



David A. Harris, FAIA
President, National Institute of Building Sciences

As president and chief executive officer of the Congressionally authorized National Institute of Building Sciences, Mr. Harris has been an active participant and leader in the identification and development of solutions for the technical, information and regulatory needs of the nation's building process. He led the Institute's efforts in the mid-80s to pioneer the practical use of emerging information technologies to organize and effectively disseminate technical information through automation to the many sectors of the nation's fragmented building community. That initiative has expanded into the development of data management standards and continues through numerous Institute web sites, such as the Whole Building Design Guide, and the related efforts of several of NIBS' Councils.

Mr. Harris has chaired several national level activities such as the federal advisory committee responsible to review and recommend revisions to the Americans With Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, an effort that received the prestigious National Performance Review Program's "Hammer Award." He is a founding member and past chairman of the International Code Council's Industry Advisory Committee. He is an active member of several professional societies, including the American Institute of Architects, ASTM, the ICC, and NFPA. He serves on several local and national boards addressing civic and focused building process-related public interest efforts such as the ACE Mentor Program.

A licensed architect, Harris was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1993, elected as a member of Lambda Alpha, an international land economics society in 1998, and as an honorary member of the International Code Council in 2006. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps during the Vietnam War. He practiced architecture before joining NIBS in 1980. He was named NIBS' president in 1988. He received his Bachelor of Architecture from Kent State University.