

David S. Ferriero
Doctor of Laws

David Ferriero is the 10th archivist of the United States, and the first professional librarian to hold that position. As archivist, he is charged with preserving the nation's official permanent records, now estimated at about 9 billion pages of text, not to mention many millions of maps, charts, drawings, photographs, digital data sets, films and videos. Ferriero has championed transparency and openness in government, leading the effort to review and declassify appropriate records more efficiently. He has also been a leader in responding to the challenges presented by fragile and easily mutable digital records. Before accepting the position of archivist in 2009, Ferriero served as the Andrew W. Mellon director of the New York Public Libraries, an institution he characterized as the "mother ship" of the library world. There, he integrated the four research libraries and 87 branch libraries into one seamless service for users, creating the largest public library system in the United States and one of the largest research libraries in the world. Ferriero began his career shelving books at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Library, where he remained for 31 years, rising to the position of acting co-director of libraries. In 1996 he was recruited to Duke University by then-president Nannerl Keohane. As university librarian and vice provost for library affairs, he headed up Duke's instructional technology initiatives and raised more than \$50 million to expand and renovate Perkins Library. While at Duke, Ferriero chaired the advisory board for North Carolina ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online), a project sponsored by the State Library of North Carolina. This initiative brings the treasures of the state's museums, libraries, archives and historic sites to the wider public using digital technologies. Ferriero holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Northeastern University and a master's degree from the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. Although he now resides in Washington, D.C., Ferriero maintains close ties with North Carolina, returning home to Durham where his wife, Gail Zimmermann, is associate general manager of UNC-TV.

For outstanding accomplishment as librarian and archivist, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is pleased to confer on David S. Ferriero the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.