



Dr. David T. Harrison became the fifth president of Columbus State Community College in July 2010. With more than 45,000 students, Columbus State is one of the largest and most comprehensive colleges in Ohio. The College's focus on student success through partnerships has resulted in recognition as the 2019 Leah Meyer Austin Award winner through the national community college advocacy network Achieving the Dream. Since 2010, Columbus State has more than tripled its graduation rate, and has significantly closed performance gaps for low-income students and students of color. Its 2019 graduating class was the largest and most diverse in the College's history.

Under Dr. Harrison's leadership, Columbus State has developed deep relationships with regional universities to create affordable bachelor's degree pathways through innovative 2+2 and 3+1 partnerships. The College has expanded access to postsecondary opportunities to high school students – serving more than 7,000 high school students annually – and has collaborated with employers to develop innovative solutions for regional workforce needs. As an established proving ground for public-private partnerships, Columbus State has brought together social service organizations, employers, and local, state, and federal agencies to create outcomes benefiting students, families and communities.

Dr. Harrison came to Columbus State with extensive experience building successful community partnerships. As Vice Provost for Regional Campuses at the University of Central Florida, he worked with community colleges to create the Central Florida Higher Education Consortium and the nationally-recognized DirectConnect to UCF program, which guarantees the opportunity for a bachelor's degree for graduates of partner community colleges.

Prior to joining UCF, Dr. Harrison served in leadership roles at Seminole State College in Florida and at Sinclair Community College in Ohio, and was a consulting manager with Accenture in Pittsburgh. He holds a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University, an MBA from the Katz Graduate School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh, and a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Dayton.