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David E. Shi, pronounced "Shy", held the position of Furman University's 10th president from 1994 to 2010. Under his leadership, Furman solidified its reputation as a top liberal arts college by seeing a 75% increase in applications and significant improvements in faculty salaries, endowment value, and student academic profile. The university also underwent over \$210 million in new construction and renovation projects during his tenure. As an Atlanta native and Furman alumnus (class of '73), Shi joined the administration in 1993 as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty. He was a strong advocate for engaged learning, environmental stewardship, and sustainability. In fact, Furman became a national leader in promoting sustainability during his presidency, with Shi signing the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment in 2006. One notable achievement was the construction of the first LEED-certified building in South Carolina (now one of seven on campus). The David E. Shi Center for Sustainability, established in 2008, serves as a hub for collaboration between educators, students, and community leaders to address complex sustainability issues. Notably, President Shi received numerous awards and accolades during his tenure, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from Upstate Forever, the Presidential Leadership Award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Humanitarian Award from the Urban League of the Upstate. He was also recognized as one of Greenville's "Top 25 Leaders" in a community poll conducted by The Greenville News and received honorary doctorate degrees from Centre College and Mercer University. David Shi Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from AAHE David Shi, a renowned historian and author, has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AAHE). Shi is a specialist in intellectual and cultural history, with several books to his credit, including "The Simple Life: Plain Living and High Thinking in American Culture" and "Facing Facts: Realism in American Thought and Culture, 1850-1920". He is also the co-author of the best-selling textbook "America: A Narrative History", which has been widely adopted in colleges and universities across the US. Shi's extensive career includes publishing hundreds of columns in various newspapers and contributing to National Public Radio. His work has also been recognized with several awards, including the Distinguished Teaching Award at Davidson College. Shi is currently president emeritus and professor emeritus at Furman University, where he continues to engage with students and instructors through his annual "author-in-residence" campus visits. The comprehensive textbook spans seven parts, covering pivotal periods in American history from 1800 to the present day. It delves into themes such as the emergence of a market economy, nationalism, sectionalism, Western expansion, and the nation's growth through the Reconstruction era and beyond. The text highlights key events including the War of the Union, Big Business and organized labor, society and politics in the Gilded Age, America's involvement in both World Wars, the Cold War, and the Great Depression. Additionally, it touches on significant social movements like the Civil Rights Movement, women's rights, and Black women's history. The authors, David Emory Shi, Daina Ramey Berry, and Joseph Crespino, bring a wealth of expertise to their work. With backgrounds in teaching, research, and writing, they have authored several influential books on American cultural history and have received numerous awards for their contributions to the field. Their scholarship has been widely recognized internationally, with Berry's book "A Black Women's History of the United States" earning prestigious honors including the Susan Koppelman Award and a NAACP Literary Non-Fiction Finalist nomination. For his work in the Humanities and at the National Academy of Education, Crespino was named a Distinguished Lecturer by the Organization of American Historians. He is the author of three books, including "Atticus Finch: The Biography—Harper Lee, Her Father, and the Making of an American Icon," which has been featured in prominent publications such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, Politico, and The Wall Street Journal. Crespino regularly teaches a post-Civil War U.S. History survey course at his institution, for which he received the Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award from Emory University's Center for Teaching and Learning. Amy Murrell Taylor is a historian specializing in 19th-century American history with a focus on the Southern United States. Her latest book, "Embattled Freedom: Journeys through the Civil War's Slave Refugee Camps," received multiple prestigious awards, including the Frederick Douglass Book Prize and the Merle Curti Social History Award. Taylor has also published in The Times Literary Supplement and been featured in various media outlets such as USA Today and Slate.