



Stephen Coplan Harrison '63

Stephen Harrison, '63, was Chair of the Board of Tutors in Biochemical Sciences from 1972-1996 and again from 1999-2002. Together with his close colleague, Don Wiley, he helped create contemporary structural biology, forging links with virology, immunology, gene regulation, and molecular cell biology more generally. A member of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology -- later MCB -- from 1971-2002, he is now Giovanni Armenise-Harvard Professor of Basic Biomedical Science, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital, and an Investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. As faculty director of the Harvard cryo-EM Center for Structural Biology, he has continued to make Harvard a leading center for understanding molecular mechanism in biology.

Harrison's stewardship of the Biochemical Sciences concentration (now the CPB and MCB concentrations) embodied his determination to offer a rigorous, quantitative foundation for its graduates, many of whom would go on to careers in medicine and biomedical research. A commitment to objective analysis in these and many other fields will be especially crucial for our current students, who will need to overcome and reverse the growing distrust of scientific reasoning in our society.