Harrell Rodgers

Harrell Rodgers (born 8/25/1939) received his Ph.D. in 1968. His initial appointment was at the University of Georgia. He joined the UH Department of Political Science in 1975 as a tenured, full professor.

His academic focus is on American public policy and public finance. He has published 22 books, over 70 peer-reviewed research papers, and delivered over 90 research presentations at professional conferences and universities around the world.

Over the course of his career he was elected to eight honor societies, won three convention Best-Paper Awards, won the Aaron Wildavsky Book Award, the Robert Dye Award twice, and the Robert Lane Award. In 2000 his research on poverty among American women and children was selected as one of the best 20 academic books of the year. In 2009 he was awarded the Yelderman Chair in Public Policy.

Harrell has traveled extensively to present at International conferences, most notably numerous times in Europe. He has also taken a strong interest in China. He has made seven trips to China to consult with academics about the design and implementation of social welfare programs, and made many presentations to Chinese students. His most recent book, *American Poverty in a New Era of Reform*, has been translated into Mandarin.

Harrell’s academic accomplishments have all been achieved while he carried on time demanding administrative responsibilities for the University of Houston. He served as department chair for nine years, and Dean of the College of Social Sciences for ten years. While dean of social sciences he served for four years as the university’s representative in Austin and Washington, D.C. In this role he was a member of the President’s Cabinet and spent a great deal of time in Austin during legislative sessions.