

David J. Skorton

David J. Skorton is the 13th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, overseeing 19 museums, the National Zoo, 21 libraries, several research centers, and numerous education units and centers. Dr. Skorton is a board-certified cardiologist and the first physician to lead the Smithsonian.

Dr. Skorton is currently a Distinguished Professor at Georgetown University and previously served as the president of Cornell University. He was also a professor in the Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics at Weill Cornell Medical College and in Cornell's Department of Biomedical Engineering. Before that, he was President of the University of Iowa and a professor there for 26 years.

Dr. Skorton received his bachelor's degree in psychology and his medical degree from Northwestern University. He completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in cardiology at the University of California, Los Angeles.