

Thomas M. Ryan '75 (COP)

URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement Board of Directors (Chairman of the Board); URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement Trustee; URI President's Advisory Council



Thomas “Tom” M. Ryan serves as an Operating Partner of Advent International, a Boston based global private equity firm. He is also a Director of PJT Partners Inc., a global independent financial advisory firm that provides a wide array of strategic advisory, restructuring and reorganization services and funds advisory services to corporations, financial sponsors, institutional investors and governments. He currently serves on the boards Five Below Inc., a publicly held chain of discount stores that sells products that cost up to five dollars and serves as a trustee of The Ryan Family Foundation along with his wife Cathy. He previously served as a director of Reebok International Ltd, Bank of America Corporation, Vantiv, Inc., FleetBoston, and TriCon Global Restaurants and Yum! Brands Inc.

Tom began his career at CVS as a pharmacist in 1975. In 1985, he was named vice president for pharmacy operations, becoming senior vice president of pharmacy operations in 1988. Two years later, he was appointed executive vice president of stores. He served in that capacity until his appointment to CEO in 1994. He remained as the Chairman and CEO of CVS until he retired in May 2011.

He and his wife, Cathy, are the leading benefactors to URI, with more than \$56 million in philanthropic gifts over the years. They made a multi-faceted commitment of \$35 million for expanded neuroscience research, the creation of the Thomas M. Ryan Scholars program, and enhanced basketball practice facilities. In 2013, they established the George & Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience at URI with a historic gift of \$15 million to the University. The Ryan Institute focuses its research, teaching, and outreach on neurodegenerative diseases and disorders, like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and ALS.

Tom was recognized with a Distinguished Fiji Award, Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity (2005); Public Service Award, Phoenix House (2004); Alexis De Tocqueville Society Award, United Way of Southern New England (2001); Boy Scout Man of the Year; and received an Honorary Doctorate of Business Administration from Johnson & Wales University (1999), an Honorary Doctorate from Long Island University, and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Rhode Island (1999).