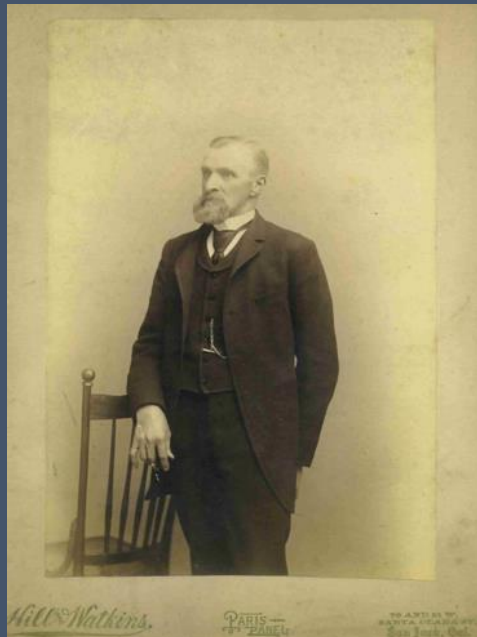


Hofstra History Timeline

Photographs and historical information from the Hofstra University Archives.

1854

Sake Hofstra, came to the US from the Province of Friesland in the Netherlands in 1854. He moved to Holland, Michigan where he met and married his wife, Wilhelmina.



1861

William Hofstra, his son, was born in 1861. William married and had two daughters and then he and his wife Laura divorced.



1880's

William managed a lumber mill in Saginaw, Michigan and eventually managed other mills around the US. One of his mills was located in Leadville, Colorado.



1885

Kate Mason Williams was married to Morgan Williams who was also in the lumber business.

Morgan sold lumber to the silver miners in Colorado during the silver "rush." He died around 1884. Kate then met and married William.



1905

Kate loved animals including cats, dogs, parrots, and horses, all of which she had on the Hofstra estate. She was the first Vice President of the NYC Bide a wee Association for nearly 30 years.



c. 1919

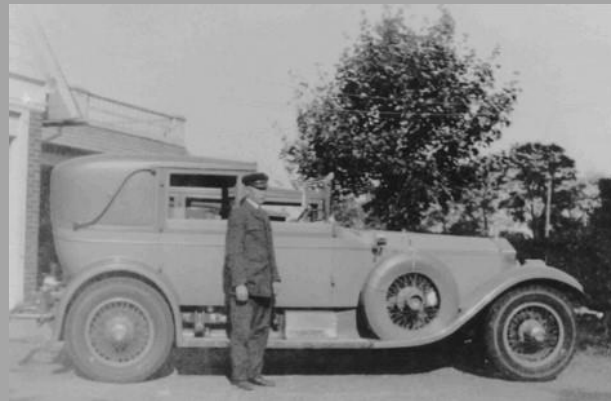
Mr. and Mrs. Hofstra were wealthy for their time. Besides lumber, Mr. Hofstra was the NYC Director of Price Brothers, who manufactured pulp paper.

The Hofstra house was named "The Netherlands" and was built in 1903-1904.



1927

Mr. Hofstra loved cars. This Rolls Royce of 1927 vintage is photographed in front of the garages that were on the Hofstra property. The chauffeur and his family lived above the garage in a large apartment.



1935

The Hofstra home was actually built for their retirement. Mr. Hofstra had purchased the Nassau Lumber Co. in Hempstead and Mr. Howard Brower was his business partner. The property was approximately 15 acres and allowed the Hofstras convenient access to NYC.

Mr. Hofstra died in 1932 and Kate followed in 1933. The property and the bulk of the estate were left by Kate to be used as a memorial to her husband.



1935

Truesdel Peck Calkins, a Hempstead resident and the superintendent for Hempstead schools, convinced Howard Brower, an executor of the Hofstra estate, that a college would be a good use of the Hofstra property. Brower agreed and an arrangement with NYU was formed.

When Hofstra broke free from NYU two years later, Calkins was named President. He served from 1937-1942 when he died at his desk.



1936

Classes started in September of 1935 with 159 day students and 621 evening students. Tuition for the year was \$375. Everything took place in Hofstra Hall. By 1936, new buildings were needed!



Dedication of Barnard Hall in 1936. Howard Brower is shown with shovel and T.P. Calkins on his right.

1937

The Hofstra seal was taken from the Dutch coat-of-arms and the motto "Je Maintiendray" is from the archaic French. It means "I stand steadfast."

First seal created in about 1937.



1938

The Hofstra alma mater, The Netherlands, was written by Hans J. Gottlieb, a member of the faculty in 1938.



1939

The first faculty including Dean Arthur Whitman in the center, and Eleanor Blodgett (2nd from left in the first row.) Blodgett was considered the first faculty member hired.

The entire faculty posed for a photo on the back porch of Hofstra Hall.



1939

The first quadrangle on the south campus included Brower, Mason, Barnard, and Calkins Hall (built as the Gym).

By June of 1939 the student population had reached 800 and the faculty numbered 100.



1940

Hofstra received a temporary charter to be a 4 year college in 1937 and an absolute charter on Feb. 16, 1940.

The Hofstra bus was used, not only for athletic teams (like the women's basketball team pictured here) but also for bringing students to and from the train station.



1940

The 1940 Board of Trustees. In center with glasses is President Calkins, 4th from left is Howard Brower.



1940

In 1940, *March on Hofstra* was designated the “official fight song” of the college. Words and music were written by H. William Kufe and arranged by Frank Sorg, member of the class of 1942.

1940's

Hofstra Hall was still the center of campus life in the 40's. The back porch was used for student pranks, skits, and hazing stunts.

1940's

The interior of Hofstra Hall was re-decorated for college life. The parlor room on the first floor became a student lounge. The attic rooms became meeting rooms for clubs and activities.

1941

The first dances included a Poverty Ball which was held in November of 1936 and was named because of the Great Depression. The students were given prizes for “worst” dressed! Proms and dances of a more formal nature were also held on a regular basis. The 1940 prom featured Glenn Miller and his orchestra. This Poverty Ball was from 1941.

MARCH ON, HOFSTRA

Words and Music
by
H. WILLIAM KUFÉ

Arranged
by
FRANK SORG '42

OFFICIAL FIGHT SONG



"THE FLYING DUTCHMEN"

HOFSTRA COLLEGE • HEMPSTEAD, N. Y.



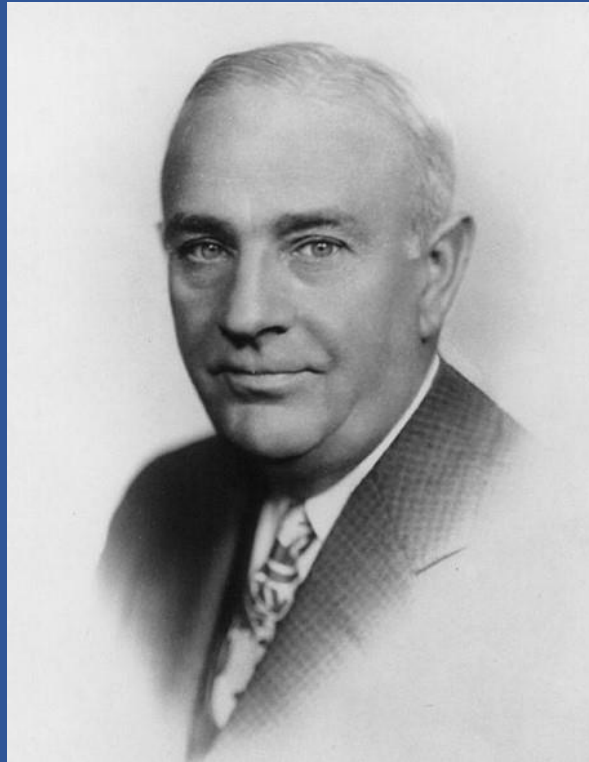
1941

Early graduates had the choice of receiving Hofstra or NYU degrees. The class of 1941 was the first true "Hofstra" graduating class. These students are at the 1941 commencement.



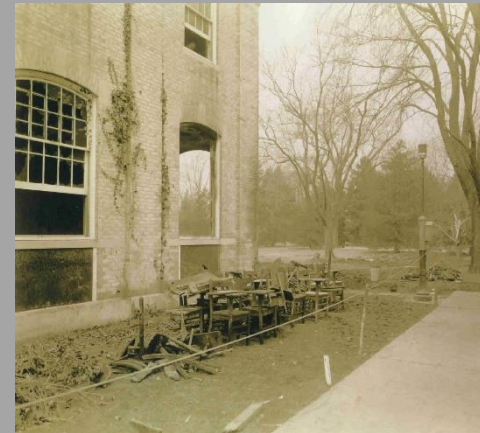
1942

Howard Brower was both an executive trustee of Kate Hofstra's will, as well as one of the founders of the college. He went on to become Acting President between 1942-44.



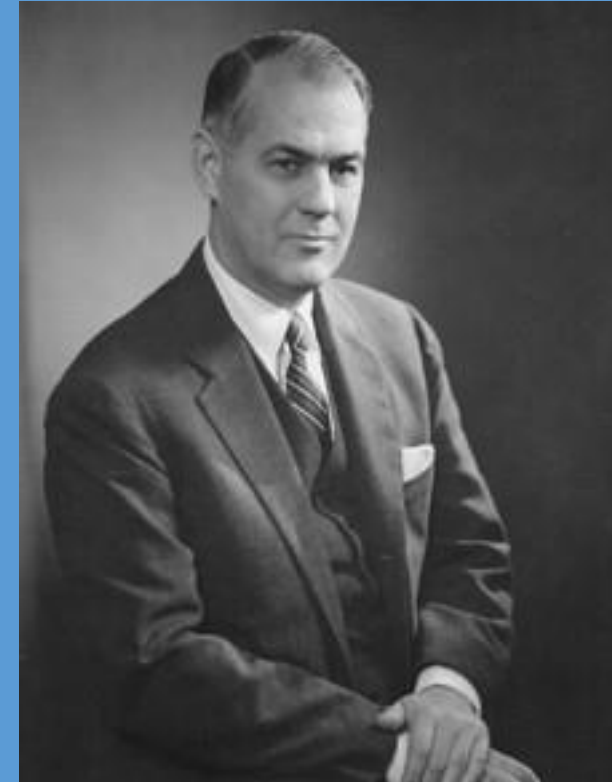
1943

Barnard Hall was the scene of an airplane crash. A pilot from the Mitchel Field Air Force Base, located just across the street, crashed into the chemistry building in 1943 at 2:00 a.m. Initially, the accident was thought to be caused by trees on the Hofstra property and 100 were cut down. It was then determined to be pilot error and Hofstra was given restitution for the trees!



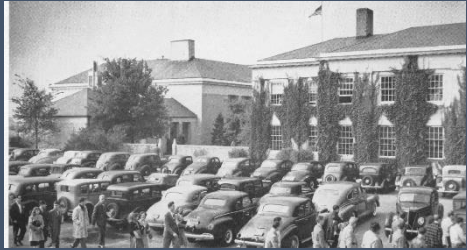
1944

John Cranford Adams became President of the college in 1944. He was president for 20 years, retiring in 1964.



c. 1946

Parking lot in the late 1940's.



1950

The first Shakespeare Festival performance was Julius Caesar. Adams created this model of the Globe Theater as part of his PhD thesis— it includes little pencil erasers cut in half as the bricks of the proscenium. The model is still located on campus – on the lower level of the John Cranford Adams Playhouse.



1950's

The back porch of Hofstra Hall in the early '50's.



1952

The crowning of the Spring Queen in 1952. The daisy chain and attendants were part of the ceremony. Carol Vickerman Bronzo (a former student who later became Vice President for development) is shown in the center as Queen.



1950's

The first library was located in Hofstra Hall and all of the books were leftovers from NYU. The library then moved to Mason Hall.



1952

A student fund drive in 1952 called "Operation Wing Ding" was aimed at raising enough money to add a wing onto Memorial Hall. The building was constructed in 1949 and named for those lost in WWII. This was the only student fund raising effort for a building in Hofstra's history.



c. 1952

Athletic teams often posed for yearbook photos in the shape of an "H" – if you look at the right hand side of the H – the student in front is James M. Shuart who became Hofstra's future president.



c. 1956

A view of the campus from the north side of Hempstead Turnpike. Heger, Hauser, Davison Hall, Phillips Hall, and Hofstra Hall are all visible.



1960

The Arts Festival began in 1959 and attracted many well known participants. Marcel Duchamp, who is pictured below, gave a lecture on whether or not the artist should go to college. In 1962 Governor Nelson Rockefeller loaned 19 paintings from his private collection. These included several Picasso's which were exhibited during the festival.



1960

Francis Ford Coppola, Class of 1960, back row with glasses. Coppola started the Spectrum Players at Hofstra and directed a variety of plays.



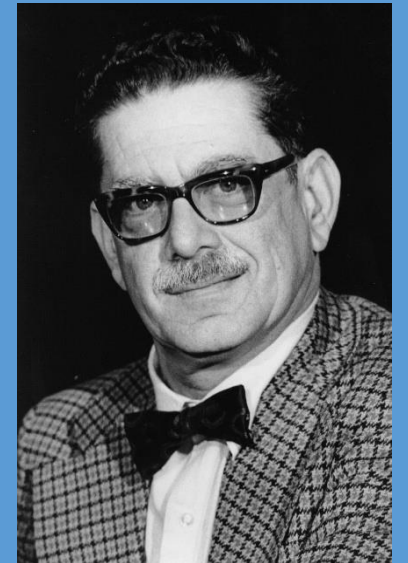
1961

Madeline Kahn (Class of 1964) in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Shakespeare Production, 1961.



1963

In 1963 the Board of Trustees passed a resolution to create a barrier free campus. It took many years to achieve that goal, but Hofstra was one of the first private institutions in the US to do so. Much of these efforts were due to the presence on campus of Dr. Harold Yuker, a faculty member, Provost, and respected member of the University community. Yuker was Provost from 1969-82.



1963

Hofstra officially became a University in March of 1963.

1964

Clifford L. Lord served as President from 1964 until he asked to be made "Chancellor" in 1972. He served in that capacity for one year. He was the only Chancellor in the University's history.

1965

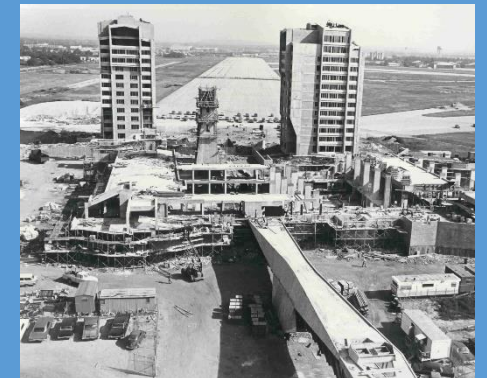
The first Honorary Degrees were given out in 1948, one to Robert Moses a former Board of Trustee member and the NY State Parks Commissioner. In 1965, Martin Luther King Jr. received a Doctor of Divinity.

1966

In 1963, Mitchel Field Air Force Base closed and soon afterwards Hofstra received 110 acres of property on the North Side of Hempstead Turnpike. In 1966, the Library, Unispan, Student Center, and two residence halls were underway and by 1968, all 6 towers were completed.

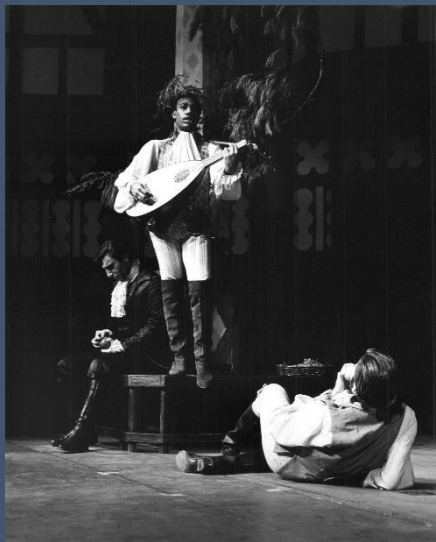


THE TRUSTEES AND FACULTY OF HOFSTRA
take great pleasure in announcing
an amendment to the institution's charter
changing the name from Hofstra College to
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
through action of the New York State
Board of Regents
on Friday, the first day of March, 1963



1968

Joe Morton, the actor, was a student at Hofstra in the late '60's. He is shown here in *As You Like It*.



1969

The “Is Paul McCartney Dead?” society was founded at Hofstra by freshman Lou Yeager. This movement went national and the question was debated all across the US.



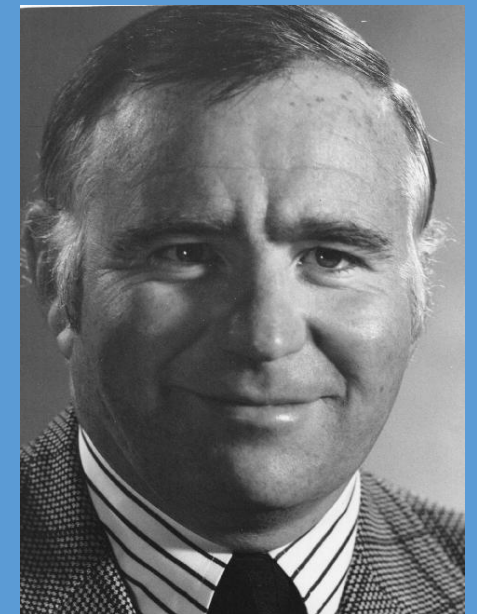
1970's

The seal of the University was updated at different points in our history. This update created a more formal look.



1972

James M. Marshall was on the Board of Trustees and “consented” to be President for one year at the cost of one dollar. He explained that he “would serve until a permanent president could be found.”

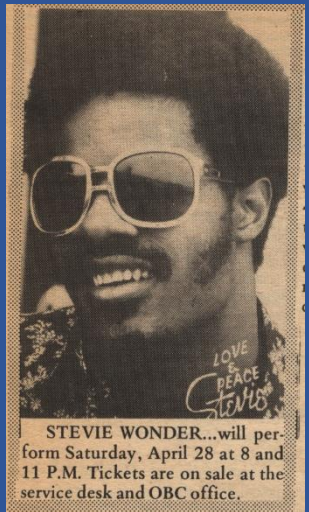


1972

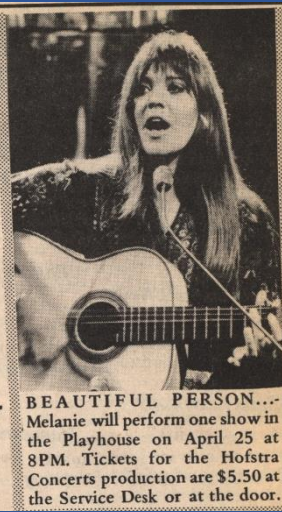
Two study areas were added to the curriculum during Marshall's presidency, Africana studies and communications. In addition, Asian studies became a major.

1973

Hofstra students were entertained by diverse and exciting performers of the day.



STEVIE WONDER...will perform Saturday, April 28 at 8 and 11 P.M. Tickets are on sale at the service desk and OBC office.



BEAUTIFUL PERSON...Melanie will perform one show in the Playhouse on April 25 at 8PM. Tickets for the Hofstra Concerts production are \$5.50 at the Service Desk or at the door.



CAMPUS MADNESS...Cheech & Chong hit the Playhouse Sunday night for two shows at 7:30 and 10:30 PM. Tickets are \$4 with an I.D. at the Service Desk

1973

The Law School was accredited after an extremely short probation period.

Enrollment in 1970 was 83 students and by 1973 there were 400.

Accredit Law School, Library QualityCited

By Patti Raber
The Hofstra University Law School, which opened in September 1970, has been accredited by the Association of American Law Schools after one of the shortest probation periods on record.

The AALS, the national accreditation organization approving the size of the law library, its seating capacity which must hold 65% of the student body, the quality of both the faculty and the students, the curriculum, and the physical plant.

The law school's first class will be graduated this June, and "the students have already been getting top offers from companies," Mahon said. He added that accreditation makes the school a more desirable place for incoming students.

Law Library

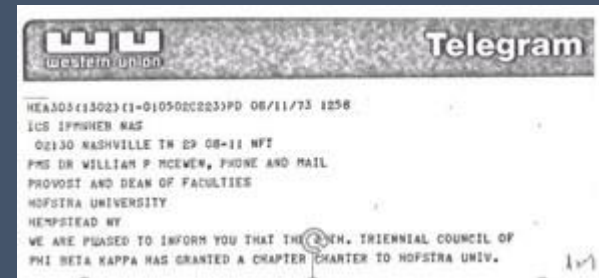
1973

Robert Payton was Hofstra President from 1973 until 1976. These years were extremely difficult ones for the University as the financial crisis of the 1970's almost closed our doors.



1973

When Payton became president the work necessary for inclusion in Phi Beta Kappa was begun and Hofstra was admitted to that prestigious group. The announcement that Hofstra now had a Phi Beta Kappa chapter came by telegram.



1976

James M. Stuart became President in June of 1976 and his presidency began with the need to balance the books and to increase enrollment. In addition, the endowment in 1976 was in the red.



1980

Hofstra's Shakespeare Festival, which started in 1950, is the longest running collegiate Shakespeare Festival in the country. Phil Rosenthal (center), Tom McGowan (right) and Stacy Parker (left) in Twelfth Night.



1985

The Dutch government named a tulip for Hofstra and shipped a supply of the bulbs to the University. The flower has a white bloom.



1987

John Stergis was the first African-American Student Government Association President.



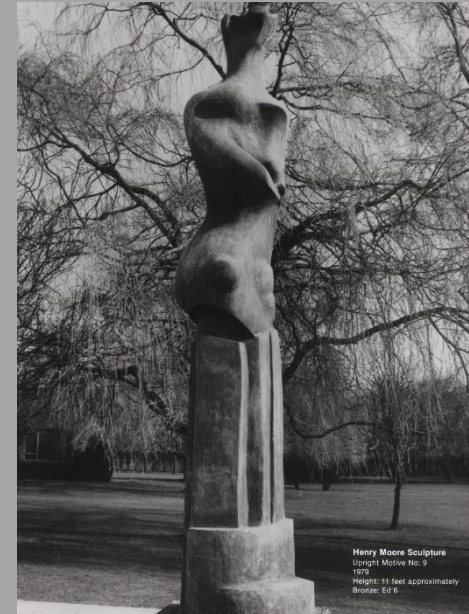
1987

The Axinn Library was named for Joan and Donald Axinn in December of 1987.



1987

The Henry Moore sculpture Upright Motive #9 located on the south campus, is part of the outdoor sculpture at Hofstra.



Henry Moore Sculpture
Upright Motive No. 9
1979
Height: 11 feet approximately
Bronze: 8' 6"

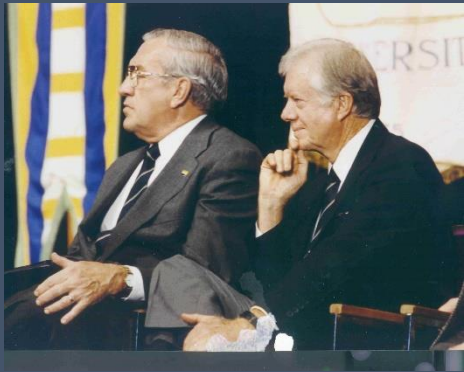
1988

The University seal was again updated as one of the lions was changed to a female to depict the role of women in University life.



1990

The first US President to visit campus was Dwight D. Eisenhower who accepted an Honorary Degree in 1950 when he was President of Columbia University. Since that time, many different US Presidents have been at Hofstra. Jimmy Carter visited in 1990.



1991

Princess Margriet of the Netherlands visited in 1991.



1991

Justice Antonin Scalia visited Hofstra's Law School in 1991.



1991

Ann Mallouk was the first woman elected as Chair of the Board of Trustees in 1991. Women have served on the Board from 1943, when Alicia Patterson was asked to serve.



1993

Since 1988 students have competed in the annual Rube Goldberg Machine Contests. They are challenged to build the wackiest machine that completes a common task. Hofstra won first place with a machine that was able to screw a light bulb into a socket.



1997

Mikhail Gorbachev spoke at the George Bush Presidential Conference.



1997

Both George and Barbara Bush attended the Bush Presidential Conference. President Bush talked with students and Barbara Bush read to children at Hofstra's Child Care Center.



1997

Billy Joel received an Honorary Degree and spontaneously penned a "Hofstra graduation song" which he sang at the podium.



1998

Robert O. Muller graduated in 1968 and was wounded in Vietnam in 1969. He then dedicated his life to the worldwide ban of landmines and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997.



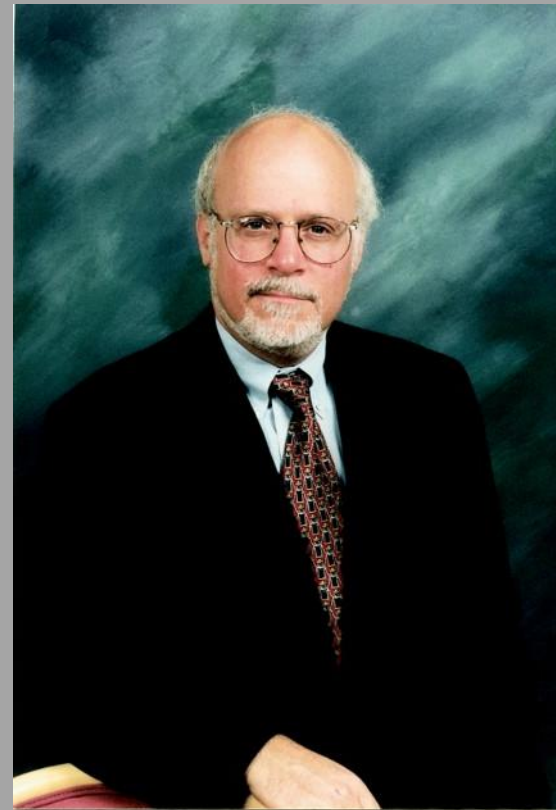
2000

Craig "Speedy" Claxton graduated from Hofstra in 2000. He was all time leader in assists (660) and steals (28.) After graduation he had a decade long career in the NBA.



2001

President Stuart Rabinowitz was selected as our 8th President and inaugurated in October of 2001.



2002

Actress Bernadette Peters received an Honorary degree at Hofstra's commencement ceremony.



2002

The stadium was named for James M. Stuart who retired in 2001 after 25 years as president.



2003

A memorial sculpture entitled Phoenix for September 11th victims created by John Safer was installed on the southeast campus.



2005

President William Clinton attended Hofstra's Presidential Conference. Also in attendance was Madeline Albright.



2005

Hofstra introduced a new logo. This contemporary University logo featured an "H" within a shield design. The traditional insignia (the Hofstra coat of arms) is still used for all formal University functions.



2006

Three spans cross Hempstead Turnpike to connect the north and south campus.



2007

Women's softball team became the first NCAA team to be conference champions 10 years in a row.



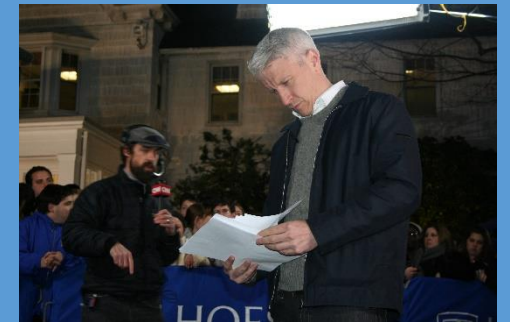
2008

Hofstra was selected to host a Presidential Debate. Information about the debate was displayed on the NASDAQ marketsite in Times Square.



2009

CNN's Anderson Cooper broadcast live from Hofstra



2010

Hofstra celebrated its 75th Anniversary! A three foot cake from “Ace of Cakes” resembling the Axinn Library (complete with Unispan and the University’s mascots) was served to guests.



2010

Hofstra University School of Medicine in partnership with North Shore-LIJ Health System announced plans to accept applications for its inaugural class.



2011

Hofstra launched School of Engineering and Applied Science.



2012

Hofstra announced Debate 2012: Pride, Politics and Policy Event Series and hosted the second Presidential Debate.



2012

Superstorm Sandy hit Long Island on October 29th and did considerable damage.

In the aftermath the Hofstra community came together in efforts designed not only to help the campus community, but also to assist neighboring towns and cities. The weekend after the storm more than 200 students volunteered to help with cleanup and to distribute food and water.



2013

Each year in March the St. Baldrick's Foundation joined the Hofstra community to shave the heads of students, faculty and staff to raise money and awareness for the research of pediatric cancer.



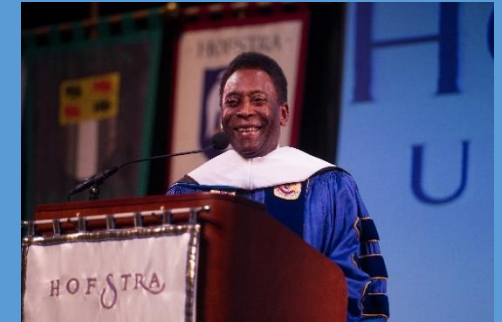
2013

Hofstra's Honor Code was formally announced in September.



2014

The highlight of Hofstra's soccer conference was the keynote speaker, Pele, who received an honorary degree.



2014

Kira Kazansteve, a Hofstra 2013 graduate, was crowned Miss America in September. She had previously been Miss New York.



2015

A blizzard at the end of January dropped about 16 inches of snow on Long Island and closed down highways, businesses and classes.



2016

For the third time in successive elections, Hofstra again played host to a Presidential Debate.



2017

Freshmen students were asked to create a square tile that represented them. They were tasked with showcasing either a unique talent or attribute to depict how the Class of 2021 could become a beautiful quilt when put together.



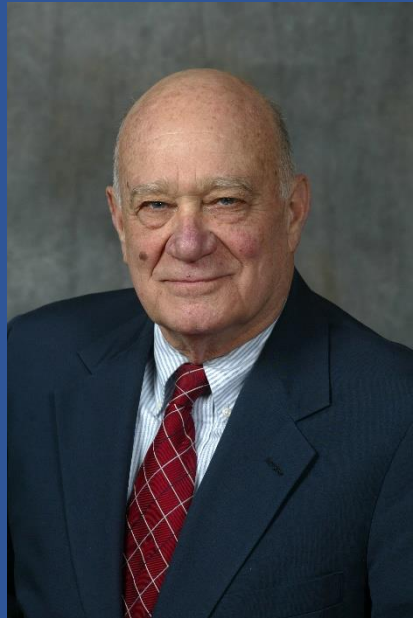
2017

The first Globe stage was built in 1951 by Donald Swinney. Professor David Henderson then researched and created the most authentic replica in America and premiered *Hamlet*.



2018

Professor Mike D'Innocenzo retired as the longest serving faculty member in Hofstra's history (59 years.) A seminar room is named in his honor.



2018

Andrew Cuomo and Cynthia Nixon, candidates for Governor, debate at Hofstra.



2018

Astronaut Mike Massimino was honored at Commencement on May 20, 2018. He was the first person to tweet from space! He also appeared on several episodes of "The Big Bang Theory" and was born on Long Island.



2019

In February the largest of the year's supermoons (known as a perigee moon) could be seen.



2019

Janet A. Lenaghan was appointed Dean of the Frank G. Zarb School of Business. She was the first woman to hold that position.



2020

In response to the Covid 19 virus words like “quarantine,” “face masks,” “social distancing,” “flatten the curve,” and “essential workers,” become usual and customary. Online classes become normal and “zoom conferencing” was the preferred way to do business.



2021

President Susan Poser was selected as Hofstra's ninth president and inaugurated in October of 2021. She is the first woman to lead the University.



Hofstra's history is varied and one of change and growth. This exhibit was created to show some of the significant events and developments over the years.

