



Cleveland State University



THOMAS E. HOPKINS was appointed as a non-voting Community Member of the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees on July 1, 2019, by virtue of his position as Chair of the Cleveland State University Foundation, Inc.

Tom Hopkins earned his master's degree from Cleveland State University in industrial/organizational psychology in 1982. As a graduate student intern, he joined The Sherwin-Williams Company and stayed with the firm for his entire career. He retired as corporate officer and senior vice president, human resources, a position that he held for nearly 20 years.

Early in his career he created and implemented a management trainee program that became the talent development engine for the company worldwide, resulting in deep leadership bench strength and high levels of employee retention. Later, he helped develop SW's Culture of Excellence which accelerated the company's long-term financial growth and reputation as a Best Place to Work.

The Chagrin Falls resident is an engaged alumnus who has served on the CSU Foundation Board of Directors since 2012 and as an Executive-in-Residence with CSU's Career Services Center. He is a former seven-year member and two-year chair of the College of Sciences and Health Professions Visiting Committee.

Mr. Hopkins helped CSU establish its first-ever corporate chapter at Sherwin-Williams with over 200 alumni members. He has shared his knowledge with CSU students, giving guest lectures and presentations to classes across campus. As a longtime contributor and volunteer with CSU's LINK program, he has worked to engage minority students with internship and cooperative education opportunities.

He and a fellow alumnus established the Dr. James M. Schuerger Endowed Scholarship to honor a faculty mentor. He and his wife, Marsha, established the Hopkins Family Endowed Scholarship and most recently, the Mathilde Jane Gutow Endowed Fund to support former foster children through CSU's Pratt Center.