

Pioneer Hall of Fame: Dr. Patricia W. Orr Burnham, class of 1951



University High School welcomes Dr. Patricia W. Orr Burnham '51, into the Hall of Fame for her accomplishments in higher education administration and in attaining the highest levels of executive management. She has received national recognition in Who's Who in American Women since 1988 and Who's Who in America since 2000.

After graduation from U-High, Burnham received her bachelor's degree in English and psychology from DePauw University. She received both her master's degree in English and her Ph.D. in higher education administration from Illinois State University.

Her work in higher education began at Illinois State University where she served as Assistant Dean and Professor as well as Director of the National Student Exchange Program. She also served as Associate Director for Academic and Health Affairs for the Illinois Board of Higher Education. She then became the Associate Vice-Provost for Continuing Education at The Ohio State University.

After leaving academia, Burnham took a position at Nationwide Insurance Company and then became Vice-President and Manager at Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., in New York. Her last position was President of Transition Associates, Inc., which is a change management consulting firm.

Burnham has a long history of leadership in community and civic organizations. Most of her volunteer efforts have focused on assisting individuals to age gracefully and positively. In 1994, she authored *Life's Third Act: Taking Control of Your Mature Years*. This book provides maturing adults strategies for maintaining independence and productivity, as well as how to manage the changes of aging.

Burnham resides in Hanover, New Hampshire. While at U-High, she served as President of the Student Council, a member of the state debate team, and was salutatorian of her graduating class. One of her three children, Lucinda White Shaw, also is a graduate of U-High. Congratulations to Dr. Patricia W. Orr Burnham on her induction into the University High School Hall of Fame.