

David W Leebron

David W. Leebron was appointed the Seventh President of Rice University in 2004, where he is also Professor of Political Science. He grew up in Philadelphia and graduated Summa cum Laude from Harvard College in 1976. He attended Harvard Law School, and in his second year was elected President of the Harvard Law Review. After graduating Magna cum Laude in 1979, he moved to Los Angeles to begin a clerkship with Judge Shirley Hufstедler on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. After Judge Hufstедler was appointed Secretary of Education, David taught torts as Acting Assistant Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law in 1980.

In 1981, David joined the New York law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and specialized in corporate matters. He became a faculty member of the New York University School of Law in 1983, where he also served as Director of the International Legal Studies Program. In 1989, David joined the faculty of Columbia University School of Law, and in 1996 he was appointed Dean and named the Lucy G. Moses Professor of Law. David has authored a textbook on international human rights and has written numerous articles on issues of international trade, human rights, and corporate finance.

David is married to Y. Ping Sun and has two young children, Daniel (8) and Merissa (5).