

Computer Scientist of Distinction

Tennessee Technological University



Mary A. Patterson

B.S. Mathematics,
Tennessee Technological University, 1968

Executive M.B.A.
Carnegie Mellon University, 1991

**Director of Networking Consulting
for North America, IBM (Ret.)**



Mary A. Patterson retired from IBM after an executive career in Software Development. She worked on the development of several operating systems, file management, compilers, transaction processing, database and networking products. Her last assignment was as Director of Network Consulting for North America and Practice Leader. This position was the launch of IBM into services as a primary business.

After leaving IBM, she was Vice-President for Development in two startup software companies, for products ranging from file management to transaction processing to email. She transitioned into applying technology as the Senior Vice-President of Development of World-Wide Information Technology for Turner Broadcasting. After leaving Turner, she offered consulting assignments assisting in Y2K efforts and new product launches.

Since retiring from IBM, she has lived in Wilson County, Tennessee. A native of Nashville, she is a graduate of Donelson High School and Tennessee Technological University. She has served on the Board of Advisors for the Department of Computer Science at TTU. She has started and funded a scholarship for Computer Science students, the Jack Armistead Fund for faculty travel and seminars in the College of Arts and Sciences, and a fund to assist with student retention in the college. She has served on the Arts and Sciences Advisory Council from its inception.

After retiring, she has been involved in Democratic Politics. During the 2000 Gore campaign, she traveled around the country as part of the Gore Corps and was on the steering committee for Women for Gore. After the end of the campaign, she went to work in Vice-President Gore's Nashville office. She is serving her second term as the Executive Committeewoman for District 17 on the Tennessee Democratic Executive Committee.

Her interests in good government extend beyond the Democratic Party and she has served as Treasurer of the League of Women Voters in Nashville, and as a member of the Nashville Women's Political Caucus and WIN, and advised and supported Stand for Children.