

Wyndham Robertson

Doctor of Laws

Wyndham Robertson is a pioneer among women in journalism. She joined Fortune magazine in 1961, was promoted to researcher-reporter shortly thereafter, and began writing its landmark personal investing column in 1968. In 1974, Robertson was elected to Fortune's board of editors in 1974 and became the magazine's first female assistant managing editor in 1981. Robertson also served as business editor of Time magazine.

In 1986, Robertson left journalism when she was asked by UNC President C. D. Spangler Jr. to become the University's first female vice president. Robertson spent the last decade of her career as the vice president for communications at UNC, including overseeing the UNC Center for Public Television.

Robertson was a trustee of her alma mater, Hollins University, for 31 years and served one term as chair. She chaired the Campaign for Hollins, an effort that broke fundraising records for southern women's colleges. Hollins gave her an honorary degree in 2009, when the graduating class invited her to be their commencement speaker, and the Hollins library is named in her honor.

She has also been a generous supporter of UNC-Chapel Hill, particularly the College of Arts and Sciences and Carolina Performing Arts. Robertson has garnered numerous awards from Hollins and historical journalism associations.

In 2013 she was inducted into the North Carolina Halls of Fame in Journalism, Advertising and Public Relations. Currently she is a director of Media General, which owns some 70 television stations throughout the United States, and is on the board of many nonprofits, including the Carolina Performing Arts International Advisory Board, the Friends of the Playmakers Advisory Board, the Stewards Fund and the Robertson Foundation.