



Jo Hern Curriss
Kentucky Arts Council Board
Lexington, Ky.

A native of Benham, Harlan County, Ky., Jo Hern Curriss received undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Kentucky and a masters in taxation from Emory University, Atlanta. A member of the Kentucky, Iowa and South Carolina Bar Associations, Curriss authored multiple papers and an 800-page Elderlaw book before retiring.

She currently serves on the University of Kentucky Alumni Association Board, having just completed a term as a member of the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, serving as a committee member of finance, the presidential search committee, the mining engineering foundation, student affairs (where her actions resulted in the initiation of the UK Veterans Resource Center), and chair of university relations.

Curriss is former first lady of Murray State, Northern Iowa and Clemson universities, and served 10 years at the national level for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) where she organized presidential spouse programming for more than 400 state colleges and universities. There she created Operation Campus Freedom which promoted support of military members and their families. Curriss initiated multiple cultural and legal seminars, and served as hostess and delegate to many foreign dignitaries, both domestically and internationally.

Additionally, she has served on the board of directors of the J. D. Massey Classic Horse Show in South Carolina; the Mid America Savings Bank, Waterloo, Iowa, where she also chaired the Rotary Club's 75th anniversary; was the organizing president of the Murray-Calloway County Community Theater; is a former trustee at Alice Lloyd College, Pippa Passes; and member of the board of Jenny Wiley Theatre.