann	5/11/07	2007
Sergio	Rodriguez	5/11/07	2007
William	Hipp	5/11/07	2007
2008			
Paul	Dee	5/8/08	2008
Roosevelt	Thomas	5/9/08	2008
Alan J.	Fish	12/18/08	2008
2009			
Otis	Brown	5/14/09	2009
Diane M.	Cook	12/17/09	2009
2010			
M. Lewis	Temares	5/13/10	2010
Barth	Green	5/14/10	2010
John	Clarkson	5/14/10	2010
Norton	Herrick	5/24/10	2010
2011			
Aida	Diaz-Piedra	5/12/11	2011
Thomas	Fitzpatrick	5/14/11	2011
2012			
<i>None Awarded</i>			
2013			
Andy	Gomez	5/9/13	2013
William	Walker	5/10/13	2013
2014			
Norman C.	Parsons, Jr.	5/9/2014	2014
Edward	Gillis	5/9/2014	2014
2015			
<i>None Awarded</i>			
2016			
<i>None Awarded</i>			