

Dr. Harold W. Dodds

Class of 1909

Dr. Harold Dodds began teaching in Pennsylvania high schools (Latin and English), later joining the faculties of six universities – Purdue, Western Reserve, Pennsylvania, Swarthmore, New York and Princeton. Highly regarded, he was inducted as the 15th president of Princeton in 1933. He retired in 1957.

Beyond education, Dodds gained renown for his political science interests. In 1922, upon nomination by the U.S. Department of State, he was chosen by the president of Nicaragua as an election adviser. In 1925 he was technical adviser to the Tacna Arica Plebiscitary Commission. Three years later he was chief adviser to the National Board of Elections of Nicaragua and a consultant in election law procedures to the government of Cuba.

As Princeton president, Dodds fostered the creation of a permanent section of the school devoted to the study of New Jersey government. In 1946 he was designated chairman of the President's Committee on Integration of the Medical Service of the Government. In 1949 he became a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Educational Exchange.

In addition to serving as a trustee of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Rockefeller Foundation, Dodds was a trustee of Brookings Institution, the General Education Board, and the Danforth Foundation. Dodds was a member of the American Philosophical Society, a trustee of the United States Trust Company of New York, and a director of Union Theological Seminary. He authored two books and numerous reports.

He passed away Oct. 1, 1980.

Additional degrees: Master of Arts, Princeton University; Doctorate, University of Pennsylvania; 38 honorary degrees, including Grove City College

